

## **WOODINGS SELECTED TO PROVIDE HYDRAULIC DISTRIBUTOR TOPS FOR BAOGANG STEEL'S GREENFIELD BLAST FURNACES.**

(Mars, PA)— Woodings Industrial has announced that it has signed a contract to engineer, build and deliver three new Hydraulic Distributor tops for BaoGang Steel Group, China's largest steel manufacturer in the northwest area.

Two of the Woodings tops will be used on the new #1 and #2 blast furnaces that BaoGang is building at its Baotou City facility in Inner Mongolia. The third top supplied by Woodings will be a spare.

BaoGang has been using the Hydraulic Distributor technology on its six existing furnaces at the Baotou City facility with great success. With the addition of the two new 4,150 cubic meter blast furnaces. BaoGang's total output at this facility will be approximately 16 million metric tons of steel per year—all reliably produced using this hydraulic technology for burden distribution.

The Hydraulic Distributor (HD) is the next generation replacement for traditional bell-less tops. The HD provides more precise, repeatable burden distribution. Hydraulic cylinders replace the traditional mechanical function for tilting the revolving chute. Rotation of the chute is accomplished with a simple gearbox and electric motor, which eliminates all complex tilt drives and gear reducers. There are fewer moving components, so the unit functions with greater reliability and longevity. The benefits of this system include:

- Better furnace reliability
- Increased furnace top pressure
- More consistent operation
- Less maintenance
- Increased fuel savings
- Improved gas and heat protection

BaoGang is one of the largest steel producers in China, produces hot and cold rolled strip, heavy plate, seamless pipe, heavy rail, large scale shaped beam, bar and wire rod.

Woodings will build and deliver all three tops to the China steelmaker within eleven months.