

Qatar Steel Company - The leader always

By Steelworld Correspondent

Qatar Steel Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Industries Qatar (IQ) a Qatari shareholding company is setting up a state of art fully integrated and fully automated Rebar fabrication shop at its existing



plant at Mesaieed Industrial City. This is in line with Qasco's Vision of focus on the needs of other target markets with select, value-added products and exceptional customer attention.

On its inauguration, Qatar Steel Company became the first integrated steel plant in the whole Arabian Gulf. Steel production started in 1978. The mill is located in Mesaieed Industrial City, 45 kilometers

south of Doha, the capital.

The Plant consists primarily of four units, Direct Reduction, Electric Arc Furnace, Continuous Casting, and Rolling Mill. Other auxiliaries include the Material Receiving/Handling, Main Power Substation, Quality Control Centre, Maintenance Shops, and other facilities as sea/fresh water, compressed air, natural gas and a clinic. Today, the plant with its offices, occupies an area of 707,000 sq. meters, adjacent is a further area of 375,000 sq. meters reserved for future development and expansion.

With its latest production technology and equipment, the plant generates an annual production of 1.2 million tons of molten steel and a rolling mill capacity of 740,000 tons per year. The total workforce of approximately 1,250 comprises 12 different nationalities and with the exception of the office staff, the mill is run on a 3 shift system.

Qatar Steel Company has gained a reputation as a manufacturer of first class products. Its product quality is tailored in accordance with International standards. The product is supported by an effective and reliable delivery and after sales service. Its proximity to the GCC countries

enables it to supply a sizeable portion of the regions' requirements, as well as Qatar's own domestic need.

The birth

Undoubtedly, industrial development is one of the important elements to accomplish the comprehensive development, and due to the high importance of the steel industry, Qatar Steel Company Ltd. was inaugurated on 26.4.1978. Ever since QASCO has been continuously increasing production, achieving new annual records at various stages; beginning with production of Sponge Iron, Steel Billets and ending with Steel Bars. Quality has also reached such a high degree as to gain the appreciation of related industrial organizations, institutions and unions, such as the World Development Bank, which regarded QASCO as a model for developing countries to follow when undertaking similar heavy industrial projects.

QASCO also provided technical consultancy and training services to Saudi Iron & Steel C. (HADEED), Saudi Arabia, EL-Dakheila Steel Plant of Egypt as well as to Mubarakah Steel Complex, Iran.

Frist Japanese order

QASCO has received Japanese Industrial Standard (JIS) Certificate in 1991 and International Standard Organization (ISO-9002) Certificate in 1995 and ISO-14001 certificate in 1999.

During 1996 the production



quantity reached about 600,000 MT. A new Rolling Mill has also been added with a design capacity of 140,000 MT/Year which has increased the total production capacity of steel bars to 740,000 MT/Year. A new Electric Arc Furnace and a Continuous Casting Plant had also been added with a production capacity of 500,000 MT/Year which has increased the total production of Steel Billets to more than 1 Million tons/year.

QASCO prepared a Master Plan for further projects and initiatives that are closely related to the Iron and Steel Industry. This adds a remarkable achievement to the achievements made by the company during the past twenty years.

Today, QASCO in its reinforcing bar and billet products, enjoys an equaled reputation for quality, flexibility and reliability in its unceasing drive to ensure complete customer satisfaction in the areas of products and after sale service.

QASCO will continue to strive not only to maintain but enhance its reputation by a process of continuous improvement in every area of its

operations to protect the ongoing development of the company. As an existing or potential customer of QASCO, your continued consideration and support is highly valued as we continue to grow and participate in the development of the steel industry in the State of Qatar, a QASCO official said.

Prospects

As the demand for construction steel is high in Qatar due to the country's economic boom it is imperative that projects are completed on schedule, in a cost effective manner. To this effect, Qasco intends to provide customer with customized reinforcement solutions. This will not only help the construction industry to complete its projects in time but also find solution for its requirements from one single source.

The company will be only augmenting the huge demand in Qatar and will be targeting major projects and governmental projects which needs to be completed in a timely cost effective manner, the official said while answering the question. He also further emphasized that special attention has been given while selecting the machinery for the facility, like the performance of the machine in the gulf region, the reliability, and maintainability and easiness of operation of the machines.

Briefing on technical aspect of the project, he explained that all machines would be equipped with bar scanning facility so that all production

data can be input from a centralized computer. Bar codes are created by the production software and automatically loaded into the machine controller. This eliminates manual entry of information by the operator thus eliminating incorrect data entry and errors and minimizes the time it takes for data entry because tags are scanned greatly reducing operator key strokes and minimizes wastage of material. Bar code scanner interfaces directly with the controller; this would be integrated with production software for job tracking purposes. Facility would be operated with sophisticated scheduling software, which enables to download production data direct to the shop floor ensuring fast, accurate high quality manufacturing, and processing.

