

WELCOME TO EU GLASS INDUSTRIES NEWS



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EU COMMUNITY NEWS

NEW EU LEGISLATION

Commission Directives

N° (EU) 2019/1831 of 24 October 2019

The COMMISSION has established a fifth list of indicative occupational exposure limit values pursuant to Council Directive 98/24/EC and amending Commission Directive 2000/39/EC on the **protection of the health and safety of workers from the risks related to chemical agents at work.**

The chemical agents referred to are: Aniline, Chloromethane, Trimethylamine, Phenylpropane (Cumene), sec-Butyl acetate, 4-aminotoluene, Isobutyl acetate, Isoamyl alcohol, n-Butyl acetate and Phosphoryl trichloride

The Member States shall adopt and publish, by 20 May 2021 at the latest, the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive.

Full text and new annex on page 31 at:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2019:279:TOC>

22177/O.J. L279 – 2019.10.31

N° (EU) 2019/1832 of 24 October 2019

The COMMISSION has amended Annexes I, II and III to the Council Directive 89/656/EEC of 30 November 1989 on the **minimum health and safety requirements for the use by workers of personal protective equipment at the workplace.** Amendments are purely technical adjustments. Annexes I, II and III to Directive 89/656/EEC are replaced by the text in the Annex to this Directive.

Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive by 20 November 2021 at the latest. They shall forthwith communicate to the Commission the text of those provisions. When Member States adopt those measures, they shall contain a reference to this Directive or shall be accompanied by such a reference on the occasion of their official publication. Member States shall determine how such reference is to be made.

Full text on page 35 at:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2019:279:TOC>

22178/O.J. L279 – 2019.10.31

Council Information

The EU Council has published the

- agreement on the **withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union** and the European Atomic Energy Community, and
- political declaration setting out the framework for the future relationship between the European Union and the United Kingdom.

Full text at <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:C:2019:384I:TOC>

22179/O.J. C384I – 2019.11.12

TRADE POLICY

EU Market Access Rules Under Heavy Criticism

On 15 November, at a meeting of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Goods Council, several rules relating to access to the European Union's market were attacked by its trading partners, a Geneva source reported.

The United States, supported by Argentina and New Zealand, called on the EU to clarify its draft implementing regulation on protected designations of origin and geographical indications, traditional terms, labelling and presentation of certain products in the **wine sector**.

The EU Medical Services Regulation and the Regulation on the classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals (**CLP Regulation**) were also attacked by several countries, including the United States. The CLP Regulation is considered to be excessively restrictive for products such as titanium dioxide and cobalt.

Russia, in turn, has asked the EU to stop using its new alternative **anti-dumping calculation methodology**, which it accuses of violating WTO non-discrimination principles.

Finally, several states once again denounced the new **EU Renewable Energy Directive** as unfairly disadvantaging palm oil and incompatible with international trade rules.

The day before, more than 20 members reiterated their concerns about the **Regulation on the level of pesticides tolerated in agricultural imports**.

22180/Press Release – 2019.11.18

EU / Singapore

European Trade Ministers welcomed on 21 November that day's **entry into force of the Trade Agreement** between the European Union and Singapore. This treaty will “*boost*

trade, which will benefit businesses, farmers, workers and consumers on both sides”, according to outgoing Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström.

The EU/Singapore Agreement is the 16th trade agreement concluded by the Europeans since 2014. It is the first with the Southeast Asian region and, *“by far, with the most important trading partner”* in this dynamic ASEAN region. *“This brings the total to 42 trade agreements with 73 partners, accounting for a third of total EU trade. This is the largest such network in the world”,* said Cecilia Malmström, Commissioner for Trade.

More than 50,000 European companies export to Singapore, a large majority of them are small and medium-sized enterprises. For the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, this treaty “crowns the efforts of this Commission to build a network of partners committed to open, fair and rules-based trade”.

22181/Press Release – 2019.11.21

EU / Indonesia

The EU has brought a dispute in the World Trade Organization (WTO) against Indonesian export restrictions for raw materials used in the production of stainless steel. These restrictions unfairly limit access of EU producers to raw materials for steel production, notably nickel as well as scraps, coal and coke, iron ore and chromium. The EU is also challenging subsidies that encourage use of local content by Indonesian producers and give preference to domestic over imported goods, which goes against WTO rules.

This decision affirms the EU’s commitment to resolute and strong enforcement of multilateral and bilateral trade rules where European interests are at stake. It also underlines the EU’s continued commitment to the WTO and its dispute settlement system as an impartial and efficient means to get global trade rules upheld and enforced.

The measures that the EU is challenging include:

- export restrictions and export prohibitions on raw materials for the production of stainless steel, notably nickel;
- domestic processing requirements and domestic marketing obligations, as well as complex and unclear export licensing procedures and requirements affecting access to raw materials such as nickel but also iron, chromium, metal waste and scraps, coal and coke;
- an import duty exemption scheme which makes certain benefits for the import of machines, goods and other material for the production process in newly established or modernising factories conditional upon the use of at least 30% of domestic equipment and machinery.

Background

Currently, the EU is involved in 42 WTO disputes, and 3 disputes under its trade agreements. The disputes brought by the EU have led over the last five years to the removal of discriminatory taxes, illegal customs duties or export restrictions in key

markets such as Russia, China, the US and South America, and reopening of markets worth €10 billion per year.

22182/Press Release – 2019.11.22

Commission's Proposal for Agreement on Conformity Assessment with United States

The European Commission published its proposal for an EU-US agreement on conformity assessment for industrial products, in line with its commitment to enhanced transparency in trade negotiations.

A product exported between the two sides often has to undergo an assessment to demonstrate that it complies with the technical and safety requirements of the importing party, a so-called 'conformity assessment'. This often means additional costs for exporters, which is especially burdensome for smaller companies, who often decide not to export at all because of those costs and complexities.

The EU proposal seeks an agreement under which the EU and the US would accept the conformity assessment results of each other's assessment bodies, certifying products against the legal requirement of the other side. This would enable exporters to seek certification of their products in their originating country.

The proposal covers all relevant industrial sectors where third-party conformity assessment is required by either side. In addition, the EU proposal addresses the difficulties faced by EU exporters of machinery and electric and electronic equipment in the certification of products sold in the US market.

This would make trade quicker, easier and cheaper, while maintaining a high level of consumer safety. The economic benefits are significant: EU-US trade in goods amounted to €674 billion in 2018, with many products being subject to third-party conformity assessment.

This is an area where we can achieve meaningful results quickly. The EU is ready to conclude an agreement as early as next year.

Background

Conformity assessment is the process of verifying that a product meets all the legislative requirements in order to be sold in a given country. It ensures that the product is safe and complies with relevant regulations.

The joint EU-US work on conformity assessment was one of the actions agreed under the EU-US Joint Statement of 25 July 2018. On 15 April 2019, the EU Council adopted a decision authorizing the launch of negotiations for an agreement with the United States on conformity assessment.

22183/Press Release – 2019.11.22

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

Paris Agreement's 1.5° Objective Requires EU to Set a Stricter Cap for ETS, According to Sitra and Öko-Institut

If the EU is to meet the 1.5° target of the Paris Climate Agreement, it is essential that it radically reform its greenhouse gas emissions trading system (ETS) to reduce the number of allowances, according to a study recently published by the Finnish innovation institute *Sitra* and the *Öko-Institut*, a German research institute specialised in sustainability issues.

This study on *'the role of ETS in raising the EU's ambition'* examines how ETS objectives should be modified in a scenario where the EU's emission reduction target would increase from at least 40% currently to 55% or 60% by 2030 compared to 1990. The President-elect of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, said she was ready to raise the EU's 2030 target to 50% or even 55%. All parties to the Paris Agreement are expected to update their NDCs by 2020.

The study shows that the strengthening of the cap is the key measure and that, ideally, it should be accompanied by a strengthening of the market stability reserve, i.e., a reduction of the excess quota on the market.

"We simply do not have the time to start making cosmetic adjustments to the EU ETS or building new systems", commented *Sitra* researcher Outi Haanperä on 18 November.

The introduction of a carbon floor price, the reduction of the number of emission allowances, the reduction of their free allocation and surplus and the extension of the scope of the ETS were analysed. In particular, the study shows that it is possible to reduce emissions significantly by increasing the ceiling, while the impact of a simple extension of the scope of the ETS is much more limited.

It concludes that a combination of three measures is needed: strengthening the ceiling, strengthening the market stability reserve and creating a group of pioneering countries to lead the way.

To consult the study from Öko-Institut and Sitra:

The Role of the EU ETS in Increasing EU Climate Ambition - Assessment of policy options
<https://media.sitra.fi/2019/10/07112628/the-role-of-the-eu-ets-in-increasing-eu-climate-ambition.pdf>

22184/Press Release – 2019.11.18

European Parliament Calls on EU to Speak with One Voice at COP25 and Asks for a 2030 Target of 55% in Green Deal

The European Parliament wants the EU to take the lead in the international climate negotiations that will start in Madrid (2-13 December) and to speak with one voice in

Madrid. The ambitious text, approved by a large majority, incorporates the recommendations of the Committee on the Environment.

The European Parliament urges the EU to submit its long-term strategy to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 to the UNFCCC as soon as possible.

To achieve this, MEPs believe that the EU should raise its 2030 target to a 55% reduction in emissions compared to 1990 (instead of at least 40%). They therefore call on the new President of the Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, to include this 55% target in the European **Green Deal**.

MEPs believe that COP25 should serve to define a new level of ambition, both in terms of the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the upcoming NDCs, which should reflect an increased level of commitment to climate action in all sectors on land and in the oceans.

MEPs believe that EU countries should at least double their contribution to the Green Climate Fund. They point out that the public and private resources mobilised by developed countries for climate finance are still below their collective commitment to mobilise \$100 billion per year starting in 2020.

They urge all EU countries to phase out all direct and indirect subsidies for fossil fuels by 2020.

All paragraphs of the text that advocated a ban on nuclear power have been deleted.

MEPs believe that all countries should include international aviation and maritime emissions in their nationally determined contribution projects.

Michaela Šojdrová (EPP, Czech Republic) explained her abstention vote by supporting ambitious targets, for Member States reducing their emissions, but by the impossibility for her to support raising the 2030 target to 55% *“without knowing what the impact will be”*.

Angel Dzhambazki (ECR, Bulgaria) voted against, arguing that this text *“undermines state sovereignty”*, that the EU’s unilateral level of ambition *“will lead to the destruction of social protection systems and will have a negative impact on companies with a risk of relocation”*.

“For the 2050 decarbonisation all amendments calling for an impact assessment were rejected - proof that no attention is paid to the costs of these policies”, according to Robert Rowland (independent, United Kingdom), denouncing *“economic ignorance”*.

