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Electronic Speed Calculator

As a result of the use of the most modern techniques in the field of semi-conductors, the "Speedmeter" recently developed by a firm at Bienne (Berne, Switzerland) makes possible the direct measurement of speeds. This extremely useful new instrument measures the time taken by an object to cover the distance between two points; it calculates the speed and simultaneously transmits the result in an easily legible form. Using a measuring base 1, 2, 8 or 16 m long, speeds of 23.04 to 999.99 km/h can be measured under normal conditions. By adjusting the measuring base to 1.6 m and counting a distance of 16 m between the impulse sources, it is possible to measure even lower speeds of as little as 2.30 km/h. For a speed of 180 km/h, the "Speedmeter's" precision is of the order of 1 o/oo. In addition, the use of two-directional photo-electric cells makes both projectors and reflectors superfluous. In order to be able to provide clear and immediate information, the firm has developed giant display panels, which can be read from as far away as 200-250 or even 350-400 m depending on the size of the elements. It is possible to connect these displays directly to the "Speedmeter". Depending on the programming, the speed indicated disappears, either automatically after 20-30 seconds, or by manual control. The automatic switching off of the display elements can also be effected by a third impulse source. The "Speedmeter", which weighs only 2 kg, is powered by a 12V battery. This new, highly advanced appliance offers wide possibilities of use, especially in the field of sports and scientific timing or for checking speedometers. (SODT)

Continuous Casting Plant for Turkey

A continuous casting plant for the production of slabs, with an annual output of 600,000 tons, is in the process of construction in the Eregli Demir ve Celik Fabrikalari T.A.S. steelworks at Eregli in Turkey, as part of an expansion programme. It is a Concast model S type circular arc machine for casting slabs measuring up to 1,290 mm in width and 200 mm thick. The cast slabs are used to supply a roughing mill and a wide hot-rolling strip mill. The steel for casting is provided by an LD steelworks forming part of the whole complex in casting ladles with a capacity of 95 tons. The plant is designed for sequential casting; this means that several batches can be cast consecutively. The consortium comprising Concast Co. Ltd., Zurich (Switzerland) and Schloemann-Siemag Co. Ltd., Dusseldorf and Hilchenbach (Germany) has been commissioned to build the new continuous casting plant; the contract also includes the supply of sheds, cranes and means of horizontal transport, the water supply and electrical installations as well as the supervision of the assembly. This new plant is scheduled to go into operation at the beginning of 1976. (SODT)