

WELCOME TO EU GLASS INDUSTRIES NEWS



Table of Contents

EU COMMUNITY NEWS	2
<i>EU LEGISLATION</i>	2
<i>TRADE & INNOVATION POLICIES</i>	5
<i>ENVIRONMENT</i>	11
<i>SOCIAL</i>	16
<i>GENERAL MATTERS</i>	18
 GLASS NEWS	 24
<i>FLAT GLASS</i>	24
<i>CONTAINER GLASS</i>	33
<i>DOMESTIC GLASS</i>	42
<i>REINFORCEMENT FIBRES</i>	43
<i>SPECIAL GLASS</i>	43
 DIVERSE	 46

EU COMMUNITY NEWS

NEW EU LEGISLATION

Council & Parliament Directives

Directive (EU) 2019/904 of 5 June 2019

The EU Council and Parliament finalised the Directive on the **reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment**.

The objectives of this Directive are to prevent and reduce the impact of certain plastic products on the environment, in particular the aquatic environment, and on human health, as well as to promote the transition to a circular economy with innovative and sustainable business models, products and materials, thus also contributing to the efficient functioning of the internal market.

This Directive applies to the single-use plastic products listed in the Annex, to products made from oxo-degradable plastic and to fishing gear containing plastic. Where this Directive conflicts with Directive 94/62/EC (Packaging and Packaging Waste) or 2008/98/EC (Waste), this Directive shall prevail.

Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive by 3 July 2021.

Full Text on <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2019:155:TOC>

21928/OJ L155 – 2019.06.12

Directive (EU) 2019/983 of 5 June 2019

This Directive amends Directive 2004/37/EC on the **protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work**.

Provisions on a combination of airborne occupational exposure limit and a biological limit value for cadmium and its inorganic compounds will be assessed by the Commission by 11 July 2022 at the latest.

Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive by 11 July 2021. They shall communicate to the Commission the text of the measures of national law which they adopt in the field covered by this Directive.

In point A of Annex III to Directive 2004/37/EC, the following rows are added:

Name of agent	EC No (¹)	CAS No (²)	Limit values						Notation	Transitional measures
			8 hours (³)			Short-term (⁴)				
			mg/m ³ (⁵)	ppm (⁶)	f/ml (⁷)	mg/m ³ (⁵)	ppm (⁶)	f/ml (⁷)		
‘Cadmium and its inorganic compounds	—	—	0,001 (1)	—	—	—	—	—		Limit value 0,004 mg/m ³ (2) until 11 July 2027
Beryllium and inorganic beryllium compounds	—	—	0,0002 (1)	—	—	—	—	—	dermal and respiratory sensitisation (3)	Limit value 0,0006 mg/m ³ until 11 July 2026
Arsenic acid and its salts, as well as inorganic arsenic compounds	—	—	0,01 (1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	For the copper smelting sector, the limit value shall apply from 11 July 2023
Formaldehyde	200-001-8	50-00-0	0,37	0,3	—	0,74	0,6	—	dermal sensitisation (4)	Limit value of 0,62 mg/m ³ or 0,5 ppm (³) for the health care, funeral and embalming sectors until 11 July 2024

(1) Inhalable fraction.

(2) Inhalable fraction. Respirable fraction in those Member States that implement, on the date of the entry into force of this Directive, a biomonitoring system with a biological limit value not exceeding 0,002 mg Cd/g creatinine in urine.

(3) The substance can cause sensitisation of the skin and of the respiratory tract.

(4) The substance can cause sensitisation of the skin.’.

Full Text on page 23 at:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2019:164:TOC>

21929/OJ L164 – 2019.06.20

Commission Recommendation

Recommendation (EU) 2019/1019 of 7 June 2019

On 21 June, the European Commission published a recommendation on the **modernisation of buildings**. The objective of this recommendation is to assist Member States in implementing the new Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (Directive 2018/844 of 30 May 2018 amending Directive 2010/31/EU on the energy performance of buildings and Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency).

The recommendations respond to requests from Member States and include guidance on building automation and controls, e-mobility and inspections.

The building sector must be at the centre of the European Union's energy efficiency policy, as it accounts for almost 40% of final energy consumption.

The recommendation includes combined heating and ventilation systems, heating/air conditioning systems, heat pumps and roof units, performance under current or average operating conditions, effective electronic monitoring and control features in residential buildings and exemption from inspection.

The new directive on the energy performance of buildings was the first dossier to be completed under the clean energy package. It entered into force on 9 July 2018. Member States have until 10 March 2020 to transpose the provisions of the Directive into national law.

Full recommendation on page 70 at:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2019:165:TOC>

21930/OJ L165 – 2019.06.21

Commission Notice

Notice of Initiation of an Anti-Subsidy Proceeding Concerning Imports of Continuous Filament Glass Fibre Products Originating in Egypt

The European Commission has received a complaint under Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1037 on protection against subsidised imports from countries not members of the European Union, alleging that imports of continuous filament glass fibre products originating in Egypt, are being subsidised and are thereby causing injury to the Union industry.

The complaint was lodged on 24 April 2019 by the **European Glass fibre Producers Association 'APFE'** on behalf of producers representing more than 25 % of the total Union production of continuous filament glass fibre products.

The product subject to this investigation is **chopped glass fibre strands**, of a length of not more than 50 mm ('chopped strands'); **glass fibre rovings**, excluding glass fibre rovings which are impregnated and coated and have a loss on ignition of more than 3 % (as determined by the ISO Standard 1887) ('rovings'); and **mats** made of glass fibre filaments excluding mats of glass wool ('mats').

The product allegedly being subsidised is the product under investigation, originating in Egypt, currently falling under CN codes 7019 11 00, ex 7019 12 00, 7019 31 00 (TARIC codes 7019120022, 7019120025, 7019120026 and 7019120039).

The Commission considers that the complaint includes sufficient evidence that the producers of the product under investigation from Egypt have benefitted from a number of subsidies imputable to the Government of Egypt.

The alleged subsidy practices consist, inter alia, of (i) direct transfer of funds, (ii) government revenue forgone or not collected and (iii) government provision of goods or services for less than adequate remuneration. The complaint contained evidence, for example, of preferential policy loans, and tax benefits under Egyptian

laws, import duty exemption on the import of raw materials and production equipment.

In addition to subsidies granted directly by the Government of Egypt, the complainant further alleges that the producers of the product under investigation from Egypt also benefit from subsidies granted directly by the Government of Egypt or via Egyptian entities in the context of the cooperation between Egypt and the People's Republic of China to foster investments in a special economic zone (the China-Egypt Suez Economic and Trade Cooperation Zone). The complaint contains evidence of the cooperation agreements between the Chinese and the Egyptian Governments as well as of loans from Chinese State-owned or State-controlled entities to Egyptian State-owned banks. In view of the objectives of these agreements and loans, the complainant argues that such loans benefit the Chinese-owned exporting producer in Egypt.

Full Notice on page 30 at:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:C:2019:192:TOC>

More information from APFE GlassFibreEurope at <https://www.glassfibreeurope.eu/>

21931/OJ C192 – 2019.06.07

TRADE & INNOVATION POLICIES

EU Challenge to Compete on a Level Playing Field

The Economic Analysis Council (EAC), a committee of experts charged with advising the French government, argued that “Europe must not sacrifice its competition policy”, but rather “be more demanding in defending its interests and enforcing the rules, while respecting its international commitments”.

While a conference on competition and the digital economy was held in Paris on 3 June in the framework of the OECD and in preparation for the G7, the EAC published last May some ideas on European competition policy.

In its note, this body of economists reporting to the French Prime Minister suggests strengthening the EU's trade defence in order to improve reciprocity and the ability to compete on a level-playing field and thus better defend European interests.

According to the authors, European competition policy “is rather showing signs of success”. They therefore denounce the tendency to question this policy, in particular its “effectiveness and purpose” and the accusations that it hinders the emergence of large companies. In their view, these criticisms are unfounded, they demonstrate in the document, with figures to support them.

Moreover, corporate concentration has been relatively stable over the past 15 years in the EU, while its increase is much more pronounced across the Atlantic. This lower concentration of industries has not affected EU investment and productivity, experts say.

Accelerate procedures

However, delays in dealing with abuses of dominant position in a foreign market can be detrimental to European economic operators. Instruments exist in EU texts “to take swift action, which freezes the market in a state compatible with the survival of competitors”, the authors note. Their use should therefore be facilitated, they believe.

The report also points to cases of “killer” acquisitions of innovation: ex post control of certain concentrations by the competition authority could help to remedy this.

Towards a more aggressive trade defence

“We recommend greater vigilance and strictness in the application of the principle of reciprocity in market access”, the authors urge, followed by a discussion of European trade policy.

The reform of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and, in particular, the agreement on subsidies to counter the trade practices of non-market economies, must remain a priority for the EU, says the EAC.

Strengthening transparency obligations on non-tariff measures, subsidies and regulatory enforcement must be an important focus of negotiations to reform the WTO, experts note.

The creation of a “refutable presumption”, which would make any unnotified subsidies harmful to trading partners and therefore susceptible to countervailing measures, would also be a “powerful lever” to encourage members to better comply with their transparency obligations, which are struggling to be respected.

A more strategic and offensive use of the consultation and dispute resolution system in the event of breaches is also desirable, when breaches are identified. However, the EU has been particularly timid in this respect, according to the EAC. The Commission must therefore act more aggressively on these points, by immediately strengthening its ability to put pressure on its partners to ensure that this principle of reciprocity is respected.

Nevertheless, experts recognise that this evolution will take time. It is therefore “imperative” to shift attention to the defence of European interests, in order to “consolidate” it.

It is also necessary to focus on the implementation of trade commitments in order to enforce them, the authors note.

The French researchers also suggest that the Commission should appoint a European commercial prosecutor: equipped with the means of investigation, he would be empowered to take measures to remedy the shortcomings identified. Where appropriate, its conclusions should also be taken into account in decisions on public procurement and direct investment.

Finally, this issue involves the question of access to EU public procurement: the proposal for an international procurement instrument (or 'IPI') must be used in this sense.

21932/Press Release – 2019.06.03

EU Removed 35 Barriers to Trade and Investment in Third Countries in 2018

In a time of increasing trade barriers, the European Union achieved, in 2018, the removal of 35 trade and investment barriers in third countries.

Since 2014, 123 trade barriers have been removed, allowing the export of over €6 billion in additional European products.

"This is equivalent to the benefits of a number of our free trade agreements", says Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström in the preamble to the document.

35 barriers eliminated

The Commission has eliminated 35 trade barriers, ten fewer than in 2016, notably in China, Japan, India and Russia. The sectors affected were very diverse, ranging from agriculture and fisheries, automobiles, textiles and leather, to wines and spirits, cosmetics, mineral products, aircraft parts and computer equipment.

Among the cases cited as examples, the EU regained access to the Chinese market for Dutch veal and access to the Indian leather market for a Spanish tannery, dismantled Japanese restrictions on the use of additives - albeit authorised ones - in wine and spirits and compulsory textile labelling in Egypt.

Obstacles still on the rise

This report on trade and investment barriers also confirms the increase in barriers faced by European exporters in foreign markets. The report mentions 45 barriers implemented in 2018, bringing the total number of trade barriers to 425, in force by 59 countries. This is a third fewer barriers than in 2017, but their economic impact is estimated to have doubled in 2018: flows would affect 51.4 billion euros of exports, compared to 23.1 billion euros in 2017.

