MISSION FUTURE

Environment and Sustainability

voestalpine Tubulars GmbH & Co KG
www.voestalpine.com/tubulars

voestalpine
ONE STEP AHEAD.

PERFORMANCE IN TUBULARS

Our world is based on high tech seamless pipes that can withstand the toughest conditions, day in, day out. We promise highest performance based on the core values customization, innovation, sustainability and responsibility.

CUSTOMIZATION

INNOVATION

SUSTAINABILITY

RESPONSIBILITY

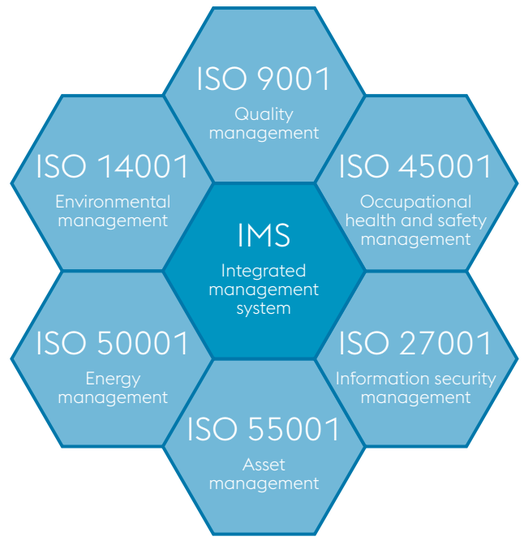
MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

The voestalpine Tubulars GmbH & Co KG facility in Kindberg has been registered as an EMAS site with an environmental management system certified in accordance with ISO 14001 since 1999.

The environmental management system is part of the integrated management system currently comprising 6 different certified management systems:

- ISO 9001 (quality management system)
- ISO 14001 (environmental management system)
- ISO 45001 (health and safety management system)
- ISO 50001 (energy management system)
- ISO 55001 (asset management system)
- ISO 27001 (information security management system)

In addition to three EMAS awards for the best environmental declaration, the company has so far received numerous other awards in the field of environmental practice (Ökoprofit, klima:aktiv).



The integration of the environmental management system into a fully integrated management system ensures all issues handled by the various systems receive equal treatment.

In addition, it enables synergistic effects to be utilized and unnecessary duplication to be avoided.

A unified system gives employees a greater understanding of the relevant company processes.

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE OF THE COMPANY

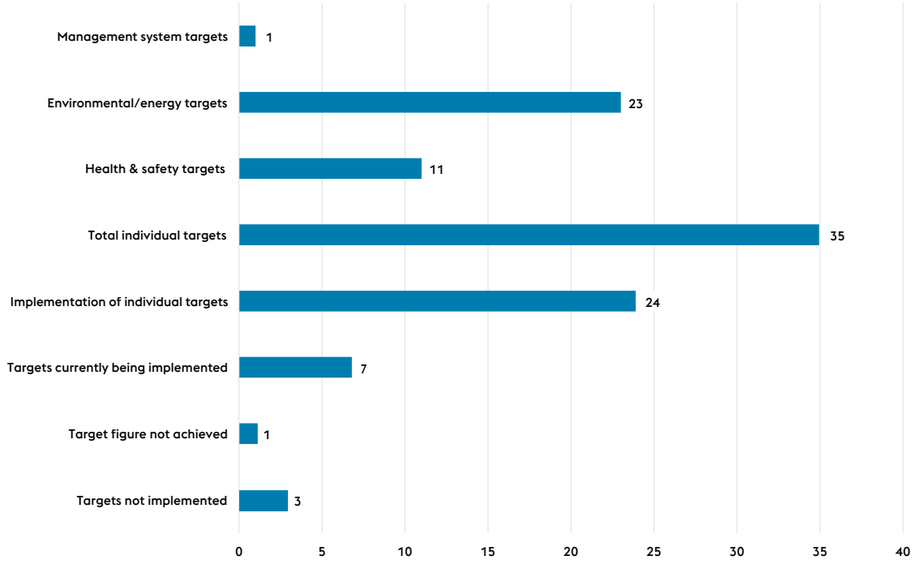
Environmental, energy and health & safety program:

A common environmental, energy and health & safety programme was defined for the financial year 2024/25 (01/04/2024 to 31/03/2025), with 35 individual targets specified for the following areas:

- Management system (1)
- Sustainability (2)
- Input materials (2)
- Waste (1)
- Water / waste water (3)
- Exhaust air (2)
- Energy (11)
- Transport (2)
- Safety (6)
- Health (5)

Achievement of individual targets from the 2024/25 program:

Of the 35 environmental, energy and health & safety targets set for FY 2024/25, 24 were achieved on time, which equates to an achievement rate of 68.6%.



