

WELCOME TO EU GLASS INDUSTRIES NEWS



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EU COMMUNITY NEWS

NEW EU LEGISLATION

Council Decision

Council Decision (EU) 2017/1757 of 17 July 2017 updating the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-Level Ozone

The Union is a party to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution and to the 1999 Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-Level Ozone.

The parties to the Gothenburg Protocol opened negotiations in 2007 with a view to improving further the protection of human health and the environment, including through the establishment of new emission reduction obligations for selected air pollutants to be achieved by the year 2020 and the updating of emission limit values addressing emissions of air pollutants at source.

As a result of the negotiations, the Union has amended the text and its annexes in mainly **adding particulate matter** in the list of air pollutants to be reduced.

All details on page 3 at:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2017:248:TOC>

20709/O.J. L248 – 2017.09.27

TRADE POLICY

EU Trade Agenda

In his State of the Union speech on 13 September, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker announced a package strengthening the EU's trade agenda, including proposals to open free-trade negotiations with Australia and New Zealand and to screen foreign investment in strategic EU sectors.

The key elements of the package for a balanced and progressive trade policy are:

- A proposal for a European framework to **screen foreign direct investment**. It will ensure that foreign investment remains a major source of growth in the EU while protecting the EU's essential interests. The legislative proposal is accompanied by a set of further measures that take immediate effect. These are detailed in a dedicated Communication outlining the strategic need for such a screening.
- Following on from the free-trade agreement with **Canada** (CETA) and the one partly concluded with **Japan**, Juncker confirmed that he wants political agreement to be reached by "the end of the year" securing a free-trade agreement with the **Mercosur countries** (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay) and an updated free-trade deal with **Mexico**. He also proposed opening free-trade negotiations with **Australia and New Zealand**, with the aim of finalising all these agreements before the end of his term of office. These agreements would expand the alliance of partners committed to progressive rules for global trade.
- A recommendation to the Council to open negotiations to **establish a multilateral court for the settlement of investment disputes**. This major innovation in global governance would be yet another step towards a more transparent, coherent and fair approach to deal with company complaints under investment protection agreements.
- **Unprecedented transparency**: With the publication of the draft mandates for bilateral trade agreements with Australia and New Zealand, and for a multilateral agreement on investment dispute settlement, the Commission has decided to publish as of now all its recommendations for negotiating directives for trade agreements (known as negotiating mandates). When they are submitted to the European Parliament and the Council, those documents will in parallel be sent automatically to all national Parliaments and will be made available to the general public. This should allow for a wide and inclusive debate on the planned agreements from the start. The Commission asks Member States to ensure the involvement of the relevant national and regional stakeholders in trade talks at the earliest possible stage.
- **The creation of an Advisory Group on EU trade agreements**. The group will allow the Commission to engage with civil society and gather more easily different perspectives and insights from a wide and balanced group of stakeholders, ranging from trade unions,

employers' organisations, consumer groups and other non-governmental organisations. The creation of this Group is a continuation of the Commissions' efforts to make trade policy even more transparent and inclusive.

20710/Press Release – 2017.09.13

EU – Canada Trade Agreement CETA Enters into Force

On 21 September 2017, the **Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)** between the EU and Canada entered into force provisionally. It will only enter into force fully and definitively, however, when all EU Member States have ratified the Agreement. The Commission will work with EU Member States and Canada to ensure its smooth and effective implementation.

What will CETA do?

CETA offers new opportunities for EU businesses of all sizes to export to Canada. It will save EU businesses €590 million a year – the amount they pay in tariffs on goods exported to Canada. As of 21 September, CETA removes duties on 98% of products (tariff lines) that the EU trades with Canada. It also gives EU companies the best access ever offered to companies from outside Canada to bid on the country's public procurement contracts - not just at the federal level but at provincial and municipal levels, too. The agreement will especially benefit smaller companies who can least afford the cost of the red tape involved in exporting to Canada. Small businesses will save time and money, for example, by avoiding duplicative product testing requirements, lengthy customs procedures and costly legal fees. Member States' authorities dealing with export promotion stand ready to help businesses to start exporting overseas, boost existing trade, and attract investment.

CETA will create new opportunities for European farmers and food producers, while fully protecting the EU's sensitive sectors. The EU has further opened its market for certain competing Canadian products in a limited and calibrated way, while securing improved access to the Canadian market for important European export products. Those include cheese, wine and spirits, fruit and vegetables, and processed products. CETA will also protect 143 EU "geographical indications" in Canada, high quality regional food and drink products.

The EU's 500 million consumers will also benefit from CETA. The agreement offers greater choice while upholding European standards, as only products and services that fully respect all EU regulations will be able to enter the EU market. CETA will not change the way the EU regulates food safety, including genetically modified products or the ban on hormone-treated beef.

The agreement also offers better legal certainty in the service economy, greater mobility for company employees, and a framework to enable the mutual recognition of professional qualifications, from architects to crane operators.

Moreover, EU Member States can continue to organise public services as they wish. A Joint Interpretative Instrument, which will have legal force, has further clarified this and other issues. It clearly and unambiguously outlines what Canada and the EU have agreed in a number of CETA articles.

Procedure and next steps

The EU and Canada signed CETA on 30 October 2016, following the EU Member States' approval expressed in the Council. On 15 February, the European Parliament gave also its consent. On 16 May 2017, the Canadian side ratified CETA. This paved the way for provisional application as soon as Canada adopted all the necessary implementing rules. CETA will be fully implemented once all EU Member States ratify the deal according to their respective constitutional requirements. At the time CETA will take full effect, a new and improved Investment Court System will replace the current investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) mechanism that exists in many bilateral trade agreements negotiated in the past by EU Member States' governments. The new mechanism will be transparent and not based on ad hoc tribunals.

20711/Press Release – 2017.09.21

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

CLIMATE: European Parliament New EU Energy Efficiency Target & COP23

Strategy

The European Parliament's environment committee showed itself to be much more ambitious than the European Commission when it called on the EU to **increase its 2030 collective energy efficiency target to 40%, making national targets binding** – vital under the Paris climate agreement.

The demand, which remains true to the position the European Parliament has always argued, was contained in the report for opinion by Jytte Guteland (S&D, Sweden) on the revision of the energy efficiency directive. The report was adopted by 32 votes to 12, with 12 abstentions. In its clean energy package, presented at the end of 2016, the Commission proposes a collective target of 30% not binding nationally within the framework of the review of the energy efficiency directive. The environment committee also backed the inclusion of the transport sector in the annual energy efficiency target and supported improvements in monitoring reporting of energy efficiencies.

The next EP industry and energy committee, which is the lead committee on this issue, should take account of this opinion in coming to its position on 28 November.

On the same day, the environment committee also decided on its **position for COP 23** and called on the EU, by 2018, to **adopt a strategy for zero emissions by 2050**.

With the EU target (a reduction of at least 40% in its emissions by 2030) not coinciding, in terms of timing, with any UN reference whatsoever, the MEPs take the view that the EU should present a strategy by 2018 that, as its long-term objective, seeks to achieve carbon neutrality between now and 2050. The European Commission is asked to prepare that European strategy as quickly as possible bearing in mind the Paris Agreement target of keeping the global average temperature rise to well below 2 degrees Celsius and to make strong efforts to limit the rise to 1.5 degrees C.

The Paris Agreement states that all parties must communicate their long-term objective in 2020. The EU is targeting a reduction of between 80% and 95% in emissions halfway through this century but this is not a binding objective. A European strategy would be. The goal of COP 23 is to “*define clear arrangements ahead of the 2018 facilitating dialogue*”, the MEPs state. A European Parliament delegation will attend the conference. The MEPs call for this delegation to be able to take part in EU coordination meetings.

20712/Press Release – 2017.09.07

EU ETS: New Trilogue on 13 September



The fourth trilogue meeting (Parliament, Council, Commission) took place on 13 September in an attempt to push forward with the proposal on the structural reform of the EU's emissions trading scheme (ETS) for 2020-2021.

On the same day, the permanent representatives of the member states meeting at Coreper approved an expanded negotiating mandate for the Estonian Presidency of the Council. By granting the Presidency an expanded mandate, the Council is allowing it to propose a slight shift towards the European Parliament on the three pillars in the legislation: strengthening the ETS, the fight against carbon leakage and solidarity funds. The changes to the thresholds for the qualitative assessment of carbon leakage, as well as production and capacity levels (the volume of allowances) in solidarity funds are also among the possible concessions. The aim is to gauge the position of the European Parliament's negotiators and move forward together towards an agreement.

