

September 16, 2022

 **FROM MARDIN TO THE UK AND FROM THERE TO WORLD MARKETS**

# Cengiz Holding doubles cobalt production:

# ‘the element of the century’

# Cengiz Holding, one of Türkiye's largest industrial enterprises, increased its cobalt production capacity at its UK facility ICoNiChem by 100% to 1,800 tons. Used extensively in cells, batteries and catalysts, as well as in the key industries of the 21st century like technology, petrochemicals, electric cars and the aircraft industry, cobalt is considered one of the most important elements of value-added industrial products.

Despite global economic uncertainty, Cengiz Holding steams ahead with its investments. The company has now doubled cobalt production at ICoNiChem, the company’s plant in Widnes, England. Having increased its capacity to separate cobalt, aka the ‘element of the century’, from nickel, sodium and magnesium from 900 tons to 1,800 tons, ICoNiChem has started to process also products from Mardin Mazıdağı Metal Recovery and Integrated Fertilizer Plant. ICoNiChem is one of the few plants in the world that can produce special cobalt salts for technology-intensive sectors. The plant can produce high-purity cobalt in line with customer demands. The value-added products by ICoNiChem are exported to many different parts of the world for use in a broad range of fields such as technology, petrochemistry, automobile, aircraft industry, and ceramics.

**Emre Kayışoğlu, General Manager of ICoNiChem** stated that they are today among the world's leading companies in mining technology and added, “Cobalt has gained ever-increasing importance in the world, especially with the onset of the age of technology. When we look at it historically, in the past, cobalt was mostly used in the paint industry but today it is an indispensable element in the most technology-intensive industries, especially in cells, batteries and catalysts. As a company that realizes 2% of the world's cobalt production, we are reinforcing our leading role in the world economy with new investments and continuous improvements in technological infrastructure.”

**A SOURCE OF PRIDE NOT JUST FOR US BUT THE ENTIRE TURKISH INDUSTRY**

Explaining that the investment in ICoNiChem has enabled them to start producing special materials from byproducts, which previously could only be produced from pure metal, Emre Kayışoğlu continued as follows: “Replacing the steam boiler that the plant had been using for almost three decades has been a major improvement in terms of operational processes and safety. Further, we have upgraded our laboratories with cutting-edge technology, which has enabled us to measure the metallic purity of our final products in the best and most accurate way. We can produce cobalt with up to 99.99% purity. All these technological developments give us the upper hand in global competition. These investments will help us penetrate many more markets in the coming period, increase the number of countries we export to, and grow our market share. Our UK-based plant does not only process the raw materials we buy from different places but converts the cobalt from our plant in Mardin into a value-added product, which we then offer to markets around the globe. It is a source of pride not just for us but the entire Turkish industry.”