

Continuing a long-term partnership

Further investment of Assan Alüminyum in an Achenbach Optimill foil rolling mill within its challenging expansion plans

The largest flat-rolled aluminium producer of Turkey, Assan Alüminyum, a subsidiary of Kibar Holding, is planning to grow over the short and medium term through remarkable new investments. One of the major investment plans is the first modern and high-width aluminium hot rolling facility in Turkey. It stands for the vision of producing semi-finished goods for a wide range of sectors: aerospace, defense, aviation, transportation and flexible packaging. Assan Alüminyum considers this to be the key factor to become one of the world's leading brands in the aluminium industry.

Assan Alüminyum will become the only hot rolling mill operator in Turkey

After completion Assan Alüminyum will be capable of producing first-class aluminium alloys, which are currently not in the company's product range. While Assan Alüminyum will become the only hot rolling mill operator in Turkey, Assan Alüminyum will simultaneously support the further development and the competitiveness of the mentioned sectors, by improving quality of the corresponding flat rolled products.

Furthermore, this investment will allow Assan Alüminyum to diversify its product portfolio strategically and to focus even more on high-value-added products. Last but not least, the installation of an integrated port at the same site will be the cherry on the pie for the ambitious expansion plans of the company.

The strategic expansion plans start with the increasing of the casting and foil rolling capacities

Asked about short-term investment plans of Assan Alüminyum and the strategic ideas behind it, together with the recent order placed for a new Achenbach Optimill foil rolling mill, Göksal Güngör, General Manager of Assan Alüminyum, states that as step 1, they have decided to start the realization of these strategic expansion plans with the increasing of their casting and foil rolling capacities. Göksal Güngör notes: "We are absolutely determined to grow further in the aluminium industry. Our technological know-how and our pioneering position in the aluminium continuous-casting market, along with the machinery we have recently invested on, will allow us to increase our casting and foil

production capacities in the near future. In our existing facilities, we are targeting to reach an installed annual capacity of 300 thousand tons within the next year. This capacity improvement will be realized by the first stage of our mid-term investment plan comprising of two new casting lines and a state-of-the-art universal foil mill. This initial stage will be followed by a series of new larger scale expansion investments including a light gauge cold rolling mill, two additional foil mills and a number of finishing lines to raise our capacity to 350 thousand tons per year with enhanced focus on light-gauge value-added products."

The already placed orders represent the first decisive step in gradually implementing the upcoming production expansion and comprise essentially of the high performance universal foil rolling mill from Achenbach, as mentioned before. It will allow Assan Alüminyum to roll the aluminium down to strip thicknesses of 2 x 0.006 mm with strip widths of up to 1,850 mm and coil weights of up to 12,000 kg. To reliably meet the demanding rolling tasks at maximum productivity while preserving re-



Assan Alüminyum invests in an Achenbach Optimill Foil Rolling

sources, a complete Optiroil i3, including thickness control and strip flatness control measured by the proven SFC flatness measuring rolls, will be installed. Additionally, the rolling mill will have a variable crown (V) backup roll, a WIN-Spray cooling system with precise zone division and a Foil Feeding Support System as well as a highly dynamic AC drive technology for the main and the coiler motors. The project also includes a SUPERSTACK II microfiltration system to clean the rolling oil of solid particles for optimum rolling conditions and a Service agreement for remote expert engineering support.

Twenty years of a trustful business relationship and personal friendship

During the contract signing ceremony Mr. Asim Kibar (Honorary Chairman of the Board of Assan Alüminyum) and Mr. Axel E. Barten (owner

of Achenbach Buschhütten) took a brief look back on twenty years of a trustful business relationship and personal friendship: "There are not many long-lasting trustful relationships between supplier and producer companies worldwide as it can be seen between Achenbach and Assan", Axel Barten pointed out and Asim Kibar added: "Assan Alüminyum's success as one of the leaders in the European flat-rolled aluminium market sector is strongly built on our trustful relationship."

Assan Alüminyum, founded in 1988, currently has an annual installed production capacity of 280,000 t/a of flat-rolled aluminium and 60,000 t/a of aluminium coil pre-painting. It produces out of two facilities: Istanbul Tuzla, where a 2-meter wide Achenbach Optimill cold rolling mill with Optiroil i2 controls is a key factor for quality and productivity. Kocaeli Dilovasi, where Achen-

bach rebuilt and modernized the existing cold and foil rolling mills with Optiroil i2 controls and added tow Optifoil slitters and one Optifoil separator.

Strong focus on sustainability

In 2016 Assan Alüminyum acquired a hydroelectric power plant to ensure that all necessary electricity is supplied from renewables. The company has become one of the worldwide pioneers of continuous casting technology, both in terms of production capacity and technical know-how, with a strong focus on sustainability.

As a summary, Göksal Güngör describes this strategic move as follows: "Today Assan Alüminyum is one of the leading European flat-rolled aluminium producers and has a very good reputation. Aside from our domestic market, we sell the majority of our products to more than 70 countries around the world, mainly to Western European companies. We offer them customized supply chain solutions, with our warehouses set up in various countries. With 280 thousand tons of production capacity, we are currently ranked as the 40th largest industrial company of Turkey, according to statistics of the Istanbul Chamber of Commerce and also the 3rd largest aluminium foil producer in Europe. Assan Alüminyum's flat-rolled coil, sheet, foil and pre-painted coil products are sold to many different sectors, such as construction, distribution, automotive, packaging and consumer durables, in teamwork with our 1200+ highly qualified and motivated employees. As we have repeatedly been selected as the supplier of the year by a significant number of customers, we consider this a confirmation that we are on the right track."



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