

press release

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Title: RAUTOMEAD TO DELIVER TURNKEY COPPER ROD PROJECT TO BULGARIA.

Release Date: 29th October 2004

Rautomead International Limited have secured a significant turnkey contract for the design, delivery, installation and commissioning of continuous casting technology capable of producing 6,000 tonnes per year of the highest quality 8.0mm diameter CuOF wire rod. The project is for Cablecommerce Ltd., of Bulgaria, who require a system that is simple to operate, easy to maintain and highly reliable.

Rautomead will be responsible for the complete scope of supply, including the RS 3000 model continuous casting machine, water cooling circuits, emergency power supply and laboratory testing facilities. They will also provide complete engineering consultancy advice in respect of the layout and design of the factory in Bulgaria, as well as technical service support and training for the staff at Cablecommerce after the equipment has been installed and commissioned.

Cablecommerce Ltd. are one of the largest distributors of electrical wires and cables in Bulgaria and their move into the manufacturing of copper wire rod is a major extension of their business.

Rautomead will continue to be responsible for the service and maintenance of the copper rod casting machine as part of a fixed price supplementary service contract.

Rautomead Chairman, Sir Michael Nairn said "We believe that the concept of supplying a turnkey equipment package together with a service contract will be of particular interest and benefit to those companies considering diversification into the copper wire and copper wire rod business and who wish to see plant maintenance costs clearly established at the outset of the project."

In its initial phase, the new factory will have capacity to produce 6,000 tonnes per year of oxygen free copper wire rod and is scheduled for start up during the first quarter of 2005.

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