In addition, EU exporters have faced increasingly complex and systemic barriers in important markets, confirming the growing trend of protectionism highlighted in the previous two reports, the report notes.

In this obstacle race, China leads the countries with the highest number of barriers recorded (37 barriers), closely followed by Russia (34), India (25), Indonesia (25) and the United States (23). However, it is the measures applied by China, the United States, India and Algeria that affect European exporters the most, accounting for 80% of the barriers affecting EU exports and investments.

The sectors most affected are mainly steel, aluminium and information and communication technologies.

This is the second of three reports on trade defence policy implementation measures that the Commission will publish before the end of its mandate.

21933/Press Release – 2019.06.17

EU / New Zealand

EU trade negotiators were in New Zealand from 13-17 May 2019 for the fourth round of negotiations for a trade agreement between the EU and New Zealand.

Following the formal launch by Commissioner Malmström and New Zealand Trade Minister David Parker in June 2018 in Wellington, both sides continued the negotiation towards an ambitious trade agreement covering all key aspects of a modern trade relationship.

The negotiations covered most of the areas of the future agreement, including both sides' market access offers for services and investment, as well as for public procurement, which had been exchanged in the run-up to the round. The negotiators achieved good progress across all discussed areas. The round was an opportunity to agree on the Transparency chapter.

21934/DG Trade Press Release – 2019.06.07

EU / Vietnam

Three and a half years after their conclusion, the EU-Vietnam trade agreements have finally been signed

EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström and Vietnamese Minister of Industry and Trade Tran Tuan Anh signed a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and an Investment Protection Agreement (IPA) on 30 June in Hanoi.

Completed in December 2015, the FTA will eliminate 99% of bilateral trade tariffs over a maximum period of ten years.

Called "*new generation*", this treaty signed with the strong Indochinese economy also contains social and environmental provisions on intellectual property protection and sustainable development.

What are the advantages for the European Union?

When the agreement enters into force, almost all EU exports of machinery and equipment, textiles, half of pharmaceutical exports and almost 70% of EU chemical exports will enter Vietnam duty-free.

The remaining exports of pharmaceuticals and chemicals will be liberalised, as will car parts and some motorcycles, within seven years.

In ten years' time, European cars will in turn enter the market duty-free.

As for agricultural products, dairy products will be fully liberalised in five years, frozen pork in seven years, as well as culinary preparations, wines and spirits.

Chicken and beer will be duty-free within 10 years, as will existing quota products: European sugar, salt and eggs.

European fisheries products will be liberalised within three years.

... and against what concessions?

Among other openings granted by Europeans, Vietnamese textiles, clothing and footwear will enter the EU market duty-free, within a period of between three to seven years, depending on the sensitivity of the products.

30,000 tonnes of milled rice, a vulnerable product for eight Member States, will be liberalised upon implementation of the agreement. Less sensitive, 20,000 tonnes of husked rice and 30,000 tonnes of flavoured rice will also be liberalised. On entry into force, broken rice will have its tariffs cut in half, towards full liberalisation over five years.

Ratification of the agreement could be finalised before the end of the year, if the European Parliament does not balk at the Hanoi government's record in terms of respect for fundamental rights

21935/DG Trade Press Release – 2019.07.01

EU / Mercosur

On 28 June, the European Union and Mercosur, the South American common market, have finalised negotiations to modernise the commercial side of an association agreement between the two blocs.

Seized at the last minute, this agreement, once signed and ratified, would give the EU unprecedented access to a market of 260 million consumers, the fifth most important economy for the European partners, with an annual GDP of €2.2 trillion.

Mercosur, composed of Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay, is above all a relatively closed economic bloc, imposing significant tariff and non-tariff barriers on its trading partners.

First mover advantage, the opening granted by the bloc to the EU is therefore unprecedented and should therefore generate high profits. According to the European Commission, €4 billion of tariff barriers imposed on exports from the EU should be dismantled.

Mercosur will liberalise 91% of its European imports, the EU 92%, over a maximum of 10 years. In terms of tariff lines, Mercosur will fully liberalise 91% of the lines and the EU 95% of the lines in their respective lists.

However, some stakeholders denounce the cost. Mercosur has finally obtained from its European partner that it grants it jealously guarded access to its emblematic agricultural products, namely beef, poultry, sugar and ethanol; others are mainly concerned about Brasilia's political line.

What the EU has achieved

European industry is surely emerging victorious from these negotiations, where 90% of European exports will be liberalised, with more or less long transitions (Mercosur applied tariffs of 35% to imports of cars and car parts, 14 to 20% to machinery, 18% to chemicals and 14% to pharmaceutical products).

On agriculture, the EU has obtained access for 93% of its tariff lines, including major block concessions on wine and olive oil, two European flagship products that will enter Latin America duty-free - excluding bulk wine - (27% of previously applied duties, but implementation times are not known to date).

A bilateral safeguard clause may be activated in the event of an unforeseen increase in imports and limited to 18 years from the entry into force of the agreement, with suspension of preferences for a maximum of two years and specific provisions for the EU's outermost regions.

Finally, 355 geographical indications in Europe will now be protected by the four countries (220 Mercosur GIs).

Administrative procedures on arrival and export requirements have also been simplified and harmonised.

The Treaty should enable European service providers, such as telecommunications, financial, commercial and transport services, to dismantle the obstacles they face and/or to establish themselves on these markets, with greater legal certainty and equal treatment.

Another victory for the European negotiators was non-discriminatory access to the very tight public procurement markets of the Mercosur States, which are not members of this plurilateral agreement at the WTO.

EU negotiators also underline the commitments made on compliance with European standards, in particular sanitary and phytosanitary standards. The treaty reaffirms the precautionary principle and guarantees the authorities the freedom to regulate in order to protect the health of people, animals and plants. The criterion of regionalisation of the animal disease-free status is also validated.

As for environmental protection, the treaty commits both parties to effectively implement the Paris Climate Agreement and to cooperate on trade-related climate issues, including the fight against deforestation. The chapter on sustainable development includes specific commitments on the protection of the environment and workers' rights, among others; civil society will be involved in their monitoring.

21936/DG Trade Press Release – 2019.07.01

Commission Appoints 22 “Innovation Leaders” to Advisory Committee of European Innovation Council

Some 22 “innovation leaders” from business, the entrepreneurial class, science and technology were appointed to the European Innovation Council (EIC) Advisory Committee by the European Commission to guide the Commission on strategic and operational decisions to be taken within the EIC.

“I am delighted that the EIC will be advised by some of Europe's most accomplished innovators and investors, and that we will be bringing in talented programme managers to get the work off the ground”, said Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, who said the EIC puts Europe *“at the forefront of market creating innovation”*.

Currently in its pilot phase, the EIC aims to *“identify, develop and deploy”* radical innovations capable of clearing new markets and *“support a rapid scale-up of innovative companies at European and international level”*.

It will become a reality in its own right from 2021, as part of the next *Horizon Europe* programme, with a proposed budget of €10 billion.

21937/Press Release – 2019.06.27

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

G20 Summit

The Osaka G20 summit ended on 29 June with a 19-party agreement - without the United States - confirming the commitment of the world's 19 largest economies to fully implement the **Paris Agreement on climate change**, a minimalist result, insufficient for the EU, but which at least has the merit of maintaining the status quo compared to the G20 summits of Buenos Aires and Hamburg. This G20 has shown the failure of the United States to convince other countries to turn their backs on the Universal Agreement reached in Paris in 2015 and to water down the content of the final declaration - a relief for Europeans who had championed multilateralism to tackle a global challenge.

"Signatories to the Paris Agreement, who confirmed at Buenos Aires its irreversibility and are determined to implement it, reaffirm their commitment to its full implementation," the final declaration states.

The leaders of the 19 also say they expect the success of the UN Climate Action Summit on 23 September in New York, convened by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, to raise the level of ambition of the commitments made and the concrete results at the **COP 25 (in December in Santiago, Chile)**.

In addition, they affirm that by 2020, they aim to communicate, update or maintain, their nationally determined contribution (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement *"taking into account that further global efforts are needed"*. This is an improvement of the text, compared to the final statements of the two previous G20 summits, which did not contain any forward-looking information on NDCs.

The leaders of the 19 also emphasise the importance of providing financial resources to assist developing countries with respect to both mitigation and adaptation, in accordance with the Paris Agreement, which provides for the mobilisation of €100 billion per year by 2020 and beyond.

The United States, for its part, reiterated in the final declaration, *"its decision to withdraw from the Paris Agreement because it disadvantages American workers and taxpayers"*, while stating that it remains *"committed to the development and deployment of advanced technologies to continue to reduce emissions and provide for a cleaner environment"*.

NGOs' call for intensified action. *"The G19's determination to act on climate remains unwavering, but what we need now is swift action to address the climate emergency"*, Greenpeace International Executive Director, Jennifer Morgan said in a

statement. The NGO expects the G19 leaders to attend the 23 September Summit and the COP 25 *"with clear and transparent commitments to ram up action"*. According to the NGO, *"weak long-term climate strategies - such as those of G20 host Japan and its reliance on high efficiency power plants or carbon capture and storage – fail to address the carbon pollution problem at its source"*.

21938/Press Release – 2019.07.01

EU Leaders Fail to Set 2050 as Date for EU Climate Neutrality

On 20 June, the Heads of State or Government of the Twenty-Eight failed to include in their conclusions the date of 2050 as the deadline for achieving climate neutrality in the EU. Despite 3 hours of discussions, four countries – Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Estonia – opposed it.

These coal-dependent Member States felt, despite attempts by European Council President Donald Tusk and the other 24 leaders to accommodate them, that they did not receive enough assurances about the assistance they would receive to commit themselves. This view takes into account the cost of the required transformation of their economy, the possible impact on their competitiveness and the social consequences of such a transformation.

The agreement in principle of the most ambitious countries on the need for the EU to provide financial support, in particular for the costly energy transition faced by some of the EU's less wealthy countries, was not enough to reassure them. Uncertainties about the outcome of the negotiations on the EU 2020-2027 budget played a major role.

Even if 2050 had been mentioned, the compromise text initially envisaged would not have constituted a firm commitment by the EU to achieve climate neutrality by that date, since it was only a question of determining how to engage in the transition while respecting national particularities and energy mixes.

A note in the conclusions of the European Council states that *"for a large majority of Member States, climate neutrality must be achieved by 2050"*.

The same French source considered the result *"positive"* because 24 countries now support the objective that *"France, with its partners, will continue"* to advocate at the UN Climate Summit on 23 September in New York and the G20 in Osaka (28-29 June).

German Chancellor Angela Merkel even mentioned *"a very good starting position, despite all our differences"*.

In its conclusions, the European Council invites the EU Council and the Commission to move forward on the conditions, incentives and framework for ensuring a transition to a climate-neutral EU in accordance with the Paris Agreement, a transition that will, by building on the measures already adopted to achieve the 2030 reduction target, preserve European competitiveness, be fair and socially balanced, take into account Member States' national circumstances and respect their right to decide on their own energy mix.

The Paris Agreement only provides that the balance between anthropogenic emissions and their absorption by carbon sinks is to be achieved in the second half of the century.

The European Council will finalise its guidelines for the EU's long-term climate strategy, probably in December.

21939/ Press Release – 2019.06.20

Draft National Plans for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Targets 2030

While there are disparities in the level of ambition of the draft Integrated National Energy/Climate Plans (NECPs) 2021-2030 submitted by the 28 EU Member States to the Commission under the governance of the energy union and climate action Regulation, all these projects have the merit of being on the table and can be improved within the next six months.

