

Exlabesa Group going ahead with Two Light-metal Extrusion Presses

Exlabesa has awarded SMS group the contract to supply two 35 MN extrusion presses. The extrusion presses are to be installed at the production locations in Doncaster, UK, and in Minden, Germany. Each extrusion press is planned to be designed for a production capacity of around 10,000 tons of aluminum profiles.

Exlabesa's plant in Doncaster, UK, will be upgraded as a result of this investment. The new 35 MN extrusion press will replace the existing 20 MN extrusion press. The new press will be used primarily to extrude profiles for automotive, architectural, and industrial applications from aluminum billets with a diameter of ten inches (254 millimeters) and a maximum length of 1,400 millimeters.

The second, equally powerful 35 MN extrusion press will expand the Exlabesa group's production capacity at its Minden works in Germany. In this way the extrusion press works will be able to



respond more quickly and more flexibly to the growing demand for aluminum profiles and continue to offer a consistently high level of product quality to its customers in the automotive, mechanical engineering, construction, electrical engineering, furniture, and retail sectors.

Both presses are equipped with an ecoDraulic system. This system, with its intelligent, automatic start-stop control function, switches off all hydraulic pumps that are not required during the extrusion process. The use of ecoDraulic enables average energy savings of ten percent

compared to modern presses without this system. As a result, the new presses at Exlabesa group meet the requirements of the ecoplants label, which is awarded to particularly energy-efficient SMS group machinery.

Another feature is the newly developed self-adjusting, moving discard shear. The shear automatically compensates for vertical tolerances in the tool stack. What's more, it can be used to improve the quality of the profile: after shearing the shear moves a few millimeters away from the die, so when the shear is moved up there is less danger of the aluminum being pulled out of the die pre-chamber. This in turn lowers the risk of air inclusions in the extruded profile.

Commissioning of the extrusion press in Doncaster is planned for the beginning of 2019. The extrusion press in Minden is scheduled to extrude its first billet in the last quarter of 2019.

Boltaron to add new extrusion line in third quarter



Boltaron Inc – A SIMONA Company announced that it will start operations of a new and fourth extrusion line in the third quarter of 2018. The increased manufacturing capacity will support Boltaron's growing market share as a supplier of high performance thermoplastic materials to the aerospace industry.

The new extrusion line will be dedicated to producing the Boltaron® 9000 Series of materials which meet the FAA's regulatory requirements for flammability, smoke, and heat release, FAR 25.853(a) and (d). This includes Boltaron® 9815, a top performing material that offers exceptional impact resistance, thermoformability, and is offered in a diverse range of thicknesses, textures, and decorative effects.

The new line will be designed for

short production runs and fast changeover times.

"We are taking all of the technology that we've learned over the years, which has previously been incorporated into our existing lines, and designing it into this new state of the art line," said Kevin Asti, General Manager and VP of Operations.

"We've been training our operations team for the past nine months in anticipation of the line starting up," said Asti. The added production capacity will also result in an increase of Boltaron's full time workforce.

In addition to the new extrusion equipment, Boltaron has made significant investments to optimize its manufacturing efficiency to better service its customers. This includes a new, fully automated, expanded triple-capacity blending system that supports the extrusion lines and maintains quality and consistency.

"Boltaron's continued investment in equipment expansion is based on the success of the 9000 series products.

RUSAL restarts operation of teh Friguia alumina refinery in Guinea

UC RUSAL (486 Hong Kong, RUAL Moscow Exchange), a leading global aluminium producer, is pleased to announce the restart of the FRIGUIA ALUMINA REFINERY in Guinea.

The official ceremony to mark the restoration of the Friguia refinery was attended by the President of Guinea, Alpha Conde, the Russian Ambassador to Guinea, Alexander Bregadze, as well as the management of RUSAL. This follows agreements reached in 2016 between the Republic of Guinea and the company, which provide for the ramp up of production up to 550-600 thousand tonnes of alumina per year within 12 months from the resumption of operations.