

Atlas Stainless Steels

Atlas Stainless Steels Division, which is part of Rio Algom Ltd., produces stainless steel flat rolled products. Located on the St. Lawrence Seaway a short distance from Montreal, Atlas Stainless is a fully integrated producer of cold rolled sheet and strip. Stainless steel plate in coil form and semi-finished products such as slab and hot band are also produced and offered for sale.

Selected steel scrap and alloying elements are melted in a sixty-ton electric arc furnace, transferred to a vessel and subjected to a carefully controlled refining process which allows precise control of chemical analysis and purity. Following this, the molten metal is transformed directly to slab using a

52" (1321 mm) wide curved mold continuous casting machine. After slab conditioning, the Atlas hot mill design allows the direct production of stainless slab into coiled hot band in a single rolling pass. Modern Szendimir cold rolling mills equipped with the latest in process control technology round out a complete system allowing precise attention to thickness tolerance with maximum productivity. Rigorous quality control, including statistical process control, allows Atlas Stainless to meet the highest automotive quality standards established for steel plants.

While 300 series sheet and strip continue to account for the major part of Tracy production, 400 series such as T-409, T-410 and T-430 has provided much incremental growth in the past several years. Atlas Stainless has had particular success in developing product variations to meet the demands of specific applications.

With present capacity to produce 80 000 metric tonnes of continuous slab per year, Atlas Stainless will actively pursue both export and Canadian business opportunities. With total employment of less than 550 individuals, Atlas Stainless cannot be regarded as large. However, they have modern facilities, a manufacturing and quality control work force that can respond to individual customer demands and a tradition of supplying high quality specialty steels throughout the world for more than fifty years.