22185/Press Release – 2019.11.28

COP 25 in Madrid on 2 to 13 December 2019

The COP25 on climate will finally be hosted by Spain in Madrid on the dates originally planned. *“We are pleased to announce that the COP Bureau has agreed that COP25 will take place from 2 to 13 December at IFEMA - Feria de Madrid - Spain”*, announced UNFCCC Executive Secretary Patricia Espinosa. The uncertainty, arising from the announcement two days earlier of Chile’s defection, which, according to Chilean President Sebastian Piñera, was unable to organise this COP due to the demonstrations in his country, was short-lived. However, the logistical challenge will be significant: there is one month left to organise this world conference.

22186/Press Release – 2019.11.04

EU Invests 240 Million Euros in 120 'LIFE Environment' and 'Climate Action' Projects

This autumn, the EU will invest some 240 million euros in more than 120 innovative projects that can help the transition to a more sustainable, nature and biodiversity friendly and low-carbon future, the European Commission announced in mid-November.

These projects will be implemented in 24 EU Member States. They are all eligible for co-financing from the LIFE Environment and Climate Action sub-programmes.

Almost a third of the projects focus on climate change mitigation (reduction of greenhouse gas emissions) and adaptation. The others aim to restore and protect important natural habitats, conserve rare and threatened species, reduce pollution and fossil fuel use or promote the rational use of resources. They will contribute to the European Green Deal announced by Ursula von der Leyen, the institution stresses.

The list of projects is being updated as new co-financing agreements are signed. It will be finalised by the end of December 2019.

To consult the list:

https://ec.europa.eu/easme/sites/easme-site/files/2019_short_summaries_annex_final_to_be_published.pdf

22187/Press Release – 2019.11.18

EU Taxonomy on Sustainable Finance

The third negotiation meeting between representatives of the European Parliament and the EU Council on the Regulation, laying the foundations for the future taxonomy on sustainable finance, was inconclusive. Taxonomy on sustainable finance will assess, sector by sector, the ecological sustainability of economic activities.

As anticipated, there is a major disagreement between the co-legislators on governance and the role of the Member States and the European Parliament in the implementation of the taxonomy.

The European Parliament would not be able to accept the system proposed by the EU Council, namely that the Commission should establish by means of delegated acts the technical criteria on the basis of which it will be possible to determine whether and to what extent an economic activity is ecologically sustainable, and by implementing acts the quantitative and/or qualitative thresholds that must be met by the economic activity to be considered 'sustainable'.

The Parliament would like to have a say in the setting of these thresholds. However, for the EU Council, this system of implementing acts would constitute a real red line.

The negotiators also continued their discussions on the scope of the Regulation, in particular on "*transitional*" and "*enabling*" activities, on which the European Commission is said to have presented a document. The European Parliament hopes to make them into separate categories - a request that the EU Council would not find acceptable.

The discussion is said to have also focused on the link between the future taxonomy and the regulation that specifies how institutional investors should integrate environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors into their investment decision-making. However, there were no concrete results. The date of implementation of the provisions was also discussed without any decision being taken.

22188/Press Release – 2019.11.21 & 27

High-level Group on Energy-Intensive Industries: Masterplan for Climate-Neutrality in 2050

After 9 months of intense drafting and negotiation between all stakeholders in the HLEG for Energy Intensive Industries (11 EIs, NGOs, European Commission services, Member States, ...), the European Commission has finally released the **Master Plan “for a Competitive Transformation of EU Energy-intensive Industries Enabling a Climate-neutral, Circular Economy by 2050”**.

Energy Intensive Industries (EIs) want to contribute in a constructive manner to the development of policies enabling the transition to a climate-neutral economy by 2050. We therefore call for a dialogue with the incoming European Commission, Member States and Parliament on the integration in the European Green Deal and the forthcoming industrial strategy of the recommendations of the Master Plan for a competitive transformation of EU EIs.

The success of an EU Strategy for long-term EU greenhouse gas emission reductions and a European Green Deal will largely depend on the pace of industry’s transformation, as shown in the Master Plan. EU EIs are deeply rooted in our society providing technologies, solutions and materials to every possible economic sector. At the same time, they belong to complex value chains and are heavily dependent on other sectors, notably the energy sector, to become climate-neutral. Transformation of industry will also impact consumption patterns in all sectors of the economy and can be a generator of new investments in the EU if the policy framework is right.

The recommendations of the Master Plan include actions that could provide the right market signals to attract new investments and help companies implement cost-effective solutions towards climate-neutrality. They also focus on the need to ensure a just transition, underline the importance of equipping workers with the right skills for the future and of helping communities that depend on these industries to manage the transition.

In particular, the recommendations highlight key success factors under three main priorities, while taking care of the regional and social dimension:

- **Creating markets for climate-neutral, circular economy products**, for example by making a more strategic use of public procurement to select sustainable products and services. This is provided for in the 2014 revision of the rules, giving public authorities the power to use public procurement to achieve environmental, societal or innovative objectives when buying goods and

- services. The experts also underline the need to help consumers make more informed choices;
- **Supporting rapid demonstration of breakthrough technologies on an industrial scale** through major R&D&I programmes and facilitating access to private finance;
 - Securing industry's access to **alternative energy and feedstock sources** at competitive prices. This would require, for example, securing access to and availability of such sources at globally competitive prices, mapping energy infrastructure and supply and promoting the 'energy efficiency first' principle. The experts group also recommends setting up an industrial transition observatory to monitor the industry's progress towards climate-neutrality and provide guidance.

As 2050 is only one or two investment cycles away, the next few years will be crucial to lay the policy groundwork for the successful industrial transformation.

Next steps

The Commission will present the recommendations to the Member States, in the EU Competitiveness Council, and to the European Parliament in the beginning of next year.

Background

The Commission set up the High-level Group on Energy-Intensive Industries, composed of representatives of Member States, industry and civil society in October 2015 to provide advice on policies relevant to Energy-intensive industries. The industries participating (including glass) in the High Level Group already presented a report in September 2018 as their collective contribution to the Commission's "A Clean Planet for all" strategy.

Such industries lie at the heart of many value chains and are crucial to our economy and jobs. These industries share the ambition of the Paris Agreement on climate change and recognise the size of the transformation challenge as well as the opportunities it brings. They have a strong record in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, decreasing theirs by 36% between 1990 and 2015. Given the long investment cycles for these industries, meeting the 2050 target requires fast action.

22189/Press Release – 2019.11.28

Reuse of Used Materials in Construction Sector

Member States adopted conclusions on the **circular economy of the construction sector** (CPR) without debate on 28 November, in which they submit a long series of recommendations and tasks to the European Commission to cover the issue of the reuse of construction products.

The conclusions are intended to send a strong signal to the new European Commission, which is about to take office. DG Grow already consults Member States informally.

Thus, Member States make 11 recommendations to the European Commission, mainly concerning clarifications concerning the Construction Products Regulation and other

legislative acts, but also the criteria for ending waste status with regard to reusable construction products.

They propose to rework the terminology concerning the “reuse” and “recycling” of the CPR. In addition, they question the role of digital platforms in marketing these reusable products or the enabling conditions.

The real subject – explains a source close to the file – is the quality control of these reusable materials. Indeed, for the time being, it is very difficult to measure the quality of a product after use in a building, and even more so after several decades of life. The negotiation of the text, which should begin in 2020, is therefore particularly technical and difficult.

However, for Member States, it is worth it. The 2011 regulation does not cover the reuse of products (mainly cement, steel and plastic): once used, building materials cannot be resold and reused. However, according to the EU Council conclusions, a huge market could open up, potentially creating 6.5 million jobs, while contributing to the EU’s climate objectives, given the carbon and environmental footprint of the sector (40% of a country’s final energy, half of the world’s primary resources).

22190/Press Release – 2019.11.28

EU Parliament/EU Council Agreement on Recast of Drinking Water Directive

A very long discussion took place on 15 November at the meeting of the National Ambassadors to the EU (Coreper) on the recast of the Drinking Water Directive (1998 Directive on the quality of water intended for human consumption).

The aim was to prepare the next stage of interinstitutional negotiations on this overhaul, in response to the *Right2water* Citizens' Initiative.

Although the Finnish Presidency had obtained a mandate for the third trilogue, scheduled for 19 November, the Member States have shown little flexibility.

The positions of the EU Council and Parliament on parameters, transparency, materials in contact with water, endocrine disrupters, the limit value for lead and its date of application are far apart. Moreover, the issue of access to water has not yet been addressed.

The Presidency will try to find a compromise with the Parliament.

The fourth trilogue, scheduled for the evening of 3 December, is expected to last all night. If no agreement is reached, it will be difficult to find a date for the fifth trilogue requested by the Parliament, as national experts will be in Madrid for the COP25 on climate change (2-13 December).

22191/Press Release – 2019.11.15

SOCIAL ISSUES

Exposure to Chemicals: Largest Human Biomonitoring Study in Europe

In Europe, citizens absorb hundreds of industrial chemicals, with phthalates, bisphenol A and PFAS considered a *“serious public health problem”*, the *European Environment Bureau* (EEB) sounded the alarm on 8 November, referring to the results of the largest human biomonitoring study, which has been validated by the WHO.

According to this study, most of the population is contaminated by persistent and toxic chemicals. Of even greater concern is that children have higher concentrations of some substances than their mothers, as well as *“alarming”* levels of PFAS.

“Children are born ‘pre-polluted’, with more substances in their bodies than their parents. This is threatening our future and the costs of inaction are getting too high. The EU should protect current and future generations; business as usual is no longer an option. It should prioritise exposure prevention and protection as a human right”, said *EEB* expert Tatiana Santos.

The NGO announced that it had written to the President-elect of the Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, on the same day to inform her that REACH legislation on chemicals is regularly violated in the Member States. *“Only 43 of the 1,400 targeted hazardous substances are strictly controlled, yet companies are allowed to continue using them 99.54% of the time”*, the organisation writes.

The EEB wants the EU to regulate chemical mixtures, not just individual substances, and as a precautionary measure, to provide for the phasing out of persistent chemical substances present in the human body.

The study (€74 million) has collected blood, urine and other biological samples from thousands of children, adolescents and adults in more than 20 European countries to verify the levels of human contamination for 18 types of chemical products of greatest concern, including flame retardants, pesticides, plasticisers and PFAS.

See the study on page:

http://www.euro.who.int/data/assets/pdf_file/0020/276311/Human-biomonitoring-facts-figures-en.pdf

22192/Press Release – 2019.11.08

Coordination of Social Security Systems

The Finnish Presidency of the Council of the EU failed to obtain from the national delegations of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (Coreper I) a renewed mandate to resume negotiations with the European Parliament on the Regulation concerning the coordination of social security systems.

The Finnish Presidency, after two unsuccessful meetings with the European Parliament, returned to the Member States with several proposals, in particular on the arrangements for exemption from prior notification in the event of the posting of workers. The Presidency had thus suggested that the definition of '*business trips*' agreed during the March interinstitutional negotiations should be taken up again, even if this meant reworking it to make it more precise.