7 targets have been carried over to the 2025/26 program with new implementation deadlines:

- Research and development activities for the substitution of PFAS (perchlorinated and polychlorinated alkyl compounds) in DryTec® paint by determining alternative raw materials
- Boosting transparency in the neutralization system area in the coupling shop by establishing new metrology
- Lowering energy consumption by ≥240 MWh/a in the production halls by integrating lighting sensors with installation of lighting control
- Reducing the energy consumption of air extraction systems in hollow sections finishing by >3 MWh per annum by modernizing the air extraction systems
- Improving the energy efficiency of hardening furnace 1 and reducing energy consumption by 1.2% by installing an energy-efficient recuperator
- Lowering the number of accidents in the hot-rolling mill by raising employee awareness through safety training – by holding a minimum of two training sessions per employee each year in coordination with the shift managers
- Boosting safety at work in the C9 crane area in boiler tube finishing by purchasing and commissioning a new crane featuring the latest safety technology and automatic notching device

The figure achieved for one target was just below the target figure:

- Target figure for health rate ≥95%, figure achieved: 94.21%

3 targets were not achieved within the scheduled timeframe for technical reasons:

- Improving the energy efficiency of tempering furnace 1 and reducing energy consumption by 1% by installing an energy-efficient recuperator (project postponed)
- Using district heat for the first expansion stage in maintenance operations, thereby saving approx. 170,000 m³ of natural gas by integrating district heat (project postponed due to high investment and ongoing costs)
- Increasing the maximum transport capacity per train to the North Sea ports from 20 to 27 wagons (project suspended by rail company as the hook load limit is exceeded at 27 wagons)

Individual targets for FY 2024/25 by area:

Management system

1 individual target was specified and implemented on schedule for the management system area.

- **Ensuring legal compliance** by implementing new Legal Compliance software (to replace the existing legal database) for legal and regulatory tasks with regular updating of legal provisions

Input materials

2 individual targets were specified for the input materials area, one of which was implemented on schedule; the other will continue in the FY 2025/26 IMS program:

- **Research and development activities for the substitution of PFAS (perchlorinated and polychlorinated alkyl compounds) in DryTec® paint** by determining alternative raw materials (ongoing project) – to continue in FY 2025/26
- **Standardized appearance for storage of different auxiliary and operating materials and tools** at workstations in the threading department with installation of auxiliary and operating materials boards – implemented

Waste

1 individual target was specified and implemented on schedule for the waste area:

- **Improved handling and ergonomic working in waste disposal** thanks to design and construction of an appropriate device

Water / waste water

3 individual targets were specified in the waste water area, two of which were implemented on schedule; the other will continue in the FY 2025/26 IMS program:

- **Hazardous incident prevention** with installation and commissioning of an oil separator in the overflow area of the water management system of the seamless tube rolling plant and an oil separator upstream of the discharge point into the receiving water – implemented
- **Adapting the ongoing pool cleaning process** (service instructions for pool cleaning in the hot-rolling mill water management were adapted) – implemented
- **Boosting transparency in the neutralization system area in the coupling shop** by establishing new metrology – being implemented (ongoing project) – to continue in FY 2025/26

Groundwater inspection:

Groundwater analyses must be carried out every two years in the area of the decommissioned building waste landfill site.

Industrial water is extracted from the groundwater using two deep wells owned by the company, circulated several times as cooling water and purified in several treatment plants before being discharged into the Mürz receiving water.

Fig.: Swans on the river next to the plant

Exhaust air

2 individual targets were specified and implemented on schedule for the exhaust air area.

- **Reducing workplace pollution when applying paint to the tube surface** with installation of a paint mist extraction system in boiler tube finishing
- **Avoiding emissions in the threading department** with acquisition of an electric forklift truck

Fig.: Paint mist extraction

Fig.: PV system

Energy

Eleven individual targets were specified in the energy area, six of which were implemented on schedule; the other three will continue in the FY 2025/26 IMS program. Two targets were not achieved or were postponed:

- **Increasing the regional share of own electricity from PV systems, hydropower plants and wind farms by 10%** by increasing the capacity of the energy generation systems (approx. 50% of the demand for electricity can be met by regional electricity generation – two PV systems with 7 GWh/a, two hydropower plants with 14.8 GWh/a and electricity from the Stanglalm and Hochpürschtling wind farms via Strompool Süd) – implemented
- **Reducing energy consumption in the production halls** by ≥240 MWh/a with integration of lighting sensors by installing lighting control (LED lighting and lighting sensors installed, excluding production hall extension TN21 and the coupling shop) – being implemented – to continue in FY 2025/26
- **≥10 MWh per year energy savings through recovery of braking energy** from motors by installing inverters with energy recovery in new inverters in the hollow sections finishing line (transport and saw system parts were equipped with inverters and commissioned – energy saving of 163.2 MWh) – implemented
- **Reducing the energy consumption of extraction systems in hollow sections finishing line by >3 MWh/a** by modernizing the air extraction systems (old air extraction systems replaced by new systems with inverters) – one system still being implemented – to continue in FY 2025/26
- **Improving energy efficiency in hardening furnace 1 and reducing energy consumption by 1.2%** with installation of a more energy-efficient recuperator (installation postponed until the 2025 operational shutdown due to lengthy processing and delivery times) – to continue in FY 2025/26
- **Improving the energy efficiency of tempering furnace 1 and reducing energy consumption by 1%** by installing an energy-efficient recuperator (project postponed indefinitely) – not implemented
- **Using district heat for the first expansion stage in maintenance operations,** thereby saving approx. 170,000 m³ of natural gas by integrating district heat (approx. 1 MW) and supply for the first expansion stage (TA1, TF-PRZ, TF technical laboratory, TA, assembly hall) – project postponed due to high investment and ongoing costs – not implemented
- **Installing central cooling for the scaffolding workshop area,** thereby saving 10 kg of refrigerant and reducing the number of systems by 5 by establishing a central cooling supply for this area (system implemented – a saving of 16 systems and 16.7 kg of refrigerant) – implemented
- **Installing central cooling for the TN31 line 1 area,** thereby saving 5 kg of refrigerant and reducing the number of systems by 5 by establishing a central cooling supply for this area (cooling system implemented on lines 1 and 2 – a saving of 9 systems and 20 kg of refrigerant) – implemented
- **Reducing specific energy consumption in the reheating furnace** compared to BU 2023 by repairing the reheating furnace floor and structurally adapting the reheating furnace floor and the steel substructure for optimized insulation (3.16% reduction in energy consumption) – implemented
- **Preventing undesirable exchange of air between the outside air and the inside of the production hall when the roller shutters are open during the colder months** with installation of new cold air barrier systems on the two roller shutters MT15 and MT17 in the coupling shop – implemented

Transport

2 individual targets were specified in the transport area, one of which will be achieved on schedule; the other will not be implemented for technical reasons:

- **Doubling intermodal transports** (increase in transports by >120% from 1,812,746 kg in FY 2023/24 to more than 4,000,000 kg in FY 2024/25) – implemented
- **Increasing the maximum transport capacity per train to the North Sea ports** from 20 to 27 wagons in cooperation with partners CB and RCA (project suspended by rail company as at 27 wagons, the hook load limit is exceeded) – not implemented

Fig.: Continuous rail network from the production site to numerous destinations

Safety

6 targets were specified in the occupational health & safety area, four of which were implemented on schedule. Two targets were not fully implemented and will be continued as part of the IMS program in FY 2025/26.

- **Reducing occupational accidents by 10%** – LTIFR figure max. 8.1 by continuing the "consciously safe" program and ongoing measures to raise employee awareness as well as implementation of the "handle safely" and "near-accidents" campaigns (LTIFR figure in FY 2024/25 – April 2024 to March 2025: 7.98) – implemented
- **Improved transfer of knowledge of applicable safety regulations for external companies** at the Kindberg site with creation of a document ("General safety regulations for external companies" brochure) as a summary of existing regulations – implemented
- Boosting safety at work **in the C9 crane area in** boiler tube finishing by purchasing and commissioning a new crane featuring the latest safety technology and automatic notching device – being implemented (ongoing project) – to continue in FY 2025/26
- **Improvement in occupational safety in the event of operational shutdowns of more than one week** through deactivation of the media supply and marking of the deactivation by means of feedback in SAP and confirmation via maintenance plan (protective covers produced – task with detailed description of measures for the First Level Team created as a recurring appointment in Teams tasks) – implemented
- **Reduction in accident figures at hot-rolling mill** by raising employee awareness through safety training (at least two training sessions per employee each year) – being implemented (ongoing project) – to continue in FY 2025/26
- **Avoidance of eye injuries in the coupling shop** through training courses, mini-workshops and regular sessions on the topic of "eye injuries" and "wearing safety goggles" (no accident with eye injury in the coupling shop in 2024 – all employees received instruction on the topic of avoiding eye injuries) – implemented

Health

5 targets were specified in the area of health promotion, four of which were implemented on schedule. The target figure was not quite achieved for 1 of the targets.

