ThyssenKrupp Steel – Alabama

Hot Strip Mill – Equipment Installation
In 2009 when ThyssenKrupp began installing equipment at their greenfield site in Calvert, AL, they chose Falk PLI’s Laser Tracker services to provide precision equipment installation and alignment.

Falk PLI utilizes Laser Tracking, one of the newest surveying technologies available, to help clients resolve alignment issues. The Laser Tracker allows 3D measurements to be taken on objects more quickly and accurately: each measurement having 3D (X,Y, Z) coordinates with an accuracy of .001”. Measurements can be provided up to 10,000 observations per second, yielding excellent statistical redundancy and repeatability.

Through the use of Laser Tracker technology ThyssenKrupp was able to achieve unprecedented accuracy in the installation of the equipment and eliminated the need for 3rd party verification — increasing communication and cooperation among contractors, equipment OEM and ThyssenKrupp operations in addressing concerns in “real time” rather than waiting for 3rd party approval before moving on to the next stage of equipment installation. Scope of work at the Hot Mill Operations included:

• Verification of foundations and bolt-cans
• Establish centerline for equipment installation
• Inspection of equipment upon arrival to job site
• Dynamic monitoring to determine shimming and alignment needs of 2 roughing mills and 7 finishing stands
• Additional equipment installation including: motors, slab sizing press, collers, and conveyors

Working in a collaborative manner with the technology and expertise of Falk PLI, ThyssenKrupp recognized the accuracy and efficiency:

"With 3 to 4 alignment crews working throughout the mill at any one time … We couldn’t find enough hydraulic / tension torque tools to support the equipment installation"

- Shawn Cochran – Area Manager, Maintenance
- AIST Maintenance & Reliability Committee

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