

In brief...

At the auction of the Noranda alumina refinery in Gramercy, Louisiana and bauxite mining operation in St. Ann, Jamaica recently, New Day Aluminum LLC, an affiliate of DADA Holdings LLC, was selected and approved, offering a purchase price of US\$ 24.4 million in the form of a secured note.

www.norandaaluminum.com

Novelis is supplying aluminium solutions for the all-new Jaguar XFL, the first Jaguar model from Chery Jaguar Land Rover Automotive Co., Ltd. The XFL launched in China on 29 August and features a body-in-white made of 75 per cent aluminium, the highest content achieved by an automaker to date in the Chinese automotive marketplace.

www.novelis.com

AUMUND Fördertechnik GmbH, Germany, and SWEIDAN Industrial Services, Riyadh, have opened a new Spare Parts Stock facility at the Riyadh Warehouse to be at full disposal with parts instantly available, an important resource in a case of emergency to get a machine running again. A local AUMUND Supervisor is available to support customers.

www.aumund.com

Buehler - ITW Test & Measurement GmbH recently opened its new Solutions Center in the Düsseldorf Chamber of Handicrafts building. This spacious laboratory is equipped with cutting-edge technology for preparing metallographic samples as well as with Buehler's latest hardness testers and the specially adapted DiaMet™ testing software.

www.buehler.com

McKechnie Aluminium Solutions is to invest over US\$ 10 million in a new press and extrusion line for its New Plymouth manufacturing base. CEO Pramod Khatri says that this is the largest and most significant investment in the company's 60 year history. The new extrusion press will be the only one of its kind in New Zealand.

www.mckechnie.co.nz

Emirates Global Aluminium (EGA) is again hosting a Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Practice Station from 23 October to 15 December 2016. Nine PhD and Masters students from the MIT School of Chemical Engineering Practice will conduct six research projects at EGA's smelter operations in Jebel Ali and Al Taweelah.

www.ega.ae

Balco Cast House 2 installs ALDU degasser



Mr. Deepak Prasad, Head-Aluminium Business, Balco inaugurated the ALDU Technique.

A degasser unit (ALDU) has been put up in the casting line of Casting House-2 in Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (Balco). The ALDU unit has been made by the Finishing Line Area Team with the help of internal resources. By this technique, the level of hydrogen gas emanating from molten aluminium alloy will reduce by 40%. This will benefit the production of high quality alloy ingots for the domestic and international market. Mr. Deepak Prasad, Head-Aluminium Business, Balco inaugurated the ALDU Technique. The Technique was made under the supervision and guidance of Mr. Amandeep Sood, Head-Cast House, and Mr. Sambhav Sriwastav, Head-Foundry and had wonderful participation by



Mr. Tom Albanese handing over the CII Certificate of Star Rating to Mr. Ramesh Nair.

Mr. Ranjeet Siwan, Mr. Santosh Jain, Mr. Sandeep Pratap Singh, Mr. Kamal Kishore Jain and Mr. Sandeep Rangari.

Mr. Tom Albanese, CEO, Vedanta Group handed over the CII Certificate of Star Rating to Mr. Ramesh Nair, CEO and WTD, Balco in a function held on 1 October 2016 at the Comprehensive building. The certificate was given to Balco during a CII-SHE Award function held in Kolkata this year. The certificate is based on site assessment done by a CII team in Balco. This is the first time CII eastern region has started the star rating system. The certificate has been given based on HSE initiatives and continual improvements done by the organisation.

www.balcoindia.com

AEC releases EPDs for extrusions

The Aluminum Extruders Council (AEC) has released a comprehensive industry-wide set of Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) for aluminium extrusions manufactured in the United States and Canada. The EPDs quantify the 'cradle-to-gate' lifecycle environmental impacts of aluminium extrusions. One EPD is for thermally-improved extrusions of particular interest for fenestration applications, and the other covers extrusions that have not been thermally improved. Both provide data for mill finish, painted and anodised products, so architects and designers can assess the environmental impacts of finishing and thermal improvement decisions.

The EPD's are based on a detailed study of the process inputs and outputs of 11 AEC member extruders. Thirty separate

facilities, located across the U.S. and Canada, with more than 85 extrusion presses and a variety of finishing and thermal improvement facilities, were included in the study. In aggregate, extrusion production of 1.7 billion pounds, or about one-third of the North American total for the study year of 2015, was covered by the study. LEED practitioners are a key constituency for this work.

Aluminium extrusions are widely used in a host of building applications, including curtain wall, window and door systems, sun shades, light shelves, louvers, interior partitions, office furniture and railings. Copies of the two EPDs, as well as the more-detailed LCA that serves as the EPD Background Report can be downloaded.

www.aec.org

Free extrusion seminars at Düsseldorf

Italy's Alumat Almax Group is running a series of Extruders only- Technical Seminars at ALUMINIUM 2016 covering aluminium extrusion die design and extrusion optimisation strategies to help customers face

any extrusion challenge and cut down on production costs.

The Seminars are organised in partnership with the University of Bologna (Extrusion Technology) and with Altair (Extrusion simulation). www.alumat-almax.com

Augmented reality goggles for maintenance

SECO/WARWICK is preparing to deploy the Microsoft HoloLens augmented reality technology in its operations worldwide. The SECO/WARWICK application will be one of the first in the world in heavy industry. Holographic goggles by Microsoft were originally conceived as a top secret project. Holographic solutions naturally targeted the gaming market as early adapters. This technology, however, has gained interest among heavy industry representatives. A leader in heat treatment solutions, SECO/WARWICK has always had a special interest in new technologies due to its innovative culture. This synergy of both heavy industry and holographic solutions may completely redefine the metallurgy and heat treatment market. The implementation of virtual technology to its production, maintenance and service processes has become reality, according to Katarzyna Sawka, SECO/WARWICK Group Marketing Director.

HoloLens is a device fitted on the head and equipped with a number of sensors, processor and screen in one. The cyber goggles are designed to implement previously mapped 3D models to the real time view. SECO/WARWICK is working on the application specification and functions based on the technical capabilities of the newest development version of HoloLens which has been available on the market since August 2016. www.secowarwick.com

Mothersole to head finishing group

Gary Mothersole of Chemetall has been appointed Chair of ALFED's Finishing Group in the UK, which comprises members engaged in powder coating, anodising and supplying materials to the finishing sector. Gary succeeds Giles Ashmead of Powdertech Corby, who earlier this year was appointed ALFED Vice President. Powder coaters are currently looking at alternatives to chrome pre-treatment, and the Group aims to ensure that customers are kept abreast of any developments over the coming months. Giles will continue to contribute strongly to the Finishing Group. www.alfed.org.uk