

Hydro lays the cornerstone for new recycling plant

At its Rheinwerk plant in Neuss the Norwegian aluminium producer Hydro has laid the cornerstone of a new recycling plant for used beverage cans. The new plant is going to double the existing annual recycling capacity to around 100,000 tonnes and will process a wide variety of can scrap. Hydro is investing around 45 million euros in the project and creating around 40 new jobs. The completion of the recycling plant is anticipated for the beginning of 2016.

“We are installing the best technology in the world for sorting used products, which will make us a better recycler. The new plant is designed for 50,000 tonnes of used beverage cans a year, which will make us a larger recycler and a more green company. Because, through aluminium recycling we save 95 per cent of the energy required for the one-off production of aluminium, and give the resource aluminium a new life,” said executive vice president Kjetil Ebbesberg, head of the Rolled Products business segment.

Ebbesberg continued: “Along with the UBC recycling plant we are currently also adding new developments to our “magic aluminium triangle” Grevenbroich-Rheinwerk-Alunorf. There we are investing 130 million euros in a new plant for sheet metal for car bodies in Grevenbroich, and expanding production capacity in our affiliated Alunorf plant in Neuss, where Hydro is investing over 80 million euros in more capacity together with our partner Novelis.”

Guests of honour at the ceremony, lead by federal minister Hermann Gröhe, praised Hydro’s commitment to Germany, and to NRW [North Rhine-Westphalia] in particular and the Rhine district in Neuss, as industry location.

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