

Aurubis Richmond

Aurubis is operating the first-of-its-kind, largest, and most technologically advanced multimetal recycling plant ever built in the US. The ~\$800 million investment will process about 180,000 t of complex recycling materials annually and produce ~70,000 t of blister copper. The company brings unmatched capability to the United States — recycling not only copper but also nickel, tin, and precious metals vital for AI, data centers, and defense.

Aurubis Richmond will deliver critical metals, strengthen American supply chains, make the US more independent from imports, and drive American industry, jobs, and innovations for generations to come. By transforming recycling materials from end-of-life circuit boards, copper cables, and other metal-bearing materials into critical metals, Aurubis helps America close the loop, reduce dependence, and fuel a circular economy — turning waste into resources.

The construction of the first-of-its-kind plant located in Augusta (Richmond County), Georgia, started in mid-2022; hot commissioning took place in September 2025.



Growth through urban mining

Aurubis is already enthusiastically shaping the circular economy, processing about 1 million t of recycling materials per year as a leading company for multimetal recycling. With the plant in the US, Aurubis is now sending another important signal as one of the most integrated smelter networks in the world. The investment supports the ambitious goals to deliver essential metals and conserve resources while contributing to the company’s growth targets.

What Aurubis Richmond delivers for America

Strategic American metals: Delivers valuable metals including critical materials like copper, nickel, tin, and zinc for the US market.

Supply security: Strengthens US supply chains, enhancing domestic security and reducing America’s dependence on foreign critical metals.

Lasting commitment and jobs: ~\$800 million invested in the US site and around 240 high-quality industrial jobs created.

Enabling growth sectors: Provides metals for AI and data centers, energy infrastructure, electrification, and defense.

First-of-its-kind capability: The nation’s largest and most advanced secondary smelter, specialized in multimetal recycling.

Platform for expansion: Scalable operations that can be accelerated to further increase US independence in strategic metals.

Excellent starting position

Aurubis is entering the US recycling market at the perfect time: The US market has high potential, while the significance of critical metals is rising steadily in the US. A notable increase in collection volumes is positively contributing to the availability of recyclable, metal-bearing materials in the US. Most of the recycling materials have been exported to Asia up to this point.

With the new US recycling plant, Aurubis becomes a forerunner in multimetal recycling in the US, a position the company already holds in Europe. Aurubis Richmond is designed for a flexible intake of recycling materials, providing a "one-stop-shop/sell" solution to our suppliers for a broad set of materials.



Aurubis Richmond during construction

Facts at a glance

<p>First secondary smelter specialized in multimetal recycling in the US</p>	<p>180,000 t of complex recycling materials per year</p>	<p>~70,000 t annual blister copper output</p>	<p>~\$800 million investment volume</p>
<p>>240 high-quality jobs created</p>	<p>~25 % expected market growth until 2035</p>	<p>~€170 million EBITDA p.a. by FY 2027/28</p>	<p>Largest German investment in Georgia</p>

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