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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### Ten years of service agreement between Nedal Aluminium and SMS group

#### **Successful collaboration for reliable production**

Nedal Aluminium B.V., based in Utrecht, The Netherlands, relies on the support of SMS group's Technical Service ([www.sms-group.com](http://www.sms-group.com)) for the maintenance of its three extrusion lines. This year marks the tenth year of the service agreement: an anniversary of which both partners are proud.

Since March 2008 SMS group has been supporting Nedal with all maintenance work for the equipment. Productivity, quality and production stability are crucial factors behind the cost efficiency of the plants. Nedal focuses on continuous maintenance to ensure these goals are met. "The service experts from SMS group possess the know-how and experience needed to detect changes in the equipment early on and ensure they are rectified in good time. We have been able to measurably improve the availability of our three extrusion presses, which feature press forces between 25 and 55 MN," says Rob van der Meij, Technical Director at Nedal in Utrecht.

During regular maintenance activities SMS group service technicians perform an objective inspection and assessment of the current condition of the plant, based on their many years of experience. The measures to be carried out are then jointly coordinated and

implemented, taking the production schedule into account. The maintenance work covers the whole process route of the three lines. "SMS group is the right service partner at our side, and that goes for short-term assignments or consulting services too," adds Mr. van der Meij.

Providing the best possible support to customers is something SMS group is especially passionate about. "We offer our customers flexible and tailored service packages. Each and every customer gets the range of services they need. This is the only way we can cater for our customers' specific requirements," explains Ben Zander, Head of Hydraulic Press Repairs and Modernizations at SMS group. "After ten years of successful collaboration, we are all the more delighted that Nedal is continuing to put its trust in our services," says Ben Zander. Nedal and SMS group, two partners who can rely on each other.

Nedal develops, produces and sells high-quality aluminum profiles worldwide for a wide variety of applications. One area it specializes in is the manufacture of lighting columns. With 80 years of experience and a varied product portfolio, Nedal is a specialist in extruded aluminum profiles.

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From left to right: Ben Zander, Head of Hydraulic Press Repairs and Modernizations, SMS group; Rob van der Meij, Technical Director, Nedal Aluminium B.V.; Ben van Londen, Manager Maintenance & Engineering, Nedal Aluminium B.V. and Ralph Strake, Project Manager Hydraulic Press Maintenance Services, SMS group.

SMS group is a group of companies internationally active in plant construction and mechanical engineering for the steel and nonferrous metals industry. It has some 13,500 employees who generate worldwide sales of more than EUR 3 billion. The sole owner of the holding company SMS GmbH is the Familie Weiss Foundation.