



World leader for aluminium anodising

## PRESS RELEASE

# COIL IS REORGANISING ITS INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES IN ITALY AND BELGIUM

*Brussels, Tuesday December 1st, 2015 (5:45 pm) - COIL, the world leader for aluminium anodising, is announcing the reorganisation of its industrial operations in Italy and Belgium. The plan rolled out aims to rationalise, optimise and create value through the Group's industrial capacities, focused primarily on strengthening its performance levels.*

### **Closure of the Capestrano plant in Italy**

After acquiring the production assets of the former company Italfinish, located in Capestrano, in August this year, COIL has carried out an in-depth review of this Italian plant's economic viability, concluding that this site is not viable due to a lack of orders and the extensive investments required to achieve satisfactory levels of productivity, quality, environmental compliance and safety.

In this context, COIL has rolled out a redundancy plan (12 people) and decided to transfer the production assets - continuous anodising line, automated batch anodising line for aluminium sheets and cut-to-length line - from the Capestrano site to its Landen site in Belgium. United Anodisers srl will be placed into liquidation in the near future.

### **Strengthening of production assets in Belgium**

With this strategic redeployment, major operations will be carried out in Belgium to modernise the production facilities, as required to sustain growth in demand for thin gauge anodised products, particularly for the aluminium composite panel market.

While Lines 1 and 2 in Belgium are currently operating at full capacity, COIL intends to redeploy the main mechanical elements from the Italian continuous anodising line for an in-depth renovation of its Line 2 in Belgium. This investment, scheduled for the first quarter of 2016, will help significantly improve the line's quality and productivity, following on from the successful investments in Line 1 in 2014.

Alongside this, the automated batch anodising line for aluminium sheets in Italy will be set up in Landen in the third quarter of 2016. To be integrated into COIL's environmental management system, it will occupy the space freed up by Line 4, which will be shutting down towards the end of the first quarter of 2016 because of its low profitability levels.

### **Development of industrial capacities**

The automated batch anodising line is strategic because it will enable COIL to:

- Make smaller production runs, useful for developing new products and preparing mock-ups and samples, which are essential for architectural projects;
- Expand its product range on the construction market, in terms of gauges, anodic film layers, finished edges and post-anodising treatments;
- Offer a low-cost anodised sheet production capacity for markets in Northern Europe.

The cut-to-length line will also be installed in space made available by the closure of Line 4. It will enable coils to be downsized into sheets immediately following anodising, while ensuring better control over quality and timing.

The strengthening of industrial operations at the Landen site will support improvements in performance thanks to the development of expert capabilities for thinner gauge products, special effects and colours, as well as small production runs.

Alongside this, the Bernburg site in Germany will continue to specialise in large-scale production runs for the architectural industry, with a €22 million investment plan, covering a continuous anodising line, to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2016.

The costs relating to the closure of the Capestrano plant and the liquidation of United Anodisers srl will not have any impact on the accounts; these are covered by United Anodisers Limited in connection with the acquisition of United Anodisers srl. However, COIL estimates that the closure of Line 4 in Belgium and the redeployment of the Italian assets will have a significant impact on the annual accounts for 2015. These impacts will be presented when publishing its full-year earnings for 2015.

**Committed to continuing to offer its clients optimum quality and leading-edge innovative solutions, COIL is rationalising its industrial footprint in order to have high-performance tools, aligned with its developments.**



**COIL** sets the standard globally for continuous anodised aluminium on quality and dimensional capacity, with a dominant market position worldwide.

Anodising is an electrochemical process - electrolysis - that develops a natural and protective exterior layer on aluminium that can be coloured, providing exceptional corrosion protection and/or increased functionality for the metal.

Anodising preserves all the natural and ecological properties of aluminium - it retains its high strength-to-weight ratio, non-magnetic properties and exceptional corrosion resistance without any impact on the total and repeated recyclability of the metal.

Anodised aluminium is used across a wide range of architectural, designer, industrial and automotive applications.

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