- **Reaching a high health level** (target figure: health rate ≥95%) with implementation of preventive health measures (health rate in FY 2024/25 – April 2024 to March 2025: 94.21%) – figure achieved just below target value
- **Obtaining the BGF seal of approval** of the Austrian Network for Workplace Health Promotion for the years 2025–2027 by fulfilling the 15 central quality criteria – implemented
- **Increasing new registrations for the "echt gesund center"** by >40 new registrations over 2023 by maintaining occupational health management presence, boosting health awareness through targeted measures, expanding the "echt gesund center" and new programs (438 registrations for use of the "echt gesund center" in 2024) – implemented
- **High level of participation in occupational health management programs** with >1,500 registrations due to high number of occupational health management programs, measures, high presence of occupational health management activities and occupational health management communication (2,183 registrations for BGM activities in 2024) – implemented
- **Reducing noise and vibrations caused by a high-pressure descaling pump in the metal workshop in hot-rolling mill** by establishing a concept for suitable installation locations and budget survey – implemented

SUSTAINABILITY

2 individual targets were defined for sustainability and were implemented on schedule:

- **Establishment of a sustainability organization** by defining responsibilities and tasks in relation to sustainability requirements (overall coordination and areas of competence CSRD, CBAM, EU-ETS, CSDDD, EU taxonomy, customers, Green Claims of voestalpine Tubulars) and integration into the sustainability organization of the Metal Engineering Division and the Group at large
- **Publishing the sustainability strategy and all measures already implemented** to reduce the ecological footprint by creating a sub-site ("Sustainability" category) on the website and in the myTubulars app as well as publishing the "Mission Future" brochure

Divisional sustainability management

Sustainability is an integral component of the environmental and energy management at voestalpine Tubulars. In 2022, a sustainability management was established within the Division. All business units, including voestalpine Tubulars, have set up special organizational units for sustainability. Regular discussions make it possible to define and roll out sustainability measures across the Group. The Group has established climate targets and publishes a detailed CR report on an annual basis.

Core topics of the sustainability management include:

- Sustainability strategy:
  - Organisational structure for sustainability
  - Market development (green steel)
  - Certifications and gradings (ESG, EPD, CDP, SBTi, ISO, EcoVadis)
  - Circular economy
  - Energy efficiency potential – reduction in greenhouse gas emissions
- "Road to Zero" decarbonization program
  - Production processes (natural gas)
  - Heating (natural gas)
  - Vehicle fleet (fuels)
- Sustainability communication guidelines
  - Basic knowledge of sustainability
  - Transformation steps
  - Energy supply
  - Green products
- Projects
  - Examples: Waste heat utilization, PV system, hydropower plants, hydrogen
- Sustainable procurement
  - Group-wide project
  - Consideration of social and ecological risks and effects of suppliers within the supply chain management
  - Establishment of a sustainable supply chain as an essential component of the sustainability strategy

EcoVadis

In 2024, voestalpine Tubulars underwent a sustainability assessment by EcoVadis and achieved platinum status, obtaining a score of 75 out of a maximum of 100 for its very first assessment.

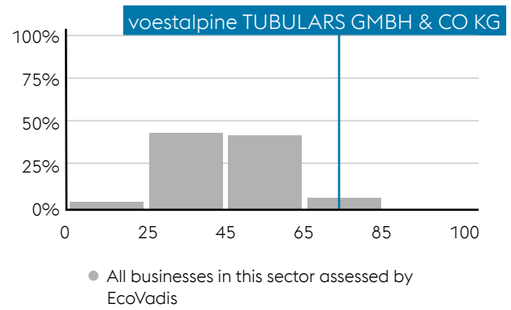
This score means the 98th percentile, placing voestalpine Tubulars among the top 1% of the 100,000 companies assessed by EcoVadis.

