

## Challenges of European Roll Foundries in the Near Future

*Monday, 9 September 2024 09:00 (40 minutes)*

Challenges of European roll Foundries in the Near Future.

L. Elizondo, M. Brandner, G.Kowarik. Challenges Eisenwerk Sulzau-Werfen, R&E Weinberger AG.

The European roll foundries, mostly family-owned small and medium-sized enterprises, are facing many different challenges of different nature, which require great efforts and investments to cope with this situation and at the same time pose a threat to competitiveness in the global market.

The main challenges are:

Extreme energy costs resulting from an unstable geopolitical landscape, stricter environmental regulations combined with the demand for the „Green Transformation“, shortage of skilled workers affecting specially this industry, material shortages and price volatility, the investments needed to cope with the digitalization and Industry 4.0, which are an additional burden on revenues and increasing competition from low-cost producers aggravate the future of this industry in Europe.

To survive and thrive in the face of these challenges and ensure long term success, European roll foundries need to invest in new technologies to increase the productivity, increase the support for R&D activities and strengthen collaboration with customers.

### Speaker Country

Leonel Elizondo/Austria

### Summary

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**Primary author:** Mr ELIZONDO, Leonel (ESW- Eisenwerk Sulzau-Werfen)

**Co-authors:** Mr BRANDNER, Michael (Eisenwerk Sulzau Werfen R&E Weinberger AG); Mr KOWARIK, Georg (Eisenwerk Sulzau Werfen, R&E Weinberger AG)

**Presenter:** Mr ELIZONDO, Leonel (ESW- Eisenwerk Sulzau-Werfen)

**Session Classification:** Plenary Talk

**Track Classification:** Recent situation on applications for rolls of steel rolling and mineral pulverizing mills