It also proposed to introduce an exemption for all missions of less than three days and for missions organised in an emergency (missions announced 14 days before their actual start). On this last exemption, a specific mechanism was reportedly specified by the Finnish Presidency. In this case, the notification of the posting should be sent to the competent authority of the host Member State no later than 14 days after the start of the mission.

On the question of social benefits for frontier workers, the Presidency sought to determine whether Member States were willing to provide for a specific regime going beyond six months. Without success. Finally, it proposed reintroducing the notion of "*working time*" to define pluri-activity. There, too, without success.

Twelve Member States rejected the Finnish proposal, including Austria, France, Luxembourg, Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark and Malta, for different reasons, however. According to the sources consulted, Germany had a more ambiguous position. Hungary, Poland, Sweden and Bulgaria reportedly said they were more flexible, as were Ireland, Spain and Greece. Only Portugal, Italy and Romania are said to have fully supported the Finnish proposal.

The interinstitutional negotiations should resume on 12 December, under the mandate of the new Commissioner for Employment and Social Affairs, Nicolas Schmit. However, some wonder, on the EU Council's side, whether Parliament will agree to resume interinstitutional negotiations knowing that the EU Council's mandate remains unchanged.

22193/Press Release – 2019.11.27

Unemployment Rates

The euro area seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was **7.5%** in **September 2019**, stable compared with August 2019. This remains the lowest rate recorded in the euro area since July 2008. The EU-28 unemployment rate was **6.3%** in August 2019, stable compared with August 2019. This is also the lowest rate recorded in the EU28 since January 2000.

Eurostat estimates that 15.635 million people in the EU28 were unemployed in September 2019, an increase by 48,000 in the EU28 and by 33,000 in the euro area compared with August 2019.

Czechia	2.1%	Luxembourg	5.4%
Germany	3.1%	Belgium	5.6%
Poland	3.3%	Slovakia	5.6%
Malta	3.4%	Latvia	6.3%
Hungary (August)	3.4%	Lithuania	6.5%
Netherlands	3.5%	Cyprus	6.6%
UK (July)	3.8%	Portugal	6.6%
Estonia (August)	3.9%	Finland	6.7%
Romania	3.9%	Croatia	6.8%
Bulgaria	4.1%	Sweden	7.3%
Slovenia	4.3%	France	8.4%
Austria	4.5%	Italy	9.9%
Denmark	5.3%	Spain	14.2%
Ireland	5.3%	Greece (July)	16.9%

Elsewhere

USA	3.6%	Russia	4.5%
Canada	5.5%	Brazil	11.8%
Japan	2.4%	Australia	5.3%
Switzerland	2.2%	India	6.0%
Turkey	13.9%	China	3.6%

22194/Eurostat Press Release – 2019.10.31

GENERAL ISSUES

New EU Commissioners 2019-2024

The EU Parliament validated on 27 November the appointment of the members of the new Commission until 31 October 2024.

President-elect **Ursula von der Leyen** will be the President of the following list of Commissioners:

Mr Thierry BRETON (France), *Internal Market*

Ms Helena DALLI (Malta), *Equality*

Mr Valdis DOMBROVSKIS (Latvia), *Executive Vice-President and Economy for People*

Ms Elisa FERREIRA (Portugal), *Cohesion & Reforms*

Ms Mariya GABRIEL (Bulgaria), *Innovation & Youth*

Mr Paolo GENTILONI (Italy), *Economy*

Mr Johannes HAHN (Austria), *Budget & Administration*



Mr Phil HOGAN (Ireland), *Trade*
Ms Ylva JOHANSSON (Sweden), *Home Affairs*
Ms Věra JOUROVÁ (Czech Republic), *Vice-President in charge of Values and Transparency*
Ms Stella KYRIAKIDES (Cyprus), *Health*
Mr Janez LENARČIČ (Slovenia), *Crisis Management*
Mr Didier REYNDEERS (Belgium), *Justice*
Mr Margaritis SCHINAS (Greece), *Vice-President in charge of Promotion of European Way of Life*
Mr Nicolas SCHMIT (Luxembourg), *Jobs & Social Rights*
Mr Maroš ŠEFČOVIČ (Slovakia), *Vice-President in charge of Interinstitutional Relations*
Ms Kadri SIMSON (Estonia), *Energy*
Mr Virginijus SINKEVIČIUS (Lithuania), *Environment, Oceans and Fisheries*
Ms Dubravka ŠUICA (Croatia), *Vice-President in charge of Democracy & Demography*
Mr Frans TIMMERMANS (Netherlands), *Executive Vice-President and European Green Deal*
Ms Jutta URPILAINEN (Finland), *International Partnerships*
Ms Adina VĂLEAN (Romania), *Transport*
Mr Olivér VÁRHELYI (Hungary), *Neighbourhood and Enlargement*
Ms Margrethe VESTAGER (Denmark), *Executive Vice-President and Digital Age*
Mr Janusz WOJCIECHOWSKI (Poland), *Agriculture*
In addition to:
Mr Josep BORRELL FONTELLES (Spain), *Vice-President appointed as High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.*

22195/Press Release – 2019.11.27

Industry4Europe For a Long-Term Industrial Strategy

Industry4Europe, a coalition of 149 European industry sector associations (including the glass sectors), published on 26 November a joint document outlining their vision of what a long-term strategy should be to support industry in Europe.

Objective: to contribute to the future industrial strategy that the European Commission is preparing. In essence, the document puts forward proposals to upgrade workers' skills in line with market needs, strengthen innovation, investment and improved access to finance, reinforcement of the European Single Market and strengthen trade and international market access.

To consult the document:

<https://www.industry4europe.eu/publications/new-joint-paper-a-long-term-strategy-for-europes-industrial-future-from-words-to-action/>

22196/Press Release – 2019.11.27

Inflation Rate

Latest Eurostat figures show that the annual inflation rate was **0.7% in October 2019 in the Euro area**, down from 0.8% in September. **The EU28 annual inflation was 1.1% in October**, down from 1.2% in September.

The largest contribution to the annual euro area inflation rate came from services (+0.69%), followed by food, alcohol & tobacco (+0.29%), non-energy industrial goods (+0.07%) and energy (-0.32%).

Cyprus	-0.5%	Estonia	1.4%
Greece	-0.3%	Malta	1.4%
Portugal	-0.1%	Lithuania	1.5%
Belgium	0.2%	Slovenia	1.5%
Italy	0.2%	U K	1.5%
Spain	0.2%	Bulgaria	1.6%
Denmark	0.6%	Sweden	1.6%
Ireland	0.6%	Latvia	2.2%
Croatia	0.6%	Poland	2.3%
Luxembourg	0.8%	Czechia	2.6%
Germany	0.9%	Netherlands	2.8%
France	0.9%	Slovakia	2.9%
Finland	0.9%	Hungary	3.0%
Austria	1.0%	Romania	3.2%

Elsewhere

USA	1.8%	Russia	3.8%
Canada	1.9%	Brazil	2.54%
Japan	0.2%	Australia	1.7%
Switzerland	-0.3%	India	4.62%
Turkey	8.55%	China	3.8%

22197/Eurostat News Release – 2019.11.15

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GLASS NEWS

FLAT GLASS

Glass Companies

Saint-Gobain



Saint-Gobain Sells its Glass Transformation Business in the Netherlands.

Saint-Gobain has sold its regional glass transformation business Glassolutions in the Netherlands to the Munich-based family office AEQUITA. Glassolutions in the Netherlands employs approximately 300 people and is composed of 8 distribution sites and 4 production sites, with revenues of around €65 million in 2018. This transaction is part of Saint-Gobain's portfolio optimization strategy within the framework of its new organization. Divestments completed or signed by the Group to date in order to enhance its growth and profitability profile represent sales of around €3.3 billion. Saint-Gobain is continuing its divestment program even though the initial target of over €3 billion in sales divested by the end of the year has already been met.

22198/Press Release – 2019.11.04

AGC

1. AGC Automotive Europe celebrated the World Quality Day throughout Europe.

On 14 November, AGC Automotive Europe celebrated the World Quality Day in all European production sites and head office. The World Quality Day is designed to recognize the contributions of quality professionals across the globe. It was an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the AGC team and organization. More than 3500 staff members attended the event in no less than 12 locations.

A 2-hour timeslot, synchronized throughout Europe, from UK to Russia, up to Turkey & Morocco, was fixed to stop activities and gather all employees around a same objective: be part of the World Quality Day. A "Eurovision-type" communication was organized, sharing quotes and live-interviews of each local Manager with the other sites.

The event was preceded by a "quality coffee-morning", during which all participants could build interesting relationship with colleagues. After a common set of slides about AGC Automotive Europe quality strategy and values, testimonials of customers about the key role and importance of quality were broadcasted to all participants. Each production site gave a "quality award" to a special project which contributed to product, process or service improvement. The Central offices rewarded the plant with the best performance, in live-ceremony.



This event was key for AGC Automotive Europe because even if each single individual in the company knows how much Quality matters as a key pillar of the company's foundations, sharing this event as one team, one voice, one determination, reinforced all links necessary to make it happen.

22199/Press Release – 2019.11.18

2. AGC Vidros Inaugurates Plant in Sao Paulo Brazil

Japanese flat glass manufacturer AGC Vidros has inaugurated its R \$700 million (US \$167 million) plant in the city of Guaratinguetá in São Paulo, Brazil.

The company has expanded its production capacity by 140%, becoming the second largest glass manufacturer in the country after eight years of activity.

The new plant is located next to the current one and houses a new furnace with capacity to produce up to 850 tonnes of flat glass per day.

The previous production capacity was 600 tonnes per day, but had already required investments of approximately R \$900 million in AGC Vidros' implementation of the first unit in Latin America.

With the new furnace that went into operation in April 2019, the Guaratinguetá unit's production capacity rose to 1,450 tonnes per day.

Jean-François Heris, Global President of the Building and Industry Glass Division, & Fábio Oliveira, Chief Executive Officer and General Manager of Finance and Business Support for South America were all in attendance at the inauguration.

AGC has hired around 200 workers in the Guaratinguetá region, expanding its staff to 1,000, becoming one of the largest employers in the region. The new employees underwent technical training, safety and compliance with industry standards.

"With the new plant, AGC also increased its built-up area by approximately 50% to a total of 150,000 m²", said Isidoro Lopes, new Managing Director of the Glass Division for Building and Industry for South America.

He added: "Continuing its investments, AGC demonstrates the Group's confidence in Brazil and at the same time recognises the support it has received from the local community, partners and our customers."

22200/Press Release – 2019.11.25

Guardian Glass



Guardian Glass has introduced Guardian Sense™, an anti-glare glass for digital display and touchscreen applications.

Guardian Glass has launched a glass solution for digital touchscreen displays, which provides excellent anti-glare, anti-sparkling optics, combined with anti-fingerprint properties.

