

Aurubis Richmond, USA

First secondary smelter specializing in multimetal recycling in the US

Aurubis is undertaking trailblazing work with a new recycling plant in the US: For about \$ 800 million, the company is operating the first secondary smelter specializing in multimetal recycling in the US, thus making a targeted investment in expanding its own recycling business. The state-of-the-art plant in Augusta (Richmond County) in the state of Georgia will process about 180,000 t of complex recycling materials annually. The plant is a key contribution to Aurubis' commitment to the circular economy and to the company's goal of being carbon-neutral well before 2050. The construction started in mid-2022, in September 2024 Aurubis Richmond celebrated its ribbon cutting ceremony.



Growth through sustainability

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 recycling plant in the US, Aurubis is now sending another important signal as one of the most sustainable integrated smelter networks in the world. The investment supports the ambitious goals to protect the environment and conserve resources while simultaneously contributing to the company's growth targets.

Entry at the right time

Aurubis is entering the US recycling market at the perfect time: the market has high potential, while the significance of sustainability is rising steadily in the US as well. The shift to a greener, carbon-neutral economy offers immense market potential and is receiving strong political support. There is a significant increase in collection volumes positively contributing to the availability of volumes of recyclable, metal-bearing materials in the US. Most of the recycling materials have been exported to Asia up to this point.

What makes Augusta in Richmond County the ideal location?



Centrally located in the Southeastern US



Good infrastructural connections, especially to the Port of Savannah



Greenfield with the necessary utilities (electrical, water, sewer, natural gas)

High availability of local employees



Regional availability of recycling materials

Excellent starting position

With the new US recycling plant, Aurubis becomes a forerunner in multimetal recycling in the US, a position the company already holds in Europe. The use of metallurgical technologies that are proven in the market yet still innovative, together with a flexible input mix, makes Aurubis Richmond a "one-stop shop" for local suppliers. With the plants in Europe, Aurubis also has capacities to subsequently process some of the blister copper further. Fulfilling the highest environmental standards is in the company's DNA.



The project at a glance

secondary smelter specializing in multimeta recycling in the US Recycling

180,000 t

of complex recycling materials per year

Annual blister output of

70,000 t

Investment volume of

~US\$ 800 million

EBITDA of

~US\$ 85 million (€ 80 million by FY 2025/26)

~US\$ 180 million (€ 170 million by FY 2026/27)

More than 230 direct jobs

to the Augusta area

Contributes to Aurubis'

sustainability targets More than

31 nationalities

nave been involved in the construction of the plant

Contact

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