Continuus-Properzi, best known for its continuous casting and rolling plants for the production of aluminium and copper wire rod, also claims a less-known LEAD DIVISION.

Continuus-Properzi – a History in Lead

In 1936, when he was about 40 years old, Ilario Properzi founded his first start-up Company.

Within a few laborious years, he developed a continuous casting and rolling system to produce Zinc wires for metallization and other uses. During this period, the Second World War was raging, and Lead wires were also produced as a starting material for the production of stamped/coined Lead shots. In fact, during theWar, San Gavino Foundry in Sardinia asked Ilario to develop a



Properzi Lead Shots Machine



Properzi Rolling Mill for Pb Strip - 2008

system for the production of high precision Lead shots.

At the time, the only other Italian Lead shot producer was the renowned Monteponi-Montevecchio; with Lead and Zinc mines in Sardinia.

Not only was Properzi's continuous wire a great achievement, but so was the Properzi shot stamping machine where coining rolls, separating rolls, and rounding disks transformed the wire into many round sizes (1.6 - 9 mm) with very strict tolerances.

Lead applications were very rare between 1950 and 1980. In 1980 when Magneti Marelli asked Giulio Properzi for a proposal for the production of battery grids, the experience with Pb-Sb and Pb-Ca alloy casting and rolling and the coining know-how came back to the drawing board.

At the study's end, the proposal to Magneti Marelli included a system with a wheel and belt caster plus rolling mill and coining/punching in line. The strip was 160 mm wide and some tests were done in the Sordio factory producing a good amount of Lead calcium strip.

The line was revised for a width less than 100 mm, 2 tph rate and it was installed in Romano Lombardo in 1980.

For several years, there was a good relationship between Magneti Marelli (Fiat Group) and Contin-



Todays Properzi Lead Line

uus-Properzi, which became even better when Fiat sold the battery activities to Exide.

The American Company installed many Lead strip lines in the States and in Europe with capacities ranging from 3 up to 9 tph, and other battery Producers followed.

Today Properzi, a true engineering Company, offers a complete range of equipment for both narrow strip and wide strip, from furnaces to coiler, in the production range 2 - 9 tph for narrow strip and 5 - 25 tph for wide strip (≈ 340 mm) for punched grids. Due to our extensive experience and our continuous improvement approach, we have developed capabilities and knowledge to supply complete turnkey plants on an EPC (Engineering, Procurement and Construction) basis so that the Buyer is only minimally involved with the

installation of the plant.



Our representative Eng. Gabriele Muscarnera will be present at ELBC, at your disposal for further information on our technology.

The Continuus-Properzi stand is number 103; we look forward to seeing you!