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Assan Alüminyum makes further green investments

Assan Alüminyum, a subsidiary of the Kibar Group and one of the two largest aluminium foil producers in Europe, makes further green investments to reduce its carbon footprint and expand its processing capacity for flat rolled aluminium products and scrap. The company received its first green loan of USD90 million from the International Finance Corporation (IFC) for its climate investment. Assan Alüminyum continues to demonstrate its commitment to global sustainability principles by utilizing the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI) Performance Standard Certificate criteria as a guideline to become more sustainable every year.

Assan Alüminyum, a leading manufacturer in the flat rolled aluminium industry, is in the process of completing its sustainability-oriented investment plans worth more than USD90 million to reduce its carbon footprint and expand its processing capacity for flat rolled aluminium products and scrap by 60,000 tonnes a year. The first phase of investments – including the comprehensive modernization of the existing lines as well as the installation of a brand new, high-tech, energy-efficient and faster cold rolling line – has been completed this year. This new line will be able to better serve the consumer durables, automotive, HVAC and construction sectors, with improved energy efficiency.

The installation of five brand-new continuous casting (CC) lines by 2024 are within the scope of these investments. With a total number of 24 CC lines, Assan Alüminyum is projected to have the largest CC capacity in all of Europe and the Americas. In addition, new filtration systems will be installed on the existing casting lines, allowing the company to reduce its overall carbon footprint further.

Decarbonization projects

Assan Alüminyum develops and implements new decarbonization projects every year. These projects reduce the company's carbon footprint by improving energy efficiency through the reduction of its natural gas and electricity consumption. The decarbonization effect of the projects implemented in the last nine years are equivalent to the planting of 3.2 million trees.

The company also aims to reduce its car-



General manager Göksal Güngör: "Sustainability is one of our core values at Assan Alüminyum, along with reliability, flexibility and innovation."

bon footprint further through its renewable energy production at its Manavgat facility. The company's clean energy production, equivalent to the annual energy consumption of 50,000 homes, allows it to generate International Renewable Energy Certificates (I-REC). Through the I-RECs obtained and purchased, Assan Alüminyum is able to fully offset its Scope 2 emissions.

Assan Alüminyum also carries out forestation projects every year, in order to balance the environmental impacts of some of its activities. The company has been supporting NGOs in the past few years, in order to form Assan Alüminyum memorial forests each year, planting saplings in an even higher volume than the wooden pallets used in the packaging of its products.

Contribution to circular economy through in-house recycling

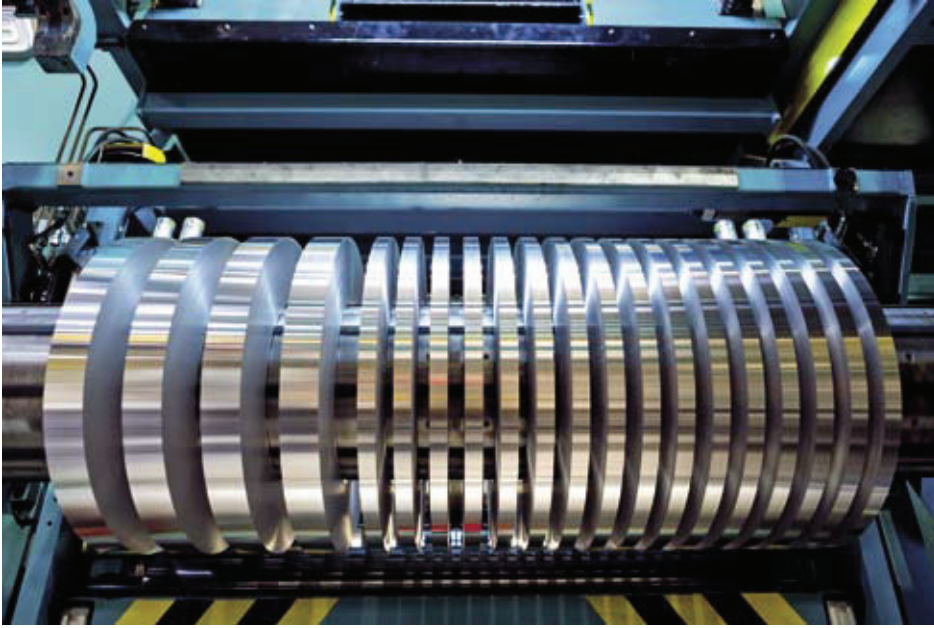
The company also has an integrated recycling facility, where internal and external aluminium scrap is processed. As aluminium is already sustainable by nature, thanks to its 100% and infinite recyclability, this facility helps contribute to circular economy, allowing for the aluminium scrap to be recycled and used as raw-materials in the production of flat rolled aluminium. The company's use of recycled raw materials has increased by 45% in the last seven years. Further contribution to en-

