
NEW CHARGING TABLE ENHANCES PRODUCTIVITY

at Ferriere Nord, Italy

Only six months from order to startup

The additional charging table supplied to Ferriere Nord on a turnkey basis will make it possible to optimize the hot-charging route in the wire rod mill's reheating furnace.

The new table and the existing hot-charge table feed the same charging roller way. The new table consists essentially of three fixed skids capable of receiving up to five billet packs from the overhead crane, and two trolleys to take a single billet from the last pack to a fixed position close to the roller way, where a small kick-off device picks it up and places it onto the roller way. The handling software also was upgraded to manage the table in automatic mode.

Depending on the rolled profile, the continuous caster rate can either exceed mill demand or be lower than the demand. Now, any hot billets produced in excess by the caster and previously stored in the billet yard can be reused before they cool and charged alternatively with the hot billets. This results in a) maximum furnace throughput, even when the caster rate is insufficient to meet mill demands; and b) reduced total gas consumption by warm billet recovery. One point worthy of mention is the very fast project execution achieved; only six months elapsed from the contract date to the time that equipment was installed and commissioned ■

Overview of the new charging table.

