



Berry Metal Company (Harmony, PA) proudly announces the successful implementation of our "Auto Taphole Sanding System" at SSAB Alabama. This project was in partnership with Berry Metal Company and the SSAB Melt Shop Team, focused on increased safety for both operators and maintenance personnel alike. The fundamental concept(s) Berry Metal used to design this system was to meet the safety needs of EAF employees by achieving the following:

1. Eliminate additional equipment mounted on the EAF sump balcony and tilt platform.
2. Achieving full visual inspection during the taphole sanding process.
3. High temperature, air cooled visual camera inspection system.
4. Ability for maintenance to safely perform work on the system without exposure to liquid steel.
5. Automated from the tap station.
6. Video recording for digitalization and process analysis.
7. Holds over a shift's worth of taphole sand.



Our innovative sanding system incorporates a completely offline (not mounted on furnace sump or tilt platform) system, allowing for automated inspection and sanding of the taphole. The system is a gravity feed discharge of taphole sand operated from the tap station, equipped with a pneumatic operated swing chute that swings into sanding position upon fastback, allowing the sump to be clear of equipment and the ability to perform maintenance while the furnace is in operation. The operator uses the camera display in the tap station to view the sanding and inspection processes for the taphole. Upon completion, the operator then can swing the sanding chute back to the offline ("home") position.

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