In the package it adopted on the same day - a communication and recommendations for each of the 28 draft plans, which Member States will be required to respect - the Commission acknowledges that significant efforts have been made. However, it stresses that improvements are possible, in particular in terms of targeted and individualised policies to achieve the 2030 objectives of the Energy Union, which will enable the EU to collectively meet its commitments under the Paris Climate Agreement and to be on the path to long-term climate neutrality.

Commission Vice-President for the Energy Union, Maros Sefcovic, stressed the importance of these national plans to ensure transparency and predictability of national policies and measures, thus enabling industry and the financial sector to stimulate the private investment required by the clean energy transition.

Energy efficiency and renewable energies are at a premium. As far as the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions is concerned, the NECP projects will, as they stand, make it possible to achieve the EU's objective: a reduction of at least 40% by 2030 compared to 1990, but the non-ETS sector (transport, buildings, agriculture, waste) is the weak link. In this sector, the reduction will be 28% compared to 2005 instead of the required 30%. But NECP projects are insufficient both in terms of renewable energy and contributions to energy efficiency. For renewable energies, the shortfall from the 32% target could reach 1.6 percentage points. For energy efficiency, the gap with the European target of 32.5% is more problematic. It might reach 6.2 percentage points (if we consider primary energy consumption) or 6 percentage points (if we consider final consumption).

But the Energy Union is not only about objectives, it is also about energy security; however, the plans do not contain enough clear and measurable objectives. They should include retail and network markets, he said.

And for interconnection (the European target is 15%), Member States should indicate their 2030 target.

Recommendations. With regard to contributions to energy efficiency and renewable energy, some Member States are invited to intensify their efforts and better exploit their national potential, while others will have to confirm their already ambitious targets. The Commission also invites Member States to set measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound objectives for the five dimensions of the Energy Union (energy efficiency; a fully integrated energy market; research, innovation and competitiveness; decarbonisation of the economy; energy security, solidarity and confidence). Most Member States are also invited to further support the achievement of their objectives and contributions with more concrete additional policies and measures for all dimensions of the Energy Union.

21940/Press Release – 2019.06.18

Public Consultation on European Rules on Industrial Emissions

The Commission recently launched a public consultation on the Industrial Emissions Directive. These rules aim to prevent and reduce pollution and waste generation from certain large industrial installations. The objective is to collect factual information on the implementation of the Directive and to determine its proper functioning. The public authorities of the Member States, private sector operators, civil society and also non-Member States are invited to take part in the consultation.

The consultation is open until 19 August, at https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2018-4758971_en.

21941/Press Release – 2019.06.04

European Environmental Agency Warns: Europe's Energy System Needs to Adapt to Impacts of Climate Change

Climate change and extreme weather events are increasingly affecting all parts of the European energy system, which will have to adapt to this new situation, warns the European Environment Agency (EEA) in a study published on 18 June on "*Adaptation challenges and opportunities for the European energy system*".

According to this study, increases in mean and extreme air and water temperatures, changes in water availability, extreme climate-related events and coastal and marine hazards will affect the availability of primary energy sources - especially renewable energy sources - as well as the transformation, transmission, distribution and storage of energy, and energy demand.

While climate change can lead to a reduction in energy demand for heating - an economically beneficial effect - many impacts are negative for both the energy sector and society, such as reduced availability of cooling water for thermal power plants, lower water availability for hydropower production, increased risks for energy infrastructure in the event of extreme weather events and sea level rise.

The study shows that the impacts of climate change and the adaptation required as a result vary greatly across regions. Water availability is expected to increase in Northern Europe and decrease in Southern Europe, but with significant seasonal differences.

The EEA points out that the replacement of coal-fired power plants with solar and wind power drastically reduces greenhouse gas emissions and water consumption. It stresses that biofuels and carbon capture and storage require significant amounts of water or arable land, which can limit their expansion. It also notes that climate change can affect the potential of wind and solar energy.

To consult the study:

https://www.eea.europa.eu/highlights/climate-change-puts-pressure-on?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Climate%20change%20puts%20pressure%20on%20Europes%20energy%20system&utm_content=Climate%20change%20puts%20pressure%20on%20Europes%20energy%20system+CID_118b7f6019e41806619880da54d0eb14&utm_source=EEA%20Newsletter&utm_term=Read%20more

21942/Press Release – 2019.06.18

EU Comprehensive and Ambitious Strategy to Reduce Exposure to Chemicals

The EU Environment Council gave political guidance to the Commission on 26 June to quickly adopt concrete measures and provide the EU with an ambitious and comprehensive strategy to reduce citizens' exposure to hazardous chemical substances, including PFAS and endocrine disrupters.

The conclusions adopted by the Council set out the priorities for an EU strategy for a sustainable chemical substances policy, as discussed by EU ministers.

In particular, the Council asks the Commission to finally present its **long-standing strategy for a non-toxic environment**, as it undertook to do in the 7th Environmental Action Programme adopted in 2013.

It wants the most worrying and dangerous substances to be replaced by greener and more sustainable alternatives. It recommends a common process for monitoring chemical exposure, a European 'biomonitoring' programme and the extension of risk assessment to the entire life cycle of products, including their design. The EU Council also wants sufficient and stable long-term funding for the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA).

These conclusions, which had been widely agreed in principle before the session, were modified in the margin to add that the Commission presented, on the eve of the ministerial meeting, the "*fitness check*" of all European chemicals' legislation, except for the REACH Regulation, which has already been evaluated.

REACH. The EU Council invites the Commission and ECHA to develop by December 2019 an action plan on file compliance. The EU Council also underlines the importance of improving the authorisation and authorisation restriction procedures for REACH.

Medicines. The EU Council underlines the importance of accelerating concrete and ambitious measures to reduce the risks associated with pharmaceuticals and their residues in the environment.

Nanomaterials. The EU Council requests that the Commission extend the mandate of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) to the collection and availability of research data on the characterisation, hazard and potential exposure to nanoforms of substances that have not yet been registered under REACH because their annual tonnage is below the 1 tonne/year threshold and to regularly request ECHA to assess the performance and impact of the European Nanomaterial Observatory launched in 2017.

Endocrine disruptors. The EU Council urges the Commission to ensure a high level of protection of human health and the environment by minimising exposure to endocrine disruptors and encouraging substitution with safer chemicals, where technically and practically possible, and to present without delay an action plan with clear and concrete measures and an ambitious timetable.

21943/Press Release – 2019.06.26

SOCIAL ISSUES

Commission Consults to Extend European Network of Public Employment Services until 2027

The European Commission launched a public consultation to extend the duration of the European network of public employment services until 2027. According to Decision 573/2014/EU, the network was due to end on 31 December 2020. However due to strong support from the various stakeholders and a great deal of positive feedback, the Commission proposes to renew the network for the duration of the next multiannual financial framework (2021-2027). As a reminder, the network, which brings together the 28 Member States, as well as Norway and Iceland, aims to measure the performance of public services and facilitate the exchange of good practices. The Commission's consultation is open from 19 June to 17 July 2019, at

https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2019-3911881_en

21944/Press Release – 2019.06.24

European Trade Unions Welcome Declaration on Centenary of International Labour Organization

On 21 June, the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) welcomed the Declaration on the Future of Work, adopted on the same day as the centenary of the International Labour Organization (ILO). In particular, trade unions welcome the fact that the Declaration, supported by governments, employers and trade unions from 187 States, recognises the role of social dialogue and tripartism, emphasizes the importance of

setting an “adequate” minimum wage and maximum working time, as well as stressing the need to guarantee universal access to social protection.

“The International Labour Organization is needed now more than ever before”, said Luca Visentini, General Secretary of ETUC, who is concerned about the growing phenomenon of the working poor, especially in Europe. For the union, the ILO must help to counter the undesirable phenomena of globalisation, deregulation, digitisation, as well as climate change.

To see the Declaration on the Future of Work:

https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---relconf/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_711288.pdf

21945/Press Release – 2019.06.24

Unemployment Rates

The euro area seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was **7.6%** in **April 2019**, down from 7.7% in March 2019. This remains the lowest rate recorded in the euro area since August 2008. The EU-28 unemployment rate was **6.4%** in April 2019, stable compared with March 2019. This is also the lowest rate recorded in the EU28 since January 2000.

Eurostat estimates that 15.802 million people in the EU28 were unemployed in April 2019, a decrease by 108,000 in the EU28 and by 64,000 in the euro area compared with March 2019.

Czechia	2.1%	Luxembourg	5.5%
Germany	3.2%	Belgium	5.7%
Hungary (March)	3.4%	Slovakia	5.7%
Netherlands	3.3%	Lithuania	5.8%
Malta	3.5%	Sweden	6.2%
Poland	3.7%	Latvia	6.4%
UK (Feb.)	3.7%	Portugal	6.7%
Romania	4.0%	Finland	6.8%
Estonia (Mar)	4.1%	Cyprus	6.9%
Slovenia	4.4%	Croatia	7.3%
Bulgaria	4.5%	France	8.7%
Ireland	4.6%	Italy	10.2%
Austria	4.7%	Spain	13.8%
Denmark	5.3%	Greece (Feb.)	18.5%

Elsewhere

USA	3.6%	Russia	4.5%
Canada	5.4%	Brazil	12.5%
Japan	2.4%	Australia	5.2%
Switzerland	2.3%	India	3.5%
Turkey	14.1%	China	3.7%

21946/Eurostat Press Release – 2019.06.04

GENERAL ISSUES

High Level Industrial Roundtable: Revitalising European Industry by 2030

Innovation and sustainability, anticipating and developing skills, deepening value chain networks, creating a fair competitive environment, taking into account well-being and social justice, are the five main principles to be followed to revitalise the sector by 2030, according to a report submitted by the high-level industrial roundtable to the European Commission on 27 June.

To do so, the authors believe, it is absolutely necessary to tackle the societal transformations at stake, whether in the field of technology and digital technology, or in the transition to a climate-neutral and circular economy.

In addition, the Union must become a champion of global competitiveness through the deepening of the internal market, the strengthening of strategic value chains - such as the Battery Alliance - and finally the defence of multilateralism at international level.

The text also emphasises the values of social inclusiveness by ensuring social and geographical equity in the industrial transition. Here, the document highlights the importance of learning and anticipating skills, but also the need to establish an environment conducive to more sustainable business activities.

The industrial issue has recently become more acute, with the conclusions of the March European Council, which highlighted the importance of providing the Union with a transversal industrial strategy.

21947/Eurostat Press Release – 2019.06.27

Croat Marija Pejčinović Burić is the New Secretary General of the Council of Europe



The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) elected on 26 June in Strasbourg the Croat **Marija Pejčinović Burić** (56) (pictured below), Secretary General of the organisation. It is therefore the successor to Norway's Thorbjørn Jagland.

This marks a shift in the organisation's centre of gravity and reflects the desire to turn the page on the pre-eminence of the founding countries.



Observers also noted that a "*feminist*" vote could also have been at play within an organisation that has had only one woman at its head in 70 years of existence, the Frenchwoman Catherine Lalumière, Secretary General between 1989 and 1994, a crucial period that saw the collapse of the Soviet bloc and the start of a vast process of integration of the countries of the former Eastern Bloc into the Council of Europe.

The tasks awaiting Marija Pejčinović Burić are no less immense at the head of an institution that has been going through a lot of turbulence for several years. In charge of coordinating strategies for the organisation, the new Secretary General will first have to continue managing a crisis with the Russian Federation that is far from over.

