

PJSC Mechell Launches First Stage of New Wiredrawing Equipment at Beloretsk Metallurgical Plant

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BELORETSK, June 21, 2021 - Mechel PAO (NYSE:MTL)(MOEX:MTLR), a leading Russian mining and metals company, announces the launch of four wiredrawing benches at Beloretsk Metallurgical Plant, for output of import-substituting wire. The equipment worth 220 million rubles has been acquired as part of the project of revamping Beloretsk Metallurgical Plant's wire and rope facilities. This is the first stage of the facility, where a total of 12 benches will be installed.

The launch ceremony included the Republic of Bashkortostan's Head Radiy Khabirov, Chairman of Mechel PAO's Board of Directors Igor Zyuzin, Mechel PAO's Chief Executive Officer Oleg Korzhov, Beloretsk Metallurgical Plant's Managing Director Sergey Fedorov and other high guests.

Beloretsk Metallurgical Plant began implementing the investment project upgrading the plant's wire and rope facilities in 2016. The project's cost totals 1.5 billion rubles, including 750 million granted by Russia's Industrial Development Fund as a concessionary loan. The project is due to be finished in 2023. It includes a sweeping technical upgrade of the plant's wire facilities, installation of new wiredrawing machines and auxiliary equipment, as well as reconstruction of the closed-loop water system and installation of a new wastewater cleansing station for the wire rope facility.

All new wiredrawing lines are equipped with scalebreakers that scale drop off wire rods mechanically. This will enable the plant to abandon the practice of chemical scaling and gradually close down chemical etching facilities in its wire workshops.

The new wiredrawing benches will produce low-carbon and high-carbon wire - rods for rope and spring wire. The four benches' annual capacity will total up to 50,000 tonnes.

"One of the key aims of the republic's government and Mechel's joint efforts is to make sure that Beloretsk Metallurgical Plant improves its labor efficiency, produces new jobs, and increases wages. Lately high ecological friendliness has become a requirement for industrial facilities, and this new equipment greatly reduces the plant's impact on the environment. I would like to offer my gratitude to Mechel's top management for this work and to congratulate the plant's staff with the launch of this new equipment," the Republic of Bashkortostan's Head Radiy Khabirov noted.

"Mechel Group is consistent in implementing its strategy of transitioning to best available technologies at all of its facilities. Thanks to prompt support by the Industrial Development Fund and the Republic of Bashkortostan's government, we continue revamping our plant and installing new modern equipment. This will enable Beloretsk Metallurgical Plant to reach a new level of product quality and ecological safety," Mechel PAO's Chief Executive Officer Oleg Korzhov commented.

"The upgrade will enable the plant to produce import-substituting wire with high quality characteristics. Thanks to single-flow drawing with quality cooling, the new machines can ensure necessary pliability and even spreading of mechanical properties lengthwise, rule out kinks and damage to wire surface while drawing. Springs, ropes and other products made from such wire will have a longer life," Beloretsk Metallurgical Plant's Managing Director Sergey Fedorov noted.

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