



The **S**pecial **S**teel **F**oundries

A Brief History and Description of the Company

Established in 1977, FAI-FTC is a foundry for heat-resistant and stainless steel.

In its two plants, the company produces static castings and centrifugally cast tubes in accordance with clients projects and specifications.



Pontevecchio Site

Its key markets are the steel industry, heat treatment, petrochemical, and incinerators.

The quality of its products and a reactive service are the founding values of the company. Driven by the conviction that the Quality Management System is essential to continuous improvement, the company achieved its first certification of compliance with UNI EN ISO 9001 Standards as early as 1994.

Right from the beginning, FAI-FTC has been a member of the Steel Founders' Society of America and as such has always been updated on innovations and advanced research in the sector, in terms of both materials and production technologies.

Manerbio Site



Why Choose a Casting

The most direct and effective way to produce steel items in complex shapes is by either static casting or centrifugal casting in a rotating mould.

Casting is the only possible option when items are to be made in special alloys with high physical and mechanical properties. The characteristics of these alloys do not allow the material to undergo processes such as rolling, forging, or drawing while the process of casting enables the production of items of complex design in a wide range of materials by simply varying the elements that make up the alloy.

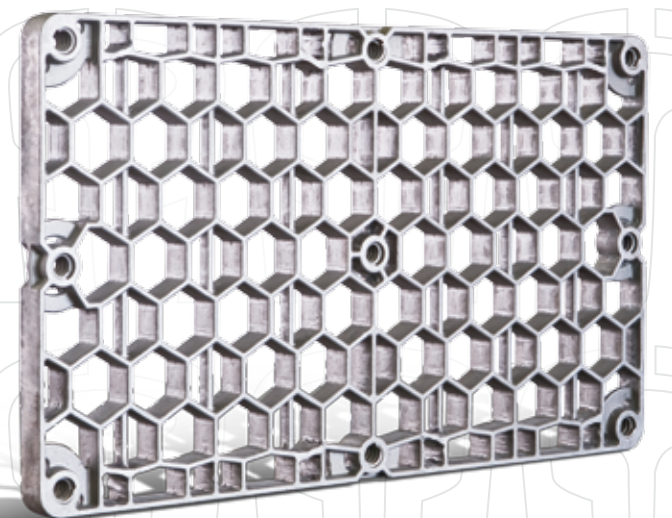
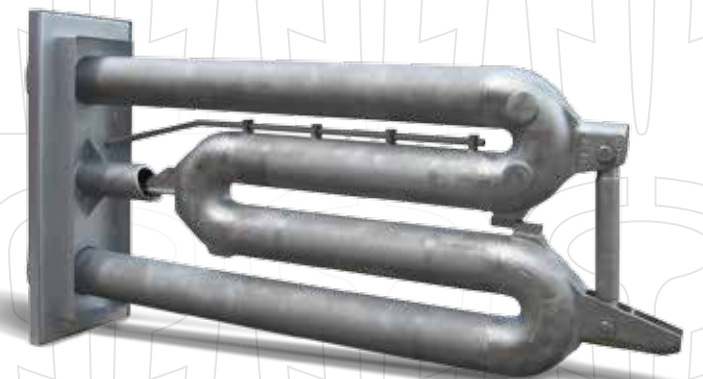
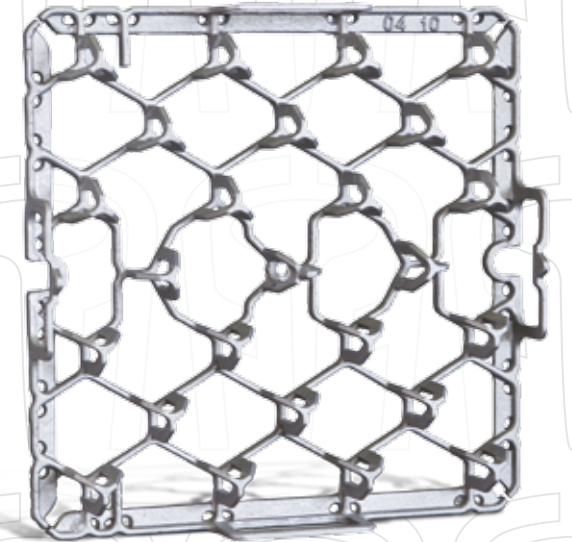
Thanks to a greater flexibility in the foundry production process, users may even order only a few pieces at a time, thus reducing stock costs.

