



World leader for aluminium anodising – www.coil.be
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PRESS RELEASE

SALES AT SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2009: €16.7 MILLION

Brussels, October 23rd, 2009 (5:45 pm) - United Anodisers (previously COIL) recorded € 16,736,000 in sales over the first nine months of 2009, down 24.6% at constant exchange rates and 27.4% on a reported basis compared with the same period the previous year.

Change in sales for each business

(€'000)	9 months 2009	Change		Q3 2009	Change	
		Actual	Like-for-like		Actual	Like-for-like
Continuous anodising	11,790	-26.2%	-26.2%	3,924	-19.7%	-19.7%
Batch anodising	4,945	-30.0%	-20.9%	1,717	-22.8%	-15.2%
Consolidated sales	16,736	-27.4%	-24.6%	5,641	-20.7%	-18.3%

As forecast, the last three months have continued to be difficult for the aluminium industry, even if the first signs of a global economic recovery seem to be taking shape.

Batch anodising

The batch anodising business has followed the trend seen since the start of the year, with €4,945,000 in sales for the first nine months of 2009, down 30.0% in relation to the first nine months of 2008.

Nevertheless, with €1,717,000 in sales, the third quarter of 2009 marks the start of a trend reversal, with business down 20.7% compared with the third quarter of 2008 (-28.5% in Q1 2009 vs. Q1 2008 ; -37.6% in Q2 2009 vs. Q2 2008).

Foreign exchange effects had a negative impact of €641,000 on sales for the first nine months; at constant exchange rates, business has contracted by 22.8% (-15.2% just for the third quarter of 2009).

Continuous anodising

In a sluggish global environment, the continuous anodising branch posted a slight sequential improvement in business over the third quarter of 2009, with consolidated sales for the period coming out at €3,924,000, down 19.7% in relation to the third quarter of 2008 (-32.8% in Q1 2009 vs. Q1 2008 ; -26% in Q2 2009 vs. Q2 2008).

For the first nine months of 2009, sales totalled €11,790,000, down 26.2% in relation to the previous year.

Outlook

In a still disrupted economic context, visibility remains limited, even if aluminium prices are picking up again, reflecting the slow and gradual upturn in demand.

In light of the sales and marketing efforts, combined with the improvement in distributor inventories, sales are expected to pick up again in 2010. Nevertheless, United Anodisers is maintaining a cautious

approach: strictly adapting production to demand and forging ahead with its global fixed cost reduction and industrial optimisation programme should enable the Group to return to profitability soon

NEXT DATE: 2009 sales in January 2010

To find out more, visit: www.coil.be

About UNITED ANODISERS (formerly Coil)

United Anodisers, a Belgian Group listed on Euronext Paris Eurolist C since June 26th, 1996, is the world's largest architectural and industrial anodiser, specialising in the surface treatment of aluminium extrusions, castings and flat-rolled products.

Anodising is an electrochemical process - electrolysis - that develops a natural and protective exterior layer on aluminium that can be coloured, providing exceptional corrosion protection and/or increased functionality for the metal.

Anodising preserves all the natural and ecological properties of aluminium - it retains its high strength-to-weight ratio, non-magnetic properties and exceptional corrosion resistance without any impact on the total and repeated recyclability of the metal.

Anodised aluminium is used across a wide range of architectural, designer, industrial and automotive applications.

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