

► Dear reader,

With this third edition of our newsletter, we would like to keep you informed of new developments at Proferro. In recent months, we have invested heavily in the development of our mechanical finishing department. For example, we recently installed two five-axis machining centers and a new HEC 800x5 Athletic (Starrag-Heckert) CNC machine. The latter five-axis horizontal machining center, allows for processing of larger castings in nodular as well as lamellar cast iron with a diameter of up to 1200 mm and a height of up to 1000 mm. However, we are also continuing to invest in our foundry. For instance, we will soon install a new core shooter of the renowned Laempe brand and this will enable us to significantly increase productivity and the quality of our core shop. In this edition, we would also like to introduce you to our customer ABC Diesel, a world reference in diesel engines used in the transport and energy sectors. Last but not least, we have to bid farewell to our colleague Marc Dejonghe, who retired after a career of more than 44 years at our foundry.

Cathy Defoor
Vice-President Proferro



► INVESTING IN A NEW CORE SHOOTER

In 2010, Proferro successfully put a new molding line into service with larger molds and an automated cast iron transport. Following this 16 million euros investment, Proferro now has an ultramodern Seiatsu EFA-SD7 (HWS) molding machine, which works with box dimensions of 1600x1200x400x400+60. "By combining the co-design, casting, mechanical finishing and assembly, we can successfully meet the increasing demand for larger, technically more difficult and more core-intensive castings. The production of the larger, heavy cores, including many prototypes, is still done manually nowadays and this makes it a very labor-intensive production form" explained Eric Page (Operations Manager).

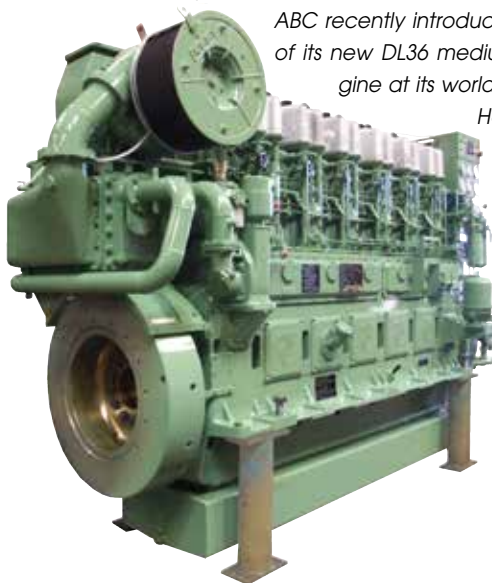
The Proferro cores, which consist of chemically bonded sand, are used to make hollow castings or a non-deforming recess at the exterior of a casting (or a combination of both). Nowadays, Proferro has three machine types to manufacture sand cores: coldbox machines, hotbox machines (crowning sand) and pep set. "Since the start-up of the new molding line, Proferro has obtained several new projects for large, voluminous castings, for which larger, heavier cores are needed. Following increased demand, we were looking for a solution to produce larger volumes of large cores in an industrial manner. After thorough analysis, in which automation, quality, speed and durability were decisive criteria, Proferro decided to invest in a new Laempe core shooter. Ergonomics and safety were also integrated in the project from the start. The new core shooter has a capacity of 130 liters for core boxes with horizontal and vertical separation surfaces, and allows for a significant reduction of resin, gas and energy use. According to the plan, the new core shooter will be delivered at the turn of the year and will be integrated in the production process during the first trimester of 2013."



CASTINGS FOR ABC DIESEL ENGINES

The Anglo Belgian Corporation (ABC), headquartered in Ghent, has been producing diesel engines since 1912. The company, which celebrates its hundredth anniversary this year, is a producer of excellent motors for applications in the transport sector (shipping and locomotives) and the energy sector (power generators) worldwide. The experience of 100 years of engine design in an international environment provides exceptional expertise and competence. Combined with continuous innovation efforts, it makes ABC a worldwide leading manufacturer of diesel, heavy fuel oil and dual fuel medium speed engines. ABC has a reputation for manufacturing robust and reliable engines with low fuel and oil consumption, long life, low maintenance and easy accessibility.

"The design departments of ABC remain committed to the development of more efficient engines with more power and less fuel consumption and therefore lower emissions. For instance, ABC recently introduced the first example of its new DL36 medium speed diesel engine at its world premiere at SMM in



Hamburg, the international trade fair for shipbuilding, machinery and marine technology. ABC has worked on the development of this new heavy engine for three years. The DL36 engine has a power output of up to 650 kW per cylinder and is intended for use in marine and power plants on land. Since 2009, Proferro has been supplying castings, made both on the Taccone and the HWS molding lines. Proferro is currently supplying cast iron parts in lamellar, but mostly nodular cast iron - such as the bearing cap, the outlet manifold and the valve rocker arm support for ABC's DZ and DL36 engine - which are assembled at the plant in Ghent" explained Christoph Vandewiele (Sales Manager).

LEAVING PROFERRO AFTER MORE THAN 44 YEARS



In early September, the colleagues of Proferro bid a fond farewell to Marc Dejonghe (Sales Manager). Marc worked in the foundry for no less than 44 years and two months! Hailing from France and having enjoyed a classical education at the Armentières (F) School of Foundry, he started working at the foundry on 5 August 1968. From the front line, and in various positions which include quality service, sales, and technology, he supported the strong evolution of the foundry in recent decades. It made Marc Proferro's most experienced employee and the 'éminence grise' of Proferro. Marc's efforts were not only appreciated within the walls of the company, but also by many customers and colleagues.

Today, he still enjoys a large network of friends within the foundry industry. As a thank you for all the years of loyal service, Marc was treated to a farewell party by his colleagues in early September. As a souvenir, he received a casting, especially tuned in silver for the occasion.



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