The quality of the castings is superior to that of welded products from rolled steel, as castings that have been designed correctly present fewer defects and last longer.

In particular, statistical data show that the difference between the cost of a rolled tube and that of a centrifugally cast tube increases in proportion to the tube diameter. So the bigger the dimensions of the tube, the cheaper it will be to purchase tubes using the centrifugal casting process.

The advantages of casting over rolling or other processes

- Project flexibility: with this production technique, complex forms can be created
- Metallurgical versatility: the process allows the use of a large quantity of alloys with high mechanical properties
- Quality: greater uniformity of mechanical properties
- Lower Costs: increased product lifetime and smaller minimum production batches.



How to Order Castings

The relation between customer and foundry is of the utmost importance, from the initial product engineering phase, throughout all the production steps and right up to the operation. Close cooperation between technical departments in defining and designing the casting, as well as proper scheduling of lead times, guarantee satisfaction and excellent results to both the customer and the supplier. To produce a casting with any moulding process, it is necessary to know in advance:

- the project (design, dimensional tolerances, machining parameters)
- the number of pieces
- the alloy
- required final testing
- supplementary requirements such as:
 - dye penetrant inspection or x-ray controls
 - acceptance criteria
- any other information that may contribute to the successful outcome of production and the use of the casting

All relevant details must be specified both on the request for quotation and on the purchase order.



The Quality of the Castings

The quality of the casting defines its final cost: the higher the quality of the casting, the less its real cost.

The actual cost of the equipment does not coincide with its purchase price alone, but also depends on its lifetime and on set-up costs.

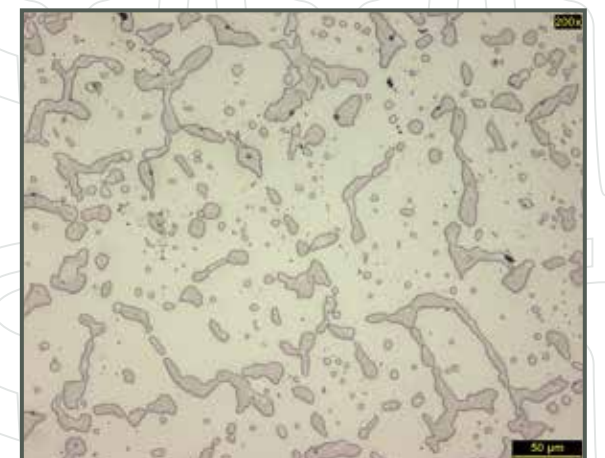
$$\text{Actual Cost} = \frac{\text{Cost of Purchase} + \text{Number of set-ups} \times \text{Cost of set-ups}}{\text{duration}}$$

A good quality casting has a longer lifetime and therefore reduces the number of set-ups required to replace any worn-out part. As a consequence, the quality control of the castings is an important phase of the production process. However, it is important not to require more controls than necessary, as these may also excessively affect the final price of the pieces.

In general, there are two quick, simple and inexpensive methods that enable us to verify the quality of the castings:

- visual and dimensional inspections: a fast and very economical method for timely detection of potential surface flaws such as porosity, cracks, inclusions, etc.
- Dye Penetrant Inspection: a simple and low-cost method for the detection of surface defects not visible to the naked eye.

X-ray control belongs to quite another category. It is very costly and should be used only for the production of prototypes.



Recommendations on the Use of Castings

The life of heat-resistant castings can be prolonged by following a few simple rules:

- handle the castings with care during unpacking, storage and assembly: heat-resistant alloys have low ductility at room temperature; any type of impact may damage the pieces;
- always clean the surface from contaminants (oils, grease, paints...) prior to introducing the equipments into the furnace: at high temperatures, such contaminants may make the atmosphere in the plant become corrosive;
- during operation, periodically check the surface of the casting, taking care to note any signs of initial defects and how long it takes before they appear. It is recommended to report immediately to the supplier, in order to understand the reason of anomalies and then take actions to delay or prevent further damage;
- inform your supplier immediately if you need to change the operating conditions of the furnace.

