



ArcelorMittal

# news release

## **Repair of blast furnace at Dabrowa Gornicza plant nearing completion**

Dąbrowa Górnicza, August 24, 2018

**Repair of blast furnace no. 2 that commenced on July 15<sup>th</sup> is entering into its last phase. During the modernization the hearth of the furnace, runners and dedusting systems among others have been renovated. The installation equipped in new automation devices will be more environmentally friendly. The cost of the investment sums up to PLN 85 m. Thanks to the repair the furnace will be able to operate for another 3-5 years.**

From hot metal produced in the blast furnace, steel is produced in the steel making plant. During this year's repair of blast furnace no. 2 in the Dabrowa Gornicza plant, renovated is among other the hearth of the furnace – a big pear-shaped tank where hot metal is smelted. The runners, which are lined with refractory materials, have also been rebuilt. Via these runners hot metal is tapped into torpedo ladles and later transported to the steel making plant. One torpedo ladle, that is a huge wagon in the shape of a cigar, can carry over 300 tonnes of hot metal.

Besides the works carried out at the furnace itself, the auxiliary equipment has also been renovated. – *We have built among others a new furnace loading system and equipped the installation in new automatic devices, which will enable greater control over the process of hot metal smelting* – explains Geert Verbeeck, CEO and deputy chairman of ArcelorMittal Poland. – *Moreover thanks to the precise cleaning and expansion of the dust removal system, we have increased its efficiency* – he points out.

### **A precise jigsaw and modern technology**

All renovation work is carried out in line with strict safety standards. The area around the furnace has been fenced off and can only be accessed by employees with special permits and after appropriate health and safety training. The works are carried out using giant machines, such as a 500 tonne crane, but at the same time require extreme precision.

Inside the hearth carbon blocks made in the most modern technology are installed. – *Interestingly, these blocks are being installed without the use of mortar. The gaps between them can range from 0.2 mm to a maximum of 0.5 mm. It's a precise puzzle, in a strictly defined order, like a macro puzzle* – says Radosław Dziejczak manager of the blast furnace number 2 repair project. After installation, the carbon blocks will be protected with a special concrete resistant to high temperatures, because the pig iron inside the furnace reaches as much as approx. 1,500 degrees Celsius.

The first start-up tests of particular elements of the installation have already begun; the furnace will be "blown" in beginning of September.

At the Dabrowa Gornicza plant of ArcelorMittal Poland ecological investments worth PLN 700 m are currently being carried out: at the sinter plant, steel making plant and TAMEH POLSKA power plant. The dedusting system in the steel making plant is being modernized which will allow dedusting performance to increase threefold. At the sinter plant new, gigantic hybrid filters are being built which will allow over six times less emissions from the Dabrowa Gornicza plant. At the ore and coke loading and unloading stations electrostatic precipitators are also being constructed. They will also significantly reduce dust emissions. Another PLN 100 m is being spent for an investment at TAMEH power plant. – We are installing turbines producing electricity in the process of blast furnace gas expansion. Thanks to them, we will produce energy without emitting any gases or dust into the atmosphere – explains Tomasz Ślęzak, BoD member and Energy & Environment director at ArcelorMittal Poland.

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**About ArcelorMittal Poland**

*ArcelorMittal Poland is the biggest steel producer on the Polish market with about 70% of production capacity of the Polish steel industry. The company consists of five steel plants located in Krakow, Dabrowa Gornicza, Sosnowiec, Swietochlowice and Chorzow. It also owns the largest coke plant in Europe – ZK Zdzieszowice. ArcelorMittal Poland employs over 11,000 people and over 14,000 if subsidiaries are taken into account. The company produces a wide range of long, flat, special and semi products for construction, transport and white goods industries.*

*The company has transformed Polish steelmaking. It has invested PLN 6 bn in modernizing every stage of the production process. Thanks to increasing H&S standards, the company has reduced its accident frequency rate by more than 90 percent. It has decreased the CO2 emissions by 25 percent, thanks to which it has become more environmentally friendly. The company is 1 of 3 companies worldwide able to produce 120 meter rails.*

*ArcelorMittal Poland is consistently engaged in supporting local communities by carrying out educational, health and safety programmes. The company has invested over PLN 16 m in these projects.*

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*ArcelorMittal is the world's leading steel and mining company, with a presence in 60 countries and an industrial footprint in 18 countries. Guided by a philosophy to produce safe, sustainable steel, we are the leading supplier of quality steel in the major global steel markets including automotive, construction, household appliances and packaging, with world-class research and development and outstanding distribution networks.*

*Through our core values of sustainability, quality and leadership, we operate responsibly with respect to the health, safety and wellbeing of our employees, contractors and the communities in which we operate.*

*For us, steel is the fabric of life, as it is at the heart of the modern world from railways to cars and washing machines. We are actively researching and producing steel-based technologies and solutions that make many of the products and components people use in their everyday lives more energy efficient.*

*We are one of the world's five largest producers of iron ore and metallurgical coal. With a geographically diversified portfolio of iron ore and coal assets, we are strategically positioned to serve our network of steel plants and the external global market. While our steel operations are important customers, our supply to the external market is increasing as we grow.*

*In 2017, ArcelorMittal had revenues of \$68.7 billion and crude steel production of 93.1 million metric tonnes, while own iron ore production reached 57.4 million metric tonnes.*

*ArcelorMittal is listed on the stock exchanges of New York (MT), Amsterdam (MT), Paris (MT), Luxembourg (MT) and on the Spanish stock exchanges of Barcelona, Bilbao, Madrid and Valencia (MTS).*

*For more information about ArcelorMittal please visit: <http://corporate.arcelormittal.com/>*