The progress made so far relates mainly to the level of production (Parliament might be willing to agree to the new percentage proposed), industrial gases and voluntary cancellation of allowances in the market stability reserve. Parliament and Council are also prepared to continue discussions on the qualitative evaluation of carbon leaks, the clause on shipping emissions which Parliament wants to introduce, the review clause and the size of the innovation funds. Parliament will also make proposals on certain issues.

Negotiators from the European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the European Commission have agreed to hold a political trilogue meeting on the long-term reform of the EU emissions trading system (ETS) on 12 October, capitalising on the progress already made and expected on the technical issues.

The 12 October triologue will focus on compensation for the indirect costs of the carbon price, the market stability reserve, length of validity prior to cancelling the allowances in the reserve, that is to say, the time from which the duration of the validity of allowances is to be limited (the Council wants 2024 and Parliament 2021), the auctioning of allowances, the innovation and modernisation funds, the linear reduction factor (the Council wants to stick to 2.2 while Parliament wants a reference of 2.4).

20713/Press Release – 2017.09.15

Commission Agreement to Link Up Swiss and European Emissions Quota Trading Systems

On 16 August, the European Commission adopted a proposed signature and ratification aiming to finalise an agreement with Switzerland on connecting up its greenhouse gas emissions quota trading system with the European counterpart (ETS).

Negotiations between the Commission and Switzerland began in 2010. A collaboration agreement was initiated in January 2017, but its signature and ratification has to be suspended following the Swiss referendum.

“After much hard work on both sides, I am proud of the progress we have made with our Swiss colleagues. As the world's largest cap and trade system, we have always aimed to promote the growth of the international carbon market”, said the European Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy, Miguel Arias Cañete, welcoming the fact that the first agreement of this kind was close at hand.

According to the Commission, “linking the European system with other systems expands opportunities for emissions reductions and reduces costs”. Certainly, once the agreement is in place, emissions quotas from one system will be considered eligible in the other, thereby allowing participants in the European emissions quota system to use quotas under the Swiss system and vice versa. In order to guarantee the compatibility of the two systems, the EU and Switzerland have agreed on criteria and technical arrangements.

The two Commission proposals must now be discussed at the Council of Ministers of the EU, which needs the blessing of the European Parliament for the agreement to be concluded. The Commission states that the agreement may be signed before the end of 2017, which would allow it to enter into force in early 2018.

20714/Press Release – 2017.09.21

ACEA to Cut CO₂ Emissions by 20% by 2030

Dieter Zetsche, president of the **European association representing car manufacturers (ACEA)**, has announced that ACEA was proposing a 20% cut in CO₂ emissions for private cars by 2030 based on 2012 levels. The ACEA president, who is also the CEO of Daimler, said it was a strong reduction that was also in line with what is expected from other industrial sectors and the Paris Climate Agreement.

A press release notes that the target is conditional upon changes in electrical charges and infrastructure to allow the spread of new generation electric vehicles. The organisation says that a mid-term assessment should be made in 2025. Zetsche said that diesel would continue to play an important role in the transition to low-emission mobility.

20715/Press Release – 2017.09.15

SOCIAL ISSUES

ETUC Request for Professional Exposure Limits to 50 Carcinogenic Agents

In a press release published on 1 September, the **European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)** indicated that it intended to introduce 50 new carcinogenic agents into the draft review of the directive on carcinogenic and mutagenic agents (directive 2004/37/EC) by 2020. The ETUC provided this information following the adoption of the inter-institutional compromise of the first revision of the said directive. Other reviews will be forthcoming. The second review is currently in negotiations between the co-legislators. A third review is expected to be presented by the Commission in January 2018. Recently, the Commissioner for Employment and Social Affairs, Marianne Thyssen, informed MEPs that it was planning on a fourth initiative before the end of its mandate

20716/Press Release – 2017.09.04

European Pillar of Social Rights

The European Commission has entered into further discussions with trade unions and employers' organisations at EU level on how to modernise the rules on employment contracts, in order to make these contracts fairer and more predictable for all types of workers.

With this initiative, the Commission continues to roll out the European Pillar of Social Rights, aiming to create convergence between Member States towards **better working and living conditions**.

Marianne Thyssen, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility, added: "*Workers have the right to be informed in writing at the start of employment about their rights and obligations. But millions of Europeans working in non-standard contracts are uncertain about their rights. I want all workers across the EU to be clearly covered by the basic rules, independent of their employment status, be them IT platform workers or delivery people. Ensuring fairer and more predictable employment contracts is a basis for fair working conditions across the EU. This is what we strive for with the European Pillar of Social Rights, which I hope will be proclaimed at the highest political level during the Summit for Fair Jobs and Growth in Gothenburg on 17 November.*"

The Commission wants to broaden the scope of the current Directive on employment contracts (the so-called Written Statement Directive), extending it to **new forms of employment**, such as on-demand workers, voucher-based workers and platform workers, so that no one is left behind. The current rules should also be modernised, taking account of developments on the labour market in the past decades.

Social partners will be able to share their views on the envisaged updates of EU legislation on employment contracts until **3 November 2017**. The Commission aims to present a legislative proposal before the end of the year.

2017/Press Release – 2017.09.25

GENERAL ISSUES

EU INDUSTRIAL POLICY

1. Industrial sector relaunches campaign for European Industrial Strategy

The industrial sector has relaunched its campaign in favour of an “*ambitious*” European industrial strategy in 2018. In this regard, several European sector associations published a joint statement on social media on 4 September, signed by 130 European organisations in early 2017.

They hope that the Commission will include an industrial strategy for Europe in its work programme for next year based on the demands made by member states and the European Parliament. It should be pointed out that the latter called on the Commission to present an “*holistic*” industrial strategy for Spring 2018.

Last February around 130 European industrial sector associations signed a joint statement in which they called on the European Commission to adopt an industrial strategy for the EU as soon as possible. In this brief document (one page), the signatories call for the Commission to reaffirm the goal of achieving a 20% share of GDP from the industrial sector, as well as adopt and implement an action plan as soon as possible, to support the industrial sector.

According to the signatories of the statement, we find ourselves in a situation that is particularly serious because between 2008 in 2014, around 3.5 million jobs in the industrial sector were destroyed. The share accounted for by the industrial sector in European GDP also fell from 18.8% to 15.3% over the same period.

2. Contents of Industrial Strategy for Europe announced by Mr. Juncker

In his State of the Union speech on 13 September, the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, announced that he wanted to present a new industrial strategy for Europe. He said this would be used to make European industry, “*stronger and more competitive*” so that it could, “*remain or become the world’s number one in innovation, digitalisation and decarbonisation*”.

According to the 18-page document, it involves a huge **raft of sectoral actions to promote industry** by the European Commission since the beginning of its mandate. It highlights the capital union, space strategy, digital strategy, the agenda for new competencies and the energy union, etc.

Several smaller scale novelties and projects are included in the document. The European Commission expresses a wish to set up a forum for encouraging cooperation and monitoring progress in the implementation of the industrial strategy for Europe. The objective would also be to identify what future actions could be taken and, in this connection, all the different decision-making levels (international, European, national, regional, local).

The Commission is also intending to organise an **annual European Industry Day ahead of each European Council spring meeting**. It also wants to present the conclusions produced during this event to the **high-level industrial roundtable**, which is expected to be set up in 2018 and which will include representatives from the national, regional and local authorities, as well as those from industry, social partners and civil society. The objective of this roundtable would be to provide comments about the initiatives and actions taken by the European Commission and advise the latter on implementing industrial policy at all levels. The European Industry Day, as well as this roundtable will play an important role for guaranteeing that the policies at all the different levels pursue the industrial competitiveness objective.

The document highlights a **number of other measures**:

- the proposal for new rules to simplify the way in which mutual recognition functions;
- the revision of market monitoring rules;
- strengthening the objectives based on the results of the European Social Fund;
- streamlining the European globalisation adjustment fund and adapting it more appropriately to globalisation;
- extending the plan to other sectors for promoting sectoral cooperation on skills (construction, steel, paper);
- assessing European legislation, in order to propose a more appropriate regulatory environment for SMEs in the public procurement arena;
- supporting innovative financing (crowd funding);
- implementing the innovation principle into the *“better legislation”* programme.

A new strategy for plastics in the circular economy. In the decarbonisation sphere, the Commission indicates in its document that it is seeking to present a new raft of actions in the field of the circular economy this December. In this context, a strategy for moving towards a circular economy in the plastics sector is expected to be presented.

Supporting the transition of the automobile sector post-“Dieselgate”. In connection with low emission transport and the package it presented last spring, the Commission intends to present a raft of proposals this autumn for strengthening European standards on carbon dioxide for the post-2020-2021 period in the automobile sector.