In general, the continuous exchange of information between the user and the foundry can contribute to product improvement, even under the most severe operating conditions.



How to Choose the Most Suitable Alloy

Heat-resistant Steels

Heat-resistant cast steels are used in systems where the operating temperature exceeds 650°C (1200°F) and can endure temperatures of up to 1220°C (2228°F).

In order to identify the best alloy to meet production needs, these OPERATING CONDITIONS must be taken into consideration:

- normal operating temperature
- maximum and minimum furnace temperature
- maximum and minimum temperature close to the components
- periodicity of temperature cycles
- thermal expansion of the components
- applied load
- loading method, support and structural constraints
- minimum duration required (calculated through a trade-off analysis between cost and duration of the casting)
- acceptable degree of deformation
- operating atmosphere

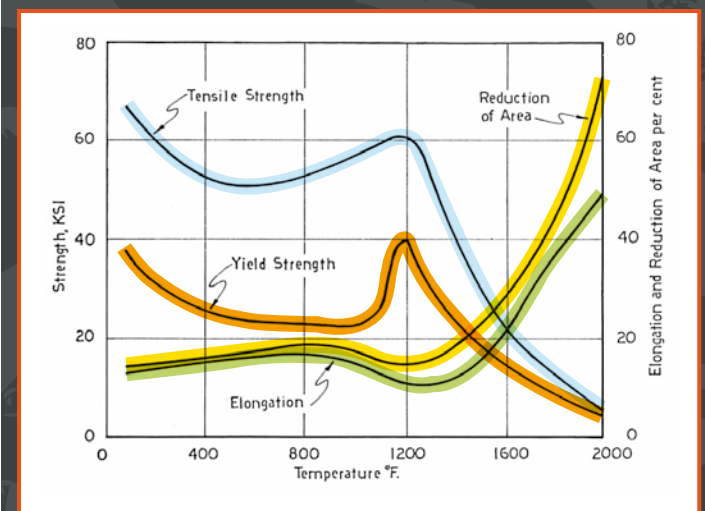
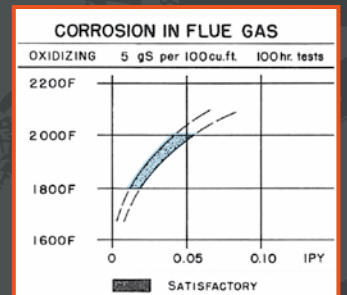
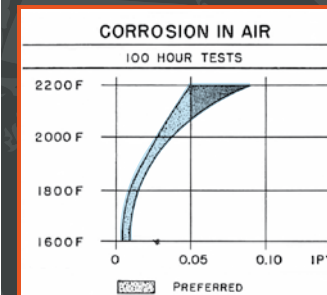
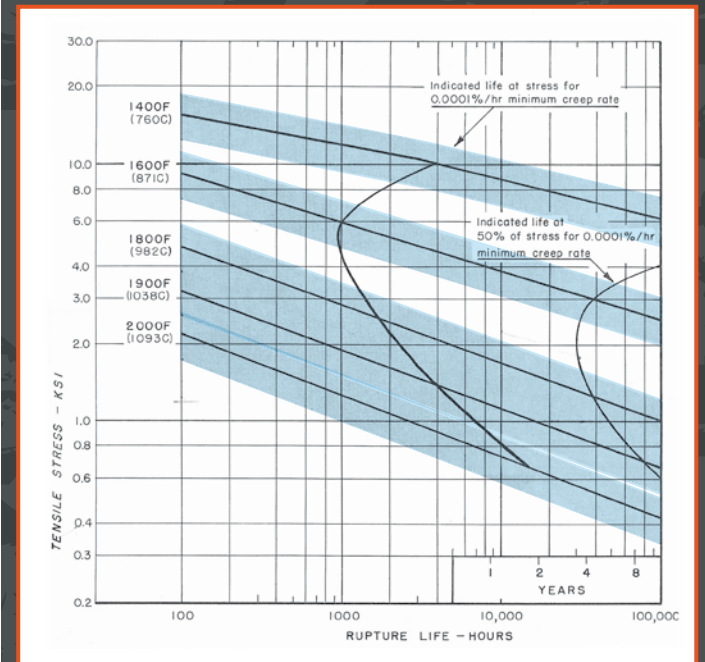
In keeping with these data, the engineer establishes the most suitable alloy capable of

