



Yarın

1966'dan beri Bilecik'in 50 yıllık gündemi

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Industrialist Mehmet Arslan commented on the new billet facility worth of 50 million USD

"THE GOAL OF ARSLAN ALÜMİNYUM IS TO BECOME ONE OF THE TOP 100 COMPANIES IN THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC"



Cafer Elmas

Mehmet Arslan, Chairman of Board of Directors of Arslan Aluminum Factory, talked to our newspaper about the new Billet Facility with 240 thousand tons

capacity that will be founded in 10 thousand sqm area. He mentioned the goals of Arslan Alüminyum and indicated that the Company aims to become one of the top 100 industrial corporations in Turkey.

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“THE GOAL OF ARSLAN ALÜMİNYUM IS TO BECOME ONE OF THE TOP 100 COMPANIES IN THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC”

Mehmet Arslan, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Arslan Alüminyum, gave us a tour of the new billet facility that has been started to be founded on 10 thousand sqm indoor area and emphasized that the value of this investment is 50 million USD and the facility will be capable of meeting all billet raw material needs of Turkey.

Mehmet Arslan also talked about the 3rd Organized Industrial Zone and indicated that it is impossible for the industrialists to have facilities in this zone due to certain logical mistakes and he also does not want to have a facility in the 3rd Organized Industrial Zone under the existing circumstances.

“The value of the billet facility investment is 50 million USD”.

Industrialist Mehmet Arslan, who has provided us with information about billet product, which is a mixture of half scrap product and half original product, reported that “the new facility to be founded will be the smelting facility of Arslan Alüminyum. We manufacture semi-finished products by blending the recycled dormant scraps with original products in this facility. These products are used in the Turkish and global markets. Arslan Alüminyum also needs such raw materials and the main idea actually emerged due to our needs for the raw materials. However, we planned the capacity so high that we even sell those materials to other companies. In the recent years, we have been exporting the products to Canada, Bulgaria and Germany. In our facility, our purpose is to manufacture original semi-finished products that consist of 50 percent original and 50 percent scraps instead of producing and shipping original products. Such product is called “billet”.



We designed this facility with 240 thousand tons capacity, but we first founded the section with 120 thousand tons capacity. This means that we can manufacture 10 thousand tons per month. This investment is worth of 50 million USD. We will quickly make the construction of this investment by partly completing some machine sections at certain intervals in several years.

“The goal of Arslan Alüminyum is top 100”

The raw materials production of this facility are sufficient to meet all needs in Turkey. Canada ask for the purchase of the entire capacity, but we need this product in the domestic market. We sell them a certain part of our production and that is how we shaped our market. After commissioning this facility fully, we will be exporting more materials. If we can export those materials at such level, we will definitely be one of the top 500 and top 100 industrial corporations. The goal of Arslan Alüminyum in the 100th anniversary of the Republic is to become one of the 100 corporations. Arslan Alüminyum will achieve the maximum target and will be one of the top 100 corporations in Turkey in the 100th anniversary of the Republic.

“Americans said this man is crazy”

After meeting our own needs, we sell this product to our customers in other countries. This facility will also work based on this principle. 240 thousand tons is a significant figure for my country. We will surely not stop after achieving this figure. For this facility, we import the machines and equipment from the USA. We are bringing here the most sophisticated technology in the world. The Americans asked us about our goal. When they asked ‘what is your next goal’, I replied ‘1 million tons’. They said: ‘this man is crazy’. If I can achieve 240 thousand tons target, I will surely set my next target as 1 million tons. This is definitely a very significant figure in the world. I never stop in relation with my targets. If you ask me ‘what happens if you can reach 1 million tons target, I can say that this is how the world giants grow. A man without a goal can never be successful’.

“When I came to Bilecik, its population was 19 thousand people”

Mehmet Arslan also indicated that when he first came to Bilecik in 1986 and founded the facility there, the population of the city was 19 thousand people, but its population has currently reached 67 thousand. During this period of time, Arslan Alüminyum has constructed 3 more factories in Bilecik and he also emphasized that he earns money in Bilecik and makes investments in Bilecik. Also, he invests the money that he earns in the other cities to Bilecik. “We invest our money to Bilecik because we now feel that this is our hometown. We have 500 workers and we are like a family with all of them. Arslan Alüminyum is a very big family with its workers. Most of our workers live in the lodging buildings of our factory and we are starting to construct new lodging buildings”.

