Nozzles and Systems for the Metallurgical Industry

Steel

Non-ferrous metals

Aluminium
Lechler nozzles have been setting standards in quality, performance and design for over 125 years.

A wide range of specially developed and proven nozzles of many different designs and in a range of materials is available for applications throughout the processes of metal smelting, refining, casting, rolling and processing. You can also select from over 20,000 other Lechler nozzles for a very wide range of other applications — with new ones being added to the range daily!
A dynamic market with high expectations

Global steel production will increase dramatically in the years ahead. The globalization of the steel industry is not yet complete.

Every year, steel-making companies are being newly formed, with production plants on every continent. The trend is similar in the case of the aluminium industry and the producers of non-ferrous metals.

The metallurgical industry places stringent demands on its suppliers

Most metallurgical plant and machine builders are already organized and active globally. Process optimizations, along with new technologies, enable production capacities to be permanently increased and the product quality of the metals produced to be further improved.

Nozzles and nozzle systems play an important role here in all production stages. The following basic requirements must be met for a successful partnership:

- Great innovative strength in order to realize new technologies.
- High problem-solving competence for ensuring plant availability.
- Global organization as a guarantee of customer proximity and worldwide service.
- Lechler meets these requirements in full.

Wherever you are in the world, Lechler is close by and employs over 650 people

With production facilities in Germany, the USA, England, Hungary, India and China, sales offices in France, Spain, the BENELUX countries, Sweden and Finland, and representatives in over 25 countries, Lechler has a global network of service stations. This guarantees technical support for plant operators, a supply of spare parts and ongoing training of maintenance staff throughout the world.

Everything is in Lechler’s favor

Leadership in technology

We use advanced design and production technologies.

Process-related competence

Combined with unsurpassed nozzle know-how, they allow us to find the optimum technical solutions.

A worldwide service network

A supply of spare parts and technically competent after-sales service are guaranteed.
The plant builder’s partner

With innovative nozzle solutions, Lechler is always involved in the introduction of new technologies and also in the continuous further development of conventional processes.

Besides the construction of new plants, one alternative can be the optimization of existing ones. The most common reasons for this are:

- Identifying and remedying quality problems
- Improving ease of maintenance and lowering maintenance costs
- Increasing production speeds
- Changing the product formats and the material qualities (product mix)

In most cases, the decision involves a combination of the above reasons. It is therefore important for your needs to be clearly defined.

Lechler nozzle configuration

An optimum nozzle configuration is the main prerequisite for fulfilling the production and quality specifications of all plants.

Lechler system audits

Roll cooling in hot and cold rolling mills (steel, aluminium and non-ferrous) and also secondary cooling in continuous casting machines for steel are very complex systems and form part of the complete production processes. The full optimization potential can often be determined only via a precise study of all the important details. Lechler system audits include an evaluation of the existing production, performance and quality data, along with a carefully documented final report which, in addition to the collected and analyzed data, also contains suggestions for optimizing your system.

A well-founded knowledge of the industry

As an active member of many different national and international associations (VDMA, VDEH, AIST, S.E.A.I. & S.I., ATS and EUUnited) and via numerous technical publications, Lechler has become very familiar with the subject matter.

Participation in EU research projects (RFCS) also has increasing Lechler’s technological competence as its goal. Of course, you as our client also profit from this. Significant changes to operating conditions with regard to throughput capacity and the product quality demands of modern materials can arise over the course of the very long service lives of metallurgical machinery. Today the production of a wide range of material qualities also demands a much greater flexibility in the operating procedures and in maintenance. This is where existing plants often reach their limits.
CASTING AND ROLLING MILL TECHNOLOGY

SPECIAL NOZZLES AND SYSTEMS FOR EVERY FIELD OF APPLICATION

- Precision nozzles
- Nozzles and application systems
- Nozzle configurations
- Application software
- Computer simulation
- Nozzle measuring technology
- Plant audits and process optimization
- Maintenance and commissioning
- Training
- Spare part management
- Continuous casting of steel
- Hot and cold rolling of steel
- Hot and cold rolling of aluminium and non-ferrous metals
- Strip processing
- Other applications in metallurgical processes
Data and facts that you can rely on

There are many reasons for our product’s success. A very important one is that based on precise measurements, we are able to make reliable statements about the spray characteristic of a nozzle. This provides reliable data for development, and also simplifies the evaluation for you with regard to fulfilling the exact purpose in the individual application — even before the nozzle has been integrated into your system. This saves time, reduces costs and ensures planning reliability.

We employ the latest methods to cover the entire measurement spectrum

- Flow rate
- Spray angle
- Spray shape
- Air flow measurement
- Droplet size measurement
- Droplet speed measurement
- 3D spray impact measurement
- Liquid distribution
- Spray videos
- Noise level measurement

Documentation of a spray impact measurement

The performance data is determined with state-of-the-art measuring techniques and is documented accurately.
Computer technology provides you with a glimpse into your plant’s future

Lechler uses application software programs developed in-house in order to work out optimum solutions. This enables nozzle configurations to be simulated, analyzed and depicted.

