

## apt Group Starts 2025 with Successful Production Optimization at its Monheim and Cheb Locations

Despite the challenging market conditions, the apt Group has used this economically demanding time to implement comprehensive modernization measures at its production sites in Monheim and Cheb

Monheim, January 21, 2025 – At the start of the new year, apt Group launched a new billet oven with preheating capabilities for the extrusion line P35 at its Monheim location.



Billet oven and preheating system by extrutech in use at apt: Sustainability, quality, and efficiency as priorities in the energy-optimized heating process

The new system optimizes the heating process of aluminum billets in three cutting-edge steps:

1. **Preheating:** Aluminum billets are preheated to 90°C using residual heat in a closed-loop system, minimizing evaporation losses.
2. **High-Convection Preheating Zone:** The billets are heated to 200°C before entering the main oven.

3. **Final Tempering:** In the main oven, the billets are further heated to approximately 400°C. An induction module ensures precise head temperatures to optimize the extrusion process.

#### Key benefits of the extrusion press modernization include:

1. **Increased energy efficiency:** Innovative technologies, such as multi-stage waste heat utilization, improve thermal efficiency by 15%.
2. **Improved product quality:** Consistent billet heating and precise control of profile temperatures ensure high-quality results in dimensional accuracy, strength, and surface finish.
3. **Higher metal yield:** Switching from a shear to a billet saw reduces material loss, enabling more efficient resource utilization.
4. **Lower tooling costs:** Reduced tool wear decreases operating costs while boosting productivity.

The company has also undertaken modernization efforts at the apt Cheb site (Czech Republic). On approximately 9,000 m<sup>2</sup>, apt processes aluminum sheets and profiles into sophisticated and complex products.

The newly commissioned compressed air system with a Kaeser compressor is now operating. The Kaeser air compressor is vital for generating compressed air and is an indispensable resource in many industrial processes, including apt Products Cheb. The compressor features frequency exchange control, allowing it to adjust in real-time to production demands. Additional integral components of the modernization include:

- A new air dryer
- A filtering cell
- An eco-friendly disposal system for condensation by-products

#### Key benefits include:

1. **Cost savings:** Optimized air supply significantly reduces energy costs.
2. **Sustainability:** Lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions contribute to achieving environmental goals.
3. **System reliability:** The design includes a backup system to prevent production downtime during compressor failure.

Michael Zint, CEO of the apt Group, expresses his satisfaction: *"The modernization of the extrusion line P35.0 and the compressed air system marks another milestone in our efforts to make production processes more efficient and sustainable. This enables us to continue combining top product quality with maximum resource conservation in the future."*

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## About apt:

The apt Group is one of the leading companies in the European aluminum industry. It produces, processes, and sells aluminum profiles and products for the construction, transport, automotive, and industrial sectors. The group is active at four production sites in Germany, the Netherlands, and the Czech Republic.

apt covers the entire aluminum processing value chain - from development, recycling, extrusion, mechanical processing, and surface finishing (anodizing and powder coating) to assembly and logistics. With around 1,000 employees, the apt Group generates an annual turnover of approximately 300 million euros.

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