“We will found Aluminum Organized Industrial Zone”

Providing information about 1 million sqm facility, Mehmet Arslan indicated that Arslan Alüminyum will probably found its own Aluminum Organized Industrial Zone.

“Now, people ask me if I will purchase a land in the 3rd Organized Industrial Zone”. “I reply that I am talking about 1 million sqm area. My own Organized Industrial Zone will probably be a private and independent Organized Industrial Zone. I need minimum 1 million sqm area. Yes, we will found an Aluminum Organized Industrial Zone”.

If you want to grow an industry, you should think and plan at least 5 times more than the existing capacity. In fact, Arslan Alüminyum grew from 5 thousand sqm to 40 thousand sqm area. Currently, our level is approximately 350 thousand sqm. Our next target is 1 million sqm area.

“Our top target is to complete 240 thousand tons now”

Currently, the big corporations in Turkey convert their big areas into private Organized Industrial Zones and receive all investments and incentives in the status of Organized Industrial Zones. Our top target is to complete 240 thousand tons now. This is the sufficient level to meet all needs of Turkey.

If all border gates would be closed tomorrow, I could meet all raw material needs in Turkey. Based on this capacity, I can supply 100 thousand tons to Turkey. I have colleagues that do this business as well. They can produce 50 thousand tons, 40 thousand tons and 30 thousand tons. If I supply 100 thousand tons out of this share, I will export the remaining 140 thousand tons to other countries.

“We manufacture our products according to the European standards”.

What will China and the USA do? What will Europe do? Everybody thinks about this right now. Will be join the European Union or not? But I am telling in relation with the membership of the European Union that we already manufacture our products according to the European standards. We make production with residual profile and various materials. I am trying to make new investments in the interior areas within the factory after such a long period of time.

“Industrialists better understand the problems of industrialists’
“No industrialists will come to the 3rd Organized Industrial Zone under these circumstances’

The businessman Mehmet Arslan also made assessments about the 3rd Organized Industrial Zone, which is currently in the phase of establishment and mentioned the mistakes made.

The industrialist Mr. Arslan said:
“Organized Industrial Zones are founded. Who are founding and managing those Organized Industrial Zones? If the 1st Organized Industrial Zone is fully occupied now, this is a result of our special efforts. Is there any industrialist in the 2nd Organized Industrial Zone? Why don’t the industrialists purchase lands there? It is impossible to manage the industry based on civil servant’s mentality. These words are bitter, but this is the reality. As an industrialist, I consider that if the 3rd Organized Industrial Zone is founded, it is impossible to find any industrialists coming to such Organized Industrial Zone based on this mentality. If the Organized Industrial Zone is not managed by an industrialist, I will not purchase a land there. Industrialists better understand the problems of industrialists. We do not think about buying land in the 3rd Organized Industrial Zone under these existing circumstances.

“The 3rd Organized Industrial Zone would be like Bilecik-Yenişehir Road based on this mentality”

The 3rd Organized Industrial Zone has been tried to be founded for a very long period of time. Why do the Chamber of Commerce and Municipality intend to buy a share there? Everybody wants to buy a share. The Special Administration should be in the management of the Organized Industrial Zone, but also an industrialist should participate in the management. The reason why the 1st Organized Industrial Zone is so successful is that the Governor provided us with the required assistance at that time. Everything was going so smoothly. We exerted great efforts together with a couple of other industrialists there. At that time, the Governor Refik Arslan Öztürk was thinking based on the industrialist’s mentality. Therefore, I will definitely not be a part of the 3rd Organized Industrial Zone under the existing circumstances. It seems that the 3rd Organized Industrial Zone would be like Yenişehir-Bilecik Road, meaning that it would take years for fill this organized industrial zone. First of all, the sizes of the parcels in the Organized Industrial Zones to be founded should be close to each other. These factors should be considered in advance. It should be declared that “I will bring an industrial corporation on 50 thousand sqm here or I will bring an industrial group on 100 thousand sqm here”. The corporations that occupy 5 thousand sqm and occupy 100 thousand sqm have equal voting rights. There is no balance here. We still have this problem in the 1st Organized Industrial Zone. The corporation that has 5 thousand sqm parcel and the corporation that has 100 thousand sqm parcel have the same rights, there is no balance here. It should be very well calculated and planned while founding the Organized Industrial Zones”.

While the industrialist Mehmet Arslan showed the area where the new facility is located, he also indicated that there is another 10 thousand sqm area that investment can be made in addition to this facility area.