Lechler configuration programs have also been used successfully for many years during the design of new plants. Nozzle data from Lechler measuring technology forms the basis here for reliable calculations that reflect reality.

Roll cooling, strip cooling and lubrication

Lechler has developed a special computer program for optimizing work roll cooling. The measured nozzle data and the installation conditions can be used to graphically depict (in the form of flow diagrams), analyze and improve the liquid distribution on the roll surface.

Strip cooling, cleaning and lubrication solutions can also be derived in this way.

Solidification model for continuous casting machines

Lechler is a knowledgeable consultation partner with regard to questions relating to the optimization of nozzle configurations in continuous casting machines. We have developed a solidification model to establish benchmarking during a plant audit. On the basis of this and in line with the aims, it is then possible to investigate optimization potentials in detail.

Lechler DESCALE

With the introduction of the SCALEMASTER® descaling nozzles in 1992, Lechler was the first nozzle manufacturer to develop and successfully use a configuration program. Since then, most descaling plants of the largest and most renowned plant builders have been designed and constructed with Lechler DESCALE software.

Hundreds of descaling spray headers throughout the world have been optimized in this way. In all cases, with this tool Lechler has also made a crucial contribution towards increasing surface quality and plant efficiencies.
At Lechler, you will find the right solution for every plant

It doesn't matter whether equipment for billet, bloom, slab or thin slab continuous casting machines is involved. The program ranges from standard single fluid nozzles for billet plants for more simple reinforced steels right through to special twin fluid nozzles (BilletCooler air mist nozzles) for plants in which very high-grade steels are cast for tire cord or seamless pipes.

Modern slab continuous casting plants are in most cases fitted with specially de-signed and customized air mist nozzles of the Master-cooler type. This applies to both conventional thick slab plants and the more compact thin slab plants.

**Single fluid nozzles**

Lechler single-fluid nozzles with flat spray patterns or full cone nozzles are available with standardized flow rate and spray angle graduations. Rectangular nozzles produce a flat jet with a greater spray depth.

In addition to a standard program, variants of this nozzle family are designed especially for individual plants.
Air mist nozzles

With the BilletCooler series, Lechler offers the world’s first air mist nozzle for secondary cooling with a defined full cone. The Lechler BilletCooler Oval is the first air mist nozzle for secondary cooling with which a spray depth of up to 60l is possible with a non-clogging single slot orifice. This enables larger surface areas between the support rollers to be cooled more evenly. This in turn reduces the risk of strand cracking.

Air mist nozzles of the BilletCooler series should be used wherever the control range of single-fluid nozzles is no longer sufficient for the wide range of steel products in billet- or bloom casters, or when the nozzle’s flow rate falls to well below 2 l/min. Standard programs with a full cone spray pattern and with an oval spray pattern with likewise standardized flow rate, spray angle and spray depth graduations are available.

Defined spray patterns, high turn down ratios (min. to max. flow rate) and very large free cross sections (not liable to clogging) are the stand-out features of BilletCoolers.

MasterCooler SMART® air mist nozzles are designed in line with the requirements of the secondary cooling system of each individual slab caster. The water flow rate, the spray angle, the liquid distribution, the turn down ratio, the pipe length, the pipe shape and the type of connection are all adapted here. To date, more than 100 slab strands have been successfully fitted with MasterCooler SMART® air mist nozzles.
HOT ROLLING OF STEEL

NOZZLES FOR MORE EFFECTIVE DESCALING

This is one of our specialty areas — hardly anyone knows more about this than we do

When steel is hot-rolled, the quality of the rolled product surfaces depends significantly on effective descaling. The selection of the best descaling nozzles and their optimum arrangement is crucial here. Also, rising energy costs and ecological considerations are increasingly forcing rolling mill operators to define energy saving measures and to implement them.

The new SCALEMASTER Superior® from Lechler has immediately started to set new standards in this area. When this nozzle was developed, the use of computer-based design methods (CFD) enabled Lechler to largely eliminate internal liquid turbulences and pressure losses. This means that maximum impact increase can be achieved. Thanks to compatibility with earlier models, this allows even more effective descaling for the same energy input. In addition, it also opens up significant saving potentials due to reduced cooling of the rolled product by reducing the amount of water sprayed.

The use of new materials and the reduction in the number of individual components increase both service life and operational reliability — two more economic advantages. Nozzle configurations can be determined quickly and reliably thanks to the combination of measured values and calculation models in conjunction with the Lechler DESCAL configuration software. This ensures planning reliability and is one of the reasons why globally, several hundred descaling systems have been very successfully fitted with Lechler SCALEMASTER® nozzles.

Stabilizer filter unit with optimized flow thanks to Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD)
HOT ROLLING OF STEEL

PERFECT TECHNOLOGY FOR ROLL COOLING AND MUCH MORE

Lechler has a solution for all other nozzle applications in hot rolling

Only the optimal nozzle arrangements in roll cooling, for strip surface quenching (anti-peeling spray) in front of the roll bite or for interstand strip cooling guarantees a long service life of the work rolls and the required strip shape. Systems for strip surface inspection, measurements of strip thickness gauge and shape deliver only reliable data if the strip surface is free of dirt and water. With nozzles from Lechler, very good results can be achieved here too.