The credentials of the Duma delegation have been ratified for the time being, but they remain suspended pending an adjourned decision of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, which had been referred to it on the grounds that four members of the delegation were on the European Union's black list.

Besides, Moscow's contribution of €75 million to the Council of Europe budget has not been paid since 2017.

At the forefront of this issue, the new Secretary General will also have to ensure that the links that have deteriorated in recent years between PACE and the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe are restored. At a time when threats to the rule of law, democracy and human rights are increasing within the 47 member states of the Council of Europe, it is more important than ever that the Council of Europe speaks with a single voice and coordinates the positions of its two statutory bodies.

The Council of Europe will also have to be "*more proactive*" in defending its standards "*against nationalist forces*", Thorbjørn Jagland said in his latest annual report. Act and not react. Restore its authority. Make an impact on its work.

In order to break the bubble effect of which it is a victim, the Council of Europe will also have to review its funding, which currently depends on contributions from the European Union and its member countries. This operation exposes it to the risk of blackmail, as we see with Russia. There is an urgent need to address this, perhaps by turning to private partnerships to be strictly regulated.

21948/Eurostat Press Release – 2019.06.27

Twenty-Seven Strategic Agenda for Next Five Years



The 27 heads of state or government of the EU Member States adopted on 20 June their Strategic Agenda for the next institutional cycle, which is expected also to be a source of inspiration for the person they will propose to be the next person to preside over the European Commission post-Juncker to develop their own political programme.

Leaders are already setting up meetings for the October European summit for a "*follow-up*" to this agenda, according to the draft conclusions dated 17 June.

The Heads of State or Government of the seven Mediterranean countries - Malta, Cyprus, Spain, France, Greece, Italy, Portugal - underlined the importance of stimulating "*convergence*" and social inclusion between Member States within a European Union capable of adapting to the "*challenges of climate change, demography and digitisation*". They called for a "*more assertive*" Europe capable of defending its interests and "*common values*" in the world.

At the same time, in the European Parliament, worked on the strategic priorities of the main pro-European political groups (EPP, S&D, *Renew Europe*, Greens/EFA), on the fight against climate change and disinformation, on the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework and, in the area of foreign affairs, on relations with Ukraine and Russia.

21949/Press Release – 2019.06.17

Future of Europe – Key Posts Appointments by the European Council



The Heads of State or Government of the European Union took a consensual decision on 2 July on a package of appointments of key European positions.

The Twenty-Eight propose that the **European Commission** be chaired, for the first time, by a woman, in this case **Ursula von der Leyen** (60), the current German Defence Minister (pictured below). In mid-July, the EU Parliament must approve Mrs von der Leyen's candidacy by an absolute majority (376) of its Members. According to another source, if Parliament rejects Mrs von der Leyen, MEPs will have to propose a German Christian Democrat for the Commission Presidency anyway because the agreement has been sealed.





They elected **Charles Michel** (43), the current acting Belgian Prime Minister, as **President of the European Council** for two and a half years (from 1st December 2019 to 31 May 2022).



They also consider that the current Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs and former President of the European Parliament, **Josep Borrell i Fontelles** (72), should be appointed **High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy**,



and that **Christine Lagarde** (63), the current Managing Director of the IMF, should head the **European Central Bank** (from 1st November 2019 to 31 October 2027).



To complete the package, other key positions have been informally negotiated by European leaders. Three vice-presidencies of the European Commission would be assigned to the Danish Margrethe Vestager, the Dutch Frans Timmermans and the Slovak Maroš Šefčovič.



The European Parliament finally elected **Mr. David-Maria SASSOLI at the presidency of the European Parliament** for 2 years and a half. Italian former journalist, Mr. Sassoli (63) received the support of 345 out of a total of 667 MEPs in the second round of voting in Strasbourg. The centre-left politician beat three other candidates and will assume the role of assembly speaker immediately.



21950/Press Release – 2019.07.03

BREXIT Developments



State of Play

On 12 June, the EU Commission has issued an updated state of play of preparations of contingency measures for the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union. Although on “break” from ‘Brexit’, the EU Commission nevertheless reviewed its arsenal of measures in order to prepare for a scenario in which the United Kingdom leaves the EU without agreement and concluded that they were, so far, all “appropriate” for this negative scenario.

In its Communication, the Commission notes in particular that, in view of “the continuing uncertainty in the United Kingdom regarding the ratification of the withdrawal agreement - agreed with the UK Government in November 2018 - and the overall political situation in the country, a withdrawal without agreement by 1 November 2019 remains a possible, although undesirable, outcome”. However, the Commission considers that no further measures should be taken and therefore reiterates what to expect in the event of ‘no deal’.

It also reminds the United Kingdom and its future Prime Minister of the country's commitments: in the absence of an agreement, the United Kingdom will have to resolve three main issues related to separation as a precondition for opening discussions on future relations, namely: the protection and defence of the rights of citizens who exercised their right to free movement before Brexit, compliance with the financial obligations undertaken by the United Kingdom as a Member State - although Boris Johnson has recently challenged them - and, finally, the preservation of the spirit and the letter of the Good Friday Agreement concerning peace on the island of Ireland and the integrity of the interior market.

For the institution, the most sensitive sectors in the event of a 'no deal' will be those related to citizens and social security, medicines and medical devices, customs, transport, fisheries and financial services.

Read more at:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/com-2019-276-final_en.pdf

21951/Press Release – 2019.06.12

Inflation Rate

Latest Eurostat figures show that the annual inflation rate was **1.2% in May 2019 in the Euro area**, down from 1.7% in April. **The EU28** annual inflation was **1.6% in May 2019**, down from 1.9% in March.

The largest contribution to the annual euro area inflation rate came from services (+0.47%), followed by energy (+0.38%), food, alcohol & tobacco (+0.29%), and non-energy industrial goods (+0.08%).

Cyprus	0.2%	Austria	1.7%
Portugal	0.3%	Sweden	2.1%
Greece	0.6%	UK	2.1%
Denmark	0.7%	Luxembourg	2.2%
Spain	0.9%	Poland	2.2%
Italy	0.9%	Netherlands	2.3%
Ireland	1.0%	Lithuania	2.5%
Croatia	1.0%	Czechia	2.6%
France	1.1%	Slovakia	2.7%
Germany	1.3%	Bulgaria	2.9%
Finland	1.3%	Estonia	3.1%
Slovenia	1.6%	Latvia	3.5%
Belgium	1.7%	Hungary	4.0%
Malta	1.7%	Romania	4.4%

Elsewhere

USA	1.8%	Russia	5.1%
Canada	2.4%	Brazil	4.6%
Japan	0.7%	Australia	1.3%
Switzerland	0.6%	India	3.0%
Turkey	18.7%	China	2.7%

21952/Eurostat News Release – 2019.06.18

*

*

*

GLASS NEWS

FLAT GLASS

Glass Companies

Saint-Gobain

Saint-Gobain Sully and Satair renew and expand partnership. The renewed partnership builds on the companies' 2015 pact covering Airbus and ATR cabin transparencies.



Aircraft cabin windows produced by French manufacturer Saint-Gobain Sully will continue to be marketed by Airbus subsidiary Satair as the two companies expand their previous agreement from the Asia-Pacific region, including China, to global coverage. Scott Huth, general manager at Saint-Gobain Aerospace said, "In recent years we have seen an increased customer demand worldwide, and this new agreement solidifies our commitment to meet these demands. We are pleased to expand our agreement with Satair, who has strong global distribution capabilities, and we look forward to continuing to grow our partnership."

Saint-Gobain Sully is the exclusive supplier of cockpit windows for the Airbus A380 and A350. The AIRBUS models of A318/319/320/321 and A330/340 are also equipped by Saint-Gobain Sully.

21953/Press Release – 2019.06.25

NSG

1. Pilkington UK invests £3 million in structural glazing machinery

Pilkington United Kingdom has invested more than £3 million in new technology to increase its capacity to manufacture Pilkington Planar.

Part of NSG Group, Pilkington has invested in a new state of the art toughening furnace, an increased capability heat soak oven, and a glass-measuring device.

The new toughening furnace is expected to help increase volumes of the structural glazing system. It is due to be operational by August, and will be located at the Pilkington Architectural site in St Helens.



The investment also increases the size capability of the toughening furnace and heat soak oven to 6000mm x 3000mm.

Meanwhile, the newly developed glass-measuring device will reportedly enhance the manufacturer's quality control systems and processes for the benefit of customer and end-clients.

Phil Savage, Head of Sales – UK processing at Pilkington, said: “The challenge of delivering projects that achieve both high functionality and excellent aesthetical appeal has been more ubiquitous in building design over the last five years.

“This is where structural glazing systems are an established solution, helping specifiers to meet both requirements.

“This investment helps us to serve this growing demand with enhanced efficiency and superior quality products, helping our customers to create a built environment fit for the future.”

UK-manufactured Pilkington Planar glass has been recently installed in international projects including the Al-farwania Court Complex and Hawally Courts Complex both in Kuwait; the 601 Massachusetts Avenue development in Washington DC; the American Dream Mall in New Jersey; and the Valley Fair Mall, California.

21954/Press Release – 2019.06.28

2. Pilkington scoops Jaguar Land Rover's Supplier Excellence Award

Pilkington Automotive was one of the 15 suppliers recognised for their outstanding performance during Jaguar Land Rover's Annual Supplier Excellence Awards Ceremony. The Awards were presented for overall performance in 2018 in three categories: Non-Production Purchasing, Production Purchasing and Product Engineering.

Tony Fradgley, Global Head of Automotive at NSG Group explained, “I am absolutely delighted for the recognition from Jaguar Land Rover. We strive hard to meet our customers' expectations and this award is an acknowledgement of our strong relationship”.

21955/Press Release – 2019.05.31

3. NSG Glass for Isuzu ERGA DUO, Japan's first hybrid joint bus

NSG Group announced that its glass products have been selected for ISUZU ERGADUO, the first hybrid joint bus in Japan.



Responding to mass-transport needs during large-scale events and in tourist sites, the hybrid joint bus has a maximum capacity of 120 passengers.

The windshield and side windows equipped with NSG glasses help to keep a clear and wide field vision for handling the extended 18-metre body length, while providing a comfortable and bright interior for the passengers.

21956/Press Release – 2019.06.17

4. Pilkington OptiView protects the cartoon of “The School of Athens”

Pilkington OptiView™ OW, which already protects numerous priceless exhibits in global museums and galleries, now also enhances one of the world’s most exceptional and unique works of art.

Raffaello Sanzio’s masterpiece “The School of Athens”, features Plato and Aristotle and represents the study of philosophy. It was created in 1509 and over the years has passed through the hands of numerous notables including Napoleon Bonaparte.



It now rests back in Milan’s Biblioteca Ambrosiana and, following four years of restoration, is open to public viewing. This fragile work of art, which was created using charcoal on laid sheets, now benefits from the all-round protective properties of Pilkington OptiView™ OW.



The glass was the obvious choice – when compared to traditional offerings. The artwork is displayed behind a vitrine featuring a single eight-metre long sheet of this special protective glass – the world’s largest ever to be produced and installed in-situ. Laminated Pilkington OptiView™ OW, with its thin layer of metal oxides and anti-reflective properties, reduces light reflection to a minimum (2 percent), protects against vandalism and offers the perfect all-round, true-colour, viewing experience. For those who want to deepen their knowledge, there is an informational display table set up in front of the Cartoon, which is designed to help viewers appreciate and share in this pivotal piece of artwork from the Italian Renaissance.