In the course of an EcoVadis sustainability assessment, the following focus topics are taken into consideration:

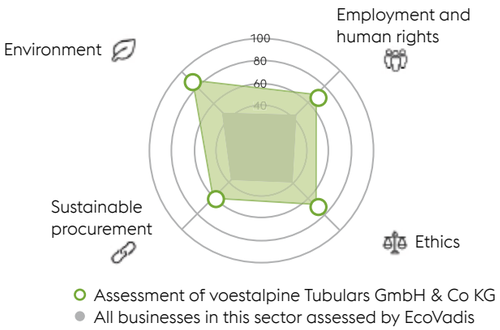
- Environment
- Ethics
- Employment and human rights
- Sustainable procurement

EcoVadis-Score-Card:

Distribution of overall ratings



Topic points score comparison



In terms of the environment in particular, an above-average score of 90 out of 100 was achieved.

A score of 70 out of 100 was achieved for employment and human rights and for ethics, with employment and human rights being given a higher weighting in the overall assessment.

In the area of sustainable procurement, a score of 60 out of 100 was achieved, making this the lowest scoring area for the company.

Fig.: EcoVadis stickers

Sustainability projects

Photovoltaic systems

In February 2023, the first photovoltaic power plant with an output of 4,200 kWp installed on the roof of the seamless pipe rolling mill commenced operations. A total of 10,200 photovoltaic modules were installed parallel to the roof over an area of 15,400 m². The plant features a central SMA inverter with a peak output of 4,200 kW, which represents a novel innovation for large industrial facilities. The plant is integrated into the internal 20 kV medium-voltage grid via a 20 kV transformer located next to the inverter, thereby reducing the number of inverters required from no fewer than 40 down to one. This configuration helps to simplify maintenance work considerably, offers improved lightning protection and enhances safety in the factory grid by minimizing potential hazards in the event of transformer disconnection. voestalpine Tubulars views this installation as a flagship project for the industry.

Fig.: PV system on roof of seamless tube rolling mill

In March 2024, a second photovoltaic power plant with an output of 3,100 kWp installed on the roofs of a number of production and storage facilities commenced operations. 7,600 photovoltaic modules were installed over 11,300 m² of roof area, spread over fifteen different roof structures. The plant also uses the central inverter configuration. A steel bridge was erected between coupling and protective cap production as a way to bundle the energy from different roof areas and facilitate access for maintenance.

Fig.: PV plant in the coupling shop area

The large photovoltaic systems on industrial roofs are a significant contributor to environmental protection thanks to their clean generation of renewable energy and reduced carbon emissions. The innovative technical implementation involving central inverters not only improves efficiency, but also maintenance and safety, thereby further enhancing the sustainability and operational reliability of the plants.

Heat recovery

When producing seamless tubes, voestalpine Tubulars heats the solid blocks of steel known as blooms to 1,300°C in the rotary hearth furnace. Working with Bioenergie, as much as 4 MW of waste heat is extracted and used to supply heat to the Kindberg municipality, helping to save up to 3,400 tons of carbon emissions in the process.

voestalpine Tubulars has installed a special chimney to recover heat and to centrally collect the exhaust emissions from the rotary hearth furnace. Bioenergie installed a heat exchanger containing 1,536 water-carrying tubes. A dedicated pumping station supplies the recovered heat to Kindberg's new district heating network.

Bioenergie's 4 MW biomass heating plant serves as a backup and addition to waste heat utilization powered by waste from the wood and agricultural industries. The 9 km long district heating line runs underground through Kindberg, supplying its industrial and residential districts, as well as public buildings, such as the "Volkshaus", primary school, sports hall and housing estates since September 2023.

voestalpine Tubulars also uses a portion of the thermal energy produced by Bioenergie to heat its buildings, thereby securing a reliable, environmentally-friendly heat supply.

Fig.: The new district heating plant for heat recovery at voestalpine Tubulars

Hydropower

voestalpine Tubulars utilizes renewable energy from two hydropower plants on the River Mürz, operated by Wien Energie.

Mürz hydropower plant in Kindberg-Aumühl:

- Output: 2,005 kW
- Drop height: 10.5 m
- Flow rate: 21 m^3/s
- Equipment: Kaplan turbine (axial flow with bevel gears) which powers the synchronous generator.
- Integration: Power is fed into the internal UW2 substation via a block transformer and medium-voltage cable. Control is handled by a Siemens S7 Simatic control unit, which is monitored online.
- Grid stabilization: Is used by APG for tertiary and secondary control in order prevent blackouts.

Fig.: Mürz hydropower plant in Aumühl

Mürz hydropower plant in Mürzhofen:

- Output: 1,361 kW
- Drop height: 6.7 m
- Flow rate: 22.2 m^3/s
- Equipment: Axial turbine with bevel gears and horizontal shaft.
- Integration: Power is fed into the plant's UW3 substation.
- Grid stabilization: Also used by APG for grid stabilization.