It is also counting on presenting an action plan for alternative fuel infrastructure, in an effort to support the extension of recharging infrastructure across the European Union. Another proposal is expected to follow in the first half of 2018 for heavy-duty vehicles. This raft of measures seeks to support the transition of the automobile sector following the “Dieselgate” scandal.

It should be pointed out that the strategy is a response to the Member States and European Parliament, which called on the European Commission to present an “holistic and ambitious” industrial strategy with concrete measures.

20718/Press Release – 2017.09.04 & 14

Future of the European Union

1. Juncker’s Sixth Scenario on Future of EU

The President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, presented his vision of a Europe of 27 Member States, anchored in its democratic foundations and capable of reforming to meet global challenges and respond to the expectations of the citizens without being overwhelmed by the prospect of Brexit, in his State of the Union speech on 13 September.

“We need to complete the European house when the sun is shining and make the most of it when the wind is at our back”, Juncker said, speaking of a gradual improvement in the socio-economic situation on the continent, a better understanding of migration flows and less power for the populist and Eurosceptic forces. On the basis of his own personal experience in the last decades, he referred to three values that are central to the European project: freedom, equality and the rule of law.

The former Luxembourg Prime Minister stressed that the EU applies the force of law and not the law of the jungle and that the law must be upheld by an independent justice system. He also referred to the obligation for states to comply with European case-law, in reference to the recent judgement of the Court of Justice of the EU upholding the mechanism for the relocation of asylum seekers, with which Hungary did not wish to comply.

Juncker called for work currently underway to be put to bed ahead of the European elections of 2019, such as the completion of many sectoral unions, particularly in the fields of digital, energy and banks. He has laid several foundation stones up to spring 2019 to launch major reforms of an institutional nature. Some of them are highly ambitious, such as the proposal to merge the posts of President of the European Commission and President of the European Council, and are unlikely to see the light of day any time soon.

Other reforms, such as the creation of a post of European economy and finance minister, by merging the positions of the Commissioner of the same name and President of the Eurogroup, or measures to reinforce the rule of law, will be put forward for the approval of the European citizens, for instance by organising democratic conventions. With this proposal, Juncker has adopted a proposal by the French President, Emmanuel Macron.



In order to present the Europeans, who will be going to the polls in May 2019, with a clear project, President Juncker called for a special European summit to be held in Sibiu under the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU. This summit would be held on 30 March 2019, immediately after Brexit. Juncker voiced his hope that on 30 March 2019, the Europeans will wake up in an EU in which being a full member of the Eurozone, banking union and the Schengen zone has become the norm for each member state of the EU, he said. The Romanian President, Klaus Iohannis, immediately took to Twitter to welcome this suggestion.

As for the European elections, in which he will not himself stand, the Commission President expressed his support for the European Parliament's proposal to set the "Spitzenkandidaten" process in stone. Under this process, the political families appoint their champion, who becomes President of the European Commission if their family wins, as was the case with Juncker, the Christian Democrat family's candidate. He also took position in favour of transnational lists in a pan-European constituency, using MEP seats to be vacated by the UK.

To allow quicker implementation of new policies, it could be proposed to authorize the Council to rule by qualified majority of Member States. This decision of the Council is then put before the national parliaments and if no objections are expressed within six months, the decision is considered to have been adopted. The opposition of a single national parliament is enough to prevent the Council from using this option.

To respond to criticisms over a lack of transparency in the work of the Commissioners and 'revolving door' career moves, Juncker also presented a reform of the Commissioners' code of conduct. The new code will tighten up the obligations of the Commissioners in terms of integrity, during and after their term in office.

This reform, which will enter into force on 1 February 2018:

- extends the cooling-off period, currently 18 months, to two years for former Commissioners and three years for President of the Commission;
- defines what constitutes a conflict of interests, for the first time;
- applies stricter rules to the financial interests of Commissioners, for instance requiring them to declare any investment of more than €10,000;
- provides for information on the travel expenses of each Commissioner to be published.

In the event of any breach of the code, the Commission will be able to reprimand its members and make the matter public.

The Commissioners will, moreover, be permitted to stand for the European elections.

20719/Press Release – 2017.09.14



2. Emmanuel Macron's Initiative to Promote Re-founding of European Project

France is to present its European partners with concrete initiatives on about ten subjects, with a view to developing a common roadmap by the end of 2017 which is intended to lay the groundwork for re-founding the European project.

"Brexit should bring us to two key considerations: when Europe is only a market it ends up being rejected – that's why we should rebuild an ambitious and protective Europe."

This unprecedented situation should make it especially incumbent on us to be more innovative. We should think of a Europe with several formats, going further with all those who want to move ahead, without being hindered by the states that want (and it is their right to do so) to move ahead less quickly or not as far", France's President Emmanuel Macron said at the annual conference of French ambassadors.

Macron spoke about the ten key elements that will be the subject of specific proposals, including deepening the eurozone, strengthening economic, social and taxation convergence, a Europe of defence, strengthening migration policy, setting up a "real" climate and energy Europe, achieving the digital agenda (especially with the regulation of internet giants and data protection).

Apart from the prospect of Brexit, which creates an opportunity for redefining a project with 27 members, the current context brings particular responsibility. After the generation of the founding fathers and those who managed the European project's period of emancipation, we have the choice of being "*the generation that will re-found Europe*", Macron said at a press conference. The proposals that the European leaders will put together for re-founding Europe will be put to European citizens through "*democratic conventions*" that will be held in France and other countries that so wish, in line with a pledge made during Macron's French presidential campaign.

The idea of a Europe moving forward in the same direction but at different speeds was raised at the Treaty of Rome 60th anniversary celebrations that took place in Rome at the end of March.

Regarding the next elections of the **European Parliament in 2019**, Emmanuel Macron would propose **transnational lists**. The French president wants the 73 seats left vacant at the European Parliament when the United Kingdom leaves the European Union, (scheduled for March 2019) to be used to get a European democratic area up and running and to have a true European debate by means of transnational election lists.

Macron did not go into any details as to the number of seats concerned, simply indicating that legal and political work would be required for the establishment of such lists. France seems however to back the creation of a single constituency for around 50 MEPs, the remaining 20 or so seats being divided up among the 27 EU Member States. A draft European Parliament report unveiled on 7 September by Danuta Hübner (EPP, Poland) and Pedro Silva Pereira (S&D, Portugal) also suggests establishing transnational lists for the 2019 European elections.

In order to encourage democratic debate, Macron aims to organise democratic conventions next year across Europe, where citizens would be invited to make observations about the European Union.

The idea was welcomed by Tajani, who said he was prepared to allow such an event with European citizens to take place in the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

BREXIT Developments after Negotiations Round 3

On Thursday 31 August, the respective EU and British negotiators involved in the talks on the United Kingdom's exit from the EU, Michel Barnier and David Davis, continued to dig their heels in on the initial positions they had taken and displayed fundamental differences with regard to the way in which the main negotiating subjects, such as the financial question, can be resolved.

Michel Barnier said that although there had been some progress made during this third round of negotiations, he even warned that, "going at this current pace, we are a long way from making any sufficient progress whereby we can recommend that the European Council begins discussions on the future trade relationship".

Justice – Judicial Treatment to settle disputes

The British government recommends setting up a special mechanism, independent of the European Court of Justice (ECJ), to settle disputes arising over interpretation and application of the agreement on the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union and future relations between the two sides after Brexit.

Anxious to establish a profound partnership with the EU post-Brexit, the British feel it will be necessary in the interest of both sides to set up new dispute-resolution mechanism.

London cites as an example the joint committees whose members are appointed in equal numbers by the parties to an international agreement, such as the one setting up the European Economic Area (EEA), or the arbitration panels laid down in the EU's free trade agreements with Canada and Vietnam, whose decisions can be binding.

The United Kingdom feels that it would be best to separate implementation of future agreements with the EU from the settlement of disputes arising from said agreements. It considers, where necessary, issuing its own legislation on application of agreements signed with the EU, which would foresee appeals mechanisms in the UK's legal system for EU individuals and companies which feel they have suffered damages.

Theresa May's government does not rule out the introduction of a transition period to allow individuals and companies to adapt. During such a transition, the Court of Justice of the EU could have a role to play in the interpretation of law.

Northern Irish border

Regarding Ireland, if progress had been made on the Irish question there was still some work to be done, particularly as regards North/South cooperation as per the agreement. The EU negotiator repeated that the Good Friday Agreement is enshrined in the framework of the European Union, not between Ireland and a third country. Dublin is therefore keen on safeguarding its content, particularly as regards cooperation in the fields of agriculture, health and the environment.

