RECYCLED MATERIALS RECYCLED MATERIALS



Assan Alüminyum

Optimising in-house recycling

"One of the easiest materials to recycle is Aluminium and there are plenty of companies taking full advantage of this fact. In addition Assan Aluminium also contributes to the transition to a circular economy via its advanced, in-house recycling processes"

Aluminium is infinitely recyclable and therefore a sustainable material of choice by nature for packaging applications. Assan Alüminium aims to contribute to the transition to a circular economy through its sustainability -oriented activities, including its in-house recycling facility and renewable energy production. The company further leverages the advantages to of Aluminium, to create value for its business partners.

Aluminium is one of the most versatile materials to be used in food packaging applications, as it has many extraordinary properties. These properties include impermeability, allowing for a prolonged shelf-life and therefore reducing food waste, 100% and infinite recyclability, enabling it to play a key role in the contribution to circular economy, as well as lightness, allowing for resource efficiency in packaging material production and transport.



From a sustainability perspective, the approach on recycling in aluminium products is different than it is in alternative products. The recyclability of aluminium is a good indicator of sustainability, while recycled content is not.

The primary reason for this is that the availability of scrap in global aluminium markets is very limited. Secondly, the consumption of aluminium is increasing rapidly, as it is a major contributor for the sustainability of other industries. Therefore, the available quantity of scrap will always be lower than the necessary amount for recycling. Additionally, if specific and high rates of recycled content are to be adopted as targets, it is quite likely that the carbon emissions caused by the transportation of scrap will result in a less sustainable aluminium product.

Despite these limitations, Assan Alüminyum purchases and processes as much scrap as possible for its in-house recycling facility, therefore reducing its carbon footprint overall, as recycled aluminium is 95% less energy intensive than primary aluminium. In line with its core value of sustainability, the company recently developed a recycle-friendly alloy for some specific applications, with a high non-primary aluminium content to support the transition to circular economy.

Assan Alüminium also produces renewable energy at an equivalent rate to its annual consumption. The company offsets its scope 2 emissions, through the I-REC documents it generates as a result of its clean energy production.

Assan Alüminium's production and recycling facilities have recently been certified against the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI) Performance Standards. As ASI sets the global benchmark for sustainability for the whole global aluminium value chain, this certification confirms that the company's operations are in compliance with global sustainability principles.



