

European Aluminium Welcomes Three New Members and Awards Safety Solution Winners

Brussels, 18 November 2019 – During its general assembly in Montreux (Switzerland), industry association European Aluminium introduced three new member companies and stressed the importance of workplace safety by awarding the three winners of its Safety Solutions competition.

“Our growing membership sends a strong signal: aluminium companies from different parts of the value chain and across Europe are keen to work together to address issues in key areas such as energy, the circular economy, trade, innovation, and sustainability. Our association represents more than 80% of all smelting, semi-fabrication, and recycling activity in wider Europe, and our strong representation means we can speak with one voice. This is especially important now that we are facing some tough challenges on the trade front,” said Gerd Götz, Director General of European Aluminium.

The three new member companies are the Bulgarian manufacturer of rolled and extruded aluminium products Alcomet, Dutch aluminium production company Aldel and the Dutch metals recycling company Roba Metals. Alcomet joins European Aluminium’s Rolling and Extrusion Divisions, Aldel the Primary Division, and Roba Metals the Recycling Division. The new additions bring European Aluminium’s total membership to over 85 companies and associations representing more than 600 plants across 30 European countries.

During the General Assembly, European Aluminium also awarded the winners of its Safety Solutions competition, which is held every two years in conjunction with the association’s Safety Workshop to share best practices and innovative ideas to improve workplace safety.

“Safety in the workplace is a top priority for our industry and we are continuously looking for ways to reduce employees’ exposure to risk. The great diversity within European Aluminium’s membership, combined with the number of installations covered, gives the association a very broad view on the safety challenges for the entire sector. The industry’s willingness to share safety statistics and lessons learned means we can ensure that best practices are shared across the membership,” said Emilio Braghi, Chairman of European Aluminium.

The first place went to the AluNorf rolling plant in Neuss (Germany), a joint venture by Norsk Hydro and Novelis, for a solution aimed to increase pedestrian safety and reduce the risk of collisions between forklift trucks and other vehicles. The Hydro Extrusions Poland plant in Chrzanów came in second for an IT solution that efficiently manages the forklift fleet and can perform forklift damage control. The Chrzanów plant also claimed the third place for a solution which aims to increase the safety of transported material during crane operations.

This year’s edition of the competition received a total of 44 entries, which were anonymously judged by over 70 experts from all segments of the aluminium value-chain. All entries are available on the association’s [website](#), together with the entries of the previous editions.

Notes to the Editor

Alcomet: Alcomet AD, founded in 1981, is the largest Bulgarian manufacturer of rolled and extruded aluminium products. The company offers a broad range of aluminium semi-finished products – household, technical and container foils, finstock, sheets and strips; standard and customized profiles. 95% of the total production is exported, mainly to Europe and the USA. The company has continuously invested in acquiring new technologies and upgrading existing facilities to the latest technological standards in order to meet the more challenging demands of its clients and step into new markets. Alcomet employs over 1000 people.

Aldel: Damco Aluminium Delfzijl Coöperatie U.A. (Aldel) is an aluminium plant based in Delfzijl (The Netherlands) that concentrates on the production and trading of aluminium and aluminium products. The plant was acquired by York Capital in November 2017 and is in the process of a significant capital investment programme to return the plant to its original production levels. The full annual capacity of the plant is over 150,000 tonnes of extrusion billets and rolling ingots. Aldel plays an important role in helping balance the Dutch energy grid which becomes more important as the renewable energy mix increases. Recycling also continues to be an important focus and is an integral part of the on-going business strategy. Aldel currently has approximately 500 people on-site, of whom 270 are employees.

Roba Metals: The independent Dutch family business Roba Metals was established in 1937 for recycling activities. These continue to form part of their core activities. The focus is on aluminium and other non-ferrous metals, in which Roba manages and implements the entire process, from source, logistics, and processing to melting down and sale. Recycling works according to the ‘cradle-to-cradle’ principle from the moment of manufacture to the production of specified secondary raw materials for re-use. Roba uses its own four foundries for this purpose. The company employs around 650 people and has production sites in the Netherlands, Belgium and Poland.

An overview of European Aluminium’s entire membership can be found [here](#).

About European Aluminium:

European Aluminium, founded in 1981, is the association that represents the whole value chain of the aluminium industry in Europe. We actively engage with decision-makers and the wider stakeholder community to promote the outstanding properties of aluminium, secure growth and optimise the contribution our metal can make to meeting Europe’s sustainability challenges. Through environmental and technical expertise, economic and statistical analysis, scientific research, education and sharing of best practices, public affairs and communication activities, European Aluminium promotes the use of aluminium as a permanent material that is part of the solution to achieving sustainable goals, while maintaining and improving the image of the industry, of the material and of its applications among their stakeholders.

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