Guardian Sense™ acid-treated glass diffuses light reflections, reduces fingerprint marks and provides a high contrast and colour rendering, allowing the user to focus on what is displayed on the screen. These features, together with the soft touch provided by the treatment, offers a unique viewing experience for touchscreen users.



Guardian Sense™ an anti-glare glass for digital display and touchscreen applications

Today, providing digital content with interactive features is an important requirement, particularly in the latest 4K resolution displays. Guardian Sense provides a unique combination of performance features such as gloss, haze, clarity, anti-sparkling and anti-fingerprint for the ideal cover glass.

Guardian Sense is available in two versions, Guardian Sense 85 and Guardian Sense 60 (the numbers define their gloss rate), in thicknesses from 2mm to 8mm and with dimensions up to 2250mm x 1650mm.

Guardian Glass offers a comprehensive range of glass solutions for indoor and outdoor signage and displays. In addition to Guardian Sense the product range includes:

- Guardian Clarity™ anti-reflective glass delivers an outstanding viewing experience. Suitable for any application where excessive reflection creates an obstruction, Guardian Clarity™ has the ability to combine function, strength and beauty by maximising visibility and minimising light reflection.
- Guardian ThermaGuard™ NRG: heat treatable, low emissivity coated glass that helps digital signs and displays reduce the impact of large temperature fluctuations, whilst acting as an effective electromagnetic shield.
- Guardian Dielectric Mirror: advanced glass coating technology for dual-function mirror/smart TV applications, framed TVs, hidden commercial displays and projection screens.

Selecting the right glass for digital signage, displays and touchscreen applications enhances the effectiveness of displays with glass surfaces. Guardian Glass works closely with manufacturers, systems integrators and designers of digital displays, providing glass solutions that achieve the ideal balance between glass performance and appearance. Support and guidance are provided to help customers specify the right glass for their display based on the specific requirements of the application. Guardian can provide tailored glass solutions and can assist during glass processing to help achieve high quality and efficiency.

22201/Press Release – 2019.11.27

Glass for Europe talks about Circular Economy

Glass for Europe talked in Istanbul about Circular Economy in the European flat glass sector, at the Şişecam International Glass Conference.



The use of recycled flat glass presents major benefits for the flat glass industry as it allows reducing both the energy needed for melting the raw materials and the CO2 emissions. In addition, by increasing the amount of recycled glass, it is possible to limit the process emissions, which cannot be avoided by switching to carbon neutral energy.

In his presentation, Cedric Janssens, Public Affairs Manager of Glass for Europe, shed light on the quantities of end-of-life building glass available in Europe and illustrated the climate, environmental and economic benefits of an increase of recycled glass in flat glass manufacturing.

The Şişecam International Glass Conference was held in conjunction with the 34th Şişecam Glass Symposium with the main theme of “Glass in the Sustainable Future: Achieving What is Possible”.

22202/Press Release – 2019.12.02

CONTAINER GLASS

Glass Companies

O-I



1. **O-I has confirmed it is conducting a strategic review of its Australian and New Zealand (ANZ) glassmaking business.**

It said the review was aimed at exploring options to maximise investor value and may result in a divestiture.

Last month Glass International reported that the world's largest container glassmaker was considering selling its ANZ business for AU \$1 billion (\$675.1 million).

It appointed Goldman Sachs investment bank to negotiate the sale of the segment, which generated about 10% of its global sales last year.

In its latest financial report the company said: "The strategic portfolio review is aimed at exploring options to maximise investor value, focused on aligning the company's business with demand trends, improving the company's operating efficiency, cost structure and working capital management, while ensuring the company remains well-positioned to address its legacy liabilities.

"The review is ongoing and may result in divestitures, corporate transactions or similar actions, and could cause the company to incur restructuring, impairment, disposal or other related charges in future periods."

22203/Press Release – 2019.11.05

2. **A decline in beer sales in the USA caused a drop in sales for O-I container glassmaker.**

The US-based global glass container manufacturer reported Q3 2019 profits were down by \$50 million compared to the same period last year.

Segment operating profit was \$205 million, compared with \$255 million in the third quarter of 2018.

It said \$32 million of this decline was attributable to currency and discrete items. But it reported that unfavourable demand trends for beer and non-alcoholic beverages in the USA had continued.

Andres Lopez, O-I CEO and President, said: "To be clear, changing market dynamics is the largest development affecting our business. This includes the accelerated decline in US beer demand that started in 2018 and has continued into 2019. More recently, we have seen a broader market slowdown that is most notable in the US, Mexico and China. With that said, we continue to see good growth in markets where we added new capacity, such as in Latin America."

He said the company was developing new products to address the beer decline.

"We have very strong capabilities in new product development. We are working on developing new product breakthrough innovations for beer as well as for hard seltzers so we can enter the hard seltzers category in the near future, and we can support volumes in beer in a better way in the future."

The company reported strong growth in both Brazil and Colombia, where it has recently added capacity.

Ongoing projects include the fifth furnace at its JV with Constellation in Mexico and its brownfield expansion in Gironcourt, France, where both are due to begin production in the first half of 2020.

22204/Press Release – 2019.11.05

3. Owens-Illinois receives overwhelming support for Green Bond

Owens-Illinois, Inc. is the first company in the packaging industry to issue a Green Bond, furthering its commitment to sustainability throughout its global manufacturing operations and glass packaging.

To support the debt offering, O-I developed a Green Bond Framework, describing in detail the Company's sustainability strategy and goals and the types of investments that O-I is pursuing from a sustainability perspective. The bond offering received overwhelming support; the offering was upsized from 300 million EUR to 500 million EUR, and priced a historically low coupon rate for O-I at 2.875 percent.

"Glass is a highly attractive package for the new green economy given its clear sustainability attributes – it is pure, healthy and infinitely recyclable. Glass is good for you and good for the planet," said Andres Lopez, Chief Executive Officer.

"Sustainability is woven into everything we do and the Green Bond formalizes our intentions to positively impact our products, operations and financials. We believe this commitment will gain investors' confidence in our company and our product."

The Company will allocate an amount equal to the net proceeds of this offering to finance and/or refinance a variety of new and existing Eligible Green Projects made during the three years prior to the issuance of the Green Bond and the three years subsequent to the issuance of the Green Bond.

The "Eligible Green Projects" that O-I will invest in are further described in O-I's Green Bond Framework and include:

- projects and investments aimed at replacing fossil fuel energy with renewable energy (wind and solar);
- investments in energy efficient solutions, such as LED lighting;
- use of new technologies aimed at reducing water consumption in the manufacturing process;
- projects, investments and research and development aimed at improving the production technologies and processes in manufacturing facilities and facilitating the use of alternative resources;
- projects aimed at using circular economy programs, including waste collection and/or glass recycling processing facilities; and
- projects aimed at decreasing the use of raw material, and using sustainable raw material to produce environmentally friendly products.

The Company's Eligible Green Projects are designed to advance certain U.N. Sustainable Development Goals. O-I received a second party opinion from Sustainalytics, a leading independent ESG research and ratings firm.

Sustainalytics noted in its opinion that the Company's Green Bond Framework is credible and impactful and aligns with the four core components of the Green Bond Principles.

22205/Press Release – 2019.11.26

4. **O-I unveils technology behind O-I Expressions digital printing**

The world's largest glass container manufacturer showcased its O-I Innoval facility in Chazelles-sur-Lyon, Loire, France, which provides the O-I Expressions decoration service. O-I Expressions was launched in September last year and enables direct to glass digital printing. It means O-I customers can create more personalised and customised glass packaging.

At the heart of the process is digital printing equipment from Dekron, a subsidiary of the Krones company.

O-I has installed a U-shaped machine from Dekron at the Chazelles-sur-Lyon site which first pre-treats bottles and then completes the printing process.

Melianne Leeman, Director of the O-I Global Innovation Platform, said O-I Expressions was an important step in allowing customers to differentiate themselves in a competitive packaging environment.

"The feedback so far from customers has been overwhelmingly positive. Customers love it when they see it, they have to see it and then touch it. They can see the potential the technology offers and the tremendous possibilities."

She added that the technology is still in the incubation stage with more developments expected in the coming years.

22206/Press Release – 2019.11.20

Ardagh



ArdaghGlass

1. **Ardagh to produce new, distinctive glass bottle for Girard's®**

Ardagh's collaborative design environment makes it seamless for brands like Girard's to create a custom bottle design.



Ardagh Group, Glass – North America, a division of Ardagh Group, has partnered with T. Marzetti Company to produce a new glass bottle for its Girard's® brand, maintaining a distinctive angular-shape for its premium line of salad dressings.

The Girard's story dates back to 1939, when Chef Pierre Girard created a sophisticated line of salad dressings in San Francisco Bay. Today, Girard's dressings come in a whole line of chef inspired flavours.

When T. Marzetti Co. set out to create a new, premium look for the Girard's brand, they turned to Ardagh, with the goal of maintaining the angular, sophisticated appearance of their glass bottle. The newly designed glass bottle provides a refreshed, distinguished appearance in a trusted and proven sustainable package.

"We are very happy with Girard's new glass bottle design," said Brian Ely, Brand Director at T. Marzetti Co. "While it not only captures the elegant look of the Girard's brand, it is more efficient and increases shelf holding power at retailers by 33 percent versus the previous bottle."

Ardagh's collaborative design environment makes it seamless for brands like Girard's to create a custom bottle design. The Vision4GlassSM approach includes a team of in-house designers that collaborate with customers in the earliest design phases to create conceptual designs, technical drawings, 3D renderings and prototype models.

"The Girard's bottle is a very iconic, premium design that stands out on store shelves," said Efrain Karchmer, Director, New Product Development & Innovation for Ardagh Group's North American Glass division. "When looking for a design refresh that was optimised for manufacturing, filling and packing, without sacrificing any of the key visual elements such as shape, label and closure, Ardagh's designers did an extraordinary job of providing the perfect solution."

Ardagh utilised its Development Machine to sample the new design prior to full production. The Development Machine (see it in action below) makes it seamless for brands like Girard's to create custom bottle designs, launch new products or unveil limited edition releases. The technology simulates every manufacturing condition to make glass bottles and jars of unique shapes and sizes, while also incorporating the latest design features.

22207/Press Release – 2018.11.07

2. Ardagh Group Celebrates Recycling with Absolut Comeback

The latest limited-edition bottle from Absolut Vodka epitomises a circular economy, highlighting the need to recycle and reuse our existing resources. The Absolut Company, together with communication and design agency Drama Queen Communications, first briefed Ardagh Group's design team to create a bottle design based on recycled glass, to promote and visualise the benefits of recycling. Together they developed the "Absolut Comeback" design: a bottle using actual pieces of broken, recycled glass, reflecting the recycled glass that goes into every Absolut Vodka bottle.



