

## Aurubis invests in innovative system at the Lünen site for fully automated sample preparation

- » **Aurubis pointing the way to the future of sampling: highly automated, efficient and secure**
- » **Lünen is the first site in the Group to use the new system, additional facilities at other sites to follow**
- » **“Our suppliers’ trust is our most important currency in the global competition for recycling material,” says Inge Hofkens, COO Multimetal Recycling**

**Hamburg/Lünen, May 27, 2024** —Aurubis has successfully commissioned a new system that is setting new standards in the recycling industry at its Lünen plant. Sample preparation of feed materials, such as e-scrap, is now fully automated with the help of cutting-edge robotics. This innovative system now efficiently delivers reliable samples to the laboratory in just an hour for a sample preparation process that used to be carried out manually in up to 12 stages and could take five days. Aurubis invested a mid-single-digit-million-euro amount in the new system. The initial system concept was developed around three years ago as part of the Group-wide automation and digitalization strategy.

“The new system is absolutely state-of-the-art and, with up to 10,000 samples per year, the most powerful of its kind in our industry. It’s a flagship project: for both the Lünen site and the entire Aurubis Group,” Lünen Plant Manager Verena von Weiss said. “With a dedicated team, we moved ahead with the planning, construction and commissioning in less than a year. We gathered crucial experience to make the process even more secure, which all Aurubis sites will now profit from.”

### **Innovation with potential: the Lünen site and e-scrap are just the beginning, additional sites and input materials to follow soon**

The system now online is the first of its kind in the Aurubis Group, and a model for other sites and materials. The company is investing in a system for the Hamburg site as well, and initial tests with materials specific to Hamburg have already been successfully conducted in Lünen. The Aurubis plants in Bulgaria (Pirdop), Belgium (Beerse), and the US (Augusta) are slated to follow. And e-scrap is only the beginning, as the system offers even more potential: Other valuable materials such as intermediates that accumulate in the smelter network can also be efficiently and securely sampled in the future. The system already enables the continuous mechanical sample preparation of materials like PCBs, shredded materials containing iron, and dried slimes.

### **Triple the security: new system boosts occupational safety, environmental protection, and process security**

In addition to the time factor, security also plays a central role in automating work processes. The new sampling process is an advancement in three ways:

For one, it positively impacts employees’ occupational health and safety since it eliminates manual work stages and significantly reduces noise emissions. Second,

**Aurubis AG**  
Corporate Communications

**Angela Seidler**  
Vice President  
Investor Relations &  
Corporate Communications  
Phone +49 40 7883-3178  
[a.seidler@aurubis.com](mailto:a.seidler@aurubis.com)

**Christoph Tesch**  
Head of Corporate  
Communications  
Phone +49 40 7883-2178  
[c.tesch@aurubis.com](mailto:c.tesch@aurubis.com)

**Meino Hauschildt**  
Communications Manager  
Phone +49 40 7883-3037  
[me.hauschildt@aurubis.com](mailto:me.hauschildt@aurubis.com)

Hovestrass 50  
20539 Hamburg

[www.aurubis.com](http://www.aurubis.com)

locally suctioning and filtering particulate matter in the completely enclosed system reduces the already small environmental impacts to a minimum. Third, the new system protects sampling even better from possible outside interference: The self-contained process leaves practically no room for manipulation. Every assessment is fully documented, including a photo record, and can be verified via analysis software on an ongoing basis. The automation therefore significantly enhances the quality and reliability of the entire process.

### **Aurubis invests in transparency and trust in the competition for recycling material**

“Our suppliers’ trust is our most important currency in the global competition for recycling material,” COO Multimetal Recycling Inge Hofkens said. “We process about 1.1 million t of recycling material in the Group each year. With the fully automated system that is now in operation, we are making a targeted investment in strengthening transparency and trust in Aurubis,” Hofkens continued.

Reliability, trust, speed and sample quality are key when it comes to sampling and determining the value of a delivery. The wide variety of material combinations in today’s end products mean recycling material is growing increasingly complex, which raises demands on modern sampling. Here too, the automated process is now facilitating even more transparency, more reliability, and fully documented sampling results. And even more trust between business partners.

### **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](http://www.aurubis.com)*