



*Discharging the residual steel*



*Forging on the 55 MN open-die forging press*

## Industrial photographers at Buderus Edelstahl Tough steel images

The German industrial photographer Uwe Niggemeier and his American colleague Mike Schultz visited Buderus Edelstahl in Wetzlar on 25 February 2008. They photographed the various production workshops to document the art of steel processing.

Uwe Niggemeier and Mike Schultz spent a whole day going round the Buderus Edelstahl works accompanied by Anne Kuhlmann, the Commercial Management Team Assistant. They photographed the closed-die forge, the steel mill, the rolling mill, the machine shop, and witnessed a 60-tonne

ingot being forged. Previously they had both been able to watch a 150-tonne ingot being poured in the steel mill.

The enthusiastic industrial photographer Uwe Niggemeier, who has been documenting European heavy industry photographically for more than a decade, and exhibits

*View of the arc furnace*

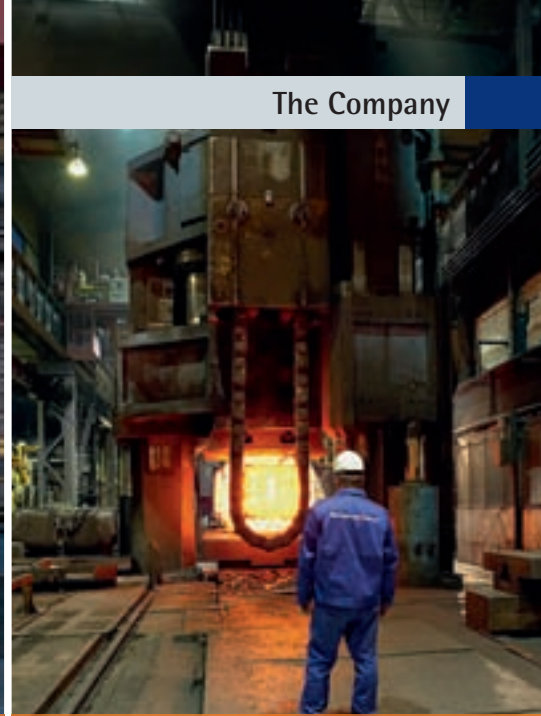


*Harald Lackmann operates the horizontal boring machine during face milling*





*Tool steel undergoing heat treatment in the annealing shop*



*Forging grade ingot on the 55 MN open-die forging press*

his works in Germany and Belgium, has specialised in the subjects of steel and iron. His American colleague Mike Schultz has devoted himself to motifs from foundries and forges for 20 years. Uwe Niggemeier presents his work on his Internet site [www.stahlseite.de](http://www.stahlseite.de), which contains an impressive collection of photographs from European and American steel mills. The Internet site of Mike Schultz, [www.MSIphoto.net](http://www.MSIphoto.net), also presents an impressive record of the graphic fascination of steel.

Both of them are enthusiastic about what they do. Uwe Niggemeier says it is his hobby, and he finances his trips to the steel mills from his own pocket. "Others invest in big cars, I invest in my trips to the world's steel mills", says the industrial geographer born in 1964 who studied in Hagen. He works for the Zollverein museum, an abandoned mine in Essen that was designated a world cultural heritage site by UNESCO in 2001, and as a guide for the iron and steel museum landscape park north in Duisburg.

So much passion for the steel sides of life also convinced Jens Mohr, Commercial Director at Buderus Edelstahl, to readily comply with Uwe Niggemeier's written request to be permitted to photograph in Wetzlar. The results of the photographic tour of the Wetzlar site will shortly be displayed on [www.stahlseite.de](http://www.stahlseite.de).

*Removing slag during secondary metallurgy*



*Jürgen Cross conducting an axial boring operation*

