

Aurubis continues to invest in improving air pollution control in Veddel

Hamburg, March 1, 2019 – Aurubis AG is expressly committed to its responsibility to protect its neighbors from possible environmental impacts and takes the ambitious targets of the 39th ordinance implementing the German Federal Immission Control Act (BImSchV) very seriously. Within this context, the company is providing information about the published results of the Hamburg environmental authority's immission measurements in calendar year 2018.

The Hamburg environmental authority measured immissions at a public measuring station in the district of Veddel, in direct proximity to Aurubis AG's Hamburg plant. The ambient air there is influenced by local industrial activities, as well as effects typical for a large city due to energy production, shipping, and construction work, as well as street, train, and air traffic.

In 2018, for the first time in 12 years, measurements taken at this public measuring station exceeded the target outlined in the 39th ordinance implementing the German Federal Immission Control Act (BImSchV) for arsenic in particulate matter in the ambient air. According to the data now released, the average for the year was about 1.8 ng/m³ over the legally defined target of 6 ng/m³ (1 ng/m³ = 1 billionth of a gram per cubic meter of air). According to the World Health Organization (WHO), continuous exposure to an arsenic level beyond the target value for 70 years increases the statistical probability of developing lung cancer in a group of 100,000 people by one to two additional cases.

As in past years, Aurubis AG's Hamburg plant adhered to and fell significantly below the limits prescribed for all of the emissions permitted for the operation of its facilities. Furthermore, the relevant Hamburg environmental authority did not establish any deficiencies during its frequent routine inspections of the plant. Aurubis operates its facilities in full compliance with standards and permits and in accordance with the state of the art.

In the past three decades, Aurubis has implemented extensive emission reduction programs in Hamburg, which have been defined in part within the scope of six public-law agreements with the city of Hamburg. "Since 2000, our Hamburg plant alone has invested more than € 220 million in environmental protection projects," explained Plant Manager Dr. Jens Jacobsen. "Furthermore, we announced another investment program a few months ago to reduce emissions again, especially emissions of particulate matter from copper production, beyond the reductions already achieved."

External factors in particular should be taken into consideration as possible reasons that the target level was exceeded at this measuring station – for example, the extreme dryness combined with the inversion weather conditions during the past summer.

Dr. Jens Jacobsen said, "We will continue to actively contribute to ensuring that the very ambitious target is also adhered to at the Veddel measuring station, measurably and sustainably, even under unfavorable climate conditions."

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Aurubis - Metals for Progress

Aurubis AG is a leading global provider of non-ferrous metals and the largest copper recycler worldwide. The company processes complex metal concentrates, scrap metals, and metal-bearing recycling materials into metals of the highest quality.

Its main area of expertise is the processing and optimal recovery of concentrates and recycling raw materials with complex qualities. With its range of services, Aurubis is a forerunner in the industry. The group of companies is oriented towards growth, efficiency, and sustainability: The main components of the strategy are the expansion of the leading market position as an integrated copper producer, entering new markets in industries of the future, the highly efficient and optimal recovery of additional metals and by-products from complex raw materials, and practicing a responsible attitude when dealing with people, resources, and the environment.

Aurubis produces more than 1 million t of copper cathodes annually, and from them a variety of copper products such as wire rod, continuous cast shapes, rolled products, and strip, as well as specialty wire and profiles made of copper and copper alloys. Precious metals, selenium, lead, nickel, and a number of other products such as sulfuric acid and iron silicate also belong to the product portfolio.

Aurubis has about 6,700 employees, production sites in Europe and the US, and an extensive service and distribution system in Europe, Asia, and North America.

Aurubis' customers include companies in the semis industry; the electrical, electronics, and chemical industries; and suppliers of the renewable energies, construction, and automotive sectors.

Aurubis shares are part of the Prime Standard Segment of the German Stock Exchange and are listed in the MDAX, the Global Challenges Index (GCX), and the STOXX Europe 600.

Further information at www.aurubis.com