

China Hongqiao Group – A Leading Global Aluminum Producer Moving from Heavy to Zero Carbon

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Abstract

Introducing China Hongqiao Group, from our aluminum beginning in 2001 to a leading global producer today.

A journey started by our founder Zhang Shipping to utilise available electricity generated in the power station built to supply steam for the Weiqiao textiles production facilities.

By 2015, aluminum smelting capacity had reached five million tonnes (Mt) and today we have 6.46 Mt licensed capacity under China's nationally approved aluminum production capacity of 45 Mt.

Over the course of the two decades of aluminum industry development, China Hongqiao has spread along the full aluminum value chain covering upstream, midstream, and downstream activities. This includes around 17 Mt of alumina capacity and an expanding footprint in the downstream sector. In addition, we are growing our involvement in the recycled aluminum space.

We are operating a modern energy-efficient fleet of aluminum smelters with an average age of less than 10 years and amperage of 400 kA to 600 kA, with additional technically advanced 600 kA potlines being added with the capacity relocation to Yunnan.

Current work involves the most dramatic shift in the Hongqiao aluminum story, relocating aluminum capacity from Shandong to Yunnan Province . . . an energy and environmental game-changer, from coal to hydro energy. Our Yunnan Hongtai & Honghe projects are in line with government objectives to optimize aluminum industry through supply side management, and to promote green development.

The China Hongqiao business model includes the complementary elements of industrial clusters and the delivery of hot metal direct to customers. The industrial clusters business model is built on the foundations of strategic partners and close commercial links to customers.

China Hongqiao is continuing scientific research and technological investment in the field of lightweight aluminum applications – and the creation of higher value products. Weiqiao is now partnering with CITIC Foundation and the University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in building an advanced industrial research Institute for Future Technology & Engineering. The goal is to build a platform for the integration of science, education, innovation, and production - and to promote industry-education integration and industrial innovation and to accelerate high-quality development.

China Hongqiao is working to advance a sustainable, environmentally responsible, and advanced technology aluminum industry, together with partners, customers, and other stakeholders, including national research institutions.

China Hongqiao Chairman Zhang Bo attaches great importance to environmental protection, energy conservation and sustainable development, with clean green production and higher value products as core business goals.

China has set goals of a carbon peak by 2030 and carbon neutralization by 2060 – and China Hongqiao is committed to meeting these national goals. A roadmap for achieving the twin carbon goals is in development and the presentation to ICSOBA will focus on the key issues facing the company and the key initiatives being taken to achieve carbon neutrality.

Keywords: China Hongqiao group, Efficient aluminum smelters, Sustainable aluminum industry, Technology innovation, Carbon neutrality goal.