

Press release

Less CO₂: ArcelorMittal Eisenhüttenstadt and VNG work together in blast furnace conversion

Leipzig, 6 January 2021 – ArcelorMittal and the natural gas supplier VNG Handel & Vertrieb GmbH will cooperate with each other in future to make the production of steel products at the Eisenhüttenstadt site more sustainable. By 2030, ArcelorMittal, the world's largest steel and mining company in Europe, wants to make CO₂ savings of 30 per cent and carry out climate-neutral production by 2050. Within this framework, ArcelorMittal Eisenhüttenstadt initially plans to reduce CO₂ emissions in steel production by around five per cent per year from 2021 by converting the blast furnace. Natural gas will be used in the blast furnace in future to reduce the need for coal, which, in addition to reducing CO₂ emissions, will also contribute to lower energy costs. The conversion of the furnace is to be completed by mid-2021, and the costs of this investment amount to around four million euros.

As part of the Group's climate strategy, ArcelorMittal Eisenhüttenstadt – along with VNG Handel & Vertrieb GmbH – plans to add CO₂-neutral hydrogen in a later step, as soon as it is available in sufficient quantities and at an economic cost.

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About ArcelorMittal:

ArcelorMittal Eisenhüttenstadt is a successful and highly productive member of the ArcelorMittal Group, the largest steel group in the world. As a reliable supplier of high-quality goods and services, the company has earned an excellent reputation among its customers. With its innovative and high-quality products, the site also makes a significant contribution to taking on the challenges in climate and energy policy of our time. ArcelorMittal Eisenhüttenstadt offers steel solutions that sustainably contribute to the protection of the environment and is committed to a demonstrably sustainable, transparent production method. As the largest industrial development centre in East Brandenburg, the company has around 2,500 well-trained employees and is one of the most important training centres in the region with 190 apprenticeships. For ArcelorMittal Eisenhüttenstadt, social responsibility in all areas of corporate activity and community-oriented activities have been embraced in practice for years.

More at eisenhuettenstadt.arcelormittal.com

About VNG Handel & Vertrieb GmbH

VNG Handel & Vertrieb GmbH, based in Leipzig, supplies natural gas reliably and flexibly to trading companies, redistributors, municipal utilities and major customers in Germany and abroad. Innovative products, diverse services and individual concepts for an environmentally friendly energy supply offer the company's customers comprehensive support in the implementation of the energy transition. With sales offices across Germany as well as investments and business contacts across much of Europe, and as part of the VNG AG group of companies, VNG Handel & Vertrieb GmbH is close to the customer and internationally well-placed.

More at www.vng-handel.de