British Prime Minister Theresa May said negotiations aim at maintaining the Belfast Agreement and common travel area, but a lot of creativity will be needed to prevent a return to a physical border separating Ireland from Northern Ireland after Brexit.

Budgetary obligations

Mr Barnier explained that although during the July round the British government had acknowledged that the United Kingdom had financial obligations that would go beyond Brexit, the British government now appeared to be going backwards and had indicated to the Europeans over the past few days that its obligations would stop with the final payment to the European budget as a member state.

The British negotiator, however, denied that it was being a bad partner in these negotiations and defended the work achieved by his government.

David Davis made numerous calls on the EU to show flexibility and imagination towards the possible solutions and explained that this involved, above all, an obligation to British taxpayers to analyse every single point in the financial calculation that the European Commission had presented them with.

It should be pointed out that the EU had informed London at the outset of the negotiations that the methodology it intended to apply for calculating the financial obligation took into account the commitments to participating in a variety of programmes, such as those for Ukraine, for example.

David Davis said that the British position on this financial subject is solid but should be resolved in compliance with the law and in the context of the future partnership between the EU and United Kingdom. He also confirmed that London would show greater openness to the European positions if the EU displayed greater flexibility in its views on the sequencing of the talks.

Theresa May confirmed that the UK will honour commitments made during the period of its membership and that in the future she wanted her country to continue to participate in policies and programmes that had mutual benefits in the scientific, educational and cultural and security sectors.

Citizens' rights

This negotiating round did, however, see some progress being made and has even “begun to bear fruit” claimed David Davis, referring to the discussions on citizens' rights, cross-border questions, the pensions issue and vocational qualifications, areas in which the Commission acknowledged that clarifications have been provided.

Transitional Period

Theresa May sought to provide guarantees on the three priority issues identified by the EU27 – citizens' rights, the Irish question and the budget payment the UK would have to make for leaving. Whatever the modalities finally decided, she acknowledged that putting this “deep and special” partnership into practice will require an “implementation period of around two years” after the effective Brexit date arranged for 29 March 2019. If the EU27 agree to this request, it will help to gain time.

Now that the request for a transition period has been officially formulated, it will be up to the EU27 to reach an official position on this issue.

For Michel Barnier, “should a time-limited (short) prolongation of Union acquis be considered, this would require existing Union regulatory, budgetary, supervisory, judiciary and enforcement instruments and structures to apply”.

Future trade relationship

Highlighting several elements in the close partnership that her country could forge with the EU in the future, the British prime minister again advocated creativity in an effort to develop a relationship that involves neither belonging to the European Economic Area (EEA) nor one that is based on the free trade agreement with Canada (CETA). She explained that this would represent such a restriction on mutual market access that it would not be beneficial to the two parties.

20721/Press Releases – 2017.08.23, 28 & 09.22

Inflation Rate

Latest Eurostat figures show that the annual inflation rate was **1.5% in August 2017 in the Euro area**, up from 1.3% in July. **The EU28 annual inflation was 1.7% in August**, up from 1.5% in July.

The largest upward impacts to euro area annual inflation came from fuels for transport (+ 0.16%), accommodation services (+ 0.10%), and air transport (+ 0.06%), while telecommunication (- 0.12%), vegetables (- 0.05%) and social protection (- 0.04%) had the biggest downward impacts.

Ireland	0.4%	Netherlands	1.5%
Cyprus	0.5%	Slovakia	1.6%
Greece	0.6%	Germany	1.8%
Romania	0.6%	Belgium	2.0%
Bulgaria	0.7%	Spain	2.0%
Finland	0.8%	Austria	2.1%
France	1.0%	Sweden	2.0%
Malta	1.2%	Luxembourg	2.3%
Portugal	1.3%	Czech Republic	2.4%
Italy	1.4%	Hungary	2.7%
Poland	1.4%	U K	2.9%
Slovenia	1.4%	Latvia	3.2%
Croatia	1.5%	Estonia	4.2%
Denmark	1.5%	Lithuania	4.6%

Elsewhere

USA	1.6%	Russia	4.4%
Canada	1.3%	Brazil	3.0%
Japan	0.4%	Australia	2.1%
Switzerland	0.2%	India	1.54%
Turkey	10.9%	China	1.5%

20722/Eurostat News Release – 2017.09.18

GLASS NEWS

FLAT GLASS

Glass Companies



Saint-Gobain

Vetrotech Saint-Gobain introduces Thermovit Pro A0 for LNG carriers

This electrically heated fire-resistant glass can make long journeys safer and improve visibility ; it meets the requirements of the IGC Code for LNG gas carriers and improves visibility in harsh weather.

Thermovit features a conductive coating and offers 60 minutes of fire integrity resistance and integrated heating in one laminated glass.

In wheelhouses, vessels deployed in areas where temperatures fall below freezing, such as the Arctic, must defrost their glass before they set sail. Many use blowers directed on the glass to defrost. This has disadvantages when the water fails to evaporate and seeps into the interior. This can cause longer-term negative effects on the vessel and only provides localised clearing on the glass, resulting in limited vision. Thermovit Pro A0 heats the entire surface of the glass and ensures the glass remains frost, snow, vapour and condensation-free.

Thermovit aims to provide clearer visibility, particularly in vessels whose wheelhouse crew use binoculars, removing visual disturbance of heat-conductive wires.

20723/Press Release – 2017.09.08

AGC



1. Asahi Glass held a groundbreaking ceremony to announce that it will build a furnace for **11th generation (*) TFT-LCD glass substrates at its Chinese subsidiary**, AGC Display Glass Co., Ltd. in Huizhou Zhongkai High-tech Industrial Development Zone, Guangdong Province, China.

AGC has now decided to relocate a cutting-edge glass substrate production facility from within the AGC Group. This investment will significantly reduce the need for capital investment while maintaining the group's total production capacity.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held at the site, and operation is scheduled to start at the fourth quarter of 2018 or first quarter of 2019.

(*) 11th generation TFT-LCD glass substrates dimension: 3370 mm×2940 mm

There has been a large increase in production of TFT-LCD panels in China in recent years which has resulted in an abrupt increase in demand for glass substrates. To accommodate demand growth, the AGC Group has established a supply system by setting up a processing facility in Kunshan, Jiangsu Province, and Shenzhen, Guangdong Province, and a furnace in Huizhou, Guangdong Province.

Under its AGC plus-management policy, the AGC Group is committed to boosting corporate value by establishing supply systems capable of maximizing cash generation and ensuring that products provide the pluses of 'new value', 'functionality', and 'reliability' to stakeholders.

20724/Press Release – 2017.08.28



Asahi India Glass Ltd.

2. **Asahi India** reveals plans for major investment over next five years.

Automotive glassmaker Asahi India Glass (AIS) is planning to invest 7,000,000,000 INR (roughly 109,400,000 USD) over the next five years. It is planning to pump in a bulk of that in its greenfield factory in Gujarat, which will primarily cater to the new Maruti Suzuki plant.

Gopal Ganatra, AIS Executive Director, said: "In phase 1, we will have a capacity of one million units of laminated glasses and 1.2 million units of tempered glass sets per annum. We expect to start production in Q4 of fiscal year 18 or 19. This plant will be state of the art and fully automated and will have the capacity to produce high quality complex automotive glass and value-added products. Though initially dedicated to Maruti Suzuki, as we expand we can look at supplying others. The tempered capacity will also cater to our western India clients like VW, M&M and Tata Motors."

AIS has one million units of laminated capacity in its Taloja plant in Maharashtra as well. During the second phase, the plant is expected reach overall capacity of about 2.4 million units of tempered glass and 2.2 million units of laminated glass and this will be completed by 2022.

"Right now we are at about 5.7 million units capacity but we plan to pull it to eight million units in the next five years," said Ganatra. The company is aggressively targeting three-wheelers and sub-one tonne trucks as well as city metros, and off highway vehicles.

20725/Press Release – 2017.09.14

NSG / Pilkington

1. **Pilkington Expands in Canada.** Pilkington's manufacturing plant in Collingwood, Canada, will receive a provincial investment to add new lamination and assembly lines to its production facility. The expansion will create 58 jobs and help retain 237 positions.





Pilkington's manufacturing plant in Collingwood, Canada will receive a provincial investment, helping create dozens of jobs at Pilkington's manufacturing plant in Collingwood, Canada.

Pilkington Glass will receive USD 436,400 to add new lamination and assembly lines to its production facility. The expansion will create 58 jobs and help retain 237 positions.

The manufacturer supplies Honda, Toyota, Chrysler, General Motors and Nissan with windshields.

