

New Strategic Orientation of Alulight® International

At the beginning of 2005 Alulight® signed a cooperation agreement with the Fraunhofer Institute for manufacturing technology and applied material research in Bremen (IFAM, a division of Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft Germany). The mission of this organization is the promotion of applied research.

Fraunhofer is the largest Government funded research Institution in Europe.

The well established cooperation between IFAM and Alulight® in the area of metal foam technology will be strengthened further by this agreement. Between them, the two parties hold a large number of metal foam technology patents, and this cooperation is an ideal combination.

Alulight® of America was founded last year to serve the US domestic market. Global orientation will be further pursued and the establishment of a production site for

Alulight® of Japan is planned for the future.

The first production equipment has been installed at the new Alulight® building and more is under construction. Alulight® is therefore prepared for the requirements of a more demanding world market.

- A cold isostatic press was moved from MEPURA to the new Alulight® building.
- The purchase of a powder extrusion equipment allows Alulight to manufacture in-house, at lower cost, feedstock for certain applications. This price advantage opens up new markets for aluminum foam products. The aluminum raw material is being manufactured at MEPURA with consistently high quality using state of the art control procedures.
- A plate production unit is under construction and scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.



Aluminium foam plates of 1000 x 1500 x 40 mm will be produced, compared to the present size limit of 625 x 625 mm. Main applications are construction areas and fire protection.

- The planned semi automated production unit for three dimensional parts will enable Alulight® to transfer from the prototype stage into large volume production. This unit will primarily manufacture parts with stiffening and crash absorption properties for the automotive industry.
- Small symmetrical parts will be produced in an Inductive Foaming unit. Extensive tests and improvements were very convincing and reduced production cycles considerably.