To create the 'recycled' bottle design, Ardagh's designers used the reverse engineering technique. Product Designer, John Oczabruk explained, "Because this is a completely original bottle design, we first needed to create a sculpture by attaching pieces of recycled Absolut bottle glass to a 3D print of an Absolut bottle, to maintain the bottle's iconic look and shape. The reverse engineering began by digitally scanning the sculpture into our modelling system, then reconstructing the design to work smoothly in production."

The detailed process required a pan-European approach: UK, Swedish and German design teams were all involved, using 3D prints, digital scanning and virtual sculpting techniques to create the final 3D shape. The result is an impressive 'recycled glass' version of the iconic Absolut vodka bottle, which symbolises the bottle's recycled content and aims to celebrate recycling and inspire others to recycle too, for more sustainable, circular living.

22208/Press Release – 2018.11.11

3. Former Chancellor of the Exchequer joins Ardagh Group Board

Former Chancellor of the Exchequer Rt Hon Philip Hammond has been appointed to the Ardagh Group Board as a Non-Executive Director and as a member of the Audit Committee. The appointment comes after former director Wolfgang Baertz passed away on 19th September 2019.

Mr Baertz was a Director at Ardagh since 2002 and played a huge role in the development of the company over the last 20 years.

Mr Hammond was Member of the UK Parliament from 1997 to 2019, where he held a range of ministerial offices, most recently serving as Chancellor from 2016 to 2019.

Prior to this, he served as Foreign Secretary (2014-2016), Defence Secretary (2011-2014) and Transport Secretary (2010-2011).

Shaun Murphy has also been appointed to the Board as an Executive Director. Mr Murphy joined Ardagh as Chief Operating Officer in September 2019. Prior to joining Ardagh, Shaun was a partner in KPMG for almost 20 years and earlier this year completed a six-year term as Managing Partner of KPMG in Ireland.

22209/Press Release – 2018.11.13

4. Ardagh Group wins UK Packaging Award for 'CSR Initiative of the Year'

Ardagh Group's work with Leeds Rhinos Foundation to help rehabilitate prisoners has won the UK Packaging Award for 'CSR Initiative of the Year' (Corporate-Social Responsibility). Ardagh's Doncaster production facility is part of Leeds Rhinos Foundation's OnSide project. The project aimed to develop prisoners in HMP Hatfield through challenging activities and value-based lessons, demonstrating how to take positive steps forward.

The series of eight-week courses was filled with classroom and physical activity sessions, designed to motivate, rehabilitate and resettle individuals into society, secure sustainable employment and enjoy a successful life away from crime.

Ardagh Doncaster hosted participants in a recruitment day at the end of each course, providing experiences that prepare them to seek employment following release.

Participants undertook mock interviews with Ardagh's Senior Management, learn about business, tour the facility and deliver presentations they have prepared during the course.

James Grant, Plant Director at Ardagh Group Doncaster, said: "We are absolutely over the moon to receive this award for such a meaningful project. It's had a real impact, providing development opportunities for the delegates and for our own team too. We care deeply about our community, and giving back is our way of demonstrating that. It means so much to us that we can have a genuine impact on people's lives."

22210/Press Release – 2018.11.18

Verallia Group



Verallia invests 33 million EUR to modernize its plant in Burgos

Verallia, one of the world's leading glass packaging companies for beverages and food products, November 8 inaugurated a 33 million EUR investment in its Spanish plant in Burgos.

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Burgos plant in Spain, Verallia is celebrating the reconstruction of one of the site's two furnaces. Through this reconstruction, the plant's production capacity has increased by 7 percent to 600 million glass bottles per year, making it the largest of the 7 plants the Group owns in Spain and Portugal.

In 2020, Verallia will invest an additional 10 million EUR to renovate the second furnace at the same plant, marking the Group's ongoing commitment to Spain and the growth prospects that the Group expects.

Following its reconstruction, the furnace has become one of the largest in Europe. By combining the capacities of its two furnaces, the plant now produces 600 million glass bottles each year, mainly for the wine and spirits markets.

The export capacity of Verallia's Spanish customers and the growing sensitivity of consumers to glass make Spain a strategic country for the Group. For this reason and because of the site's proximity to one of the largest wine-growing regions (Castile and Leon, La Rioja and Castilla-La Mancha), the Burgos plant is perfectly positioned to serve the many vineyards that are increasing their production.

The 33 million EUR investment increases the plant's production capacity from 560 to 600 million bottles per year to meet the growing demand for glass packaging in Spain.

It also makes the factory more flexible: the 7 production lines are capable of simultaneously manufacturing up to 8 different models, standard or customized. This makes it possible to offer "more quickly, tailor-made solutions to our customers", said Paulo Pinto, General Manager of Verallia in Spain and Portugal during the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Burgos plant where the new furnace was inaugurated.

The latest technologies and materials have been used in the reconstruction to improve the plant's energy efficiency and environmental impact. This contributes to reducing fossil fuel consumption and minimizing CO2 emissions, in line with Verallia's environmental commitments. These renovations also improve the ergonomics and safety of the Burgos plant and thus the working conditions of its employees.

Michel Giannuzzi, Chairman and CEO of Verallia, said, “With this new furnace, the Burgos plant has state-of-the-art technology for the manufacture of glass bottles mainly for the wine and spirits markets.

Our policy of sustained investment in Spain and in all our plants enables us to improve the operational excellence of our industrial facilities in order to become the preferred supplier of glass packaging.”

22211/Press Release – 2018.11.11

Wiegand



Wiegand-Glas invests in four LWN IS machine fans at its Schleusingen plant
LWN Lufttechnik has received an order from Wiegand-Glas to equip four IS machines with cooling fans.

The machines will be in operation in the glass factory in Schleusingen, the largest greenfield glass factory in Germany in 2020.

LWN's range includes all process steps from detailed planning to installation and commissioning and includes fans, piping and electrical installation.



All four IS machines will be installed by the end of February 2020.

22212/Press Release – 2019.11.07

Beatson Clark



New Bart jar easier to recycle thanks to Beatson Clark

Bart asked long-standing partner Beatson Clark to refresh its herbs and spices packaging as part of its rebrand by redesigning its standard 95ml Spice jar to incorporate a screw cap which can easily be removed.

The Bart Ingredients Company is doing its bit for the environment by introducing a new glass jar that can be more easily recycled – with help from glass manufacturer Beatson Clark.

The previous jars featured a recyclable 5PP black plastic spoon or sprinkle cap which for stability reasons was not removable.



However black plastic is not easily detected by scanners in recycling plants so the new, improved jar now features a lighter-coloured screw cap which can easily be removed, allowing the packaging to be fully recyclable.

Beatson Clark has also redesigned the 96.5ml Bart Salt and Pepper Grinder jars to resemble the same shape as the Bart standard jar, so when ranged together on shelf, they look like they are from the same family with a more contemporary look and elegant profile.

“After seven years in our current packaging and with plastic such a hot topic with our consumers, we wanted to take the opportunity to refresh our designs and move our packaging on to be more recyclable,” said Alison Wilde, Marketing Director at the Bart Ingredients Company.

“Our consumers love our brand with its confident, premium packaging, so it was important to ensure that Bart remained recognisable at the point of purchase. However, we wanted to elevate the individual herbs and spices to demonstrate the love and care that goes into each one. We think we’ve achieved that with some beautifully elegant designs.”

Bart has worked in partnership with Beatson Clark since 1995 and Alison says the two companies understand each other well.

“We’ve got a long-standing relationship with Beatson Clark and they worked really hard on this packaging refresh,” she added. “Beatson Clark worked closely with us to meet our brief and we’re very pleased with the end result.

“Bart’s philosophy is to form long-standing relationships with people so we seek out partners who have a similar mindset to our own, who will trust in your business and go the extra mile. The fact that we’ve worked with Beatson Clark for such a long time is testament to their professionalism and expertise.”

Aaron Broadley, Key Account Manager at Beatson Clark, commented: “We’ve been working with Bart for a long time and we’re their only supplier of glass jars for spices, so we were only too pleased to be asked to assist with their packaging refresh.

“Glass is the perfect material for this brand. Not only does it emphasise the premium nature of the product, but it also has practical advantages – people tend to keep herbs and spices in their cupboard for a long time and glass is by far the best packaging material for preserving the product.

“Glass is also inert, which means it won’t leach any harmful chemicals and contaminate the contents inside the jar.”

22213/Press Release – 2019.11.11

Vidroporto



Vidroporto is to increase production by 70% at its Indústria Videira do Nordeste (IVN) site in Sergipe, Estância, North-East Brazil.

The Brazilian container glassmaker said it would increase capacity to 370 tonnes a day upon completion of the investment.

The company will invest BRZ100 million (\$23.8 million) in the site, which will include a new 48-section robotic forming machine – the first in Brazil.

It will also increase the number of employees at the site from 180 to 230.

Vidroporto's national President, Edson Rossi, said the technology installation will make the factory the most modern of its kind in Brazil.

"The technology we are bringing is not yet in Brazil. They are state-of-the-art machines, with a capacity around 50% higher than current production. They are more productive, with accessories such as robots that do not exist in Brazil in this activity. We will have here in Estância, perhaps the most modern factory in Brazil."

The expansion was made possible thanks to a government reduction in a tax levied on gas for industrial use.

The expansion is expected to be completed in May 2020.

22214/Press Release – 2019.11.26

Croxsons



Croxsons, has supplied primary packaging for Balblair Distillery's rare 25 years old single malt whisky.



Being one of the oldest working distilleries in the Scottish Highlands, Balblair had recently commissioned new packaging for their collection of premium single malt Scotch whiskies and needed a suitable bespoke design for their jewel in the crown. Croxsons has worked with Inver House, Balblair's owners for many years, so working closely was a natural extension to their relationship.

In a move away from the distillery's current 'vintage-only' approach, the launch of the new age statement collection signals a new era for Balblair. While each expression offers its own unique appeal, the entire series stays true to Balblair's house style, following a gentle and considered approach with its focus firmly on quality over quantity – an attribute Balblair has become renowned for.

Commenting on the collection, Balblair's distillery manager, John MacDonald, said, "We are proud of our heritage and will continue to honour our centuries-old traditions, but we also look forward in a quiet pursuit of perfection. Our new collection is intrinsically linked to our heritage and is a true testament to the place and the people behind our whisky, while being emblematic of our 'True Highland Spirit'."

Croxsons' chief operating officer, Tim Croxson, said, "Our bespoke bottle reflects the super premium nature of this spirit. The design took cues from Balblair's core range, with the flared finish, rounded shoulders, the shaped eyebrow on the front and the brand logo 'z-rod' emboss on the back. The 25 years old bottle denotes elegance and opulence with its increase in height and a subtle taper being added to the body. A thick base was introduced to indicate the premium quality of the product.

"We produced 5,000 units in one size and 2,000 in another, which are incredibly low runs, even for such a premium product, but it reflects the brand's focus on quality over quantity. Our ambition to match world class manufacturing to a fantastic design resulted in a bottle that is worthy of the nature and stature of the brand."

