

Press Release

Frankfurt, 25 February 2016

Almatris increases its North America alumina refinery production to further service the non-metallurgical alumina chemical markets

With the challenging economics of today's global aluminum industry driving significant changes in the North American non-metallurgical alumina industry, Almatris has the commitment and capability to deliver its customers uninterrupted, secure local supply for their specialty alumina needs. Backward integrated with the 2013 purchase of the Burnside alumina refinery, Almatris has unique control of its supply chain and can provide its customers long-term stability in this time of big industry shifts. The recent announcements of curtailment and financial protection of the three other U.S. alumina refineries exposes the potential vulnerability of non-metallurgical alumina buyers to the swings in metal values.

Investments in Almatris Burnside have upgraded it to a chemical grade facility that supplies Almatris operations in the US and Europe with a high quality feedstock for producing their products and also supplying the non-metallurgical alumina chemical markets. The Burnside alumina refinery has an annual capacity of about 500,000 metric tonnes. Besides fulfilling internal feedstock requirements, Almatris will supply calcined alumina and hydrated alumina to fill the void resulting from the curtailments. Significant investments have been brought forward to ensure Almatris is a strong, long-term, reliable partner for the U.S. refractory, ceramic, polishing and chemical industries.

"Almatris has the only North American refinery operated and maintained solely for the quality needs of the specialty alumina and chemicals markets and thus completely independent from the much more volatile metallurgical grade alumina market," stated Almatris CEO Henning Stams. "Our production plants and those of our existing and new customers can rely on this," he added.

About Almatis

With more than 100 years of alumina expertise, Almatis is the world leader in the development, manufacture and supply of premium alumina and alumina-based products. As a fully backward integrated, global alumina producer, Almatis serves its customers with 1,150 employees from sixteen strategically located sales, research and manufacturing sites. Almatis offers the most comprehensive alumina product portfolio in the industry, including: tabular aluminas, calcined and reactive aluminas, polishing aluminas, calcium aluminate cements, brown sintered alumina, spinels and hydrates. Across its core markets - refractories, ceramics and polishing - Almatis products are used in a wide variety of industries including iron and steel, cement, non-ferrous metal, ceramic, automotive, polishing, electronics and aluminum chemicals. Previously part of Alcoa, Almatis is owned since September 2015 by OYAK, one of the largest industrial groups in Turkey with investments in steel, automotive, energy, construction materials and chemicals.