- resisting the temperatures and corrosive environment of the system
- having a deformation that is controlled and compatible with the structure limitations of system
- having a creep in conformity with the load on the piece
- having the necessary tensile strength

Several reports and researches offer plenty of technical data and case studies that engineers can use to decide which alloy is best for even the most complex operating conditions.

During this phase, it is essential that the client provide the supplier with as much information as possible.

Below are some tables to illustrate which are the key elements in choosing cast steels to be used in various sectors.



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Ferritic and Austenitic-Ferritic Types

	Alloy		Composition										Heat Treatment		Tensile Test			Hardness	Specific Weight	Heat Capacity	Thermal Conductivity		Average Thermal Expansion	Long term Characteristics																Max. Temperature in Air											
																						Temperature		600°C			700°C			800°C			900°C			1000°C			1100°C												
	Designation	Material-number	C [%]	Si [%]	Mn [%]	P max. [%]	S max. [%]	Cr [%]	Mo [%]	Ni [%]	Nb [%]	Co [%]	others	Symbol	Temperature [°C]	R _{0,2} [MPa] ^a min.	R _m [MPa] ^a min.	A [%] min.	[HB] max.	[kg/dm3]	[J/(kg*K)] at			[W/(m*K)] at	[10 ⁻⁶ *K ⁻¹] between 20°C and	Tension	σ _t ^e	σ _{1%} ^f	σ _t ^e	σ _{1%} ^f	σ _t ^e	σ _{1%} ^f	σ _t ^e	σ _{1%} ^f	σ _t ^e	σ _{1%} ^f	σ _t ^e	σ _{1%} ^f	°C												
Austenitic Types	GX 25 CrNiSi 18-9	1.4825	0,15 bis 0,35	0,50 - 2,50	max. 2,00	0,040	0,030	17,00 - 19,00	max. 0,50	8,00 - 10,00	-	-	-	no heat treatment		0,2% Yield Stress	Tensile Stress	Elongation			20°C	20°C	100°C		800°C	1000°C	400°C	800°C	1000°C	Time [h]	100	1000	10000	100	1000	10000	100	1000	10000	100	1000	10000	100	1000	10000	100	1000	10000			
	GX 40 CrNiSi 22-10	1.4826	0,30 bis 0,50	1,00 - 2,50	max. 2,00	0,040	0,030	21,00 - 23,00	max. 0,50	9,00 - 11,00	-	-	-			230	450	15	-	7,8	500	14,8	15,5		26	30	17,4	18,3	18,8			-	220	78	120	90	44	60	50	22	40	30	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	900	
	GX 25 CrNiSi 20-14	1.4832	0,15 bis 0,35	0,50 - 2,50	max. 2,00	0,040	0,030	19,00 - 21,00	max. 0,50	13,00 - 15,00	-	-	-			230	450	10	-	7,8	500	14	15		25,4	28,8	17,2	18,3	19,3			-	-	82	-	-	46	-	-	23	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	950	
	GX 40 CrNiSi 25-12	1.4837	0,30 bis 0,50	1,00 - 2,50	max. 2,00	0,040	0,030	24,00 - 27,00	max. 0,50	11,00 - 14,00	-	-	-			220	450	6	-	7,8	500	14	15		25,4	28,8	17,5	18,4	19,3			-	-	-	100	80	50	70	40	26	45	25	13	26	15	6	-	-	-	1050	
	GX 40 CrNiSi 25-20	1.4848	0,30 bis 0,50	1,00 - 2,50	max. 2,00	0,040	0,030	24,00 - 27,00	max. 0,50	19,00 - 22,00	-	-	-			220	450	8	-	7,8	500	14,6	16,7		25	28	17	18	19			-	-	-	100	80	65	75	50	36	47	28	17	28	16	7	12	6	2,5	1100	
