

Swedish steel producer SSAB pushes the limits with Voith SafeSet couplings





SSAB utilizes Voith torque limiting couplings to protect valuable equipment at its heavy plate mill in Oxelösund, Sweden. The Voith couplings protect the drivelines from overloads during production and therefore help ensure that the equipment works reliably and efficiently at a maximum level.



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Hans Devell, Senior Technician for SSAB

For Hans Devell, Senior Technician at SSAB in Oxelösund, torque limiters play an invaluable role in protecting the mill’s equipment. “It is quite simple; if you haven’t installed torque limiting couplings, you face the risk that motors and cardan shafts break if overloads occur.”

In the event of an overload, the SafeSet couplings developed by Voith immediately release the driveline and protect the universal joint shafts, rolls and other transmission components. They therefore help SSAB to prevent unexpected downtimes and expensive damage.

SSAB has been using Voith SafeSet torque limiting couplings since 1999. Devell, who is responsible for maintenance and repair throughout the entire plant, explains why he has trusted this product through the years. “The torque limiting couplings are beyond any doubt. They work absolutely reliably and without compromise.” In the last decade, SSAB has released the couplings twice. SafeSet couplings have worked immediately and with precision, thereby prevented serious damage.



At Voith's site in Hudiksvall, 400 kilometers north of Oxelösund, worn couplings are repaired and made fit for reuse. Two SafeSet torque limiting couplings are currently in use in Oxelösund. To ensure downtimes are as short as possible in the event of overload, SSAB keeps one spare SafeSet coupling in stock.

According to Devell, in addition to the proven product advantages, having Voith as a reliable service partner is also important. "Voith reacts as soon as I contact them. Service technicians are on site immediately and support us in unscheduled shutdowns. They are there from start to finish with scheduled shutdowns, too, if necessary until late at night."

SSAB is a highly-specialized global steel producer with an annual steel production capacity of 8.8 million metric tons at its main locations in Sweden, Finland, and the USA. The steel giant employs more than 15 000 employees worldwide, with about 2 100 working at the Oxelösund site. The location is directly

on the coast of the Baltic Sea, approximately 115 kilometers south of Stockholm in the Södermanland province. The entire industrial area of SSAB Oxelösund is almost twice the size of Monaco.

The SafeSet SR-F 1000 with max torque of 10 000 kNm is mounted carefully between the universal joint shaft and the motor at SSAB's heavy plate mill in Oxelösund, Sweden.



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