The two power plants are expected to generate 14,753 GWh of electricity each year in total and thereby contribute significantly to the renewable energy supply and grid stability.

Fig.: Aerial view of the Stanglalm wind farm area

Wind farms

The electricity purchasing pool for the voestalpine sites in Styria has concluded a multi-year PPA agreement with Windheimat for the exclusive supply of the voestalpine sites. With forecast annual energy generation of 90 GWh for the Stanglalm wind farm and 45 GWh for the farm in Hochpürschtling, the two wind farms will also supply voestalpine Tubulars with around 8% of the annual quantities generated.

This results in a forecast wind energy supply of 10.8 GWh each year for voestalpine Tubulars.

E-charging stations

Since 2024, voestalpine Tubulars employees and external parties have been able to access 14 charging stations in the car parks at the front of the site and 14 inside the plant itself.

The maximum charging capacity of each station is 22 kW, which means that electric cars can be fully charged within an average of two to three hours. The E-charging stations are supplied the company's own PV system.

Energy efficiency projects according to the action plan

voestalpine Tubulars has been certified in accordance with the international standard ISO 50001 since 2012. As part of the certification, an annual action plan to define the energy efficiency projects needs to be created and then published in the annual management review.

Since the introduction of the action plan, a total of 29 major projects have been completed, resulting in total energy savings of 31,626 MWh per year.

The projects that have resulted in the greatest energy savings (> 1,000 MWh per year) are as follows:

- 2023: Adaptation of the rotary hearth furnace – 3,930 MWh per year (furnace space expanded, new burner)
- 2023: Heat recovery – 6,673 MWh per year (supplied to the district heating network)
- 2023: Hardening furnace 1 – 1,208 MWh per year (exhaust system improved)
- 2018: Tempering furnace 1 – 1,705 MWh per year (air vents replaced)
- 2017: Tempering furnace 1 – 3,135 MWh per year (furnace control)
- 2016: Hardening furnace 1 – 1,978 MWh per year (installation of low NOx torch)
- 2014: Hardening furnace 1 – 5,495 MWh per year (implementation of tracking system, recovery heat exchanger)

Energy efficiency projects in the 2024 calendar year:

- Low-pressure tube blank furnace – 312 MWh per year (installation of low-pressure air generator)
- Compressed air – 114 MWh/a (installation of a higher efficiency air compressor)
- LED production hall lighting – 150 MWh/a (LED and daylight control)
- Energy-efficient refurbishment of production hall roof – 300 MWh/a (CT and technical laboratory area)
- 2nd door air curtains for the coupling shop – 34 MWh per year (reduced heat loss)
- Roller basket workshop hall heating – 40 MWh/a (installation of bright radiators with control)

The energy efficiency projects in 2024 have the potential to save a total of 950 MWh per year.

Sustainable products

Dope-free threaded connections (DryTec®)

voestalpine Tubulars developed the DryTec® product, starting with the project concept in 2008 and the subsequent launch of series production in 2016. DryTec® is a dope-free alternative for premium connections that boosts efficiency and safety during pipe installation while protecting the environment. The benefits of DryTec® include:

- Ready-to-install threaded connections that make handling easier and conserve resources.
- Avoidance of blockages and failure due to excess thread compound.
- Additional corrosion protection during transport and storage.
- No need to use water to remove transport/storage compound.
- Reduced environmental pollution and enhanced safety for on-site personnel.

Pipes and systems for hydrogen management

voestalpine Tubulars is currently working on a total of twenty R&D projects aimed at developing solutions for hydrogen management. The focal points are:

Material development: High-strength steels (up to 500 MPa) and ultra-high-strength steels (up to 1,000 MPa) for high-pressure hydrogen up to 1,000 bar.

Threaded connections: Hydrogen-tight connections, such as VAhyper®, for underground and high-pressure storage tanks.

Stationary storage systems: Tubes sealed with screwed end caps for flexible storage solutions with variable pressure levels, TÜV-approved.

Mobile storage systems: Development of a steel hydrogen transport container (H2RailTube) and steel cylinders for fuel cell vehicles.

Product solutions for geothermal energy

voestalpine Tubulars offers standard tubes (OCTG) in accordance with API specification 5CT for geothermal applications. These tubes feature Proprietary Connections, such as VAsuperior®, which ensure gas-tightness and the integrity of the wells. These tubes also feature thermal insulation and offer a longer service life as well as higher flow rates.

