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Ladies and Gentlemen!



Marek PODGRODZKI
Chairperson

METALPOL LAUNCHES THE MOST ADVANCED CASTING LINE IN THE WORLD!

Stanisław Jerzy Lec, a Polish aphorist and poet, said: "Remember, anything is possible! Yesterday's dreams become today's reality".

Yes, we have been dreaming of METALPOL regaining its long-held position of a leader in the Polish casting sector and July 26, 2017 we saw the dream turn to reality when our LORAMATIC e-VMM vertical casting line, the most advanced line of the type, poured the first mold!!!

Paraphrasing the famous words uttered by Neil Armstrong upon making his first step on the surface of the Moon 48 years ago, I can now say: "One small step for casting, one giant leap for METALPOL".

With the new casting line we can now make products which so far have remained out of METALPOL's reach: geometrically complicated, high precision molds with consistent repeatability characteristics. Now, we will be able to enter those sectors of the economy which we could only dream of before: automotive, engineering, precision engineering, aerospace, etc.

The achievement results from great effort, talent, hard work, and perseverance of many people – METALPOL employees – and companies which have erected and upgraded our infrastructure, power system, water and heating systems, production bays, lockers, and access roads, as well as placed, installed, and started up all the machinery and equipment which make up our casting line. I wish to thank all of you who together with us, arm in arm, have worked on the project. My special thanks go to Messrs. Borja GARCIA, Hervé MASTIN, Inigo vicuna, Sergio DIEZ, Raul LOPEZ, Eukenia GOIKOETXEA and Diego ALONSO of LORAMENDi (Spain); Marco PAGLIARINI, Sergio MACCARI, Emanuele SCHIFIO and Ferri VANIS of BELLOI & ROMAGNOLI (Italy), Gianpiero INTRONA, Pasquale SCARAMOZZINO, Rafael Feliz NEVES and Cristian BARDINO of CIME CRESCENZI (Italy); Matthias BECHTOLD, Gerald FEUERSTEIN, Bernhard AMEND and Erich LASSONCZYK of MASCHINENFABRIK GUSTAV EIRICH (Germany); Uros SAKSIDA and Bostjan MOZIR of STEM (Slovenia). I also wish to say thank you to some Polish companies: to Ms. Kinga WRÓBEL and Mr. Maciej OBROCKI of KONSTRUKCJE ŻYWIEC; Mr. Maciej WIEWIÓRA and Ireneusz JURASZ of WIEWIÓRA & GOLCZYK ARCHITECTS; Marek MATYLA, Marek



KUBACKI, and Damian JANTOS of WAMATECH; Jarosław BĄK, Józef KUBLIN, and Anna SZKLARCZYK of ELMONTAŻ Żywiec; Bogdan HUBKA of KOMPLEX-BUD; Dariusz GĘBALA of DAREX; Rafał NIEBRZYDOWSKI of FSA; and Krzysztof ŻYCKI of GUSS-EX; plus all the employees of the above companies.

Special thanks go to those METALPOL employees who were especially committed to the project: Messrs. Jan DURAJ, Józef DZIEDZIC, Łukasz GRYGNY, Marcin JURASZEK, Bogdan MOTYKA, Ryszard SETLA, Paweł ZAZIĘBŁO, Adam ZEMAN, Tomasz ZOŃ, and many others whose names I am simply unable to list here.

The project would not have succeeded without the involvement and sustained effort of our Management Board members: Mr. Jan JURASZ and Mr. Włodzimierz WALASZEK.

Without the financial support of the EU Operational Program 'Smart Growth' administered by the Polish Industrial Development Agency [ARP S.A.], and especially thanks to excellent efforts by Ms. Barbara PIĄTKOWSKA and Ms. Izabela WÓJTOWICZ, the project would not have taken off.

We financed the project with investment credits from mBank represented here by Ms. Katarzyna ANDRZEJEWSKA, Ms. Ewa KOLANO, and Ms. Dorota GAŁUSZKO, whose competence, commitment, and assistance deserve the highest praise. Our special thanks go to Mr. Zbigniew RZĘPAŁA, Investment and Innovation Director, who spent many a month analyzing the best technical solu-

tions to fit our needs; selecting the best machinery and equipment; negotiating purchase, delivery, and installation terms and conditions, and then supervising the entire manufacturing and assembly process. Recently, Zbyszek and I participated in the take-over of our LORY at LORAMENDI plant, Vittoria, in the Basque Region.