	GX 40 CrNiSiNb 24-24	1.4855	0,30 bis 0,50	1,00 - 2,50	max. 2,00	0,040	0,030	23,00 - 25,00	max. 0,50	23,00 - 25,00	0,80 - 1,80	-	-		-		220	450	4	-	8,0	500	14	15,5		24,5	27,7	16,8	18		18,5		-	-	-	170	125	80	97	70	46	60	45	22	32	23	7,5	-	10	-	1050
	GX 35 NiCrSi 25-21	1.4805	0,20 bis 0,50	1,00 - 2,00	max. 2,00	0,040	0,030	19,00 - 23,00	max. 0,50	23,00 - 27,00	-	-	-			220	430	8	-	8,0	500	-	14		23,8	27,7	16,4	17,5	18,2			-	-	-	-	-	80	-	70	45	-	45	22	-	23	7,5	-	10	-	1000	
	GX 40 NiCrSi 35-17	1.4806	0,30 bis 0,50	1,00 - 2,50	max. 2,00	0,040	0,030	16,00 - 18,00	max. 0,50	34,00 - 36,00	-	-	-			220	420	6	-	8,0	500	12	12,3		23	26,8	15,3	17	17,6			-	-	-	-	80	55	90	50	30	48	30	17	28	17	6	-	6	3	1000	
	GX 40 NiCrSiNb 35-18	1.4807	0,30 bis 0,50	1,00 - 2,50	max. 2,00	0,040	0,030	17,00 - 20,00	max. 0,50	34,00 - 36,00	1,00 - 1,80	-	-		-		220	420	4	-	8,0	500	12	12,3		23	26,8	15,3	17		17,6		-	-	-	180	140	-	110	70	-	60	35	-	35	20	-	18	10	-	1000
	GX 40 NiCrSi 38-19	1.4865	0,30 bis 0,50	1,00 - 2,50	max. 2,00	0,040	0,030	18,00 - 21,00	max. 0,50	36,00 - 39,00	-	-	-			220	420	6	-	8,0	500	12	12,2		23,3	26,5	15,3	17	17,6			-	-	-	-	80	55	90	50	32	48	30	18	28	17	7	-	6	3	1020	
	GX 40 NiCrSiNb 38-19	1.4849	0,30 bis 0,50	1,00 - 2,50	max. 2,00	0,040	0,030	17,00 - 20,00	max. 0,50	36,00 - 39,00	1,00 - 1,80	-	-		-		220	420	4	-	8,0	500	12	12,3		23,3	26,5	15,3	17		17,6		-	-	-	-	93	60	93	-	38	49	36	20	-	-	8	-	-	-	1020
	GX 10 NiCrSiNb 32-20	1.4859	0,05 bis 0,15	0,50 - 1,50	max. 2,00	0,040	0,030	19,00 - 21,00	max. 0,50	31,00 - 33,00	0,50 - 1,50	-	-		-		180	440	20	-	8,0	500	12,8	13		25,1	-	17,6	18,7		19,5		-	-	-	135	105	64	84	60	36	49	36	15,5	26	14	5	-	-	-	1050
	GX 40 NiCrSi 35-26	1.4857	0,30 bis 0,50	1,00 - 2,50	max. 2,00	0,040	0,030	24,00 - 27,00	max. 0,50	33,00 - 36,00	-	-	-			220	440	6	-	8,0	500	12,8	13		23,8	27,7	15,7	17,4	18,3			-	-	-	-	70	-	-	40	-	-	20	-	-	8	-	-	-	1100		
	GX 40 NiCrSiNb 35-26	1.4852	0,30 bis 0,50	1,00 - 2,50	max. 2,00	0,040	0,030	24,00 - 27,00	max. 0,50	33,00 - 36,00	0,80 - 1,80	-	-		-		220	440	4	-	8,0	500	12,8	13		23,5	27,7	16	17,8		18,6		-	-	-	155	120	72	90	70	41	49	38	22	30	20	9	15	8,3	3	1100
	GX 50 NiCrCo 20-20-20	1.4874	0,35 bis 0,65	max. 1,00	max. 2,00	0,040	0,030	19,00 - 22,00	2,50 - 3,00	18,00 - 22,00	0,75 - 1,25	18,50 - 22,00	W: 2,00 - 3,00		320	420	6	-	8,0	460	-	13,8		25	-	15,2	16,5	17			-	-	-	-	-	-	135	100	-	80	60	27	-	32	17	-	-	-	1150		
	GX 50 NiCrCoW 35-25-15-5	1.4869	0,45 bis 0,55	1,00 - 2,00	max. 1,00	0,040	0,030	24,00 - 26,00	-	33,00 - 37,00	-	14,00 - 16,00	W: 4,00 - 6,00		270	480	5	-	8,2	500	10	12,6		-	28	-	-	17,3			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	-	6	1200				
	GX 40 NiCrNb 45-35 ⁹	1.4889 ⁹	0,35 bis 0,45	1,50 - 2,00	1,00 - 1,50	0,040	0,030	32,50 - 37,50	-	42,00 - 46,00	1,50 - 2,00	-	-			240	440	3	-	8,0	500	-	11,3		30,6	36,1	14,3	15,3	15,7			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	35	-	25	20	8	13	9	-	1160		

