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PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

AVTRON SECURES DRIVES CONTRACTS FOR TWO CHINESE HOT STRIP MILLS

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Independence, OH – October 20, 2005 – Avtron Manufacturing has received contracts to supply the digital drives for two new Hot Strip Mills in China, valued at over one million dollars. The first contract is for the new 1,250 mm wide Hot Strip Mill at Yayiliancheng Steel, Tang Shan City in Hebei Province. The second contract, also for a new 1,250 mm wide mill in Hebei, will be installed at DeLong Steel in Xingtai City. The output of each mill will be 2,000,000 tons per year of Hot Rolled Strip used in the domestic China market for the automotive and appliance industries.

Avtron will be supplying its ADDvantage-32™ DC Digital Drives for both projects. The mills include a single reversing Roughing Mill with a 4,500 KW Main Drive and a seven-stand Finishing Mill with Main Drives rated between 3,200 and 4,000 KW. All of the Main Drives will be supplied with 12 pulse SCR firing configurations using a single bridge on each six-pulse leg. The contract also includes two drives for each of two Vertical Edgers, an 850 KW Crop Shear Drive, and two 750 KW Downcoiler Drives. The auxiliary drives included are for the Roughing Mill Screwdowns and two Pinch Rolls on each Downcoiler. Both mills are scheduled to be in operation by the 3rd quarter of 2006.

About Avtron Manufacturing Inc.

Avtron Manufacturing delivers drive systems, automation solutions and diagnostic software designed to help users reduce costs, increase efficiency and enhance profitability. With drive system solutions and services catering to virtually every heavy industry segment, Avtron Manufacturing provides a diverse array of capabilities including ac and dc drives, encoders, and high speed data acquisition and diagnostic software. Headquartered in Independence Ohio, Avtron Manufacturing, Inc. provides solutions for the global market.

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