



The aluminium industry and science get together



At the invitation of the European Aluminium Association (EAA), every year experts from the European aluminium industry get together with partners from the universities and research institutes in order to discuss research and technical developments in the aluminium branch. This year, AMAG hosted the meeting for the first time and was delighted to welcome to Ranshofen the attendees at the fourth EAA workshop, during which a report was provided on the current situation of the modelling of precipitation processes during rolling.

Under the auspices of the EAA, some years ago the European Aluminium Technology Platform (EATP) was founded with the aim of completing joint, co-ordinated R&D projects involving both industry and science. Moreover, apart from cooperation on R&D projects, another key assignment of the EATP initiative is the training of qualified young people for both the industrial and scientific fields. Within the EATP there are various working groups, which are focused on aluminium production, casting technology, surface technology and corrosion and the modelling of aluminium's microstructure.

As an active member of the no. 5 EATP working group, AMAG organized the fourth meeting on the topic of "The Modelling of Precipitation". Apart from AMAG employees, representatives from seven industrial companies including Aleris, Alcan, Hydro Aluminium, Novelis and Sapa participated in the workshop together with scientific partners such as the Light Metal Competence Center Ranshofen, the Leoben University of Mining and Metallurgy, the Vienna University of Technology, the HMI Berlin, the NTNU and SINTEF Norway, the RWTH Aachen, the Delft University of Technology and the University of Manchester.

Both the scientific and the industrial partners demonstrated extremely interesting approaches to modelling and software implementation in connection with formation and dissolution, as well as the distribution and morphology of precipitation in aluminium alloys, which contribute to a detailed understanding of the material and hence a cut in the development times required for innovative aluminium materials. In particular, the effects of complex heat treatment processes under industrial constraints can be modelled in an ever better and more precise manner with the primary result that expensive trials under serial conditions can be reduced to a minimum. ■

Prof. Ernst Kozeschnik

In future, Prof. Ernst Kozeschnik from the Institute for Material Sciences and Technology at the Vienna University of Technology, who is an acknowledged expert in the modelling of metallurgical structures and phase transitions, and one of the main developers of the "MatCalc" software, will be strengthening the AMAG's technological and scientific advisory committee.



Lecturer:

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Hirsch, Hydro Aluminium
 Dr. Christophe Sigli, Alcan CRV
 Prof. Dr. John Banhart, HMI Berlin
 Dr. Ole Runar Myhr, Hydro Aluminium
 Dr. Alexis Miroux, TU Delft
 Prof. Ernst Kozeschnik, TU Wien
 Dr. Joe Robson, University of Manchester
 Dr. Volker Mohles, IMM – RWTH Aachen
 Dr. Yanjun Li, SINTEF