- Flat jet nozzles for roll cooling
- Flat jet and tongue nozzles for strip whipping in front of strip thickness gauge measuring units and surface inspection systems
- Nozzles for strip cooling in the run-out roller table
- Anti-peeling and interstand cooling nozzles
- WHISPERBLAST® air nozzles for blowing off strips in front of strip thickness gauges and surface inspection systems
- Studies and nozzle arrangement proposals
- Complete spray headers
- Application systems for the work roll lubrication (LSC)

Complete roll cooling spray header from Lechler

Roll cooling nozzle arrangement
**SELECTOSPRAY** an indispensable actuator for shape control. It corrects reliably asymmetrical strip shape defects and supports work roll bending.

To date, more than 230 Lechler SELECTOSPRAY® roll cooling systems have been installed globally in cold rolling mills for steel, aluminium and non-ferrous metals, as well as in aluminium hot rolling mills and foil mills. Profit from our comprehensive know-how in this specialist area.

**SELECTOSPRAY**
Nozzle valves

The new MODULAX Superior nozzle valve for electro-pneumatic control sets new standards with regard to operational reliability and plant availability, particularly for steel cold rolling mills and aluminium hot rolling mills. Zonings of 25 mm (Mini-Modulax S) and 50 mm are normal here.

The electrically controlled nozzle valves of the EVA series have proved to be optimally suited to aluminium cold rolling and foil rolling mills (50 mm zone division), as well as for rolling non-ferrous metals. 25 mm zone divisions are possible here too with the Mini EVA valve.

Other valve concepts are available with the DSA series.
The Lechler **SPRAY CONTROLLER LSC** for controlling automated spray processes is the ideal solution for the following applications:

- Direct application (strip lubrication) for cold rolling of tinplate
- Application of corrosion protection oils to strips
- Application of separating agents when doubling aluminium foils
- Application of wet temper agents
- Lubricating work roll gaps
- Application of lubricating oils in tension levelling machines for strips

The LSC system ensures reliable control over the process variables, combined with optimum and even application of the fluid. This allows product quality and productivity to be increased, and operating costs to be reduced.
Lechler is the specialist company for nozzle and spray technology. Make use of the advantages of this wide product range.

With Lechler nozzles, you can optimally fulfill all typical requirements on pickling, galvanizing and tinning lines, on strip coating lines, and on continuous annealing lines. These include cleaning and rinsing processes, but also the direct application of acids, for example. A wide range of standardised flat jet, tongue and full-cone nozzles made of various materials such as PVDF, PTFE, polypropylene or stainless steel provide a broad basis for future-orientated and technically perfect solutions. WHISPERBLAST® air nozzles made of stainless steel or plastic are used for blowing off strips or strip edges.

Special Lechler hollow-cone nozzles made of oxide ceramic, silicon carbide, titanium and palladium-titanium are installed for regenerating acid in picking lines after the spray-roasting process.

Self-cleaning spray pipes (the “STAMM” system) allow nozzles and the pipe inner walls to be cleaned in a matter of seconds during operation. This is done either manually or automatically by rotating a cleaning brush inside the spray pipe. This prevents unscheduled and expensive plant shutdowns, and safeguards the product quality of the strip.

If required, Lechler can also supply complete spray pipes made of polypropylene or PVDF for pickling lines. The optimization of the nozzle arrangement can be incorporated as a task at the same time.
CASTING AND ROLLING MILL TECHNOLOGY

OTHER NOZZLE AND SYSTEM APPLICATIONS

Coke ovens
Coke quenching
Liquor flushing in the coke oven
Cleaning the coke oven battery doors
Gas cleaning and droplet separators

Blast furnaces and sintering plants
Combating dust and dust deposits on conveyor belts and transfer points
External wall cooling
Gas cleaning - gas cooling
Gas cleaning in the slag granulation

Steel production
Electric furnace hood cooling
Electrode cooling
Cooling the outer skin of the converter
Exhaust gas cooling and conditioning
Dust suppression

Hot rolling
Settlement of oxide dusts in the stand
Intermediate stand cooling
Strip surface quenching to protect the work rolls
Strip spray-off and blow-off
Blowing off heavy plates upstream of the levelling machine
Crop shears blade cooling in pendulum shears
Ultra fast cooling / quenching of plates and strips
Strip cooling in the run-out roller table
Rolled product cooling on the cooling bed

Forging and pipe production
Mandrel bar and tow bar cooling and lubrication
Descaling forged pieces
Roll cooling in railway wheel manufacture

Continuous casting machines
Flushing the scale channels
Spraying off the slag during flame cutting
Roller cooling
Machine cooling
Mold spray cooling

Other applications
Gear lubrication
Pickling and flushing steel wire in pickling plants