

## **Robust market situation for aluminum tubes and aerosol cans**

Supply security is top issue in 2022

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### **Deliveries to Germany stable in 2021**

Deliveries of aluminum tubes and aerosol cans to the German market were stable in 2021 despite ongoing COVID-19 pressures. Demand picked up significantly, particularly in the second half of the year, leading to an overall satisfactory result for the industry. While demand for pharmaceutical and cosmetic products was rather subdued in 2021 due to declining doctor's visits, continuing mobility restrictions and reduced leisure activities, demand for food, technical and household products increased significantly as consumers spent more time in their own homes. There was also a significant increase in demand for aluminum cartridges, small bottles and rigid tubes in 2021, where existing markets could be expanded and new markets were developed through innovative applications.

### **Tense situation on the transportation and energy markets**

Due to the continuing tense situation in the markets for transportation services, the issue of supply security is playing an increasingly central role in the value chain. The lack of availability of trucks and containers for deliveries within Europe and overseas is putting globally interlinked logistics chains to a tough test. So far, proactive production and transportation planning by aluminum packaging manufacturers has prevented retail bottlenecks and out-of-stock situations. "The industry has distinguished itself as a reliable supply chain partner since the pandemic began. However, the situation will remain extremely tense in 2022, as the rampant omicron variant could negatively impact staff availability at plants, marking another bottleneck," knows Johannes Schick, chairman of AD's Tubes, Cans and Impact Extruded Products Division. "Added to this are the energy prices, which have risen exorbitantly in recent months. These are causing the industry great concern, as they are cutting the scope for necessary investments in the future and for maintaining the industry's innovative strength," adds Schick.

### **Confidence for 2022**

Overall, the industry is looking ahead to the first half of 2022 with confidence due to promising incoming orders. "If another COVID 19 variant or a worsening Ukraine crisis with the associated uncertainties among consumers does not throw us off course, we definitely expect overall demand to pick up further; especially also in the key markets for pharmaceutical and cosmetic products," Schick sums up.

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