"With this investment, we will make modifications to our facility and install new equipment to increase production and stay competitive," said Sandra Vancise, a controller for Pilkington.

The overall cost of the expansion is more than USD 4 million. Work is expected to be completed by 2019.

20726/Press Release – 2017.08.23

2. Interactive Mirrors with Pilkington MirroView™

NSG Group launches a new generation of transparent mirrors for touch screen applications. Pilkington MirroView™, the latest avant-garde product released by the NSG Group, is a clear float glass on which a highly reflective coating is deposited, enabling it to be used in projected capacitive touch screen technology applications. The extremely durable coating has a neutral colour and is non-conductive (dielectric), which allows the glass to be used in projected capacitive touch screen technology applications.

This product range is intended for installation in front of a flat screen display, such as a TV or a touch screen. Placed in front of a video source, when the device is off, Pilkington MirroView™ keeps a mirrored appearance, hiding the screen. When the screen is turned on, the bright image on the screen is easily visible through Pilkington MirroView™ and the previous reflecting image disappears. The improved coating has a very smooth surface for an excellent tactile experience and offers a neutral colour rendering in reflection. The pyrolytic coating, extremely resistant, does not degrade over time and gives the product a virtually unlimited lifetime.

The range is divided into two product types:

Pilkington MirroView™, designed for situations with reduced ambient light such as bathrooms, bars, etc., where it offers a light transmission of 22% and a reflection on the coated side of 66%; and Pilkington MirroView™ 50/50, which, due to the evolution of the product, is designed for applications in high brightness environments, such as shops, shopping malls, airport transit areas, railway, etc., and offers a light transmission of 37% and a reflection from the coated side of 50%.

20727/Press Release – 2017.09.27

Guardian



Guardian UltraClear® low-iron glass helps interior designers and architects.

Guardian's UltraClear glass maximizes light transmission, thus enabling interior designers and architects to give their clients clean lines, true colours and breath-taking views.



UltraClear glass reduces the green tint found in standard glass to maximize light transmission.

Interior applications for Guardian UltraClear glass includes frameless enclosures/showers, walls, partitions, entranceways, display cases, tables, railings and more – all bringing pure, bright and boundless clarity to clear glass, or vivid, true colour match to back-painted glass.

Fabricated, laminated, silk screened, painted, bent and heat-treated like standard float glass, UltraClear glass elevates the performance and aesthetics of a wide range of glass products. UltraClear glass is available in thicknesses from 2 to 12mm and sizes up to 130" x 204".

20728/Press Release – 2017.09.26

Vitro



1. One of the two float glass furnaces at Vitro's plant near Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in the United States, has developed a leak.

Vitro, S.A.B. de C.V., North America, has reported that one of the two float glass furnaces developed a leak at the plant near Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in the United States. There are no injuries reported, however, the Company suspended production for a week and could restart production for certain processes, glass coating, tempering and insulating glass units for residential windows operations.

"It is believed that this should meet demand for low-E coated glass and other popular Vitro processed glass products," said a statement released by the company.

Vitro continues to analyse and assess damage, as well as determine required repairs, to its float glass operations.

According to the statement, Vitro “continues to work to supply glass to its customers from other facilities, which will focus on the most commonly demanded sizes and thicknesses.”

20729/Press Release – 2017.08.24 & 28

2. Vitro Architectural Glass announces specialty glass kit for architects and designers

Collection of 20 glass tiles display the diverse options available to the company's clients.



Vitro Architectural Glass debuted its Specialty Glass Design Kit for interior and exterior applications, featuring Starphire Ultra-Clear glass, Clarvista shower glass, and earth- and ocean-inspired performance tinted glasses, together with an exclusive array of acid-etched and painted glass products from Walker Textures glass and ICD High Performance Coatings, respectively.

The Vitro Specialty Glass Design Kit contains 20 4-by-6-inch tiles featuring six tints in the Vitro Glass palette, including Atlantica, Graylite II, Pacifica, Solarblue, Solargray and Solarbronze glasses, as well as several of the same products acid-etched with Opaque, Velour, Mirror and Satin finishes by Walker Textures glass. Architects and designers commonly use these products to add colour, translucence and visual flair to exterior building surfaces, as well as partitions, doors, balustrades, bath and shower enclosures, backsplashes, and other interior components.

The kit also houses metallic-coated and vividly coloured spandrel glass samples from ICD High Performance Coatings. Craftsman Copper, Warm Gray, O'Hara (red), Utah Sky (blue) and Primary White colours are back-painted on Starphire Ultra-Clear glass, highlighting its exceptional colour fidelity and unique blue-edge appearance.

20730/Press Release – 2017.09.07

Miscellaneous

PGW Jinjing enters China's auto glass replacement market



The company has ambitious plans for the domestic automotive glass market and enters China's auto glass replacement market.

Starting in September, Shandong PGW Jinjing Automotive Glass Company, Limited (PJG) has begun production of coated glass for the domestic auto replacement glass market. With support from parent companies Jinjing and Mexico Vitro, PJG plans to focus on the Chinese market, with ambitions to occupy a share of both OEM auto glass and middle and high end ARG markets, especially in the coated ARG market.

The company feels confident in their ability to provide more comfortable and environmental coated glass products for car owners. The company's original co-founder, Pittsburgh Glass Works Hong Kong Limited (PGW) , started the development of coated automotive glass in the 1990s. The Sungate brand is known worldwide, and PGW supplied many products to Daimler-Benz.

PJG was jointly established by Shandong Jinjing Science & Technology Stock Co., Ltd and Pittsburgh Glass Works Hong Kong Limited, and mainly produces and sells automotive glass. The workshop covers an area of over 30,000 square metres. The design and construction of the plant were influenced heavily by US engineers, referencing the optimized layout and facilities of the United States and Poland PGW plants and designed to build a domestic first-class automotive glass manufacturing plant. PJG, which also adopted PGW international standard management methods, hired professional technical and quality teams, and is strictly following the quality management system of IATF 16949 to produce automotive glass products that meet the international quality standard.

Mexico Vitro acquired PGW along with PPG's flat glass business, complementing their array of glass products around the world. In addition to OEM and ARG glass products, they also produce soda ash for glass production and float glass.

20731/Press Release – 2017.09.15

CONTAINER GLASS

Glass Companies

O-I

1. O-I launches innovative bottle for precise pouring

O-I has launched an innovative bottle with an asymmetrically shaped neck that allows a more precise pouring of beer, particularly important for premium products in the area of craft and gourmet beers.



The unusual feature of the bottle is the asymmetrically shaped neck. On one side, the slender neck has a diagonal connection between bottle body and bottle opening. Depending on the rotation and angle of the bottle, the pourer can influence the way the beer runs into the glass.

This innovation was developed by O-I and is now used by breweries in South America. Two beer brands from Paraná in Brazil, "Von Borstel" from Londrina and "Bodebrown" from Curitiba, offer their customers a more precise pouring and thus a special serving experience with this bottle. In Europe, O-I is exploring the market potential and investigating whether the European brewers might be interested in using **MyPour** to create a point of difference for their own brands.

"This feature is especially interesting for microbreweries and niche suppliers. We know that craft and gourmet beer customers have a special relation with the beverage and what we proposed was to expand even further this experience, recreating the act of serving, through the **MyPour** bottle shape," explains Steffi Lenz, Innovation Project Manager at O-I.

The breweries, which already use MyPour, are convinced of the added value. For Marcus von Bortsel, owner of Von Bortstel brewery, the new container is a competitive differentiator because it highlights the product in retail and enhances the customer relationship with the brand. "We strongly believe in packaging power to show customers the product profile, and Artesanal 500 reinforces our dashing and innovative character," says Samuel Cavalcanti, founder of the Bodebrown brand.

20732/Press Release – 2017.08.25

2. **O-I is to close its Envigado plant** in Colombia and build a new furnace in its Zipaquira site in the same country.

In a letter to employees O-I said staff would be offered the opportunity to transfer to the Zipaquira site. It said: "We want to ensure that our operation in Colombia continues to be competitive, sustainable and renewable for the future.

"As a result, we have made the decision to close the Envigado plant during the second half of 2018 and to construct a new furnace in our Zipaquira plant in Cundinamarca. This decision will allow us not only to obtain synergies but also to increase the capacity to serve our clients better. The consolidation of our production of containers in Zipaquira will create important economic, logistical and commercial benefits."

While most workers will be offered a transfer to Zipaquira, its administrative staff will be transferred to a new location near the current location in Envigado.

The Envigado plant has operated for more than 70 years. O-I said the plant would work to the highest standards of safety, quality, productivity and cost until the last day that the plant operates.