Fiona King, Balblair's global marketing manager – malts, said, "We chose Croxsons as they were able to work with our small volume releases.

They are also able to source and offer components that are not always available to general trade, which opens up the possibilities in our spirit packaging.

"Through regular communication and a detailed understanding our requirements, a bottle has been produced that delivers against the design brief and is technically sound in strength and capacity. We were able to sign off on the final design after the first pilot run, which ensured we launched on time. Croxsons will continue to be our go-to supplier when we have new packaging developments, particularly for low volume, high quality releases."

22215/Press Release – 2019.11.12

Stölzle

Stölzle wins the UK Packing and Luxury Packaging awards. The prestigious **annual UK Packing and Luxury Packaging awards**, held by the Packaging News, took place at Grosvenor House Hotel in London's Mayfair.



This year, instead of holding two separate events for each of the awards, they both for the first time came together on the same evening.

Yet again Stölzle Flaconnage were shortlisted for three of these esteemed awards with fantastic results. Well done to the whole team involved in these projects.

They are:



The Luxury Packaging Awards

Category – Luxury Drinks – ‘Comte De Grasse 44°N Gin’ – Result: Highly Commended

The UK Packaging Awards

Category – Best Packaging of a New Product: Winner ‘Mount Rigi Swiss Aperitif’

Category – Glass pack of the Year: Spirits, perfume and cosmetics – Winner is ‘Tarquins Cornish Gin’

22216/Press Release – 2019.11.28

Azerbaijani Ask Glass

Azerbaijani Ask Glass (a subsidiary of the Azerbaijan Industrial Corporation) has begun exporting glass containers to Georgia, and in 2020 will significantly increase deliveries. Ask Steklo signed a contract with Coca-Cola Bottlers Georgia to supply 2.6 million glass containers to Georgia to dispense Coca-Cola and Fanta drinks in them by the end of 2019.

In 2020 export volumes will increase the initial forecast provides for the supply of 10-20 million units of glass containers, according to the Azerbaijan Industrial Corporation.

Ask Glass has been asked to carry out a set of measures to improve the quality of its products. Ask Glass was established in February 2018 and is located in Baku.

The company is located on an area of 22 hectares and is equipped with the most modern Italian equipment, along with the use of local raw materials,

Ask Glass also purchases glass in Russia, Ukraine and Turkey while the production capacity of the plant is 80-85 million units of glass containers.

22217/Press Release – 2019.11.18

AGI Glaspac (India)

Indian container glassmaker AGI glaspac is to invest in technology upgrades that will see its capability to produce lighter bottles and reuse glass.

The Hyderabad-based company will obtain the latest NNPB technology from Europe to produce lightweight bottles.

It said the technology will help reduce bottle weight by a third without compromising on quality.

Rajesh K Khosla, President & CEO was quoted: “We have production capability and will need about 100 crore (\$14 million) investment to get the special technology and harness it for manufacturing products that will mostly be exported.”

- The first funding of 15 crore will be used in the Bhongir manufacturing plant, about 50km from Hyderabad.
- The second 15 crore investment will be set up in the Hyderabad production unit next year.

The company currently produces about 1600 tonnes a day from the two plants. It manufactures 6.5 million bottles a day for various segments.

22218/Press Release – 2019.11.19

Miscellaneous**‘Close the Glass Loop’ Programme to boost Glass Collection for Recycling**

The European glass packaging industry sets in motion “Close the Glass Loop” - a major stewardship programme to boost glass 'collection for recycling' rates to 90% by 2030 in the EU. The move comes as a proactive response to new EU rules to increase net recycling targets for glass packaging to 75% by 2030.

Today, over 76% of glass packaging placed on the European market is collected for “bottle to bottle” recycling, already putting the circularity of glass in a league of its own. Industry CEOs have unanimously agreed to set up the “Close the Glass Loop” programme with the common ambition to achieve an EU-wide 90% collection for recycling target for glass packaging by 2030.

The programme will be shaped in the coming months with value chain partners, with initial discussions on collaboration already underway. The official platform launch is planned in June 2020.

“Our goal is to keep increasing the sustainability credentials of the glass packaging solutions we provide to our customers and consumers,” stated FEVE President Michel Giannuzzi. **“We are proud to lead ‘Close the Glass Loop’, an industry-wide initiative that will have real benefits for the market and our planet alike: it is our call for action to deliver an ambitious Circular Economy Action Plan for glass.”**

This initiative will bring together the different stakeholders of the glass collection and recycling loop under a common European platform with a twofold objective of closing the collection gap and improving the quality of recycled glass (cullet), so that resources remain productive in a bottle-to-bottle manufacturing loop.

More availability of good quality cullet means a more resource-efficient production process, providing a premium level, safe and truly recycled packaging material.

It all starts with collection. The “Close the Glass Loop” programme will boost collection and involve the many committed European and national partners, from municipalities, to glass processors and industry customers, including the Extended Producer Responsibility schemes operating across EU Member States. **“To be successful, we need to work locally in every EU Member State, while sharing best practices and raising ambitions via a European platform. We don’t believe in a single European model for glass collection, but we do believe in a single ambition,”** stressed Michel Giannuzzi.

“We are very proud to have been able to set the foundations for such an ambitious programme, which has a very strong support inside the membership and perfectly matches the objectives of both the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the European Green Deal of the new European Commission,” stated Adeline Farrelly, Secretary General of FEVE.

The production of glass packaging for food, beverages as well as in the pharmaceutical, perfumery and cosmetics sector with an endlessly recyclable, reusable and permanent material translates to less consumption of natural resources, less waste and less use of energy in line with the Sustainable Consumption and Production Goal (SDG 12). At the same time, glass recycling directly allows the industry to dramatically reduce energy consumption and CO2 emissions, in line with the Climate Action Goal (SDG 13).

22219/Press Release – 2019.10.29

DOMESTIC TABLEWARE AND CRYSTAL GLASS

Glass Companies

Riedel

1. RIEDEL CORNETTO-CONFETTI - DECANTERS 2020

For years Riedel has been reiterating the importance of decanting. Recommended for red wines, white wines, champagne and rosé wines. International awards and patents underline the company’s expertise in decanters and their functionality, developed over the course of many years. Cornetto, designed by Maximilian Riedel in 2004, is one of Riedel’s worldwide bestselling products. It has a timeless shape and is easy to use. Cornetto-Confetti is Riedel’s response to the ever-increasing demand for “more colour” on the international markets. The great success of the colourful Amadeo decanter collection, which was introduced in 2019, gave Maximilian Riedel the idea to create Cornetto- Confetti.



The bright colours of the decanters are inspired by pop art and stand for zest for life and joy! The decanters are handmade in the factory in Kufstein.

For those who prefer an understated look, the Cornetto decanter is also available in the original, transparent version – regular size or mini. Cornetto-Confetti is available in orange, green, yellow, blue and red.

22220/Press Release – 2019.11.26

2. DECANTER SWAN MAGNUM LIMITED EDITION 2020

Maximilian Riedel is delighted to announce another instalment of Riedel's cooperation with the Elton John AIDS Foundation, which began with a specially designed decanter in 2017. 2020 therefore marks the fourth year of this successful cooperation. Sir Elton John's original signature will be engraved into each of the 175 crystal decanters, which are handmade in Kufstein, and available as from January 2020.

The distinctive features of Riedel's decanter collection for the Elton John AIDS Foundation are the special sizes (Magnum or Double Magnum) and the colours of the rainbow.

This is the fourth and final cooperation between the Austrian company Riedel and the Elton John AIDS Foundation. EUR 35,000 of all proceeds go to Sir Elton John's foundation.

"Our limited editions usually comprise 50 units. But in the case of the decanter editions for the Elton John AIDS Foundation, we increased the numbers each year so we could keep up with the enormous worldwide demand. I greatly admire the work Sir Elton John does and am honoured to be able to support the Elton John AIDS Foundation again this year," says Maximilian J. Riedel.

The Magnum decanter has a capacity of 1.5 litres. The production of the decanter is a highly complex and difficult process. Only the glassblowers at the Riedel factory in Kufstein have the skills required to make these extraordinary decanters. Elton John's autograph is engraved into the base of the decanter, which is also accompanied by a signed and serially numbered certificate. Each decanter in this edition is a unique piece, a mouth-blown work of art made of crystal glass.

22221/Press Release – 2019.11.26

3. Mixing Sets for Cocktails and Mixed Drinks

The cocktail and bar drink revival has long ceased to be a secret. In 2019 Riedel presented its **DRINK SPECIFIC GLASSWARE** series, developed in cooperation with the US spirits specialist Zane Harris. This series combines the past and the present and meets the need for cocktail-specific glasses in restaurants and bars, and also for cocktail enthusiasts at home.

Following the resounding international success of the Riedel Gin & Tonic sets, in 2020 Riedel is presenting Mixing Tonic, Mixing Rum and Champagne Cocktail, the perfect complement for people who enjoy creating and mixing their own cocktails.

22222/Press Release – 2019.11.26

4. RIEDEL Performance for Zweigelt

Twenty of the leading vintners from the Austrian Zweigelt regions – Neusiedlersee DAC and Rubin Carnuntum – accepted the invitation of Maximilian J. Riedel, 11th generation CEO of the family business, to take part in a workshop at the PANNONEUM business and

tourism school in Neusiedl am See. The goal was to develop a concept for the perfect Zweigelt glass and to review the functionality of the existing glass in two independent workshops. As Austria's most widespread red grape variety, Blauer Zweigelt ranges from very young wines to strong wines matured in wooden barrels. This is why there were doubts as to whether a single glass would be able to cover that entire spectrum.

In two workshops with Maximilian Riedel, the participating vintners from Neusiedlersee DAC and Rubin Carnuntum tested various glass shapes from different series and selected their preferred glasses. Varietal wines from each region were blind tasted. There were 10 glasses at the start of the process. In the course of four flights for each glass, their functionality – in terms of bouquet, flavour, in-mouth sensation and finish – was reviewed and evaluated in a selection process. After each wine, a number of glasses were eliminated by a show of hands until finally, after the fourth wine, one glass prevailed.

The glass that received the best rating in both workshops was the **Syrah glass from the Performance series**.

The special feature of the glass from the Performance series is the surface of the glass inside the bowl, which is produced "optically" in a machine process: a grooved structure increases the inner surface area of the glass without changing its elegant silhouette or feel. This structure also serves to additionally aerate the wine as it is swirled, thereby enhancing its bouquet. Maximilian Riedel uses the term "**optic impact**". The barely visible grooves are not a gimmick, but serve the purpose of presenting the wine in its most perfect and comprehensive form.

