

CR & T board meeting discusses special steel in commercial vehicles

The Corporate Research and Technology board of Böhler-Uddeholm AG met in Wetzlar in December 2007 under the direction of the Managing Director Dr Knut Consemüller and Dr Hribernik to discuss the subject of special steel products in commercial vehicles, and their development potential. In addition to Dr Frank Hippenstiel of Quality Assurance, some customers of Buderus Edelstahl took part. They reported on development trends and joint projects. For example Dr Stefan Hock of ZF Friedrichshafen AG presented a paper on "Processing steel with high productivity for high-performance components". He

emphasised in particular the development of power to weight ratios in commercial vehicle transmissions. It is expected that the demands on special steel products will continue to increase for future generations of cars and trucks. Thomas Landsherr of MAN Nutzfahrzeuge AG reported on "Present development progress of front axles for trucks and buses", describing material and component trends in the field of commercial vehicle axles. Here too there is development potential for Buderus Edelstahl, both in terms of materials performance potential, and as regards generating value added in special steel products with-



Specialist group listening to the presentation

in the whole process chain. The latter is a major concern of Buderus Edelstahl, and is currently being considered by Dr Michael Ahrens of Daimler AG. In his paper entitled "Experiences with Nb+N micro-alloyed MoCr steel", he presented initial results with micro-alloyed case hardening steels at the CR & T Board Meeting.