ToughTubes® – thermomechanically rolled seamless steel tubes

Since 2008, voestalpine Tubulars has marketed ToughTubes® seamless steel tubes with maximum strength and resilience. With a production volume of approx. 25,000 tons per year, this technology saves around 3,750 tons of carbon emissions annually by avoiding additional energy-intensive heat treatment.

Proprietary Grades – EP and XP

Depending on the dimensions, Weight savings of between 15% and 20% are possible, as wall thicknesses can be reduced while maintaining the same performance level or better.

Seamless tubes made from greentec steel

voestalpine is committed to reducing carbon emissions by 2030 by hybridizing the production route with introduction of a smart electric arc furnace (EAF). The greentec steel project aims to produce steel pipes with lower CO_2 emissions. Alternative alloy models are also being developed in parallel to guarantee product quality.

Timetable with milestones for greentec steel:

greentec steel by voestalpine

2022
Supervisory Board green lights greentec steel transformation project: Start of preliminary work

2023
Supervisory Board approves €1.5 billion investment in electric arc furnaces (EAFs) in Linz and Donawitz
Ground-breaking ceremonies for the EAFs in Linz and Donawitz – Austria's largest climate protection program

2024
Construction starts on both EAFs

2027
Commissioning of electric arc furnaces in Linz and Donawitz and decommissioning of two coal-fired furnaces

From 2027
2.5 m tons of CO_2-reduced steel annually

To 2029
Target: -30% CO_2 emissions
From 2030 to 2035
Further replacement of one furnace each in Linz and Donawitz
Target reduction of -50% in CO_2 emissions

2050
The goal is to produce steel with net zero CO_2 emissions

Sustainable processes

voestalpine Tubulars decarbonization concept

As part of the NEFI greensteel project (NEFI = New Energy for Industry), a decarbonization concept is being developed together with project partner AIT for the voestalpine Tubulars production site. More specifically, all processes involving the use of fossil fuels are being reviewed and a switch to potential alternative energy sources is being looked into on the basis of certain scenarios.

These reviews are focusing on natural gas-fired heating furnaces, whereby half of the emissions are produced by one main heating unit; the rotary hearth furnace.

As part of this project, a comprehensive concept for climate-neutral steel production is being developed in six project phases:

- Identifying carbon-neutral energy sources to replace natural gas in steel processing
- Developing efficient industrial furnaces that can be heated with 100% carbon-neutrality
- Ensuring high product quality when switching to carbon-neutral energy sources
- Demonstrating the developed concepts and technologies at real production sites for various voestalpine product lines
- Preparing to scale and transfer the concepts and technologies to other production sites within the voestalpine Group and in other sectors
- Obtaining social acceptance and trust in the developed solutions

Demand scenarios are calculated for the possible alternative energy sources, namely electricity, hydrogen, biogas and wood gas, and the carbon footprint is established on this basis. The decarbonization concept for the production site is then developed on the basis of these scenarios. As a matter of course, other processes such as building heating or on-site transport will also be reviewed with regard to decarbonization.

Hydrogen as an alternative energy source for heating and transport processes

Hydrogen is being closely considered as an alternative energy source. These considerations are also taking place in line with the national hydrogen strategy for Austria, which is being developed under the leadership of the Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology (BMK). Internal plant considerations range from demand, on-site distribution, potential on-site generation, e.g. surplus energy from photovoltaic and hydropower plants, to the purposeful use of hydrogen in processes, primarily heating and transport processes.

Using hydrogen in testing technology for our product developments closes the on-site loop.

In addition to reviewing the hydrogen compatibility of all burners, installation parts and pipelines in the heating furnaces, the impact of the hydrogen found in the flue gas on product quality is also being scientifically investigated as part of a cooperation project with university partners. According to current findings, the main impact would be on scaling on the steel surface and the decarburization depth in the edge area of the tube near to the surface.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM 2025/26

For the FY 2025/26 (01/04/2025 to 31/03/2026), a quality, environmental, energy, health & safety, asset management and information security program has been drawn up and approved by the executive management.

