

Contribution ID: 125

Type: Oral Presentation

SBQ Sizing - Free of charge

Tuesday 7 October 2025 16:40 (20 minutes)

In the field of Special Bar Quality (SBQ) production, decades of evidence indicate that a sizing block makes a decisive difference in the total performance of each rolling mill. This is valid for green field projects as well as for modernization projects. The so-called 'sizing block' reflects a significant advancement - traditionally aimed at substantially enhancing product quality in long-product operations.

But, whereas in the past a sizing block was purely considered for sizing, nowadays, a sizing block is known to substantially influence the overall performance of each rolling mill with regard to productivity by increased flexibility. This is also the basis for the return on investment. Sizing comes along almost free of charge. What was once all about achieving tight tolerances and highest quality has now become almost a given. In today's competitive and dynamic environment, flexibility has emerged as another key feature. Merely rolling the best product is no longer sufficient –it's about producing the best product in the most flexible process to operate the rolling mill highly profitably.

Recently, SBQ mills have increasingly incorporated tailored sizing block solutions, to optimize their production outlets. This reflects the versatility and adaptability of this type of equipment. As those projects of leading steel producers underline, the ongoing advancements in sizing block technology not only enhance operational efficiency but moreover open up a range of strategic possibilities for mill operators. As the industry continues to evolve, the historic role of sizing blocks is expected to further expand beyond traditional applications, driving productivity and adaptability.

This paper analyses the main drivers and motivations in line with those investments in an emerging industrial landscape from a technical viewpoint. Exemplary applications of intermediate and/or in combination with finishing blocks in rolling mills across Europe and USA and their respective benefits will be presented.

Primary author: Mr SCHNELL, Guenther (Friedrich Kocks GmbH & Co KG)Presenter: Mr SCHNELL, Guenther (Friedrich Kocks GmbH & Co KG)Session Classification: Rolling Mill Technology & Process Optimization

Track Classification: Rolling of long and flat product