20733/Press Release – 2017.09.13



Ardagh

"Handmade" Look for Absolut Rainbow Bottle

Absolut Rainbow is the latest of Absolut Vodka's bottles to push the boundaries of creativity, and is also the winner of Best Bottle in Glass at the World Beverage Innovation Awards.

As 2017 is the 50th anniversary of the decriminalisation of homosexuality in England and Wales, the Absolut Rainbow bottle has been designed to represent Gilbert Baker's iconic pride flag and includes the quote 'Taking pride in diversity' on the back.



From the beginnings of the brand in the clubs of New York, Absolut and the LGBTQ community have had a strong relationship and Absolut has championed the community for many years with several limited-edition bottles.

The pride flag is depicted in brush strokes, intended to convey a 'hand-made' look, in-keeping with the brand's artistic heritage and tapping into the wider trend for craft spirits. Ardagh Group achieved the design using 100% organic colours.

The brief was to create a flag that feels as if it's been newly painted onto the bottle. During the design phase, Ardagh collaborated with agencies Pond Design and Destrito, and experimented with numerous techniques and tools such as brushes, rollers and spray cans. The results show visible, hand-made 'imperfections' that signal action, immediacy and involvement.

The vivid colours contrast with the white logo and transparent glass, making the Rainbow bottle a bold, creative and eye-catching feature on the spirits shelf.

Fredrik Kallqvist, Product Development Manager at Ardagh Group, Limmared in Sweden, said: "The positioning and colour of the logo and the 'Taking pride in diversity' quote were chosen to create optimum stand-out in relation to the flag's colours. The colours were applied in two separate passages to allow the colours to flow, making the design look totally seamless."

20734/Press Release – 2017.09.22

Vetropack



Vetropack Group once again achieved record sales in the first half of 2017, with 2.58 billion units of glass packaging, and expects the market environment to remain favourable.

In nominal terms, net sales remained stable. After adjusting for currency effects, however, they rose by 1.2% to CHF 314.5 million.

Consolidated net sales from goods and services remained virtually unchanged at CHF 310.2 million (2016: CHF 310.8 million), while net sales in local currencies climbed 1.2% to CHF 314.5 million. Glass packaging sales reached a record high of 2.58 billion units (2016: 2.51 billion units).

Consolidated EBIT stood at CHF 30.3 million (2016: CHF 30.7 million). The drop in energy and raw material costs was offset by rising personnel expenses and depreciation. The EBIT margin amounted to 9.8% (2016: 9.9%).

The consolidated semi-annual profit of CHF 24.7 million (2016: CHF 24.4 million) was up 1.2% on the previous year's figure. Lower finance costs and exchange rate gains pushed the financial result up by CHF 1.2 million year on year, boosting the consolidated semi-annual profit.

Cash flow rose to CHF 61.3 million (2016: CHF 57.3 million). The cash flow margin increased to 19.8% (2016: 18.4%).

For the second half of 2017 Vetropack Group expects the market environment to remain favourable. There are increasing signs that the Ukrainian economy is stabilising but this is unlikely to filter down to the market yet in 2017. The furnace at Vetropack's Ukrainian glassworks in Gostomel is scheduled for repairs in the second half of the year in addition to upgrades at other plants. These measures will require production downtime, which will have a slight impact on performance. Compared to the second half of 2016, when two furnaces were repaired, the forecast indicates a better performance.

The Group is anticipating therefore a slight improvement in net sales and performance for the whole of the 2017 reporting year in comparison to 2016.

20735/Press Release – 2017.09.01

Verallia Group

1. **Verallia's Cognac glass plant** has celebrated the restarting of **one of the factory's three furnaces, dedicated to the production of high quality extra-flint glass.**



This 12 million EUR investment further strengthens the Verallia group's territorial anchoring in Charente, France, and its leadership as the reference glassmaker on the dynamic Cognac market.

Work on modernizing the cognac's extra-flint producing furnace lasted less than two months and mobilized around fifty business partners. The furnace and its four production lines were refurbished to increase the facility's extra-flint output and flexibility.

The result of a long industrial history initiated in 1878 by Claude Boucher, inventor of the first glass-blowing machine, Verallia's cognac plant today serves three main markets: still wines, sparkling wines, and cognac and spirits. Most cognac producers, regardless of their size and their positioning opt for extra-flint glass, a color unrivalled in terms of transparency and shine.

With this investment, Verallia continues to implement its operational excellence strategy and further strengthens its foothold in the Charente region of France where it employs 430 people on 4 manufacturing sites (glassmaking plant, Everglass household glass treatment site, René Salomon facilities, with Société Charentaise de Décor only recently acquired in April 2017).

“With this new installation, we are increasing our capacity, our flexibility – notably for the production of large containers up to 4.5l, and our quality control. We have also taken care of the working conditions for our teams: the lines are now equipped with hoists to reduce load-carrying, the site's ventilation has been enhanced and we have refurbished

the furnace control cabin at the hot end,” stated Christian Garnaud, Verallia Cognac’s plant manager.

During the traditional furnace lighting ceremony, the furnace was symbolically relit by Véronique Martial, PA at the plant, and Patrick Bernardet, furnace rebuild project leader at Verallia, who are now respectively the furnace’s godmother and godfather.

20736/Press Release – 2017.09.11

2. Verallia launches "a typically Portuguese" ad campaign

Verallia Portugal has created a unique advertising campaign celebrating some of its traditional markets. Each bottle is depicted in an environment suggestive of the features of the product contained. The bottles are also dressed with symbolic accessories. For wines evoking pleasure: an elegant restaurant table, with a bottle wearing a napkin around its neck. Creative campaign displays bottles in their "home environment" while wearing the appropriate accessories.



For food and fruit juices evoking flavour: a meadow, with a bottle wearing a straw hat and a jar sporting a red bandana.

For sparkling wines evoking charm: a red carpet, with a bottle wearing a pearl necklace.

For olive oils evoking purity: a typical Alentejo landscape, with a stick used to harvest olives leaning against the bottle.

For port wines evoking elegance: one of the eponymous city’s famous bridges and its traditional cobblestones, with a bottle wearing a bow tie.

In Portugal, Verallia has around 250 employees. Its headquarters, factory and product development centre are located on the Atlantic coast, in Figueira da Foz, between Porto and Lisbon. With its two furnaces, the business produces daily over 2 million bottles and jars for still wines (including the famous ports), sparkling wines, beers, spirits, soft drinks and food. Verallia Portugal serves local and international customers. The business stands out for its remarkable knowledge of the Portuguese market and the close relations it has nurtured with its customers over the last 30 years.

20737/Press Release – 2017.09.12.

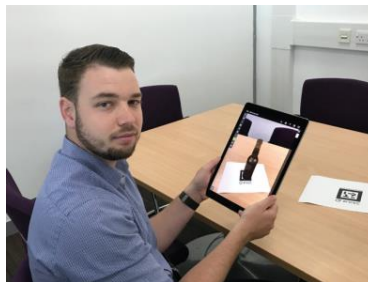


Encirc

1. UK container glass manufacturer Encirc has launched an **augmented reality (AR)** offering for customers which uses technology to bring glass container designs to life. The service means Encirc customers can view their glass packaging design concepts in real-world settings as well as move and amend them quickly. The AR technology service superimposes a computer-generated design onto a customer's point of view via an iOS app on a tablet or smartphone. When compared to the typical method of 3D printing prototypes, this digitisation of the design process increases the efficiency and speed at which Encirc's customers' products come to market.

The new AR offering will build on Encirc's current design options which already allow customers to create innovative and effective containers through the use of Computer Aided Design (CAD) technology. Combined, Encirc's CAD and AR services will ensure the technical quality of the product is optimised, while the aesthetics still meet the desired requirements. Using AR, Encirc can put container concepts through their paces using virtual reality stress tests. These deliver comparable results to real-life testing, but can be completed in approximately one week.

By doing this, it allows Encirc to gain an accurate understanding of what will happen when glass prototypes are progressed to the trial stage, and therefore decrease the chance of re-trials. Streamlining the whole process is also more sustainable as it reduces the total amount of products used during the testing process.



Rob Coates, Product and Graphic Designer, Encirc (*pictured*), said: "Our new service is in-line with our future-thinking focus and mission to make Encirc even more efficient and sustainable through the use of innovative digital technology."

20738/Press Release – 2017.09.26

2. Vidrala is to invest in new furnaces at Encirc

Encirc is based at two sites: Derrylin, which employs 440 staff and Cheshire, which employs 800 staff and houses the largest integrated bonded warehouse in Europe. Encirc Managing Director Adrian Curry and his team of directors established the Encirc 360 sustainability model – whereby the company produces 2.7 billion bottles per year between Derrylin and Cheshire; fills bottles with up to 200 million litres of wine, beer or soft drink; and takes care of warehousing and logistics.

