

**press release**

**File name: Raut –WC77-0105.doc**  
**Ref: WC77 (01/05)**  
**Draft 2 : amended 26/1/05**

**Title:           Rautomead Copper Rod Technology Chosen for Australia**

UK-based Rautomead International Ltd., has recently supplied a 6,000 tonnes/year copper rod casting machine to Tycan Australia Pty Ltd., a leading manufacturer of enamelled copper wires.

The machine in question, a model RS 3000/6/8, takes advantage of the higher casting speeds now possible using Rautomead's unique graphite furnace technology and rod withdrawal system. Producing 8mm diameter oxygen-free copper rod at 5 meters per minute, the machine runs consistently at 800 kgs per hour with only six strands.

Previously eight strands would have been required to achieve the same output. This advance in technology reduces space required on the factory floor, minimises operator intervention, reduces thermal losses and cuts capital cost.

The Rautomead machine uses Australian-made ISA process cathode feedstock and produces the highest quality oxygen-free rod for drawing down to fine wire. All key production parameters are automatically monitored and alarmed and the machine needs only part-time operator attention.

Tycan chairman Peter Tyree said, "We chose Rautomead after a thorough evaluation of alternative suppliers and technologies and we are delighted with the result. The simplicity of the technology appealed to us in particular. The new machine has been running for nine months now. We have received first class service and support from Rautomead."

Ends...

Photograph caption:

Model RS 3000/6 upwards vertical casting machine.

For more press information, please contact:

Rautomead International Ltd.,

PO Box 100

Dundee

DD1 9QY

Tel: + 44 (0) 1382 622 341

Fax: + 44 (0) 1382 622 941