Qasco will aim and dedicate in reinventing reinforcing and finding new and better ways to design and build all types of reinforced concrete structures. We will have specialized team dedicated to developments that provide customers with genuine opportunities to save time, money and



efforts in all aspects of reinforced concrete design and construction.

Added services like prefabrication, supplying, and fixing package will be catered at a latter stage. We will provide additional

service like prefabrication of reinforcement assemblies for elements such as footings, columns or beams in factory conditions maximizing quality and reducing congestion at site.

Qasco believes in building and maintaining long-term relationship with its customers by closely working with them and catering to their requirements. The easiest way to take reinforcement off the critical path of a construction project and simplify project estimating, administration and management will be to take advantage of Qasco's added service in future for comprehensive total supply and fix service. One contact, one contract, one contractor, and one price will be our motto in future.

Qasco's team of engineers will be constantly exposed to new and innovative construction solutions and can add substantial value by identifying opportunities for improvement and potential for savings during the design phase of any construction project. They can provide assistance in relation to solving reinforcing related construction issues, and application issues such as correct bending/rebending techniques. Qasco engineers and detailers specialize in re-detailing design from construction drawings for reinforced concrete structures to maximize the benefits of off site prefabrication. Prefabrication takes the steel fixing of major structural components such as piles, ground beams, pad footings, columns, beams, arches, and lattice girders off the critical path enabling builders to take advantage of the many benefits that modular construction offers. Qasco's superior bending and rebending characteristics and excellent weldability with no preheating required makes it the ideal choice for prefabrication. With the majority of prefabrication taking place, safely under factory conditions, using special machines quality is assured and delays due to inclement weather are

minimized. Elements are also clearly marked to ensure easy identification and they are delivered as required by the client minimizing congestion on site.



Understandings

Qatar Steel Company (QSC) signed on Tuesday April.11, 2006 a new oxygen and nitrogen purchase agreement for its Steel plant at Mesaieed with Qatar Industrial Gases (QIG), a joint venture company among Air Liquid, Qatar Nitrogen Company and Qatar Petroleum having 60% share holding by the Qatari companies. The agreement was signed by H.E Sh. Nasser Bin Hamad Al Thani, Director & General Manager of QASCO and Mr. Dominique Rouge General Manager of Qatar Industrial Gases (QIG). This agreement covers the selling oxygen unit which is existing at QASCO to Qatar Industrial Gases. This agreement will also cover the take over of Asset of QASCO's existing Air Separation Unit (ASP-2) of 3700 N cum/hour oxygen production capacity by QIG from QSC, and Qatar Industrial Gases will supply to QASCO 72.5 million N cum yearly after the new oxygen unit completion. QIG will also install a new Air separation Plant adjacent to ASP-2 for producing additional oxygen to meet the increased demand of QSC after the implementation of ongoing expansion for steel making facilities. QIG will supply 8400 N cum/hour Oxygen and 600 N cum/hour nitrogen to QSC from the new plant and ASP-2.

The new Oxygen plant will be commissioned within 18 months from the date of signing of agreement, timed to meet the expanding demand for

QASCO. The project will be implemented on a fast track basis. QIG will also supply nitrogen and oxygen to other consumers in and around Mesaieed from their Air Separation plant installation. As QASCO is already planning for the next phase of steel making production capacity hike, which will result higher demand for oxygen in near future, further oxygen production capacity may be required to be added by QIG in future to match QASCO's expansion program. (PRO) Qatar Industrial Gases Company has signed a Letter of Intent (Lol) with Qatar Steel Company for a long-term supply of oxygen to QASCO's Mesaieed facility. The Qatar Industrial Gases Company is a recently-formed joint venture between Qatar Petroleum (QP), Qatar Nitrogen Company (QAN) and Air Liquide.

Qatar Petroleum sources said that QASCO planned to set up new "high performance steel furnace" using oxygen injection. These furnaces will require up to 170 tonnes a day of oxygen, which will be supplied by Qatar Industrial Gases Company. Supply is scheduled to commence in 2007. The release said the contract was a milestone for Qatar Industrial Gases Company as it was the first to be fetched by the company after its establishment. The company, it said, is well positioned to supply industrial gases including oxygen and nitrogen to the oil, gas and petrochemical industries in Mesaieed and Ras Laffan industrial cities. The Lol was signed for QASCO by its Director & General Manager Sheikh Nasser bin Hamad Al-Thani and for the other participating companies by Eid Mubarak Al-Mohannadi, Qatar Nitrogen Company Chairman, Ali Hassan Al-Sidiqqi, QP director (down-stream ventures) and Pierre Dufour, Executive Vice president, Air Liquide.

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