

Aurubis Hamburg inaugurates world's most powerful exhaust system in copper production

- » **Unique extraction and filter system reduces diffuse emissions from primary copper production by a total of about 80 %, making it one of the world's most powerful systems**
- » **Investment of around €30 million in expanded system sets new benchmarks in sustainable multimetal production: Unique combination of novel technologies enables energy-optimized operation**
- » **Aurubis COO Tim Kurth: "With the expanded system, we are setting new benchmarks in low-impact fabrication of strategically critical metals"**

Hamburg, June 11, 2026 — Aurubis AG, a leading global provider of non-ferrous metals and the largest copper recycler worldwide, inaugurated the expansion stage of the Reducing Diffuse Emissions (RDE) system at the Hamburg site yesterday. The upgrade considerably boosts the system's performance and sets new benchmarks for environmentally compatible multimetal production in the greater Hamburg metropolitan region.

Powerful, one-of-a-kind environmental protection system

The first stage of the innovative filter system has been reducing diffuse emissions in primary copper production since 2021. The expansion doubles the entire system's reduction capability to roughly 80 %, compared to about 40 % for the first stage. With this total investment of approximately €115 million — around €85 million went into stage 1 — Aurubis is significantly cutting diffuse emissions again, setting new standards in the industry. The project received funding from the KfW Development Bank.

"With the expanded system, we are setting new benchmarks in low-impact fabrication of strategically critical metals," Tim Kurth, COO Custom Smelting & Products, said. "We are investing in our capabilities to enhance the processing of complex input materials at the Hamburg site even further going forward, while bolstering our position in sustainable multimetal production."

The heart of the system is a high-power extraction and filter system: Production air is captured via a total of seven openings, referred to as ridge turrets, and conducted to a central pipeline system. The system transports more than 1.6 million standard cubic meters of air per hour — a volume that would fill more than six hot-air balloons every minute — through a 4.5-meter-diameter pipe. This makes RDE one of the most powerful systems of its kind in the world, able to effectively filter out particles smaller than 10 µm.

About 19,000 filter elements treat the exhaust air, removing even the finest particles from the air stream. The cleaned air is then discharged in a controlled flow via three roughly 110-meter-high exhaust towers called stacks.

Aurubis AG
Corporate Communications

Tore Prang
Vice President Corporate
Communications & External Affairs
Phone +49 176 178 421 65
t.prang@aurubis.com

Christoph Tesch
Head of Corporate
Communications
Phone +49 40 7883-2178
c.tesch@aurubis.com

Meino Hauschildt
Senior Manager
Corporate Communications
Phone +49 40 7883-3037
me.hauschildt@aurubis.com

Hovestrasse 50
20539 Hamburg, Germany

www.aurubis.com

The closed cycle is central to the concept: The filtered diffuse emissions still contain valuable metals, so they are redirected back to production. Aurubis links environmental protection with resource efficiency, combining them with a targeted closed-loop approach and the aim of processing all raw materials into marketable products without generating waste. The system operates especially energy efficiently thanks to its fully automated, dynamic control system.

A clear commitment to sustainable multimetal production

The expansion is part of extensive investments in the Hamburg site: In addition to RDE, Aurubis is investing approximately €490 million in other projects such as the Complex Recycling Hamburg recycling plant, as well as a new precious metal processing facility. The company is strengthening its position as a leading multimetal producer and recycler in Europe, directing investments into ensuring the site is fit for the future.

“With the RDE system, we are producing multimetals with low-impact methods on the outskirts of Hamburg,” Marco Alken, Head of Primary & Products Division, explained. “We are setting new standards in environmental stewardship and actively investing in the Hamburg site’s future.” It underscores that stringent environmental standards require substantial resources: Roughly one-third of the site’s energy use is now allocated to air pollution control and proactive environmental protection.

Aurubis — Metals for Progress

Aurubis AG is a leading global provider of non-ferrous metals and one of the largest copper recyclers worldwide. The company processes complex metal concentrates, scrap metals, organic and inorganic metal-bearing recycling materials, and industrial residues into metals of the highest quality. Aurubis produces more than 1 million tons of copper cathodes annually, and from them a variety of products such as wire rod, continuous cast shapes, profiles, and flat rolled products made of copper and copper alloys. Aurubis produces a number of other metals as well, including precious metals, selenium, lead, nickel, tin and zinc. The portfolio also includes additional products such as sulfuric acid and iron silicate.

Sustainability is a fundamental part of the Aurubis strategy. “Aurubis responsibly transforms raw materials into value” — following this maxim, the company integrates sustainable conduct and business activities into the corporate culture. This involves a careful approach to natural resources, responsible social and ecological conduct in everyday business, and sensible, healthy growth.

Aurubis has around 7,200 employees, production sites in Europe and the US, and an extensive distribution network around the world.

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.

More information at www.aurubis.com