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Photo: Assan Alüminyum

Göksal Güngör: “As we move forward, embedding sustainability into every aspect of our operations remains our top priority.”

Assan Alüminyum’s vision for the future

Assan’s sustainability strategy is multi-faceted, focusing on reducing environmental impact, optimising resource efficiency or contributing positively to social welfare among other things.

In an era where environmental responsibility is no longer an option but a necessity, Assan Alüminyum integrates sustainability into every aspect of its operations. With a production capacity of 360,000 tpy, the company considers itself among Europe’s top flat-rolled aluminium and the top two aluminium foil manufacturers. Assan Alüminyum’s approach to business is underpinned by its commitment to its core values of reliability, flexibility, innovation and sustainability – principles that will be on full display at the Aluminium 2024 exhibition.

Dedication to renewable energy production

Assan Alüminyum’s sustainability strategy is multi-faceted, focusing on reducing environmental impact, optimising resource efficiency, contributing positively to social welfare and fostering a culture of innovation. A key aspect of this strategy is the company’s dedication to

renewable energy production. By investing in green energy, Assan Alüminyum is not only working towards reducing its overall carbon emissions but is also paving the way for the industry to follow suit. The company recently broadened its renewable energy portfolio by acquiring a solar energy power plant, with a capacity of 10 kWp, in addition to its hydroelectric power plant through which the company is able to offset its Scope 2 emissions. The proactive stance on reducing its carbon footprint reflects a broader vision of environmental stewardship that goes well beyond regulations.

Committed to Aluminium Stewardship Initiative

At the heart of Assan Alüminyum’s operations is its commitment to the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI) Performance Standards. These globally recognised sustainability standards set for the whole aluminium value chain

ensure that the company’s processes are continuously audited, driving transparency and accountability across the board. This commitment to global sustainability principles has also earned the company a CDP (Carbon Disclosure Project) score of B, highlighting its management of climate-related risks, water security, and deforestation challenges.

“We view our commitment to ASI standards as a vital component of our sustainability journey,” says general manager Göksal Güngör. “These standards are not just a benchmark but a guide that helps us maintain the highest levels of operational integrity, environmental and social responsibility.”

Innovation plays a critical role in Assan Alüminyum’s sustainability efforts. The company has developed a series of products that are both energy-efficient and environmentally friendly, utilising its own know-how and a higher proportion of recycled raw materials. By focusing on the

principles of the circular economy, Assan Alüminyum aims to minimise waste and maximise energy and resource efficiency, setting new standards for sustainable manufacturing in the aluminium industry.

Creating a sustainable supply chain

In addition to its product innovation, Assan Alüminyum is deeply committed to creating a sustainable supply chain. The recently launched K-Star Supplier Sustainability Programme is a testament to this commitment. Deployed across the Kibar Group, of which Assan Alüminyum is a key subsidiary, the programme has successfully engaged many suppliers worldwide, promoting the adoption of sustainability principles across 875 suppliers from 59 sectors in 41 countries. This initiative not only reduces the social and environmental impact of the supply chain but also encourages collaborative efforts towards the establishment of a sustainable ecosystem.

Serving a wide range of industries

Assan Alüminyum's products serve a wide range of industries, including automotive, packaging, HVAC, construction, and consumer durables. Aluminium's inherent characteristics – such as lightweight, high conductivity, durability, and recyclability – make it indispensable across these sectors. For instance, the automotive industry benefits from aluminium's lightweight properties, which enhance fuel efficiency or longer range for EVs, while its high conductivity is crucial for HVAC systems. In packaging, aluminium's impermeability and recyclability offer significant advantages, contributing to circular economy through reduced food waste and transportation-related emissions.

USD90m Green Loan for green investments

The company's commitment to sustainability has also been recognised through significant financial backing. Recently, Assan Alüminyum adopted the first Green Finance Framework in the Turkish aluminium sector and secured a USD90m Green Loan from the International Finance Corporation (IFC) to support its green investments. This funding will enable the company to further its mission

of creating a sustainable ecosystem in partnership with its stakeholders.

“As we move forward, embedding sustainability into every aspect of our operations remains our top priority,” Güngör asserts. “Whether it's through innovative product development, responsible supply chain management, or strategic investments in green energy, we are dedicated to leading the aluminium industry towards a more sustainable future.”

As Assan Alüminyum prepares for its participation in the ALUMINIUM

2024 exhibition, it continues to set new benchmarks in the industry, not only as one of the leaders in aluminium production but also as a champion of sustainability and innovation. With its unwavering commitment to environmental stewardship, Assan Alüminyum is poised to inspire and drive the industry towards a more sustainable future. **DERIN**

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