

Aurubis officially launches KRS-Plus in Lunen

- » **62.5m € invested into expanding recycling capacities, 17.5m € of which are for environmental protection measures**
- » **40 new jobs created**

Hamburg / Lunen, 7 July 2011 – **Aurubis AG – the largest copper producer in Europe and the world leader in copper recycling – officially launched its KRS-Plus¹ facilities on Thursday, to expand the capacity of its Lunen recycling centre. The red button was symbolically pressed jointly by Harry K. Voigtsberger, the Minister of Economics, Energy, Construction, Housing and Transport of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, and Dr. Bernd Drouven, the Chairman of the Executive Board of Aurubis AG, in the presence of works manager Dr. Franz-Josef Westhoff. The investment of 62.5 million €, 17.5 million of which are for environmental protection measures, has also led to the creation of 40 new jobs.**

Apart from the North Rhine-Westphalian Minister of Economics and the top executives of Aurubis, the festivities at the world's largest copper recycling centre at Lunen were also attended by almost 300 guests, including Ulrich Grillo, vice-chairman of the German industrial association BDI and the president of Wirtschaftsvereinigung Metalle (WVM), Michael Makiolla, the head of the administrative district Unna, and Michael Haustein, First Deputy Mayor of Lunen.

KRS-Plus is an extension of the existing KRS facility, incorporating a so-called Top Blown Rotary Converter (TBRC), as well as a slag separator and a holding furnace. The investment into state-of-the-art technology and environmental protection measures was carried out over a period of 18 months and will allow the throughput of the existing KRS cell smelter to be increased from 275,000 t/a to 350,000 t/a. All in all, the additional TBRC will expand Lunen's recycling capacity by up to 100,000 t/a of utilised raw materials. The facility recycles numerous different materials, including copper-bearing shredded material, residues from the copper-processing industry, waste materials and consumer scrap, including electrical and electronic scrap. In addition to copper, these very diverse kinds of secondary raw materials contain a number of other valuable metals which can be recovered in an environmentally friendly way by the Lunen facility. Recycling metals is a key element of the new strategy for raw materials pursued by the Federal Government and the

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¹ KRS = Kayser Recycling System

EU, in order to conserve resources and secure the supply of raw materials to European Industry.

“Aurubis combines primary copper production and copper recycling in a way that is unparalleled by any other company in the world. But in both areas, it must be clear that we can only have a future in Germany if we remain internationally competitive too. On the one hand, this requires a secure supply of electrical power; on the other hand, internationally competitive electricity prices. As the price of copper is determined internationally on the London Metal Exchange (LME), we cannot pass on additional local or regional costs to our customers,” explained **Aurubis Chairman Bernd Drouven**. It is therefore imperative to avoid the additional cost of having to buy carbon credits. Drouven pointed out that at Lunen alone, 153 million € had been invested since the year 2000, including 84 million € into environmental protection measures. “Being involved in primary copper production, copper recycling and copper products, Aurubis is a perfect example of the advantages of a closed-loop value chain. This must not be jeopardised by exaggerated or unrealistic political demands. We need reliable framework conditions, particularly because we are an energy-intensive company. Otherwise there is a danger that Germany and Europe could gradually become deindustrialised,” said Drouven.

“Recycling materials helps to secure a large share of the supply of raw materials. Recycling is also becoming more and more important in the discussion of energy-saving measures,” explained **North Rhine-Westphalia’s Minister of Economics Harry K. Voigtsberger**. He went on to say that: “Of course I am aware that electricity has got to remain affordable for energy-intensive companies, even as Germany is making fundamental changes to its energy policy. This must not work against us as a business location. Energy-intensive companies in North Rhine-Westphalia can rest assured that I will be staying on the ball and looking after their interests,” said the minister. “For industries which might be obliged to move abroad on account of a high cost of energy, electricity prices must therefore remain plannable for medium-term investments. The political authorities must create framework conditions in which industrial enterprises are able to continue to operate in Germany and North Rhine-Westphalia.” The minister also pointed to the training of young skilled workers at the Aurubis Recycling Centre Lunen and the partnerships between the company and local schools.

BDI vice-chairman and WVM president Ulrich Grillo declared that “Germany needs a strong, internationally competitive industry. The non-ferrous metal industry serves as a basis for this, providing high added value and offering key services for sustainable development and the security of the industrial value chain. Not only

does the energy-intensive metal industry make significant economic contributions to the value added, by investing in Germany as an industrial site; it is in particular also ecologically valuable. Without non-ferrous metals, there can be no climate protection, no energy and resource efficiency and ultimately no fundamental change in energy policy.”

Profile

The Aurubis Group is the largest copper producer in Europe and the world leader in copper recycling. We produce some 1 million tonnes of copper cathodes each year and from them a variety of copper products. We have production sites in 7 European countries with about 4,800 employees.

Thanks to our wide range of services, we rank among the global leaders in our industry. Our core business is the production of marketable copper cathodes from copper concentrates, copper scrap and recycled raw materials. These are processed within the Group into continuous cast wire rod, shapes, rolled products as well as special wire made of copper and copper alloys. Precious metals and a number of other products, such as sulphuric acid and iron silicate, round off our product portfolio.

Customers of the Aurubis Group include companies in the copper semis industry, the electrical engineering, electronics and chemical industries as well as suppliers of the construction and car industries.

The Aurubis Group is oriented to sustainable growth and to increasing corporate value. The main focus of our strategy is on strengthening our business, utilising growth opportunities and practising a responsible attitude when dealing with people and handling resources and the environment.

Aurubis shares are part of the Prime Standard Segment of the Deutsche Börse and are listed in the MDAX, the European Stoxx 600 and the Global Challenges Index (GCX).

Further information: www.aurubis.com