22223/Press Release – 2019.11.26

Lalique

LALIQUE

Since the 2013 vintage, the engraving "Woman and Raisin" made by René Lalique in 1928, which adorned the famous coach-wagons of the train "French Riviera Pullman-Express", is reproduced on the Sauternes bottles of Château Lafaurie-Peyraguey. For the holiday season, David Bolzan (general manager) and Silvio Denz (owner of the castle) wanted to make a mark by launching a limited edition for which the engraving of René Lalique will be adorned with gold.



© Château Lafaurie-Peyraguey

The empty bottles were sent to the famous Lalique factory in Alsace in Wingen-sur-Moder to be browned before returning to the castle for Sauternes bottling. The laying of gold is cold by buffering with liquid gold, on etching, then the bottle is baked overnight at 510 ° C to make enameling of gold in the glass. Each bottle is then hand-signed by a factory worker.

22224/Press Release – 2019.11.14

REINFORCEMENT GLASS FIBRES

Glass Companies

Johns Manville



Johns Manville (JM) has signed an agreement to acquire ITW Insulation Systems, a business owned by Illinois Tool Works Inc. that is well known in the industrial industry for its premium, low-temperature polyisocyanurate foam insulations and metal jacketing solutions. The deal is expected to close in early December.

“The acquisition of ITW Insulation Systems represents an important strategic opportunity to offer expanded insulation solutions to the industrial market,” said JM President and CEO Mary Rhinehart. “This will give us greater versatility and allow JM’s Insulation Systems business to continue to offer a robust and well-rounded portfolio of insulation solutions.”

ITW Insulation Systems has 100 employees who work at four manufacturing plants in the U.S. and Canada (Houston, Texas; La Porte, Texas; Edmonton, Alberta; and Mississauga, Ontario).

ITW Insulation Systems’ primary markets include refining, petrochemical, power, LNG, food & beverage, oil sands and other energy applications.

“There is substantial growth occurring in the cold and cryogenic markets,” said Bob Wamboldt, President of JM’s Insulation Systems business. “We wanted to participate more actively in this space and the product portfolio offered by ITW Insulation Systems allows us to do exactly that.”

JM plans to integrate ITW Insulation Systems as a key part of its industrial insulation portfolio without making significant changes to the existing operations at ITW Insulation Systems.

“JM’s Industrial Insulation business is a market leader, producing the broadest product portfolio of any manufacturer in the industrial insulation industry,” said Dave Skelly, General Manager of Performance Materials at JM.

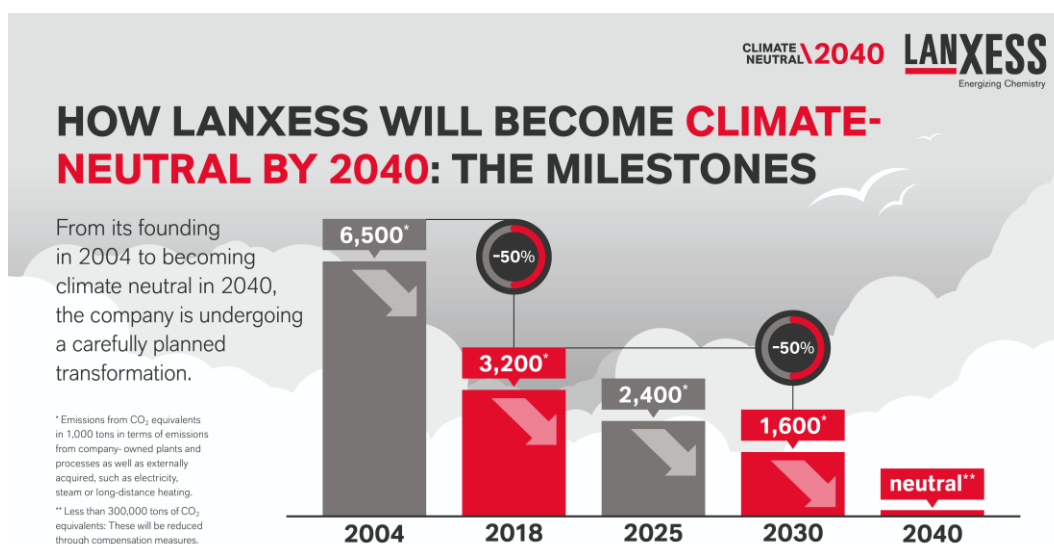
“Historically, this has included high-temperature calcium silicate, expanded perlite, mineral wool, microporous blankets and silica aerogel, and now, with the addition of ITW Insulation Systems, our portfolio includes both low-temperature polyisocyanurate foams and metal jacketing. These additions make our industrial insulation portfolio incredibly robust and allow us to be a single source for our customers’ insulation and jacketing needs.”

22225/Press Release – 2019.11.21

Lanxess

LANXESS to become climate neutral by 2040

- First major projects to lower CO₂e underway in Belgium and India
- Carbon footprint becomes criterion for future growth
- Research focusing on climate neutral process and technology innovations



(*) Emissions from CO₂equivalents in 1,000 tonnes in terms of emissions from company – owned plants and processes as well as externally acquired, such as electricity, steam or long-distance heating.

(**) Less than 300,000 tonnes of CO₂ equivalents. These will be reduced through compensation measures.

LANXESS has set itself an ambitious climate protection target. By 2040, the Group intends to become climate neutral and eliminate its greenhouse gas emissions from around 3.2 million metric tons of CO₂e today. Already by 2030, LANXESS aims to cut its emissions by 50 percent compared to the current level to around 1.6 million metric tons of CO₂e.

“Under the Paris agreement, the global community decided to limit global warming to less than two degrees. This requires massive efforts on the part of everyone involved. With our goal of achieving climate neutrality by 2040, we are fulfilling our responsibility as a global specialty chemicals company.

At the same time, we will be an even more sustainable partner for our customers in the future,” said Matthias Zachert, Chairman of the Board of Management of LANXESS AG. Zachert also highlighted the long-term cost savings associated with a more efficient use of resources, saying that “climate protection is a business case”.

Clear strategy to lower emissions

LANXESS is taking a three-pronged approach to become climate neutral by 2040.

- Launch major impact projects for climate protection:

Over the next few years, LANXESS will put into action special projects to significantly lower greenhouse gases. For example, the Group is currently building a facility for the decomposition of nitrous oxide at its Antwerp, Belgium, site. The new facility will begin operations in 2020 and reduce annual greenhouse gas emissions by around 150,000 metric tons of CO₂e. After a second expansion in 2023, CO₂e emissions will fall by another 300,000 metric tons.

In addition, LANXESS is switching the entire energy supply at its Indian sites to renewable energy sources. There, the Group is massively expanding its supply of biomass and solar power and will no longer use coal or gas in the future. This will cut CO₂e emissions by a further 150,000 metric tons from 2024. With these projects and other measures, LANXESS will decrease its CO₂e emissions by a total of 800,000 metric tons by 2025, investing up to EUR 100 million in the process.

- Decouple emissions and growth:

LANXESS is on growth course. But despite increasing production volumes, emissions of greenhouse gases in the individual business units are set to decline. In addition to technological efficiency, changes to governance instruments play a role, with the impact on the company’s carbon footprint becoming an investment criterion for organic growth and acquisitions. This gives business units that achieve better than average reductions in greenhouse gas emissions a direct financial advantage. Moreover, lowering CO₂e will be introduced as an assessment criterion in the bonus system for managers.

- Strengthen process and technological innovations:

LANXESS is revising many of its existing production processes in order to become climate neutral by 2040. For example, the Group will continue to improve its “Verbund” structures, e.g., when it comes to heat exchange between plants and air purification. Other procedures must first be developed on an industrial scale. The Group is therefore focussing its research more closely towards climate neutral process and technological innovation.

Climate neutrality requires political backing

LANXESS is committed to the Paris agreement, in particular its requirement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Zachert believes that industry and government both share collective responsibility for this: “With our climate initiative, we are making an offer to policy makers. Nonetheless, we can accomplish this only if policies are put in place that create the right conditions.”

Looking at the current legislative process to enact the German government's climate package, Zachert said: "A commitment to climate protection must not jeopardize our competitiveness. The government must bear this in mind when designing the specifics of its climate package."

In particular, Zachert urged the importance of avoiding a double burden on the industry under the working European emissions trading due to national systems. This is still the case in a current bill on a national emissions trading system for fuel emissions in Germany. "In the short term, we need to return to competitive energy prices. In the long term, we will be able to provide substantial climate neutral solutions only if sufficient renewable energy is available at industry-competitive prices."

Approval procedures also need to be simplified and accelerated and financial and tax structures for future investments must be improved. "We are engaged in dialogue with policy makers on this and are happy to provide our expertise to support the political decision-making process," said Zachert.

50 percent decrease in greenhouse gases since LANXESS was established

Since it was founded, LANXESS has made substantial progress on its way to becoming more environmentally friendly. Between 2004 and 2018, the Group halved its greenhouse gas emissions from around 6.5 million metric tons of CO₂e to about 3.2 million metric tons. Substantial contribution came from a nitrous oxide reduction plant in Krefeld-Uerdingen, Germany, commissioned in 2009. The project has received multiple awards, including in the "365 Landmarks in the Land of Ideas" competition and the "VCI Responsible Care Award North Rhine-Westphalia". The specialty chemicals company has also carried out numerous other projects to lower emissions at its sites around the world and supports local initiatives to tackle climate change. LANXESS has already achieved its previous targets of improving energy efficiency in conjunction with reducing specific CO₂ emissions and emissions of volatile organic compounds by 25 percent each against 2015.

To measure its emissions, LANXESS looks at the emissions of greenhouse gases defined in the Kyoto Protocol and calculates their greenhouse effect in comparison to carbon dioxide (CO₂e). The specialty chemicals company includes emissions from its own production (Scope 1) and from external energy sources (Scope 2) in the calculation.

22226/Press Release – 2019.11.13

SPECIAL GLASS

Glass Company

SCHOTT

1. SCHOTT introduces first silicone-free glass syringe system.

International technology group SCHOTT has collaborated with W.L. Gore & Associates, a global material science company, to offer a tested and validated option for the packaging and delivery of complex biologic drugs.

SCHOTT



Silicone has long been a necessary substance for pre-fillable syringes to help reduce the injection force needed to administer drugs, making the treatment more comfortable for the patient. Yet, silicone may interact with and harm the drug.

SCHOTT has collaborated with W.L. Gore & Associates to pair GORE Improject Plungers with syriQ BioPure® silicone-free syringes. Together, the two companies present the first pre-fillable glass syringe (PFS) system that completely eliminates the need for silicone or similar substances.

The collaboration helps meet the needs of the growing market for biologics that are ultra-sensitive to silicone, which applies to an estimated 10 to 15 percent of the global biologics pipeline.

