



CRONIMET and Outokumpu seal partnership to accelerate the circular economy

- **Finnish stainless steel producer Outokumpu has acquired a 10 percent minority stake in CRONIMET North-East GmbH.**
- **CRONIMET retains full operational control over CRONIMET North-East GmbH companies.**
- **Agreement on cooperation in innovation and research to reduce CO2 emissions.**

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CRONIMET, the global market leader in stainless steel recycling, and Finnish stainless steel producer Outokumpu have expanded their partnership as announced in November 2023. The acquisition of a 10 percent minority stake in CRONIMET North-East GmbH by Outokumpu has been completed after the customary closing conditions were met and all regulatory approvals were granted. As an intermediate holding company, CRONIMET North-East GmbH directly and indirectly holds the shares in the North-East European CRONIMET companies.

The transaction was carried out in the form of a share purchase. CRONIMET retains full operational control over the CRONIMET North-East GmbH companies involved. There are no plans to expand the shareholding in CRONIMET North-East or to acquire an interest in other companies of the CRONIMET Group.

With this partnership, CRONIMET and Outokumpu are intensifying their cooperation with the aim of optimizing the raw material cycle and using regionally processed scrap for the production of stainless steel in Europe.

"This partnership is a further step towards achieving the sustainable development goals of a low carbon footprint in the production of stainless steel through the use of regional scrap and shorter transportation routes to Outokumpu's stainless steel mills," says Jürgen Pilarsky, CEO of CRONIMET Holding GmbH. "I also see our collaboration as a chance to learn from each other and as a great opportunity to drive our CO2 reduction ambitions forward together, as we are both committed to the SBTi targets. And, moreover, this partnership is an excellent example of the implementation of the 17th UN goal, which promotes the formation of partnerships to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals."

Both companies have also agreed to work together on innovation and research. They want to work together on technologies that contribute to the decarbonization of stainless steel production. The partnership also focuses on reducing costs through better planning on both sides and reducing waste within the supply chain.



"By expanding our existing successful collaboration, we are ensuring that the recycled steel we purchase is of the best possible quality and is sourced as locally as possible, so that we can reduce the carbon footprint of our production. Our climate targets are ambitious and mean that we need to reduce emissions in our supply chain in particular. We can only achieve this in cooperation with our suppliers," says Marc-Simon Schaar, Chief Procurement Officer at Outokumpu.

About the CRONIMET Holding Group

The CRONIMET Holding Group, based in Karlsruhe, Germany, is a global specialist for stainless steel scrap and ferroalloys. The focus here is on returning metallic raw materials to the material cycle through recycling and processing, thus contributing to the safeguarding of raw materials and raw material efficiency. The company has been supplying raw materials to the stainless steel producing industry for more than four decades. The CRONIMET Holding Group was founded in 1980 and today has more than 1600 employees at 68 locations worldwide.

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