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# news release

## The Ostrava Steelworks' Heavy Section Mill Celebrates 60 Years' Anniversary

**Ostrava, January 25th, 2019 – On January 27 it will have been 60 years since the permanent rolling began in the Heavy Section Mill of the Ostrava Steelworks. Since 1959, the mill has helped to meet the growing demand for steel sections. Nowadays, the modernized mill produces over 240,000 tonnes of products, especially merchant bars and mine support.**

According to the plans of 1948, the mill was destined to replace the low-productive and obsolete profiling lines of Vítkovické železárny of Klement Gottwald and of Spojené železárny Kladno to satisfy the growing need for steel sections. The plan was reworked several times and finally, the mill was designed to produce 560,000 tonnes of rolled products annually.

*"The construction began in 1957 with the construction of ingot halls and later the reheating furnaces were installed. The assembly of the rolling line was completed in September 1958 and trial operation began at the beginning of October. However, the operation had to be interrupted for serious defects and unfinished work. Thus, permanent rolling at the Heavy Section Mill started on January 27, 1959," says Hana Benkeová, archivist of ArcelorMittal Ostrava accredited archives.*

After the consolidation of production, the Heavy Section Mill took over the rolling programme of the rolling mill of Vítkovické železárny of Klement Gottwald. The mill has been modernized several times during its operation. Among the first modernization projects was the construction of an oil station for the furnace heating in 1965. This prevented substantial downtimes during winter months of the following years. Thanks to the gradual modernization, the rolling mill is still in operation, mainly producing merchant bars and mine support. It produces about 240,000 tonnes of steel products.

***ArcelorMittal Ostrava a.s. is part of the world's largest steel and mining group ArcelorMittal. Annually it produces over 2 million tonnes of steel, which is mainly used in construction and machinery. It is the biggest manufacturer of road safety barriers and pipes in the Czech Republic. Besides the domestic market, the company delivers its products to more than 40 countries around the world. ArcelorMittal Ostrava and its subsidiaries employ nearly 6 500 people. The 2018 average monthly income was CZK 39 180. As a result of the completion of a range of above-standard emission control technologies, the company produces its products with the minimum possible environmental footprint. The sole shareholder is ArcelorMittal S.A.***