(a) 1 MPa = 1 N/mm²

(b) At working temperatures below 1000°C, it can be advisable to limit the percentage by mass ofCr to 29,00%-32,00% and of Si to 1,00%-1,50%, because unfavourable conditions can cause embrittlement

(e) σ_f - mean tension in MPa for fracture after 100h and 1.000h

(f) σ_{1%} - mean tension in MPa for 1% elongation after 10.000h

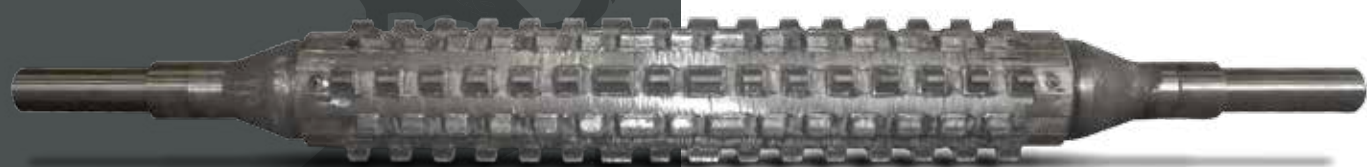
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Alloy			Composition											Heat Treatment		Tensile Test			Hardness	Specific Weight	Heat Capacity	Long term Characteristics																Max. Temperature in Air																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
Designation	Material-number	C [%]	Si [%]	Mn [%]	P max. [%]	S max. [%]	Cr [%]	Mo [%]	Ni [%]	Nb [%]	Co [%]	others	Symbol	Temperatur [°C]	R _{90,2} [MPa] ^a min.	R _m [MPa] ^a min.	A [%] min.	[HB] max.	[kg/dm3]	[J/(kg°K)] at	temperatur	600°C		700°C		800°C		900°C		1000°C		1100°C																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
															0,2% Yield Stress	Tensile Stress	Elongation			20°C	Tension	σ _r ^e		σ _{1%} ^f	σ _r ^e		σ _{1%} ^f	σ _r ^e		σ _{1%} ^f	σ _r ^e		σ _{1%} ^f	σ _r ^e		σ _{1%} ^f	σ _r ^e		σ _{1%} ^f	σ _r ^e		σ _{1%} ^f	σ _r ^e		[°C]																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Nickel and Cobalt Based Alloys	G-NiCr 28 W	2.4879	0,35 bis 0,55	1,00 - 2,00	max. 1,50	0,040	0,030	27,00 - 30,00	max. 0,50	47,00 - 50,00	-	-	Fe: balance W:4,00 - 6,00	No heat treatment	240	440	3	-	8,2	500	20°C																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							</



Some of our products





Our commitment

We believe in our work and accomplish it with fairness and enthusiasm, always following these principles:

- Maximum attention to safety in our facilities and to environmental protection.
- Constant training of personnel.
- Continuous improvement of product quality and service through:
 - investments in state-of-the-art equipment;
 - use of software for the calculation of complex parameters such as casting and feeding systems, stress on resilient sections, etc.;
 - collaboration with research laboratories.