Sadly, Zbyszek is no longer with us and cannot share our excitement of launching something special: Zbyszek is currently hospitalized with a major blood disorder; however, his condition does not prevent him from helping, consulting,

and supporting us by phone, even though he can only watch the outcome of his work turn into reality on CCTV cameras. We wish him a speedy recovery so that he can join us in subsequent innovation and investment projects we are already planning!

Months of hard work on the new line installation are, almost, behind us; now, many of you are looking forward to your hard-earned vacation!

I wish you all a wonderful vacation so that – re-energized – we can look forward to new, numerous challenges facing us in the future!

NEW TECHNOLOGICAL LINE – A NEW MILESTONE IN METALPOL HISTORY

The new line marks the opening of not just quite new opportunities for METALPOL but – at the same time – new challenges. The new casting line based on a LORAMATIC E-VMM 6080D molding machine and our existing DISA 2032 line are miles apart with respect to the new technology. Now, all of us must learn how to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by the new tool and meet the expectations of our ever more demanding customers. The new line makes it possible to meet certain customer expectations and demands. When asked what castings we could offer, we may now reply – any type you wish, assuming the maximum size casting fits an 850x650x500mm mold. There are no other limitations since the new line features all the latest vertical casting line solutions currently available in the world. We can even add that a majority of our line's features have never been supplied to any other company since our new LORA 6080D is the largest, fully electrical, vertical split line casting machine in the world. To give you an idea what an enormous technical leap has taken place at our company let us try to compare certain key components of the new and existing lines. Look at our old DISA 2032 in the pictures on the left below and then compare it to our brand new LORA eVMM 6080D.



The difference is obvious even to the naked eye – both in terms of the appearance of the entire line and the state-of-the-art control panel. The most significant modification of the LORAMATIC E-VMM 6080D consists in a patented design of the variable molding chamber which allows for manufacturing both the existing type series of castings and new products that require a larger mold size, without compromising the highest possible manufacturing quality.

The new pouring device represents yet another, most technologically significant innovation: a true revolution since it is the first in Poland, state-of-the-art CIME CRESCENZI (an Italian company) non-magneto pouring device installed in the vertical line. The pictures on the left below show our existing OCC pouring device with an inductor while on the right you can see our new CIME device we have nicknamed "Jurek", or Georgie.



The new pouring device makes it possible to change the type of cast iron by simply removing the metal and replacing it with another type in under twenty minutes. However, its most important feature means that mold casting is a fully automatic process now, with continuous control of the metal temperature, the pouring rate per second, and the metal level in the mold. The control is achieved by using some most advanced equipment, such as a laser, camera, and an optical pyrometer.

The new molding line would not function without a modern molding mass system featuring a first in Poland BELLOI & ROMAGNOLI intensive mixer complete with an advanced online GSC molding compound measuring system which continuously and automatically monitors every batch of the newly made molding mass. The pictures below show the differences between the existing molding mass production system with a KUNKEL WAGNER mixer (on the left) and the new BELLOI mixer (on the right), also called "BELLA".



The difference in the molding mass parameter control system is most striking. The first picture shows the existing tools used by the operator for random control of the mass parameters; the next one shows a fully automatic online GSC system that does not require a human operator.



These new machines will replace our old, well worn-out ones and, moreover, make it possible to expand the range of castings cleaned automatically, especially geometrically demanding thin-walled castings. The photographs below show our existing shotblasting machines (on the left) and the newly installed STEM units (on the right).



Then, there are some new control panels...



To meet the current market expectations, molding mass production cannot do without a mass cooler. The latest research into molding masses shows that mixing coolers work best for this application. Thus, to assure our casting line meets the highest standards we have acquired such a machine from Eirich, a German supplier of advanced equipment. To keep our "ERICA" cooler at the technology forefront for many years to come, we have chosen equipment that has recently debuted in the world market: the latest version of a mixing cooler. The DISAMATIC line used to "shower cool" the mass directly on the conveyor. The picture below illustrates the former and the current molding mass cooling technology; I trust no comments are necessary. Complementing the new production line are new shotblasting machines. At present, we are in the final stages of installing two Slovenia-made STEM shotblasting machines: a drum-type shotblasting machine called "BĘBINA" and a continuous hook shotblasting machine we call "ZAZA".

