

12.4 CIRCULAR ECONOMY — KEY TO SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION

voestalpine has launched a Group-wide project pertaining to sustainable processes that serves to identify and harness existing potential. Roughly one half of the project volume focuses on the circular economy. Numerous subprojects concern topics such as the processing of dust,

sludge, and slag. The aim is to recover all recyclable material using all available technological means and to bring about the meaningful reuse of residual products—including through other industries.

12.5 R&D FOR SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS

A wide range of product innovations helps both voestalpine and its customers to achieve their respective sustainability targets. Among other things, our R&D work focuses on products that can be recycled in ever more environmentally friendly, effective, long-lasting, safer, and unproblematic ways. The following voestalpine products thus contribute to sustainable development:

- >> High-quality rails resistant to wear and tear
- >> Intelligent turnouts with diagnostic systems to ensure reliable track system availability
- >> Ultra-high tensile steels for lightweight construction of autobodies
- >> Electrical steel strip for highly efficient electric motors and for generators used in power generation
- >> Components for wind turbines, whether on or offshore
- >> Mounting systems for photovoltaic (PV) modules
- >> Turbines for pumped storage hydroelectric power plants
- >> Seamless tubes for transporting hydrogen
- >> Ultra-pure alloys as pre-material for medical technology
- >> Guard rails, safety belt tensioner tubes, high-tensile sections for driver's cabs, and other products serving to enhance security