21957/Press Release – 2019.07.03

AGC

1. Belron® and AGC signed a franchise agreement covering Poland and Czech Republic

Belron, the world’s leading vehicle glass repair and replacement (VGRR) group, and AGC Automotive Europe, the European division of the world’s leading automotive glass producer, have signed a franchise agreement covering the AGC VGRR operations in Poland and in the Czech Republic.

AGC currently operates 37 VGRR locations in Poland under the NordGlass brand and 19 locations in the Czech Republic under the AG Experts brand. Under this agreement these networks will operate under Belron brands.

Michel Spina, General Manager AGC Europe, commented: “This partnership will allow us to serve more customers with the excellent service standards that Belron is recognised for and provide our employees with the support and coaching that Belron can offer.”

The Polish and Czech markets have a combined vehicle park of over 20 million vehicles and are relatively mature.

As well as its VGRR networks, AGC Automotive Europe has major operations in the production and distribution of automotive replacement glass in Poland, the Czech Republic and throughout Europe. These operations are not impacted by the franchise agreement that has been established exclusively for the AGC VGRR operations in both countries.

21958/Press Release – 2019.06.04

2. AGC: Fineo wins the Sustainable Energy Award in Belgium

The Belgian Prize for Energy and the Environment 2019 in the Sustainable Energy category was awarded for Fineo, the new vacuum double glazing from AGC Glass Europe, thanks to its remarkable insulation performance.

The Belgian Prize for Energy and the Environment is awarded to those who thanks to their achievement and creativity contribute towards saving the planet.

Produced in the company’s Lodelinsart plant (Belgium), Fineo has thermal insulation performance equal to that of triple glazing, and even better in terms of acoustic insulation. But its thickness (less than 1 cm) is a fifth to a quarter that of triple glazing units of the same dimensions, while its weight is one third lighter. The thinness of the vacuum glass additionally gives it better light transmission.

The product, which can be combined with other types of AGC multifunctional glass (solar control glass, safety glass, acoustic insulation glass, etc.), is intended both for new construction (residential and service sector) and for renovation projects. The latter in particular represents a large potential market in Europe.

According to Serge Martin, New Business Development Manager at AGC Glass Europe, "This award recognises a new product that opens the way to a future generation of ultra-high-performance windows, either new or replacement, at an affordable cost, because it can be fitted into existing window frames to replace obsolete glazing with today's most effective glass solution."

21959/Press Release – 2019.06.10

3. AGC introduces new coatings

Large glass facades require highly selective glazing that allows as much daylight as possible into the building while minimising the impact on indoor climate through effective solar control. Stopray Vision-52 and Stopray Vision-62, and their toughenable counterparts Stopray Vision-52T and Stopray Vision-62T, are two new AGC products featuring enhanced technology.



Their double silver coating makes them highly selective, delivering outstanding protection from heat and solar radiation thanks to a solar factor of 33 percent (Stopray Vision-62) and 27 percent (Stopray Vision-52). They also let in 62 percent and 52 percent respectively of visible light, effectively exploiting daylight to ensure light-filled rooms all year round. With a Ug value of just 1.0 W/(m²K), this glazing provides excellent protection from cold temperatures, which saves on heating costs and is good for the environment.

The toughenable versions can be curved and further enhanced using silk screen printing or other techniques. However, the biggest benefit for applications in high-end architecture is that the products are matchable, meaning they can easily be installed alongside each other in a facade, for example in a combination of flat and curved glass. This is possible because they have the same colour-neutral appearance and colour stability, even when viewed from an acute angle.

21960/Press Release – 2019.06.12

4. Clearsight optimised anti-reflective glass

AGC's optimised Clearsight anti-reflective glass has arrived. The special magnetron coating cuts light reflection to less than 1 percent, delivering near-perfect transparency and making this product the ideal solution for viewing platforms, shop windows and showcases. This innovative glass can be used annealed or heat treated; and further processed into curved glass or enhanced via silk screen printing and digital printing. By combining minimal reflection with superb light transmission of 98 percent, it offers greater clarity and improved vision through the glass.



The float glass commonly used for showcases and shop windows reflects about 8 percent of visible light. By contrast, Clearsight is nearly invisible, significantly reducing the disturbing reflection and revealing the real colour of objects and details, as if there is no glass.

Clearsight is available in both single-sided and double-sided versions and is Cradle to Cradle™ Silver certified. Its magnetron sputtered coating is also particularly robust and scratch-resistant. This product is suitable for interior applications, but can also be used in insulating glazing.

21961/Press Release – 2019.06.27

5. AGC's contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

AGC's Sustainability Report is now online on <http://www.agc-glass.eu/en/sustainability> and covers the environmental achievements for 2018 of AGC Glass Europe, operating with 2 divisions (Building & Industrial Glass Division and Automotive Division).

This year's edition includes a new chapter related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that were adopted by the United Nations in 2015. Among the 17 goals and 169 targets to be achieved by 2030, AGC Glass Europe has identified 10 environment-related goals and 18 targets where we play an active role through our processes and products.

Production operations achievements at a glance

Energy recovery and electricity production: AGC started to install PV panels and heat recovery installations in 2009. Since then, electricity production has steadily increased to 26,957 MWh of recovered and self-generated energy in 2018.

Air: On a comparable basis, per tonne of glass sold, Primary Operations has reduced its direct CO2 emissions by 17 percent since 2002. There has been a reduction of around 65 percent in the specific dust emissions since 1999.

Water: From 1998 to 2018, AGC have managed to reduce the water consumption by 74 percent on a comparable basis.

Solid waste: Today, the amount of solid waste produced by the Group is around 225,000 tonnes/year, of which around 96 percent is further recycled or recovered on site by their suppliers or contractors.

Transport: 71 percent of all raw materials is transported by ship or train, taking about 56,800 trucks per year off the road. In 2018, about 78,960 tonnes of finished glass products were transported in combined train and truck transport, taking about 3,950 trucks per year off the road.

Packaging: Today most of the glass packaging is reusable. AGC Glass Europe achieves a very high level of packaging reuse. In Belgium 98 percent of the packaging is reused.

Recycling: AGC Glass Europe recycles around 1,000,000 tonnes of cullet per year, saving about 1,150,000 tonnes of raw material and 300,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions.

Cradle-to-Cradle approach for sustainable products

AGC earned new Cradle to Cradle certifications for its patterned glass (March 2018) and recently for its fire-resistant glass (May 2019). Cradle to Cradle Certified™ is a certification mark licensed by the Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute.

C2C certifications were renewed for laminated glass (May 2018), the decorative glass range (August 2018) and insulated glass (January 2019).

In addition, AGC Glass Europe launched its first lead-free mirror: Mirox 4Green. This high-quality product stands out for its use of lead-free paints and its high opacity, making it ideal for backlit applications. Mirox 4Green is Restriction of Hazardous Substances Directive compliant. AGC Glass Europe has also developed a new generation of double vacuum glazing with very high insulation performance. The new product, named Fineo, will combine thermal and acoustic insulation properties as good as or even better than triple glazing.

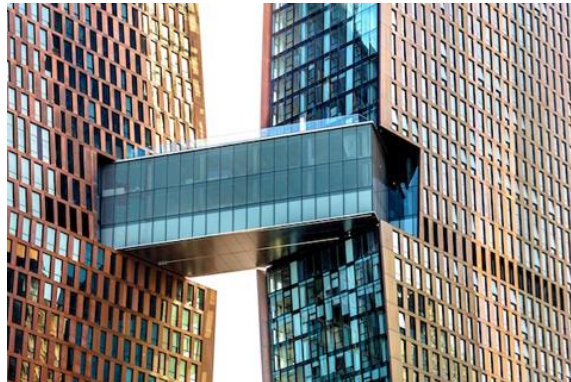
21962/Press Release – 2019.06.18

Glas Trösch

A glass bridge links the American Copper Buildings.

The familiar look of the New York skyline has now been interrupted by a pair of eye-catching skyscrapers on the banks of the East River. The copper-clad, dual residential towers are reminiscent of a couple dancing, kinked at the hip and linked together by a bridge with a metallic reflecting finish. The glass for the Skybridge, suspended 100 metres in the air, was created by the Swiss specialists Glas Trösch. The company developed double insulated panels, internally laminated with a metallic web for a glossy finish.





Development and zoning laws made designing the American Copper Buildings challenging. However, New York-based architecture firm SHoP Architects along with developers JDS Development successfully devised a project unique in its materiality and shape.

The central design element of the building is the Skybridge, a feature that has more than just an aesthetic function as it links both towers and serves as an amenity space for residents.

Copper meets glass

The façade cladding of the 41 and 48-story towers is composed of copper plates, a material that will change from reddish brown to a matt green over time. By contrast, the three-story Skybridge is wrapped entirely in metallic shimmering glass. Positioned in between the two copper towers, the Skybridge produces a captivating, light, filigree effect.

What is already impressive from the outside is equally as remarkable from within. The Skybridge houses a lounge, fitness studio, juice bar and hammam. The highlight remains the lap pool, which allows you to swim from one American Copper Building to the other while overlooking the city. Floor to ceiling windows provide uninterrupted views of the East River and Midtown Manhattan skyline. Stringent demands were inevitably made for the glazing. Glas Trösch and McGrory Glass collaborated to develop double insulating glass specifically for the project. The glass was made to allow for the best views while meeting the building's strict energy requirements.

Highest bridge in the city

The glass Skybridge, suspended with the help of an imposing steel framework, serves as a unifying piece in the project's design. It acts as both the structural link between the two skyscrapers and the home of the building's amenities, bringing the East and West towers together. In addition to a swimming pool and fitness centre, the 5,600 square metre Skybridge offers open spaces where residents can work, play pool, or simply relax while also enjoying stunning views of New York City.

Fine gauze – spectacular views

All three floors of the Skybridge are made up of two laminated safety glass panes. A gauze with a metallic shimmering effect was laminated into the outer glass.

This gives the façade an elegant yet unobtrusive sheen. The filigree mesh openings of the gauze allow plenty of daylight into the structure, but also offers basic solar protection.

In combination with LUXAR anti-reflective glass from Glas Trösch, the pane structure also ensures internal visibility and transparency. It is glare-free, and even more importantly, low in the level of reflectance, even in the dark. The overall reflection value is just two percent, which not only enhances the view but also performs as a protection from bird strikes. The additional COMBI layer SILVERSTAR SELEKT meets all the energy requirements and offers optimum solar and heat protection as well as high daylight efficiency. The figures speak for themselves, with a total energy transmittance of 26 percent, a Ug value of 1.1 W/m²K and a light transmittance of 44 percent.

Together, the American Copper Buildings in Manhattan form an iconographic structure that combines sophisticated architectural design with intelligent engineering solutions. The Skybridge linking the two towers provides residents with the opportunity to watch the sunset glare-free, whether that may be from the poolside, on the running machine, or while playing a game of pool in the lounge.

21963/Press Release – 2019.06.24

Miscellaneous

Glass for Europe: Energy Balance at CA EPBD Plenary Meeting

On 5 June, Glass for Europe was in Riga, to meet national delegates from all EU members (and Norway) who gathered to discuss the EPBD (Energy Performance of Buildings Directive) implementation during the CA (Concerted Action) EPBD – plenary meeting. The European flat glass association took part in the informal session “How could calculation methods improve national savings on existing building stock and how to implement it in practice?”, organised by Eurowindoor to support the application of the energy balance while assessing the energy performance of windows.

