More efficient wire rod mill
ArcelorMittal Contrecoeur East, Montreal, Canada

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Customer needs
In 2010 ABB received an order from ArcelorMittal Montreal (Contrecoeur East) to upgrade the control system of its wire rod mill. The old control equipment was installed in 1988 and 1989 and needed to be upgraded due to spare parts obsolescence and processor load. The customer’s budget and available mill stoppage time made AC450RMC and 800xA the best choice in this case. The customer required delivery of the upgrade already the same year. The result entailed the customer receiving a supported platform that can be built upon when modifying or adding control functions at the mill.

ABB’s solutions
− ABB upgraded all of the old MP200 controllers to AC450 for both the mill and the furnace.
− The old HMI system types MV850, MV830 and MV320 were upgraded and integrated into one 800xA system.
− Except for the drives that had been upgraded by ABB previously, all of the drives were now upgraded.

Customer benefits
− One common HMI system allows future integration and additional functions.
− The customer now has a new supported control platform that can easily be modified and/or used for possible additional control functions in the future.
− The customer has obtained powerful maintenance and troubleshooting tools thanks to the installation of iba and Prilog logging systems in addition to the upgrade.
− Installation of the latest FOCS control will make the furnace more efficient.
− Possible disturbances due to heavy processor load have been eliminated.
− New powerful maintenance tools reduce time for trouble shooting interruption.
Cooperation between ABB and ArcelorMittal

Cooperation between ABB and the customer was very positive during the project. The customer appreciated the skilled personnel involved in the project. Due to such seamless cooperation between ABB and ArcelorMittal, the 800xA system was smoothly integrated into the customer’s domain and network.

The ABB project group included ABB personnel from the USA who sold the project, from Sweden who delivered the control system and from Canada who upgraded the drives.

ArcelorMittal is very satisfied with the project. “We are very pleased with the overall project, in particular with the smooth startup after such a major change”, says Daniel Smith, Project Manager at ArcelorMittal Contrecoeur East, Montreal, Canada.

Facts about ArcelorMittal Contrecoeur East

The semi-integrated ArcelorMittal Contrecoeur East site is located on the south shore of the St. Lawrence River approximately 40 km from Montreal. The facility features two DRI plants, one steel plant operating two electric arc furnaces and a rod mill. The facility primarily serves the needs of steel service centers, construction companies, rebar manufacturers, automotive markets, welding rod manufacturers, and its own wire mills.