“Biologics stored in pre-fillable glass syringes can come into contact with up to seven components that have the potential to leach and interact,” said Dr. Nicolas Eon, Senior Global Product Manager at SCHOTT. “This product allows a new class of drugs to be manufactured and stored in pre-fillable syringes – a packaging class that offers a great way to save time for clinicians, reduce healthcare costs and improve patient safety.”

syriQ BioPure® silicone-free syringes use no silicone inside the syringe barrel. To maintain a consistent gliding force and injection duration over the shelf life of the product on one side, and provide a robust container closure integrity on the other side, great emphasis was given to an accurate geometry. The new syringes are made of FIOLAX® CHR® glass tubing that is 100 percent inspected with the help of a big data process named perfeXion®, ensuring tight dimensions and a high cosmetic quality of each barrel. In addition, syriQ BioPure® silicone-free also features ultra-low tungsten residuals as well as low cannula adhesive residuals to lower the extractable profile and reduce risk of container/drug interactions.

The barrels will now be offered with GORE Improject silicone-free plungers – the industry’s leading silicone-free plunger – to further eliminate the risk of container interaction with sensitive biologics. GORE Improject Plungers eliminate the need for silicone as a lubricant in pre-filled syringes. Designed for use in bare-glass (non-siliconized) barrels, these plungers can help to protect complex or sensitive biologics from silicone-induced aggregation and particulation while maintaining consistent injection performance over time.

22227/Press Release – 2019.11.08

2. SCHOTT and West Partnership

West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc., a global leader in innovative solutions for injectable drug administration, and the international technology group SCHOTT, a leading primary packaging solutions provider, announced a partnership to combine the SCHOTT iQ® platform with West’s Ready Pack™ system



The collaboration will initially launch by combining West Pharmaceutical Services components and SCHOTT’s adaptiQ® high-quality RTU glass vials and will expand to include other convenient, ready-to-use combinations of West and SCHOTT products, to be available on a small-quantity basis.

“With more than 4,000 new injectable drug products in development worldwide, many of which are in small settings such as universities, medical research institutes, or smaller-sized companies, West appreciates and understands the need to provide ready-to-use, high quality, sterile packaging products in small volumes for developmental and clinical phases,” said Mike Schaefers, Ph.D., Vice President and General Manager, Pharma, West. “Our partnership with SCHOTT now provides our customers with high-quality glass containment options to complement the stoppers, seals and glass alternatives West already provides through its Ready Pack system.”

“Easy and fast access to our broad product portfolio of ready-to-use vials and components not only gives flexibility in the drug development and production process, but also helps to enhance patient’s safety as an overall target,” said Fabian Stöcker, VP, Global Strategy and Innovation, SCHOTT Pharmaceutical Systems.

He added, “Through this partnership, SCHOTT and West have partnered to provide containment solutions to the market that reduce risk and meet the increasing regulations across the globe. We worked together to pre-test combinations of SCHOTT’s highest quality ISO vials, with WEST’s high-end sterilized stoppers and seals.

Extending this concept to other primary packaging containers such as ready-to-use cartridges and ready-to-use syringes will also benefit our customers using this kind of primary packaging.”

22228/Press Release – 2019.11.13

3. SCHOTT invests 30 million EUR in Mainz

Specialty glass manufacturer SCHOTT has now officially opened a state-of-the-art CNC competence centre for its glass-ceramic ZERODUR in Mainz, Germany, by holding a festive reception.



To commemorate a special day, a ZERODUR disk was signed by (from left) Hermann Ditz, Member of the Management Board responsible for Advanced Optics, Rhineland-Palatinate Prime Minister Malu Dreyer, and Dr. Frank Heinrich, Chairman of the SCHOTT Board of Management. Photo: SCHOTT

Glass-ceramic components will be processed in accordance with individual customer specifications at the new production facility by using electronically controlled CNC machines. The investment amounts to more than 30 million EUR. Up to 70 highly qualified specialists will be employed here.

“By making this investment, we are creating the prerequisites that will enable us to meet our customers’ future requirements even better in terms of both volume and quality,” explained Dr. Frank Heinrich, Chairman of the Board of Management of SCHOTT AG, with the Minister President of Rhineland-Palatinate, Malu Dreyer, and several customers in attendance.

“With ZERODUR glass-ceramic, a material created here in Mainz that is actually made to ‘reach for the stars.’ But in order for this to happen, ‘earthly’ foundations have to be created, which SCHOTT AG does in an exemplary manner,” the Minister President said. She then added, “The innovative company is the largest industrial employer and trainer in Mainz and sets standards as a glass industry leader in environmental protection and energy efficiency.”



SCHOTT is able to provide ZERODUR glass-ceramic components with complex geometries and finest structures, for example for lightweight mirror carriers for satellites or space telescopes. Photo: SCHOTT

The new production facility bears the name of Jürgen Petzoldt, the pioneer of glass ceramics at SCHOTT. Dr. Petzoldt was responsible for the development of the ZERODUR glass ceramic from 1966 and was also one of the fathers of the CERAN glass ceramic cooktop panels. From 1988 to 1996 he was a member of the SCHOTT Board.

The new CNC Competence Center is one of the largest investment projects in recent years at the main site in Mainz. It is also the largest component of a multi-part investment program for optics manufacturing in Mainz, which has a total volume of over EUR 40 million. This also includes a CNC machine facility for processing glass-ceramic parts up to 4.5 meters in diameter, which was put into operation in 2017. "All these projects will serve to make our Advanced Optics Business Unit fit for the future," Dr. Heinrich noted.

22229/Press Release – 2019.11.28

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DIVERSE

GLASS & SUPPLIERS

British Glass Annual Glass Focus Awards

The Glass Focus Awards organised by British Glass took place on 20 November in Sheffield, UK with Allied Glass taking home the Company of the Year award.

Held at the Mercure St Paul's Hotel in the city centre, the awards aim to show the best of what the UK glass sector has to offer over the past 12 months.

This included ground-breaking innovations to the fresh faces of the industry already making a difference.



Saint-Gobain Glass UK also won big taking home three awards while Encirc claimed two prizes.

Knottingley-based Allied Glass won the top award for having shown “excellence across the year in terms of its own business performance while also representing and strengthening the glass sector as a whole.”

It had invested in a new decoration line and office space that allowed Allied to continue to manufacture high-quality, innovative designs for a number of customers in the spirits sector.

Allied Glass has also strengthened its ties with the local area through a number of community initiatives, including the refurbishment of a local school library.

Dave Dalton, CEO of British Glass said: “Each year the entries we receive for the Glass Focus awards showcase excellent examples of what our industry can do, from serving our customers, investing in our workforce, reducing our environmental impact and beyond.”

“British Glass is proud of the achievements of all those who entered the awards and, of course, our winners and we look forward to seeing what the industry is capable of in the next 12 months.”

The full list of winners at Glass Focus 2019 were:

- Company of the Year: Allied Glass
- Design of the Year – container: The Ardagh Group with its Glenfiddich whisky bottle
- Design of the Year – flat: Saint-Gobain Glass UK for its work on the Macallan Distillery and visitor centre
- Innovative Solution: Encirc’s state of the art virtual reality training room
- Health and Safety Action: Joint winners - Encirc and Socabelec for their hot end Swabbing Robots
- Sustainable Practice: Saint-Gobain Glass UK with its ‘Glass Forever’ post-consumer flat glass recovery and recycling initiative
- Strengthening Business Through People: O-I’s ‘Career Ready’ community programme
- Apprentice of the Year: Joe Boyd of Saint-Gobain Glass UK.

22230/Press Release – 2019.11.25

Soda Ash

£30m investment announced for Tata Chemicals Europe soda ash site

Tata Chemicals Europe (TCE) has announced a £30M future-proofing investment at its Lostock soda ash manufacturing site in Northwich, Cheshire, UK.

As announced in March 2019, TCE is set to benefit from an agreement for Lostock Sustainable Energy to construct, own and operate its £480M Sustainable Energy Plant (EfW plant) on the Lostock site.

The deal also includes a 25-year contract for TCE to supply to the EfW plant of its Briskarb sodium bicarbonate, manufactured at the Lostock site, used for flue gas treatment.

The new site will have a state-of-the-art 2500m³ per day water treatment plant that will supply treated water to the soda ash process.

The development will also see high voltage electrical substations, new pipe bridges and raw material storage arrangements and new roads, lighting and gatehouse facilities created.

A new central office complex, workshops and plant maintenance facilities will result in a significant upgrade and improvement in engineering effectiveness.

Martin Ashcroft, Managing Director of TCE said: “As well as providing both light ash and heavy ash to our customers for use in a range of applications, the Lostock soda ash plant is pivotal to the other arms of our business.

“It provides the raw material for sodium bicarbonate production at both our Winnington and Lostock locations.

“Around 22% of the light soda ash produced at Lostock is used for sodium bicarbonate production, demand for which is growing globally every year.”

Work has already commenced on the plant upgrade and is due to be completed within 18 months.

22231/Press Release – 2019.11.11

Glaston to Sell Glass Mexican Business

Glaston Corporation has signed an agreement to divest its pre-processing business in Mexico to Italy's Bavelloni.

The divested business' net sales for January-September 2019 were €2 million and it has had a slightly positive EBITA impact.

With the aim to focus on one of its core technologies, Heat Treatment, Glaston divested its pre-processing business in Italy in 2015.

In 2016 the pre-processing businesses in USA and Canada were divested and in 2018 the Group's Tools business in Italy was sold and the joint venture discontinued in China.

The remaining share of the pre-processing and tools businesses will continue as is, as distribution agreements for Bavelloni's pre-processing products and tools in Brazil and Singapore remain in force.

Glaston will continue its sales and services in Mexico through its units in Americas supported by Bavelloni Mexico regarding heat treatment projects.

22232/Press Release – 2019.11.04

SEMINARS / CONFERENCES / WORKSHOPS

ICCG13: March 23-26, 2020 in Braunschweig



The aim of the **International Conference on Coatings on Glass and Plastics (ICCG)** is to identify significant trends early on and to discuss possible implementation in new technologies and products guided by market requirements.

Energy conversion, saving, storage as well as architectural and automotive glazing and other interesting topics in the field of "Advanced Coatings on Glass and Plastics for Large-Area or High-Volume Products" will be paramount at the ICCG 13 in Braunschweig from March 23 to 26, 2020.

By registering before 1st December 2019, the early bird fee is 850 EUR for the full conference, including lunch and all social events. The short courses fee is 280 EUR, including the short courses book.

Latest information about the conference on the website: <https://13.iccg.eu/en/home>

22233/Press Release – 2019.07.10

Challenging Glass Conference



Challenging Glass is an international bi-annual conference that aims at gathering world class designers, engineers, researchers and industry partners to discuss on the architectural and structural use of glass. The next edition of Challenging Glass is planned for 18 & 19 June 2020 at the Ghent University (Belgium) and is organised by Jan Belis (UGent), Freek Bos (TU Eindhoven) and Christian Louter (TU Dresden).

More info at: <http://www.challengingglass.com/>

22234/Press Release – 2019.09.05
