Woodings Industrial has completed and shipped three new Hydraulic Distributor tops to BaoGang Steel Group—China's largest steel manufacturer in the northwest area—for use on the company’s two new high-capacity blast furnaces.

The Woodings tops will be used on the new #1 and #2 blast furnaces that BaoGang is adding to its Baotou City facility in Inner Mongolia. The third top supplied by Woodings will be a spare.

The first Hydraulic Distributor will be operating by the fall of 2013, while the second unit will begin operation roughly six months later. BaoGang has been using the Hydraulic Distributor technology on its six existing furnaces at the Baotou City facility with reliable, predictable output. The two new blast furnaces will each have a working volume of 4,150 cubic meters of hot metal, bringing BaoGang’s total output at this facility to approximately 20 million metric tons of steel per year. All reliably produced using the Hydraulic Distributor technology for burden distribution.

The Woodings Hydraulic Distributor (HD) is the next generation replacement for traditional bell-less tops. The Hydraulic Distributor is interchangeable with existing bell-less tops gearboxes, making the upgrade to this new technology a simple retrofit.
The HD provides more precise, repeatable burden distribution resulting in more predictable operations. Hydraulic cylinders replace the traditional mechanical function for tilting the revolving chute. Rotation of the chute is accomplished with a simple gearbox and electric motor, which eliminates all complex tilt drives and gear reducers. There are fewer moving components, so the unit functions with greater reliability and longevity. The benefits of this system include:

- Better furnace reliability
- Increased furnace top pressure
- More consistent operation
- Less maintenance
- Increased fuel savings
- Improved gas and heat protection

Water cooling system keeps the HD cool to ensure reliable operation.

Hydraulic cylinders replace the traditional mechanical function for tilting the revolving chute.

Rotation of the chute is accomplished with a simple gearbox and electric motor.