No.	Topic	Target	Program	Managed by	Deadline
MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS					
1	ECM certification	Approval for internal rail-bound vehicles to use the public railway network	Obtaining ECM certification for the maintenance of rail-bound vehicles	TM	September 2025
SUSTAINABILITY					
2	Greenhouse gas report	Knowledge of the company's current greenhouse gas emissions and that of the product	Annual update and verification of the greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with ISO 14064-1 and ISO 14067	TM	March 2026
INPUT MATERIALS					
3	Mandrel lubricant	Use of a more environmentally responsible and health-friendly mandrel lubricant	Replacement of the existing mandrel lubricant with a boron-free lubricant	TN1	February 2026
WASTE					
4	Overview of waste collection points	Overview of company waste collection points	Creation of an up-to-date overview of waste collection points at the site	TM2	February 2026
5	Hot-rolling mill waste storage	Optimization of storage and marking of waste in the seamless tube rolling plant	Execution of a project as part of "Ökoprofit"	TM2	February 2026
6	Paperless administration	Reduction of paper waste in the cutting section	Work papers sent to workstations in digital format	TN31	February 2026
WATER/WASTE WATER					
7	Cleaning system for system components and vehicles	Targeted collection of all washing water from the cleaning system and discharge into the public sewer system	Establishment of a central cleaning system for system components and company vehicles in the hot-rolling mill area	TA3	December 2025
8	Indirect discharge neutralization	Reduction of nitrate and nitrite input into the Mürz receiving water through waste water from the neutralization plant	Indirect discharge of waste water from the coupling phosphatization neutralization plant	TM	December 2025

EXHAUST AIR					
9	Grinding area extraction system	Reduction of workplace pollution at the grinding area in the coupling shop	Installation of a new extraction system for grinding work	TN32	February 2026
10	Tool changing head workshop ambient air	Improvement of the ambient air in the tool changing head workshop in the coupling shop	Replacement of the existing gas radiators with electric radiators and installation of an air-conditioning unit	TN32	February 2026
ENERGY					
11	klima:aktiv	Award for a project submission on the topic of energy efficiency	Completion of a project as part of klima:aktiv	TM2	October 2025
12	Compressed-air production	10% reduction in energy consumption and reduction in maintenance costs for compressed-air production	Production of compressed air using a screw and turbo compressor	TA	March 2026
13	Water management CT and heat treatment line 2 modernization	Energy saving in water management CT (>951 MWh/a) and heat treatment line 2 (>529 MWh/a)	Needs-based supply of industrial water through process optimization and system modernization	TA2	February 2026
14	Cutting section L1 and finishing heating control	1% gas saving for production hall heating in cutting section L1 and finishing	Integration of remaining bright gas radiators into the existing control with installation of additional controllers	TA4	October 2025
15	Hardening furnace 1 floor refurbishment	Energy saving in hardening furnace 1 with 1% energy loss reduction	Refurbishment of furnace floor with repair of refractory materials	TN2	February 2026
16	Production hall temperature optimization	Constant production hall temperature of 18 °C throughout the day in cutting operation during the winter season	Establishment of an automatic control system	TN31	February 2026
TRANSPORT					
17	Intermodal transport	Establishment of a sustainable supply chain solution for transport	Development of a new intermodal concept with rail collection and onward transport by trucks	KL	September 2025

SAFETY					
18	Improved work safety	Reduction in occupational accidents to a maximum LTIFR value of 7.3, equivalent to a 10% reduction on the year before	Continuation of the “consciously safe” program, safety discussions, improvement of initial training for new employees, monthly focus topics	TM3	March 2026
19	Tube sample manipulation	Safe handling and easier handling of tube samples in incoming goods inspection of oilfield tube finishing	Construction of a manipulator in the Trennjäger area	TN2	February 2026
20	Ear protection	Ensuring the use of ear protection at high-noise workstations in the cutting section	Raising employee awareness through training, mini-workshops and regular sessions on the topic of “wearing ear protection”	TN3	February 2026
21	Exoskeletons	Reducing physical strain on employees at selected workstations	Selection of suitable exoskeletons for the cutting section	TM3	May 2025
22	Safety inspection checklist	Help with carrying out safety inspections	Creation of a checklist for safety inspections	TM3	December 2025
HEALTH					
23	Improving health	Reaching a high health level with a health rate of ≥94.5%	Implementation of preventative health measures	TM4	March 2026
24	Mental health management measures	Maintaining occupational health management presence and increasing health awareness	High number of occupational health management measures and programs of >50/year	TM4	January 2026
25	Occupational health management participation rate	High participation rate for occupational health management courses and events of >30% of the average number of employees	Target group-oriented measures planning, participation	TM4	January 2026


H_2
Hydrogen H_2
zero emission

MISSION FUTURE 2025/06/15

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