Luca Oggianu presented to an audience of EPBD experts from EU Member States the main outcome of the recent study Glass for Europe commissioned to TNO on the potential impact of high-performance glazing on energy and CO₂ savings in Europe. The intervention focused on the urgency of increasing the renovation rate and the necessity of equipping the EU buildings with the adequate type of glazing to ensure long-term energy savings and CO₂ emission reduction.

21964/Press Release – 2019.06.17

CONTAINER GLASS

Glass Companies

Ardagh

1. Ardagh Group, Glass – North America, has signed a long-term supply agreement to be the **exclusive supplier of glass bottles for Mountain Valley Spring Water**.



Consumers consider glass to be the premium packaging material, making it an ideal choice for bottled water brands. According to Mintel Global New Products Database (GNPD), between 2017 and 2018, there was a 20 percent increase in bottled water products launched in glass in the U.S.

Using water that rises naturally from a spring in the Ouachita mountains, Mountain Valley chooses to bottle its award-winning premium spring and sparkling waters in glass to preserve the quality and taste. Ardagh Group manufactures Mountain Valley Spring Water's unique green glass water bottles for its Spring Water, Sparkling Water and Sparkling Essence varieties in 333ml, 500ml, 750ml and 1L sizes.

"We are delighted to partner with Ardagh Group on this long-term supply agreement for the iconic glass water bottles that package our natural, authentic spring water," said Environmental responsibility is a global concern that's gaining momentum among today's consumers, and the commitment to sustainable practices is one of the driving forces in the expanding glass water bottle market. In addition to its premium qualities, glass bottles are 100 percent recyclable and can be recycled endlessly without any loss in quality or purity.

"As one of the leading suppliers of inherently sustainable packaging, Ardagh Group is pleased to manufacture this collection of custom glass bottles for Mountain Valley Spring Water," said John T Shaddox, Chief Commercial Officer for Ardagh Group's North American Glass division. "This line of glass bottles, known for its protective qualities and environmental distinction, is the ideal packaging choice for today's environmentally-conscious consumer."

21965/Press Release – 2019.06.10

2. Ardagh installs solar power plant at US glass site.

Ardagh Group has installed a 20-acre solar power plant at its Bridgeton, NJ glass manufacturing facility. It worked with its partner KDC Solar to install the plant. The solar plant will supply renewable energy to the glass manufacturing site and contribute to a reduction in the glassmaker's carbon footprint.



Key features of the solar project include:

- * 5.5 MW DC
- * 15,930 PV modules supported by 1,283 racking posts
- * 61 pieces of electrical equipment, 60 miles of wire installed
- * 2 separate arrays connected via directional drilling under a roadway and under wetlands

Bertrand Paulet, President and CEO, Ardagh Group, Glass – North America, said: "As part of our drive for sustainability, we are continuously looking for new opportunities to increase our use of green energy."

21966/Press Release – 2019.06.20

O-I



1. O-I presented to the general public the **Pink Design Awards**

O-I was partner of the Just Rosé Festival in Sanary, France and offered the bottles of the "Cuvée Spéciale 2019" which have been customized this year with **O-I : EXPRESSIONS**, a service that combines the integral benefits of glass with an agile, marketing-focused capability. It offers fast customization on smaller volumes, enabling limited editions, personalization, special artworks and promotional branding activities.

During this event, who took place in May 2019, O-I presented for the first time to the general public the Pink Design Awards, in association with – and following the vote of professionals established for – the Pink Rosé Festival (held in Cannes last February), where 71 wine growers participated in the contest.



The winners were:

- La Villa Angeli
- Ultimate Provence
- Marie-Christine Rosé New Collection of the Château de l'Aumérade



21967/Press Release – 2019.06.12

2. O-I Australia agrees domestic gas supply contract

O-I Australia has agreed a domestic gas sales agreement with Senex Energy.

Under the five-year agreement, Senex will supply O-I Australia with 1 PJ of gas a year commencing 1 January 2021 (5 PJ in total).

O-I can also elect to increase the total contract volume by up to an additional 1.1 PJ of gas a year over a 5-year term (up to 5.5 PJ in total) commencing no earlier than 1 January 2022, thereby providing O-I's Australian East Coast manufacturing plants with additional gas supply certainty.

O-I operates four plants across the east coast of Australia and employs 1050 people.

Gas will be supplied at the Wallumbilla Gas Hub in Queensland at a fixed price in line with current market levels, indexed annually.

21968/Press Release – 2019.06.18

3. O-I completes acquisition of Mexican glass packaging facility

O-I has completed the acquisition of Nueva Fábrica Nacional de Vidrio, ("Nueva Fanal") from Grupo Modelo. Grupo Modelo, a wholly owned affiliate of Anheuser-Busch InBev, bought the company in a transaction valued at approximately \$188 million.

The Nueva Fanal facility is located near Mexico City and has four furnaces. The furnaces produce and supply approximately 300,000 tonnes of glass containers annually for Grupo Modelo brands serving the local and global export markets.

O-I expects the business to contribute approximately \$140 million of revenue and \$40 million EBITDA on an annual basis, with incremental synergies anticipated.

Furthermore, O-I has entered into a long-term agreement to continue to supply glass to Grupo Modelo.

Andres Lopez, Chief Executive Officer, O-I said: "In acquiring Nueva Fanal, O-I continues to execute its strategy of investing in the growth of sustainable glass packaging, specifically premium brands, such as Corona. We are pleased to close this transaction and will be actively working to achieve the operational and financial synergies we believe this acquisition creates."

The transaction has received the relevant regulatory approvals in Mexico.

21969/Press Release – 2019.07.01

Vidrala Group



1) Vidrala plans €500 million **investment over the next five years** to modernise its plants.

It has launched an investment plan that will involve the disbursement of €500 million, which will be used to modernise its facilities by introducing new technologies and environmental improvements, and expanding production capacity.

The group's president, Carlos Delclaux, announced the measure at a recent shareholders' meeting in Llodio, Álava, Spain.

The investments will give priority to the most profitable plants: the two in Portugal and the two in the United Kingdom of its British subsidiary Encirc.

Vidrala does not consider new acquisitions, although it will analyze them if interesting opportunities arise. In the past four years, it has bought Encirc and Portuguese rival Santos Barosa.

Vidrala currently has nine factories: three in Spain (Álava, Albacete and Barcelona), two in Portugal, two in the UK, one in Italy and one in Belgium.

By 2019, Vidrala expects sales to increase between 3% and 5%, exceeding one billion euros, thanks to an increase in prices and the improvement of sales volumes in the UK market.

In 2018 it invoiced €955 million. In addition, its net profit will increase double digits and will exceed €125 million.

21970/Press Release – 2019.06.06



2. **Encirc invests in world's first intelligent glass line and increased capacity**

UK glass container manufacturer and bottler, Encirc, is set to boost glass production capacity at its site in Elton, Cheshire by building a world-first 'Industry 4.0-Ready' glass production line.

The new line at Encirc will have cutting edge technology installed and will see the plant's hot end (where bottles are produced) digitally connected to the cold end (where bottles are inspected).

Once operational in Q2 2020, Encirc's new line will make use of in-built intelligent swabbing, laser identification marking and inspection machines, which will be fully integrated to work alongside human operators.

The technology will improve health and safety for operators while also increasing the plant's manufacturing capabilities.

With closed loop technology linking the hot end to the cold end, via instant digital information, the line's efficiency will be unparalleled within the industry.

Encirc is part of the Vidrala group which is investing a total of €500 million across its plants in Europe with more than £140 million of that being invested in Encirc's two UK-based plants (Cheshire and County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland).

Encirc's four-year plan involves rebuilding all four furnaces in these two sites.

This particular project will include the rebuilding of one of Elton's two furnaces, which are among the largest of their kind in the global container glass industry.

The new furnace's increased melting capacity will supply the new production line with glass, increasing the plant's bottle production output.

This activity, which also includes a significant investment in emissions reduction and abatement, comes as part of Encirc's commitment to continuous improvement and reduction of the carbon footprint of its supply chain.

It is also at a time where demand for glass in the UK market is strong, boosted by changes in how imported beverages reach UK consumers with Encirc's 360 supply model driving an increase in UK bottling.

Adrian Curry, Managing Director, Encirc, said: "Glass is a fantastic material, with remarkable sustainability benefits. As more people begin to acknowledge this and choose glass packaging, there is, of course, an enormous pressure on the UK's glass sector to respond and supply more containers. This is why Encirc and our parent company, Vidrala, are always investing in the most advanced technologies to ensure we produce more with less waste. Continuous improvement is what makes Encirc great. In 2018, we rebuilt a record-breaking container glass-melting furnace, the largest in existence. We didn't stop there though, as from next year we'll be the first glass manufacturer in the world to take advantage of an 'Industry-4.0 Ready' production line. Not only will these new robotic processes help us further strengthen our market position, they will also support us in safeguarding and future proofing our current workforce."

21971/Press Release – 2019.06.18

Heinz-Glas



Heinz-Glas has unveiled a new 150 tonnes per day furnace at its Działdowo, Poland facility, for a cost of €30 million.

The German glassmaker overhauled its opal glass and built a new one that manufactures flint glass. It is the largest in the group's history and has 8 production lines.

The investment also included the installation of the first 12-section automatic glass working machine for cosmetic glass and the expansion of the site's production hall and infrastructure.

The group also recently acquired a 60,000m² plot near Shanghai, China to build a glass factory there.

It has also invested in an electrical furnace at its Kleintettau site in Germany, which will be operational later this month.

It held a ceremony in Działdowo in May attended by local dignitaries to celebrate the opening of the new furnace.

21972/Press Release – 2019.06.18

Beatson Clark



Custom embossing by glass manufacturer Beatson Clark has created a stand-out bottle for Dead Man's Fingers spiced rum from Halewood.



Halewood Wines & Spirits added Cornwall's popular small-batch spiced rum brand Dead Man's Fingers to its portfolio last year.

Created by the owners of the Rum & Crab Shack in St Ives in 2015, Dead Man's Fingers has gained cult status amongst its loyal followers. A blend of rums from Trinidad and Barbados, it's inspired by Cornish flavours such as saffron cake, spiced fruit and the Shack's own Pedro Ximenez ice cream.

The company wanted to update the existing bottle without losing its distinctive skull imagery and graphics, so Halewood's in-house design team worked with Beatson Clark's designers to reimagine the bottle with bespoke embossing alongside the existing artwork.

The concept was designed by Halewood and developed by Beatson Clark to ensure the technical aspects of the glass container were optimised.

The new glass spirit bottle is spray-coated to emphasise the edgy feel of the brand and features an embossed skull on the shoulder, the initials 'DMF' embossed on the sides and the words 'Cornish Soul' on the back of the bottle.

"Advances in technology have revolutionised what our in-house design team can now achieve with embossing, and using the latest sculpting software means that the results are highly defined and easier to manufacture," said Chris Palmer, Business Development Manager at Beatson Clark. He added, "The growing popularity of the artisan and craft spirits market is opening up exciting projects like this for us. We currently have several new spirits projects in the pipeline. Having worked successfully with brands such as Hendrick's gin and Brewdog's Lonestar spirits we're looking forward to growing our presence in this sector."

21973/Press Release – 2019.06.11

Envibol



President Evo Morales inaugurated the Glass Containers Factory of Bolivia (Envibol), located in the municipality of Zudañez, in the department of Chuquisaca.