vironmental sustainability was given through the company's water consumption reduction of 21% in the last six years.

Assan Alüminyum's officially registered R&D Centre also engages in many new product development activities, aimed at developing more sustainable products. The 3423 recycling-friendly alloy product that the R&D team developed is a good example of these efforts. This product, which is to be used in various different applications and industries, requires 95% less energy at production compared to those being produced from primary aluminium and has a 50% lower carbon footprint than equivalent products. The company's future processes are also shaped in line with global sustainability principles.

Commitment to global sustainability principles

Assan Alüminyum continues to show its commitment to global sustainability principles through the framework that the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI) set for the whole aluminium value chain. The company's production facilities in Tuzla and Dilovasi, as well as its integrated recycling facility, have been certified against the ASI Performance Standards. Göksal Güngör, Assan Alüminyum's general manager and Global Aluminium Foil Roller Initiative (Glafri) president, says: "Sustainability is one of our core values at Assan



Assan Alüminyum is investing another USD90m to reduce its carbon footprint and expand processing capacity for flat rolled aluminium products and scrap

Alüminyum, along with reliability, flexibility and innovation. It is therefore always a priority, as we plan our future strategies based on our vision of sustainability. We see the ASI Performance Standard certification not only as a confirmation that we are on the right track with our current activities, but also as a guideline to improve our contribution to sustainability even further in the future.”

Focusing also on social sustainability

In addition to environmental sustainability-oriented activities, Assan Alüminyum also fo-

cus on social sustainability. In this respect, the company develops many corporate social responsibility projects, including the ‘Biodiversity Preservation Project’ conducted in collaboration with the Biology Department of Kocaeli University. As the loss of biodiversity is a major concern and a leading cause for climate change, the company partners up with Kocaeli University, aiming to propagate endemic plants in the wild, therefore preserving biodiversity. The *Amsonia orientalis* plant, also known as the Blue Star, was saved from extinction the previous year. The second phase, for the propagation of the *Pancreatum*

Maritimum, known as the Sea Daffodil, has also been completed. This collaboration continues with the propagation of a new endemic plant this year as well.

The Sea Daffodils project also gained a social sustainability dimension, as Assan Alüminyum became the main supporter of a play called Sea Daffodils, which explains the destructive impacts of humanity on nature and biodiversity, through the metaphor of a loving but destructive marital relationship. The Sea Daffodils project won two national and two international awards as a sustainability-oriented corporate social responsibility initiative.

Assan Alüminyum contributes to its local communities with other social responsibility projects as well. These include projects such as the support given to the Women’s Cooperative of Manavgat, helping them to build an industrial kitchen, so that women could gain their financial independence, while contributing to the local economy as well. The children’s theatre project also aims to support disadvantaged children’s educations, with a fun plan raising awareness on environmental issues such as recycling. The company’s recent collaboration with Unicef also aims to improve gender equality, while supporting the education of 1,000 young girls, through the ‘Leader Girls of the Future’ project.

Güngör summarizes: “All of these efforts are in place to create a sustainable ecosystem, in a joint effort with our business partners. We all have to be on board together, towards the ultimate goal of a better future, for this long journey to be successful.” ■



Assan Alüminyum also carries out forestation projects to balance the environmental impacts of some of its activities

OUR FUTURE BEGINS WITH
SUSTAINABILITY



Creating a better world for future generations begins with sustainability

We believe that we can create a sustainable world together with our stakeholders.

The UN Sustainable Development Goals are our guiding corporate principles for our business processes. By producing renewable energy, recycling aluminium in our integrated facility and by applying the global sustainability principles to our business processes, we produce the future without wasting it.