

Stockholm, December 7, 2017

Ovako invests in improved metallurgy in Imatra

Ovako has decided to invest in a new degassing vacuum pump system in its Imatra production site, to improve the production process and the site's overall capabilities. The investment replaces the previous degassing system, and will also help reduce the water usage by around 20 percent as well as the sites' carbon footprint.

Vacuum degassing is an important step in modern steel making. The process helps remove gases dissolved in the liquid steel, gases that could otherwise have a harmful effect on the mechanical and physical properties and quality of the steel.¹

"The investment will help us continue to deliver on our promise to our customers," said Janne Pirttijoki, President Business Unit Imatra. "At the same time it will help reduce our water usage with 20 percent as well as our carbon footprint."

Ovako's production site in Imatra produces low-alloy round bars for demanding applications within the automotive and engineering industries. The steel from Imatra is used in applications such as bearings, rock processing and mining tools, fasteners and hydraulic components.

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About Ovako

Ovako develops high-tech steel solutions for, and in cooperation with, its customers in the bearing, transport and manufacturing industries. Our steel makes our customers' end products more resilient and extends their useful life, ultimately resulting in smarter, more energy-efficient and more environmentally friendly products.

Our production is based on recycled scrap and includes steel in the form of bar, tube, ring and components. Ovako is represented in more than 30 countries and has sales offices in Europe, North America and Asia. Ovako's sales in 2016 amounted to EUR 781 million, and the company had 2,800 employees at year-end. For more information, please visit us at www.ovako.com.

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¹ <http://ispatguru.com/vacuum-degassing-processes-for-liquid-steel/>