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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### High energy efficiency and product quality

#### **Anhui Tianda Copper orders CONTIROD® CR 3500 from SMS Meer**

Anhui Tianda Copper in Chuzhou, Anhui Province, China, has placed an order with SMS Meer, Germany, for the supply of a CONTIROD® plant type CR 3500. The plant will be used predominantly for the production of ETP copper wire rod that is used as semi-finished product for manufacturing electrical conductors. Through the use of new, energy-efficient technologies, the CONTIROD® CR 3500 meets the ecoplants guidelines for economically and ecologically sustainable solutions from SMS Meer.

The scope of supply includes an SMS Meer shaft melting furnace, a twin-belt caster, a twelve-stand rolling mill with separate individual drives, a deoxidization and cooling section, a wire coiling station and a manual strapping unit. The medium plant capacity is 25 tons of copper wire rod per hour.

The melting furnace is equipped with a lambda control system for the burner and improved cathode distribution. This results in minimized natural gas consumption and boosts the product quality. The casting machine offers a large casting cross-section of up to 5,400 mm<sup>2</sup> with a symmetrical casting microstructure.

The downline rolling mill with its twelve individually driven stands generates a very fine-grained microstructure in the wire rod, giving the material the right condition for the downstream wire drawing process – in particular for the production of enameled wire and multi-fine wire.

The chemical reaction with a water-alcohol solution in the deoxidization and water cooling section improves the surface quality of the wire reducing alcohol consumption at the same time.

The plant is scheduled to go into production in the first quarter of 2015.

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A CONTIROP<sup>®</sup> plant of similar design will be supplied to Anhui Tianda Copper.

SMS Meer GmbH is a company of the SMS group which, under the roof of the SMS Holding GmbH, consists of a group of global players in machinery and plant construction in steel and nonferrous metals processing. Its workforce of more than 13,500 employees generates sales worldwide totaling EUR 3.3 billion.