

More than a decade in customized support

The **voestalpine Group** is a steel-based technology and capital goods group that operates worldwide. **voestalpine Rails Donawitz GmbH in Leoben/ Austria** has been producing ultra-long or special head-hardened rails [HSH rails] with a length of up to 120 meters since 1990. The method employed for head hardening is a development of voestalpine rails GmbH in Donawitz. voestalpine is the only company in the world which supplies heat-treated and sweat bumpy rails with a length of 120 meters from.

Projects. **Trust.** **Relationship.** **Exceeding.**
Expectations. **Partnership.**

GEVA automation started providing the voestalpine group with its services on the furnace site. It went on to provide services in upgrade packages before becoming involved in more complicated and sophisticated aspects of the Group's activities; it has, meanwhile, successfully installed a complete mill control system for a new rail mill.

Some good examples of our partnership:

- (1) An automation prototype was required for the new rail transport system. The company chosen had already failed over a three-month period to get it to run when **GEVA automation** was contracted to help. The prototype was up and running within just 10 days! An ideal starting point for an ongoing partnership.
- (2) There were plans for the construction of a new production facility. An invitation to bid went out complete with functional description. As early on as in the bidding phase, **GEVA automation** revised this functional description with a view to securing a more practical approach - hence, its bid was structured differently, they came in at a higher price - but still managed to clinch the contract, which it went on to implement successfully!

Projects at a glance

Voestalpine Rails [Leoben]

1996	Walking Beam Furnace Replacement automation & drives + Level2
2000	Bloom Transport WBF Automation and drives
2001	Walking Beam Furnace Extension automation & drives + Level2
2002	Rail Manipulation System "Railman" automation & drives
2002	Roughing Mill Revamp Upgrade of automation & Level 2
2003	Gag Press #2 Automation upgrade
2003	Rail Milling Machine Optimization grooved rail milling machine
2004	Rail Mill Consultancy regarding New Rail Mill / Danieli
2005	Gag Press #1 Automation upgrade
2005	Drill/Saw Line Increase in throughput by 50% applying smart automation
2005	Finishing Line Speed-up of transport by 50% applying smart automation
2005	Simulation Rail Mill Mechanical and electrical equipment simulation
2006	Rail Mill Commissioning Supervision of entire automation & drive equipment for the new rail mill
2006	Soaking Pits Revamping automation & drives
2006	Rail Head-Hardening (Prototype) Automation solution for prototype
2007	Fully Automatic Store Replacement of entire automation & drives
2008	Rail Head-Hardening (Production) Complete new automation solution

Voestalpine Grobblech [Linz]

2001	Pusher Furnace STO1 Revamping automation & drives
2002	Pusher Furnace STO1 New Level 2
2006	Revamp Pusher Furnace STO1 Revamping automation & drives + Level2
2007	Roller hearth furnace D20 Basic design for revamping of heat treatment furnace to save energy, improve quality and throughput

"Whenever there was and is a problem, complicated and technically sophisticated, and no clear solution given - GEVA automation is our preferred partner for voestalpine".

Dipl.-Ing Norbert Köck, Head of Capital Projects Department, voestalpine