The 360 model is “the only one of its kind in the world” and it makes Encirc more sustainable, which is of great importance when attracting customers.

Vidrala has agreed to invest GBP 50 million over the next four years in upgrading the plant and rebuilding the furnaces to accept natural gas which will be piped to Derrylin through the Gas to the West initiative (construction of approximately 200km of pipeline linking Coalisland, Cookstown, Derrylin, Dungannon, Enniskillen, Magherafelt, Omagh and Strabane to the existing gas network).

“Bringing gas in will help environmentally, it will help with our emissions and it also takes three large road tankers [of oil] off the road per day. But it means we will produce less glass because oil is more efficient at melting glass,” said Mr. Curry. “The complication is that we have to design our furnaces differently” he added.

The first furnace rebuild will take place in 2019 and the second in 2021.

Outlining the Encirc 360 sustainability model in more detail, Mr Curry said: “We make bottles in Derrylin that are transported to the plant in Cheshire for filling. We ship wine, beer and soft drinks in bulk from all over the world for filling in Cheshire so we are not shipping glass from all over the world and we can maximise the weight on the container. As it comes in we fill it, we store 260,000 pallets on site and distribute directly to the retailers.

20739/Press Release – 2017.09.28

Saverglass

Construction of Saverglass’s container glass facility in Mexico is making rapid progress. The French company has invested €100 million in the new container glass facility about 40km from Guadalajara. The commissioning date has been fixed for June 2, 2018 and aims to produce 80 million bottles a year.

The unit will produce bottles for tequila, wine and rum and produce bottles in a variety of colours.

The group will focus on three markets: American wines, tequila and the rum market in the Caribbean and Central America.

So far, 600 pillars have been sunk into the ground for production, composition and storage buildings at the 25-hectare site.

20740/Press Release – 2017.09.26

Stölzle Glass Group

Stölzle has launched a new website. Its new site includes changes to the style layout for Navigation, and has been technically adapted for both mobile and desktop versions.

A video in the header of its home page – The Art of Making Glass – shows its passion to manufacture high-end packaging glass.

It has also improved the structure of its content, so readers can enjoy a quicker read.

Navigation includes all relevant sections for Products, Decoration, Career and Job Opportunities, Quality Management, Sustainability, Purchasing and Logistics.



The main page provides quick access to all Business Units, Decoration, News and up-and-coming Tradeshows. Product information can be obtained by downloading the catalogues through the respective product pages. Contact options are available for all fields of interest throughout the website.

The emphasis is on creating an impressive site with many colourful images and videos, with easy access to all areas of interest.

The company said: "We hope you find the new website fresh, modern and full of valuable information about innovative packaging for Perfumery & Cosmetics, Pharmaceutical Products and Spirits."

www.Stoelzle.com

20741/Press Release – 2017.09.13

Gerresheimer

1. Gerresheimer announces a **change in leadership. Dr. Christian Fischer is to succeed Uwe Röhrhoff as CEO of Gerresheimer AG. Going into effect September 1, 2017.**

Dr. Christian Fischer will assume responsibility as Chief Executive Officer of Gerresheimer AG.

GERRESHEIMER



Christian Fischer joined the Management Board as a regular member on August 1, 2017, having previously served as President of Performance Chemicals at BASF SE in Ludwigshafen, where he spent 24 years.

"The Supervisory Board would like to thank Uwe Röhrhoff for the outstanding work he has done for Gerresheimer AG," said Dr. Axel Herberg, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Gerresheimer AG. "In his 26 years at Gerresheimer, including seven as CEO, he played a key role in determining the company's strategic focus as well as in securing major acquisitions, reshaping the corporate portfolio, and delivering operational projects. In other words, he has been instrumental in the success that Gerresheimer currently enjoys. We would like to wish Uwe Röhrhoff all the best in his professional and personal endeavors. We have found an exceptional successor in Christian Fischer, who has demonstrated excellent leadership skills and brings many years of industry experience. Together with him we are looking forward to continue driving Gerresheimer's future success."

Dr. Christian Fischer has been a member of the Management Board of Gerresheimer AG since August 2017. He joined BASF in 1993. Having started his career as a laboratory team leader, he went on to be Deputy Division Manager, Global Marketing Director, and Sales Director in different plastic divisions. As Group Vice President, Fine Chemicals Asia Pacific based in Hong Kong from 2004 to 2008, he was responsible for the production and marketing of products for the pharma, cosmetics, aroma, animal, and human nutrition industries. Between 2008 and 2014, he was as President responsible for BASF SE's global materials and systems research. As President of Performance Chemicals from 2015 to March 2017, he held overall responsibility for plastic additives, fuel and lubricant additives as well as chemicals for the mining, oilfield, water, paper, and leather industry. Christian Fischer holds a diploma degree in Chemistry (University of Regensburg) and a PhD in the same subject. He also has a degree in Business Administration (VWA Mannheim). He was appointed an honorary professor at the Technical University of Munich (TUM) in 2014.

20742/Press Release – 2017.09.04

2. Gerresheimer Querétaro is best facility of the year

Gerresheimer's Querétaro site in Mexico has been awarded the best facility within the pharmaceutical and medical packaging group.

The site has made multi-million dollars investments in the past three years in Vials, Ampoules, Pre-fillable Syringes and Specialties.

Hector Garcia, Senior Plant Director Querétaro, Tubular Glass Converting, said the site now has the most modern and efficient manufacturing lines in the industry to produce vials and ampoules, which are equipped with dimensional and cosmetic inspection systems.

"These allow us to deliver to our customers, mainly pharmaceutical laboratories, the highest quality containers for injectable drugs, fulfilling and surpassing the most strict quality requirements of the pharmaceutical industry and of medical devices."



At the same time that the installation and validation of the new equipment was taking part, the site held ad hoc courses and trained personnel for the optimum operation of the equipment. Now, Gerresheimer Querétaro, produces 1.3 billion units per year, which is one container per six human beings in the world. It delivers to customers in Mexico and export to the USA, Canada, Central America, Brazil, Chile, Argentina, Germany, Austria and India, among others.

Mr Garcia added: "Some of the main factors that made us deserve this recognition among the group are our work philosophy based on Total Quality in all areas, High Performance Culture and Teamwork, and with the application of the Gerresheimer Management System (GMS) management tools we obtained a high customer satisfaction level and consequently outstanding business results."

20743/Press Release – 2017.09.12

Bormioli Rocco Pharma

Bormioli Rocco Pharma adds sales team for North American market.

Bormioli Rocco Pharma is strengthening its services in North America for pharmaceutical glass packaging with a dedicated sales team and innovative products, particularly for high-value parenteral drugs.

A market leader in its home country of Italy and co-leader in Europe, where the company has focused its sales and serves many pharmaceutical, biopharmaceutical and contract manufacturing organizations, Bormioli Rocco Pharma is now making its Delta moulded Type I glass vials, and complete line of glass and plastic containers and closures, available in North America.

The company is a U.S. FDA-approved supplier of glass and plastic packaging for the pharma, biopharma, and CMO markets.

Bormioli Rocco Pharma's Delta high-tech moulded glass vials, available in a range of sizes and capacities, are optimal for today's pharmaceutical injectables. As the pharmaceutical industry expands biologics such as antibodies, oligonucleotides and peptides, the active ingredients are more complex and sensitive, requiring specialized packaging that does not delaminate or leach contaminants. Delta products offer higher hydrolytic resistance and internal surface homogeneity to protect against delamination and ensure product stability.

20744/Press Release – 2017.09.15

BA Vidro

BA Vidro has published buyout bid for Bulgaria's Drujba Glassworks. The publication of a buyout offer by Bareck Overseas, a wholly owned subsidiary of Portugal's BA Vidro, for the remaining 0.20% stake in Drujba Glassworks, has been cleared by Bulgaria's financial regulator.

The buyout bid for the 108,805 shares the company wants to acquire is priced at BGN 6.118 (USD 3.7/3.1 EUR) per share, the Financial Supervision Commission said in a statement last week.



In June, Bareck Overseas acquired 286,817 Drujba Glassworks shares for BGN 1.75 million in a buyout bid.

In October 2016, Greek glassmaker Yioula agreed to sell its Bulgarian unit Drujba Glassworks to BA Vidro as part of a wider divestment plan that also includes the group's glass container business in Romania.

Drujba Glassworks has two glass container plants - in Sofia and Plovdiv.