This investment project, covered by the METALPOL IN THE 21st CENTURY program, which seemed unrealistic only a year and a half ago, has now assumed different dimensions and has entered the final startup stage. We have already made some new castings but the project still requires more effort before our employees have learnt all the secrets of the new equipment and take advantage of the numerous options the machines offer. However, starting up the new vertical casting line does not imply the METALPOL IN THE 21st CENTURY program is over: we are already working on its future stages that will include a major upgrade of the melting plant, the work pieces staging area, and construction of a new horizontal molding line. And then... we will probably think of some more challenges.

Zbigniew Rzępala
Investment and Innovation Director

NOT JUST CASTING CHAMPIONS!



METALPOL is striving not only to win a most advantageous position in the casting sector but can also boast of some major successes in sports competitions!

Mr. Marcin DYRLAGA, New Launches Department Manager, is an enthusiastic runner specializing in marathons, with special interest in that most demanding of sports disciplines – mountain running which forces you to cope not just with the distance but also the height. So, if you run up the Żar Mountain, you cover 6.8kms but also climb 411m up; the Chudy Wawrzyniec run from Rajcza to Ujsoty has you covering 80kms and climbing 3,450m up!!!

This year, Marcin placed tenth in the general ranking and second in the half marathon "Around the Żywiec Lake" among the runners from the Żywiec area.

On July 16, 2017, Marcin came third in the 17th International Pilsko Peak Run and sixth in the 19th International Góra Żar Mountain Run.

Right now, Marcin puts final touches to his form before participating in the Granią Tatr Race [The Tatra Mountains Ridge Run], a killer run 70 km long which takes you 5,000m up only to plunge to 4,900m down!! The race starts soon, on August 19. We wish Marcin all the best and will be keeping our fingers crossed for him!!!!

Anna KUCZKOWSKA-PODGRODZKA successfully represented METALPOL in the 15th Tennis Competition of Foundry workers held in Barlinek on June 30 – July 1, 2017.

Ania won the title of Polish Foundry Workers Champion. Congratulations! We are sure Ania will successfully defend her title next year.



PEOPLE

Welcome to METALPOL

Our staff has grown this year with the addition of the following employees:

- **Marcin WOJTYŁA** – casting machinery and equipment operator
- **Marek PYTLARZ** – casting machinery and equipment operator
- **Mateusz TOMALA** – casting machinery and equipment operator
- **Maria MAŚLANKA** – janitor
- **Bolesław WOŁOSZYN** – technologist
- **Joanna ZAWADA** – sales specialist
- **Jacek JURASZ** – polisher / finisher
- **Zbigniew PAWLIK** – polisher / finisher
- **Andrzej PAWLUS** – casting machinery and equipment operator.

We wish all the new employees best of luck in their professional and personal life, a successful career with our company, and long, satisfying and friendly cooperation with the METALPOL team.

Departures from METALPOL

- **Kazimierz TRZECIAK** has left us to enjoy his hard-earned retirement. Kazimierz started his casting career in 1972 as a student at our factory vocational school. After graduation, he worked as a mold maker at Foundry No 1 and then Foundry No 3. From there, he moved to become a tapping operator in Foundry No 2, finishing his career with us as a smelting operator. In 1980, he was honored with a special Letter of Commendation on the Foundry Operators Day, and in 2013 – awarded the Medal of Merit for his contribution to the Foundry on its 175th anniversary.

- **Marek GAWĘŁ** has also retired. After completing our factory vocational school in 1972, he started working as a metal worker in the foundry Maintenance Department; and later became a mold core worker at Foundry No 2. In 2002, he started working as a patternmaker and in 2013, he was awarded the Medal of Merit for his contribution to the Foundry on its 175th anniversary.

Thank you for contributing to our Plant's success. We wish you all the best while you enjoy your hard-earned retirement.

Maria DZIEDZIC

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of

Andrzej GAWĘŁ, age 42,

Our long-time Employee and a valued member of our team, who died following a tragic car accident, at the age of 42. Funeral services for Andrzej were held at the cemetery in Leśna on July 22, 2017.

We will remember him as an easy-going colleague with a grin; A conscientious and hard-working friend with a zest for life.

We thank Him for the time we spent together. Our hearts and prayers go out to his Family.