The new Glass Containers factory currently makes possible for nationals to access 147 direct jobs and more than 1,000 indirect jobs.

The head of state stressed that this factory was built with resources of the national government, through the Fund for Industrial Productive Revolution (Finpro).

It is considered by specialists the most modern factory in Latin America, as it has the latest technology to manufacture high quality and lighter products.

A group of Uruguayan experts will train the workers of this state factory until December 31 to guarantee their proper management. About 15 specialists, with at least 30 years of experience in the field, will train those workers mainly in the handling and care of the machines, as well as identifying the deficiencies the factory may have.

The factory demanded an investment of more than 57 million dollars, and has a production capacity of 130 tons of glass per day to produce beverage bottles and food containers.

21974/Press Release – 2019.05.31

Stölzle Glass



STÖLZLE GLASS GROUP

1. Stölzle Glass now ornate Ciroc vodka bottles.



In recent years decoration has become increasingly important. To make the glass bottles and containers stand out from the mass of products available on the market, brands are turning to sophisticated decoration techniques and commissioning exclusive ranges at the top end of the market.

Stölzle intends to keep pace with this trend and offers innovative spraying technology. In three dedicated decoration centres spraying can be done by Stölzle on all shapes and sizes of bottles with up to three colours at the same time. Innovative spray substances create stunning effects and textures: translucent, opaque, vignette, satin, metallic, matt or frosted. Spraying can perfectly be executed leaving parts of the product undecorated, what means partially not sprayed, in order to apply additional decoration techniques in a further step.

It's very trendy, as well, to remove selected areas of the coating – especially when it comes to metallic spray – in order to achieve fancy “windows” or patterns on the bottles.

21975/Press Release – 2019.07.03

2. **Stölzle Masnieres Parfumerie**, based in northern France, plans **capacity expansion**. The perfume glassmaker will replace its existing furnace with a new, larger one in the summer of next year. This means the group can also develop a fifth production line.

Etienne Gruyez, the facility's CEO, said the investment would increase production capacity by 30% and create jobs in the Hauts-de-France region.

21976/Press Release – 2019.06.18

Miscellaneous

FEVE New Elected President

Michel Giannuzzi, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Verallia Group – one of Europe's leading glass packaging manufacturers for the food and beverage sector, has been elected as President of the association, succeeding Johan Gorter, CEO of Ardagh Glass Europe.



Commenting on his new role, Mr Giannuzzi (pictured) said: “Our industry has a unique opportunity right now: as packaging is under scrutiny by consumers for its sustainability and healthy credentials. The glass industry is perfectly positioned to respond to customer and regulatory requirements leveraging the benefits of the Circular Economy”.

Today, some 80 billion bottles, jars and flacons are supplied annually to the global food and beverage industry as well as to fragrance, cosmetics and pharma markets. Glass packaging is easily and infinitely recyclable. In the last fifteen years, glass recycling has increased by 139% throughout Europe. Some 1.5 million bottle banks are available across the region and an average of 74% of Europe's glass is collected for recycling, demonstrating the success of the dedicated glass recycling scheme introduced in Europe in the 1970s. These numbers also underline the commitment of the glass industry to attain aggressive recycling rates.

"Mr Giannuzzi added. "As we move towards a more sustainable future, we have a great opportunity to continue innovating glass production. We are determined to further reduce our industry's environmental footprint, increase quantity and quality of recycled glass, and continue to design new packaging solutions that provide value to our customers and their brands". He concluded: "In my role as President, building on the excellent job done by my colleague Johan Gorter, I want to convey enthusiasm and energy, and further promote sustainability goals, technology innovation, customer proximity and consumer engagement".

The industry invests every year at least than €600 million in its 160 manufacturing plants and research facilities across Europe to modernize production, further reduce emissions, increase recycled content and reduce weight of the glass containers (1) . Today, glass containers are on average 30% lighter than 20 years ago, while maintaining and even improving their product qualities, recyclability, and innovative design.

In addition, Vitaliano Torno, President of O-I Europe, has been elected Vice-President of FEVE. He said: "Our customers thrive on glass as the most sustainable packaging solution. Led by the knowledge and ambition of our industry's employees, we are innovating to help our customers build their precious and renowned brands and become valued partners as well as sustainable producers. I am determined to move the glass industry forward and promote the benefits of glass."

The industry is also continuously increasing its communication efforts to inform and educate consumers, regulators and other stakeholders about the numerous benefits of glass packaging, and the fundamental role of packaging in protecting end-consumer products. The Friends of Glass platform on www.friendsofglass.com reaches out to millions of consumers around the Globe.

21977/FEVE Press Release – 2019.06.20

DOMESTIC TABLEWARE AND CRYSTAL GLASS

Glass Company

Libbey Group



Renowned for delivering a variety of strong and elegant glassware to the retail, foodservice and B2B channels, Libbey EMEA is continuing its successful collaboration with bartenders to create winning glassware collections via **The Glassology** by Libbey Design Competition.

Now in its second edition, the competition invites experts in the high-end drinks industry to create relevant and exciting glassware designs, which are then judged by an expert panel, with the winning glass design taken into production by Libbey.

At this year's final, which was held in Amsterdam in May, Belgian Yochen Verbeeck, a bartender at Cocktails at Nine in Antwerp, was crowned the winner.



Yochen's winning glassware design, **The Gats**, was inspired by the 1920s – The Great Gatsby and Art Deco – which is evident in the smooth, curved lines, smooth forms, polished surfaces and elegant and stylish Art Deco details of the glasses (Rocks and Highballs). Furthermore, Yochen was inspired by a vase from his grandmother's house. Yochen said, "I brought my love for my family, art and history together in one design. I wanted to keep it simple and let the glass speak for itself."

According to the judges, The Gats, is a sophisticated design that delivers a drinking experience that stays with you long after the last sip has disappeared. The jury praised Yochen's design for being beautiful and having a fantastic back story. "Yochen presented us with a beautiful glass, a compelling back story and even filled his glasses with a couple of great-tasting cocktails," said Simon Difford on the jury.

21978/Press Release – 2019.06.28

REINFORCEMENT GLASS FIBRES

Glass Company

Lanxess



Tepex is developed and produced by LANXESS subsidiary Bond-Laminates GmbH, headquartered in Brilon in Germany. Tepex dynalite is already proving its value in numerous large-scale applications of structural lightweight automotive design. For example, it is used to produce front ends, brake pedals, underbody panelling components, reinforcing structural inserts for body detachable parts as well as carriers for door and electronic modules on a large scale.

Examples: Audi A8 rear seats, Mercedes-Benz GLE SUV front-end support.

LANXESS anticipates that the composite material will be used in the future to manufacture backrests and armrests as well as seat shells for new, highly complex seat systems in autonomous driving. According to *Henrik Plaggenborg, head of Tepex Automotive at the LANXESS High Performance Materials (HPM) business unit*, "We are thinking, for example, of freely rotatable, swivel able or removable seats that not only weigh little but also meet all crash requirements and are fitted with numerous integrated functions such as seat belt, infotainment and comfort systems." In addition, the lightweight material could be used in comfort seats for shuttle, VIP and family buses.

21979/Press Release – 2019.07.02

SPECIAL GLASS

Glass Companies

SCHOTT



1. SCHOTT AG to acquire Australian microfluidic expert MINIFAB

SCHOTT AG has entered into a purchase agreement to acquire the Australian microfluidic company MINIFAB Pty Ltd. This strategic move will allow both partners to significantly enhance their portfolios in the diagnostics market. While MINIFAB is a leading innovator in customized polymer microfluidics. SCHOTT is the world's leading supplier of glass substrates for microarrays and microfluidic components made of glass. By setting up centres of excellence for polymer in Australia and glass in Germany, both will be able to serve their existing customer bases as well as new customers even more effectively in the future.



MINIFAB's Melbourne based manufacturing facility is recognised as the world's number one in microfluidic products. Photo: MINIFAB

MINIFAB is a contract-engineering firm with 150 employees that provides custom development and manufacturing of polymer microfluidic and micro engineered solutions to international blue-chip companies and start-ups in the field of diagnostics, medical devices and environmental monitoring. Founded in 2002, the company is headquartered in Melbourne, Australia, and has operations in Europe and the US.

"MINIFAB's expertise in business development is unprecedented in the industry," said Dr. Heinz Kaiser, the member of the SCHOTT Board of Management responsible for the diagnostics business. "The combining of our internationally renowned glass development and technology expertise together with MINIFAB's comprehensive polymer technology suite will enable customers from the diagnostics industry to choose from a broad variety of options for their individual applications," he explained.



SCHOTT glass substrates and coatings for diagnostics (Jena, Germany)

SCHOTT is targeting to close the transaction in the coming months subject to customary closing conditions.

21980/Press Release – 2019.06.17

2. SCHOTT: a sensor packaging revolution

Pioneering technologies complement SCHOTT's hermetic sensor packaging portfolio. Sensors are only as good as their individual components. When they need to function in extreme operating environments or deliver superior and stable optical performance, hermetic packaging and sealing comes into play.

SCHOTT has now complemented its vast and long-established portfolio of hermetic packaging components with further ground-breaking innovations: HEATAN™ technology enables reliability in ultra-high temperature applications even beyond 1000°C, while Primoceler™ glass micro bonding enables ultra-miniaturized chip-size sensor packages. Sensor applications come with a multifaceted set of challenges and requirements for successful operation. These can include withstanding harsh operating environments, robustness, optical precision, high pressure, aggressive chemicals and moisture, and unique needs for shape, interface, and materials, amongst others.

21981/Press Release – 2019.06.25

3. Schott invests in its glass tubing manufacturing plant in India

Schott has invested an additional double-digit million-Euro figure into a new glass tank at its tubing manufacturing plant in Jambusar, India. The expansion follows recent investments at the site, which included the construction of an additional tank facility last year. Production of pharmaceutical Fiolax tubing from the new tank is scheduled to begin in the second half of 2020.

The capacity expansion is part of the company's global growth strategy of its pharma tubing and packaging business segments.

Dr. Patrick Markschlaeger, Executive Vice President at Schott, Business Unit Tubing, said: "The pharmaceutical market is booming worldwide with a very high demand for premium pharmaceutical packaging and tubing. In order to supply the rapidly growing domestic and Asian market, we are investing once again a multimillion-euro figure in our Jambusar site to increase our manufacturing capacity in India."

Fiolax borosilicate glass tubing is said to feature a high hydrolytic resistance. In India, it is primarily used to manufacture glass vials and ampoules.

In line with the company's aim to manufacture zero defect tubing, the tank will feature the big data approach perfeXion. The process, which was rolled-out globally by Schott in 2017, reportedly ensures 100% quality control of each tube on the line by using cameras, laser and IR inspection systems.

Along with the tank facility, the investment includes an extension of the batch house, warehouses and a new chimney.

21982/Press Release – 2019.06.19

*

*

*

DIVERSE

GLASS, RESEARCH & SUPPLIERS

Glass Futures to Unveil Plans for £40 Million St Helens Research Centre



Glass sector plans for a multi-million-pound research centre are set to be unveiled. Industry chiefs from across the UK and Europe will hear how they can influence and benefit from research into clean fuels and innovation to boost manufacturing productivity.

They will set the agenda for how the £1.6bn UK sector and its supply chain can benefit from the 'Glass Futures' project at a conference on July 23 in St Helens, UK.

The £40million research facility will be based at the former United Glass site in St Helens and will have the first and only experimental furnace of its kind in the world.

