

CRONIMET Holding Group and partner banks extend cooperation ahead of schedule

- **Bank consortium increases loan volume to 700 million Euros**
- **Financing of business operations secured until at least 2025 in difficult market environment**

Karlsruhe, September 30, 2022

A banking consortium consisting of 13 German and European banks and CRONIMET Holding GmbH have extended the existing syndicated loan agreement until 2025 and increased the loan volume by more than 100 million Euros to approximately 700 million Euros. This secures the financing of the family-owned company based in Karlsruhe until September 2025. The partners also concluded extension options for a further two years.

“The early extension and the increase in the credit volume are a strong sign from the banking market and give us financing security for the upcoming years, which are likely to be rather difficult in view of the current geopolitical and economic environment,” explains Bernhard Kunsmann, CFO CRONIMET Holding GmbH. For the first time, the financing package also includes a credit line that allows CRONIMET to respond more flexibly to the market environment and, in particular, to volatilities in the raw materials markets.

The banking syndicate, with Commerzbank, Deutsche Bank and HSBC as the lead banks (mandated lead arranger and bookrunner), was also expanded and diversified to include several regional and also international banks. “The banks are not only rewarding our good corporate development in recent years, but also our sustainable business model,” says Bernhard Kunsmann. As the world’s leading company in stainless steel recycling, CRONIMET stands for resource conservation and raw material security in equal measure. In 2022, the CRONIMET Holding Group submitted its first sustainability report in accordance with the internationally recognized framework of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and is consistently working on the implementation of its sustainability strategy, in particular the goal of working CO₂ neutral in by 2030.

In the first two quarters of 2022, the CRONIMET Holding Group generated very good earnings. Since the beginning of the third quarter, the outlook has clouded over, and forecasts are difficult to make. Jürgen Pilarsky, CEO and majority shareholder of CRONIMET Holding GmbH, is nevertheless optimistic. “Currently, it is difficult to predict how market demand will develop in view of rising energy prices and the associated decline in stainless steel production. Thanks to the very good earnings performance to date, I am nevertheless very confident that we will achieve our target result for 2022 in the Group.”



About the CRONIMET Holding Group

The CRONIMET Holding Group, headquartered in Karlsruhe, Germany, is a global specialist for stainless steel scrap, ferroalloys and primary metals. The focus here is on returning metallic raw materials to the materials cycle through recycling and processing, thus contributing to the securing of raw materials and raw material efficiency. For more than four decades, the company has been supplying raw materials to the stainless steel producing industry. The CRONIMET Holding Group was founded in 1980 and is now present worldwide with more than 1500 employees at 68 locations.

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