

# Work safety – a precondition for AMAG success

**High work safety standards represent a basic principle of AMAG's corporate policy.**

AMAG's safety strategy is based on mandatory requirements and the 2007 edition of the standard OHSAS 18001 (Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series) for which the company possesses certification. The OHSAS defines the requirements for work and health protection management, which in turn is an integral part of AMAG's managerial system.

The implementation of the related stipulations takes place on the foundation of the AMAG work safety directive and related, downstream work safety regulations and instructions. During daily working, AMAG attempts to either eliminate or minimize risks of relevance to safety.

Potential dangers are dealt with according to the "TOP principle":

1. Priority: **T** Technical solutions for the removal of dangers
2. Priority: **O** Organizational solutions for the minimization of dangers
3. Priority: **P** Personal protection equipment

A large number of production phases and the great complexity of manufacturing procedures mean that many possibilities are open to AMAG for the determination of accident prevention focal points:

## **New machinery and plants**

The purchase of machinery and equipment with optimized safety features (con-

struction-, design-, control- technology-, organization-related), which without exception correspond with the EC machinery directive.

## **Existing plants**

These are continually modified in line with statutory changes relating to safety standards. The host\* principle in the work safety sector is also a basis for improved standards. The large number of projects implemented in the past two years provides a clear indication of the major commitment shown by the AMAG workforce with regard to this issue and the following constitute a representative selection of recent projects:

## **AMAG rolling**

- Modernization of the continuous stretch-er line, including the latest safety technology
- Modernization of the two-high, bright rolling mill 1 including the latest safety technology

## **AMAG casting**

- The dry storage of all scrap, which can then be used directly in the furnace
- Fully automatic handling of materials subject to cold cracking prior to homogenization

## **Conduct and working in line with safety standards**

Work accident potential is created by the failure to recognize the hazards involved during operational and maintenance activities, or the fact that accidents can be caused by unforeseen work sequences. Workplace evaluations with the involve-

ment of employees attempt to analyze every working procedure with regard to possible dangers, to rate them accordingly and to eradicate the potential hazard by means of the appropriate improvement measures. Naturally enough, adherence to the safety regulations is also demanded from the employees of external companies.

## **Safety audits**

Numerous, ongoing safety audits are employed to check adherence to safety regulations. In addition, conduct in line with safety requirements during work is analyzed and further improved in the course of CIP workshops. As a result of the measures initiated and implemented during recent years, it has been possible to lower the accident rate by 50 per cent in the past decade. Moreover, in the same period, working time losses due to accidents were also slashed by two-thirds. However, although this trend is satisfactory, there is much to be done for the future in order to continually get closer to our maxim of "TARGET: ZERO ACCIDENTS". ■

## **AMAG SAFETY PRINCIPLES:**

### **"All accidents can be prevented"**

Our work is never too urgent or important that we cannot take the time to do it safely!

### **"Every superior and employee is responsible for accident prevention"**

All employees are to be trained in such a manner that they work safely and understand that this is to their personal advantage. Every employee is responsible for his or her actions; unsafe conditions do not justify unsafe working!

\* The host principle directs duties and responsibilities of the "host" (division manager/foreman) to define responsible working areas and give work permits for outside companies.