The project is also set to create up to 50 jobs on site and another 1,000 jobs in the supply chain.

Richard Katz, Director of Glass Futures, said: "This conference will shape the future of the glass sector, its research into clean fuels, and its manufacturing productivity for the next century."

The furnace will initially be able to produce 30 tonnes of glass a day to research and develop innovative ways of reducing the environmental footprint of glass manufacturing processes. It will also explore technologies such as waste heat recovery, low-carbon fuel sources, novel raw materials, advanced process control systems, carbon capture and storage technologies, and new glass materials.

The smaller furnace will provide much greater flexibility in innovation and reduce the risk associated with trials on a larger scale.

Other foundation industries such as concrete and steel will be invited to have neighbouring bases to facilitate cross-sector working.

Dave Dalton, Chief Executive of British Glass, said: "By bringing together the best brains across the foundation industries we can put Britain at the forefront of cleaner, greener manufacturing globally, and help the country meet its carbon targets in line with the Government's Industrial Strategy objectives."

It is anticipated that the Glass Futures site could be up and running within a year from its commissioning, with pilot furnace trials taking place from the end of 2020.

Funding is expected to come from both industry and Government, with the project managed initially by Glass Technology Services.

21983/Press Release – 2019.06.27

Glass Technology Services (GTS): New Responsive Website for the Experts in Glass



Leading experts in glass, Glass Technology Services, have unveiled a brand-new responsive website – completing their rebranding process and continuing their programme of strategic investments throughout the growing business.

Built with a responsive layout, the new website ensures a consistent cross-device user experience, as well as improved navigation and enquiry processes – making it easier than ever for visitors to access the information they need and contact the experts for technical support.

The rebuild includes a refresh of their free ‘glass weight estimator’ and ‘effective U-value’ calculators, which alone receive over 9,500 visitors a month.

The fresh new site showcases Glass Technology Services’ wide range of analytical and technical support offered throughout the glass supply chain – including specialist support in pharmaceuticals, food and drink and manufacturing sectors.

Their technical support, which includes training, product verification, performance testing, technical consultancy and routine analysis, enables the world’s leading brands to verify their products, troubleshoot issues and pave the way with cutting-edge glass research and new product development.

Business development manager, Phil Marsh, said, “We’re delighted to unveil the final part of our rebranding – the new website reflects our new branding perfectly and provides a seamless experience for our customers to get the information they need, while showcasing the very best of what our expert teams provide. Over a third of visitors use a portable device to access our content and this number is rapidly growing – so, it was essential that we adopted responsive design to ensure our customers and prospective clients receive a consistent experience however they access our site and can easily access the content they need.”

The development of the website was carried out by local design agency Prototype Creative, based in Rotherham, who interpreted the new Glass Technology Services brand identity to create a fresh, modern and adaptive site for the leading experts in glass.

More on www.glass-ts.com

21984/Press Release – 2019.07.01

Tata Chemicals Europe to build UK’s first Carbon Capture Demo Plant

Tata Chemicals Europe (TCE) has unveiled plans to build the UK’s first industrial-scale Carbon Capture & Utilisation (CCU) demonstration plant.

The plant will capture carbon dioxide from the flue gases of TCE’s 96MWe gas-fired combined heat and power plant (CHP), which supplies steam and power to the company’s Northwich operations and other industrial businesses in the area.





The CCU plant will then purify and liquify the gas for use directly in the manufacture of sodium bicarbonate.

With planning permission granted earlier this month, the CCU at TCE's Northwich industrial site, is scheduled to commence carbon dioxide capture operations in 2021.

Supporting the Government's Clean Growth Strategy, the £16.7m project will be funded by TCE with the support of a £4.2m grant from the Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) through the Carbon Capture and Utilisation Demonstration (CCUD) Programme.

Martin Ashcroft, TCE MD, said: "The CCU demonstration plant will enable us to reduce our carbon emissions, whilst securing supplies of a critical raw material, helping to grow the export of our products across the world. Implementing this industry leading project, with such strong environmental and operational benefits is hugely exciting, and we're pleased to be working closely with BEIS to deliver the demonstration plant. We hope that this project will demonstrate the viability of CCU and pave the way for further applications of the technology to support the decarbonisation of industrial activity. Our parent company, Tata Chemicals, has supported this innovative project, enabling our UK operations to continue to reduce its carbon emissions. This project is a great example of business and Government working together to rise to the challenge of decarbonising industrial production."

Chris Skidmore, Energy & Clean Growth Minister added: "Cutting edge technology to capture carbon will cut emissions as we work towards a net zero economy, while creating new jobs – a key part of our modern Industrial Strategy. This innovative project from Tata Chemicals Europe represents a major milestone in efforts to rollout carbon capture at scale by the 2030s."

21985/Press Release – 2019.06.28

Johns Manville to Build Production Line in Kansas



Johns Manville plans to build a Climate Proofing wool production line in McPherson, Kansas, USA. JM will begin construction on the expansion project later this year, pending various governmental approvals, and anticipates the completion in early 2021.

The Berkshire Hathaway company will employ more than 330 people in McPherson once completed, including hiring operators, maintenance technicians and warehouse employees.

21986/Press Release – 2019.06.24



Şişecam Group to Co-Invest in the US with Ciner Group

Şişecam Group is to make a new investment in the United States (US) with Ciner Group that has significant know-how in natural soda production.

For the investment in question, Soda Sanayii A.Ş., operating within Şişecam Chemicals, entered into an equal production partnership contract with Ciner Group for the natural soda production in the US.

Today, Şişecam Group is amongst the top seven synthetic producers of the world with its total annual soda ash production capacity of 2.4 million tons that is the sum of 1.4 million tons at its Mersin Soda Plant, 585,000 tons at its Şişecam Soda Lukavac Plant in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and 375,000 tons at its Solvay Sodi Plant in Bulgaria, where the Group has production partnership with the world's largest synthetic soda producer Solvay.

Ciner Group is the world's largest natural soda producer thanks to its total natural soda production capacity of 7 million tons per year that is made up of 2.7 million tons in Kazan and 1.8 million tons at Eti Soda with solution mining operations in Turkey and 2.5 million tons in the US with conventional mining.

Prof. Ahmet Kirman, Şişecam Group Vice Chairman and CEO, said, "Şişecam Group is aiming at increasing its share in the global soda market from its current level of 3.4 percent and in the global sodium and bicarbonate market from 6.5 percent owing to our 40 years of experience that we have gained from our synthetic soda sales in the world market spanning. Moreover, access to the low-cost natural soda in the soda market with a solid competition offers a competitive advantage, while financially contributing to Şişecam Group that will further reinforce its strength in the global soda market. We have been implementing the same production partnership structure in Bulgaria for many years with Solvay, the world's largest synthetic soda manufacturer."

"We are planning to finance this investment, which has an annual natural soda production capacity of 2.5 million tons besides 200,000 tons of sodium bicarbonate production capacity, with a long-term project financing loan by 80 percent and the balance with an equity capital to be invested equally. Start of production operations could be expected by the year 2024".

21987/Press Release – 2019.06.28

SEMINARS / CONFERENCES / WORKSHOPS

Glass Technology Services (GTS) Training Programme 2019

GTS announced an extended training programme for 2019 due to increasing demand from across the glass industry and wider supply chain.

The 2019 programme features not only an increased number of introductory and technical events, but wholly new courses and workshops developed following feedback and requests from our client-base.



Please find herewith the list of the remaining courses for 2019:

Tuesday, 9 September 2019	An introduction to glass packaging (1 day course);
Tuesday, 10 September 2019	Glass appreciation – an introduction to glass (1 day course);
Wednesday, 9 October 2019	#PharmaGlass (1 day workshop);
15-17 October 2019	Glass failure analysis (3 day course);
Wednesday, 13 November 2019	Fundamentals of Glass (1 day course);

More info at: <https://www.glass-ts.com/training>

21988/Glass Technology Services Press Release – 2018.12.13

ICG -11th Workshop Montpellier (France) 8-12 July 2019

The 11th workshop for new researchers in glass science and application is to be held in **Montpellier (France) 8-12 July 2019**.

The 11th workshop for new researchers in glass science and application will be composed of two interwoven threads.

The first thread will overview fundamentals in glass science emphasising structure-property relationships, experimental techniques, material simulations and tools that probe structure. Specific properties and applications will be discussed e.g. optical behaviour, transport phenomena, nucleation and crystallisation, and strength.

The second thread this year will focus on glasses for hazardous waste immobilization, to echo the importance of the nuclear industry and other significant areas of waste disposal. Attention will be given to glass formulation and structure, long-term corrosion behaviour, as well as melting technologies for nuclear waste glasses. The lecturers will be world experts in their fields. A significant aspect of the workshop will be student-centred projects that will help participants to develop their understanding by applying what they know to specific issues.

A more complete programme is available on ICG website: www.icglass.org

21989/Press Release – 2019.03.05

Society of Glass Technology

SGT special conference on raw materials for glass making

The Society of Glass Technology is holding a special conference on Raw Materials for Glass Making in **Cambridge, UK 1–4 September 2019**.

The conference will feature dedicated sessions on particular glass ingredients as well as the batch as a whole.

The first speakers have been recently announced.

- Hans van Limpt of Sibelco will give an overview of the silica sand situation and future glass industry requirements.
- Tom Paterson the managing director of Fife Silica Sand and will discuss its contribution to the UK glass sand market.
- Diego Zurolo, General Manager of Loch Aline Sand Mine (LQS) will present a report about the position of LQS regarding the supply of their well-known high-quality sand.



- Professor Chris Rayner of C-Capture a branch from Whiterose.ac.uk a consortium consisting of Leeds, York and both Sheffield Universities, will speak about the CO2 stripping trial being carried out at Drax Power Station, the first such full-scale project in Europe.
- Nicola Johnson of Appleby Calumite will describe the history of Calumite use in the UK and Czech Republic and its role in lowering furnace emissions.

Further contributions can be expected from British Glass (on cullet), Glass Technology Services, Ardagh, St. Gobain and FIC (electric melting) on *'is this the future and what are its implications for raw material quality and specifications.'*

The raw materials conference will run in parallel with other sessions on glass science and technology and heritage and history as part of the SGT Annual Meeting.

21990/Press Release – 2019.02.20

80th Annual Conference on Glass Problems



The 80th annual Conference on Glass Problems will be held once again at the Greater Columbus Convention Centre in **Columbus, Ohio, 28-31 October 2019**, and invites engineers, educators, students, and solutions providers working on various aspects of glass manufacturing to submit an abstract for an oral presentation at this premier industry conference.

This conference is the largest glass manufacturing conference in North America and attracts glass manufacturers and suppliers worldwide to exchange innovations and problem solutions. The conference is co-organized by the Glass Manufacturing Industry Council (GMIC) and Alfred University, and provides expert lectures, panel discussions and focused courses and symposia, along with exhibiting and networking opportunities. The topics of interest for this convention broadly include glass melting & quality, combustion and heat transfer, refractories, process control, sensors and Industry 4.0, modelling of glass melting and processing, raw materials, batching and recycling, forming issues and container customization, environment safety, emissions and respirable silica, carbon reduction, energy management and electric boosting, furnace design and reconstruction, furnace life extension and maintenance and any new topics relevant to glass manufacturing.

Full four-day programme at:

<http://glassproblemsconference.org/80th-conference-on-glass-problems-schedule-of-events/>

21991/Press Release – 2019.01.08