



ESTAL CONGRESS 2025 30. October 2025

What are key topics in the surface finishing industry?

The European surface treatment industry discussed current developments, global market trends and recent innovations at the ESTAL Congress 2025.

Von Editorial team | Lesedauer: 4 Minuten



Different speakers contributed with their expertise in surface treatment to ESTAL Congress 2025.

From 1 to 3 October 2025, the surface treatment industry gathered in Thessaloniki at the ESTAL Congress 2025 to exchange views on current developments, global market trends, and new finishing processes. The extensive programme and personal and professional discussions provided important impulses for all participants. Industry experts brought contributed their extensive experience, making the event a hands-on platform for technology transfer at a



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experience, making the event a hands-on platform for technology transfer at a European level. The ESTAL Congress (European Association for Surface Treatment on Aluminium) takes place every two years. The German Association for the Surface Finishing of Aluminium e. V. (VOA) was involved in organising the event.

Surface treatment in focus

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The focus of the ESTAL Congress was on current developments influenced by decisions of the European Commission, such as the aluminium value chain in a changing Europe or the impact of new EU construction regulations on aluminium surface treatment and global market trends. Speakers addressed the competitiveness of the European aluminium value chain in the current global trade context, while the European Commission and industry experts gave an overview of the EU legislative context. Special attention was paid to innovations in resource efficiency and industrial emissions, to improve the sustainability and reduce the carbon footprint of the aluminium surface treatment value chain. In addition, several presentations dealt with innovative products and finishing processes, including colour innovation, nanoparticle-enhanced anodic oxide coatings, conversion treatments of 3D-printed aluminium, and artificial intelligence applied to painting lines. Finally, several presentations dealt with powder coating and anodising of recycling-based aluminium alloys, which is fundamental to the decarbonisation of the aluminium value chain.

Diverse programme around surface finishing

Yannis Maniatis, Vice President of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats (S&D), Member of the European Parliament, and former Minister for the Environment, Energy and Climate Change, provided an insight into the "Aluminum Sector at a Crossroads: Challenges and Opportunities in the Context of Ecological and Strategic Transition." Maniatis' participation was intended to show that surface finishing issues are politically recognised and addressed in the EU.

The ESTAL Congress attracted professionals from various sub-sectors and enabled an intensive exchange of views on current challenges and opportunities. At the booths of various industry sponsors, participants could engage in face-to-face discussions about the latest developments and challenges in the surface finishing industry.

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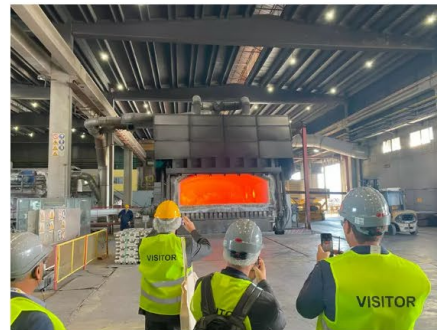
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booths of various industry sponsors, participants could engage in face-to-face discussions at the booths and discuss future challenges. In addition, there were various accompanying events, such as a visit to an aluminium recycling facility and various surface finishing lines from Alamil in Kilgis. (tp)



Participants of ESTAL Congress could visit a recycling plant in Kilgis.

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