20745/Press Release – 2017.09.29

Miscellaneous

Glass packaging DEMAND GROWTH: THE MARKET TRUSTS GLASS

Strong production growth in 2016 represents a significant increase above the historic average growth rates for glass packaging.

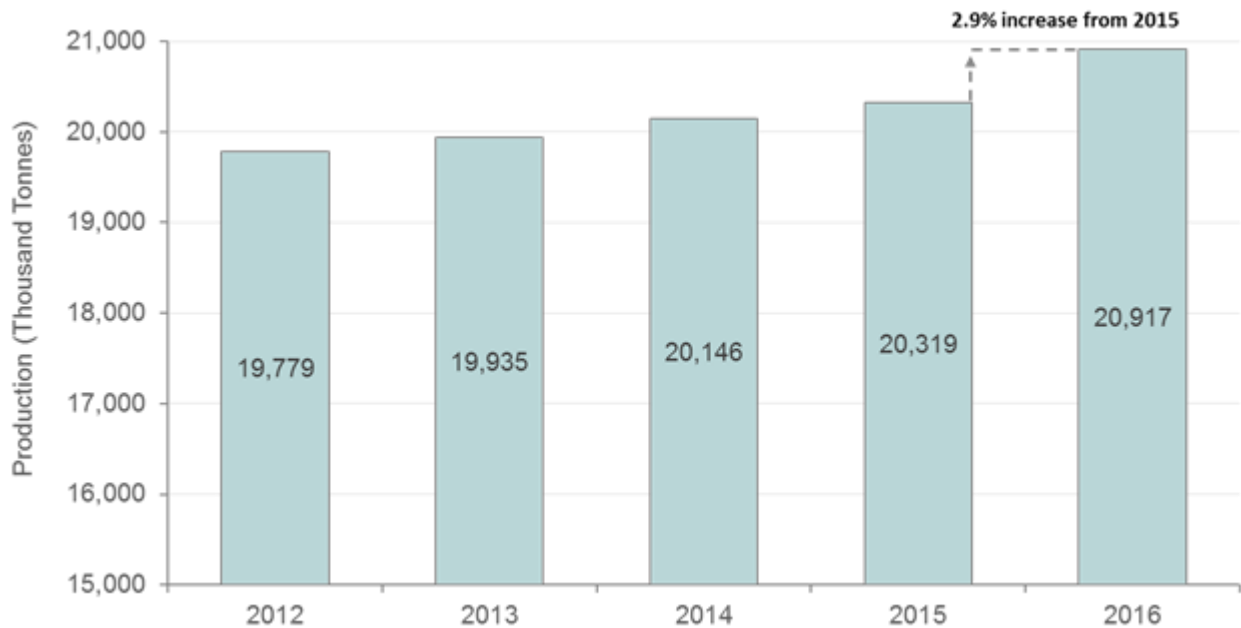
Glass packaging production in Europe grew by 2.9% in volume (Tonnes) and by 2.1% in unit terms in 2016 according to data published today by the European Container Glass Federation (FEVE). The growth was driven by exports as well as continued demand for glass packaging in food and beverage segments in Europe. A total volume of 20.9 million tonnes or 75.9 billion units were produced in Europe for the EU and international food and beverage markets.

“The buoyant demand for glass is a strong signal of trust from customers in our industry and in glass packaging to help brands stand out on the shelves both in the European market and internationally,” says FEVE President Johan Gorter.

The strong performance in 2016 confirms the steady trend of the last 5 years. Since 2012, the industry has increased its production by 5.8% in volume and 6.1 per cent in units.

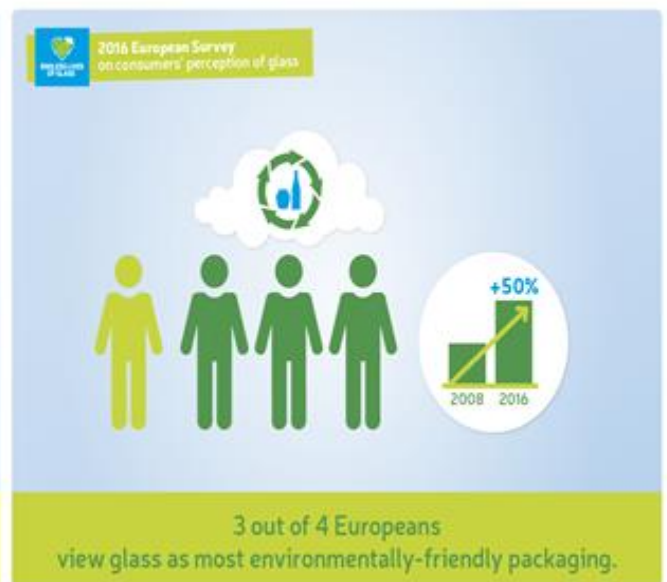
Glass continues to be the reference packaging material for leading markets such as spirits, wines and beer, while it is increasingly gaining share in the food, water and dairy sectors. This is not only due to new consumption trends for local, organic and natural food, but also because of the positive image of glass packaging and the strong consumer trust in glass as their preferred packaging for environmental, health and taste preservation reasons. According to a recent survey, glass is consumers' favourite packaging, with 1 in 2 Europeans saying they use more glass than three years ago and 75% of Europeans view glass as the most environmentally friendly packaging.





Glass Container Production for Food and Beverages in Europe – FEVE Source

“It is encouraging that consumers trust glass because of its sustainability credentials and because it best preserves the quality of their preferred products. As an industry, we are committed to making the inherent properties of glass more visible to our customers and to the final consumer” continues Johan Gorter.



InSites Consumer Research 2016

View Summary report on the [Friends of Glass](#) platform.

British Glass Urges Fair Comparison on Wine Packaging

British Glass technical director Dr Nick Kirk has responded to a recent article published by BBC Good Food magazine promoting wine sold using bag-in-a-box which, according to British Glass, undermined important messages about recycling.

A recent article in the BBC Good Food eco-edition has caused concerns over misleading information on recycling. Dr Kirk explained, “The article appeared in the BBC Good Food eco-edition, and our worry was that the piece undermined important messages about recycling – one of the most realistic and effective ways available to UK wine drinkers looking to minimise environmental impact. A quick check of the facts by our experts revealed the article was heavily based on one wine box company’s marketing, using statistics from dubious sources.”

A key part of the article’s rationale was that wine bottles are ‘single use’ and take ‘a million years to decompose’ in landfill.

As Kirk stressed in his response – there is simply no reason for a bottle or jar to go to landfill. Glass bottles are 100% recyclable – they can and should be re-melted back into new packaging indefinitely. And glass recycling facilities are available right across the UK. In contrast, the plastic bags inside wine boxes are not currently recyclable in the UK. Kirk also explained that talking about how wine bottles decompose if they do end up in landfill is misleading.

“Plastics can become chemically active as they decompose, potentially causing problems. Glass, however, is made from non-toxic sand, lime and soda ash. If it does go to landfill it breaks down mechanically and turns back into sand – and is harmless to the environment,” said Kirk. In fact in the US and New Zealand powdered recycled glass has been used to combat beach erosion.

The BBC Good Food article also opened with a statistic about the energy it takes to melt glass – which turned out to be approximately ten times the actual amount (when compared to calculations made using current official data).

“What the article completely glossed over was that using waste glass reduces the energy required to melt glass for wine bottles by around 25%. The more recycled material that goes in, the less energy is needed. But at the moment demand for waste glass to recycle outstrips supply – the industry needs us all to recycle our glass packaging – it really does matter,” Kirk stressed.

Dr Kirk’s reply to the magazine also made it clear that the benefits of recycling glass go beyond the manufacturing process. Packaging made from recycled material reduces that need for virgin raw materials, and so in turn the impact on the environment from the extraction and transport of these. Something not every packaging material can boast.

Kirk said, “British Glass believes consumer choice is important and clearly different packaging solutions have their merits and place, but in this instance a fair comparison has not been made. UK-made glass bottles contain on average 30% recycled material and often 65% or more for green wine bottles.



So wine-lovers can be reassured that when they buy wine in glass and recycle, they're making an excellent, sustainable choice."

20747/Press Release – 2017.08.29

Research and Markets New Glass Packaging Forecast



Report offers projections on the Global Glass Packaging market from 2017 through to 2022. The global glass packaging market is estimated to reach 62.087 billion USD by 2022 at a CAGR of 4.17 percent over the forecast period from the current estimate of 50.625 billion USD in 2017. Increasing alcoholic drinks consumption and growth in investment in the pharmaceutical sector will drive the demand for glass packaging solutions over the forecast period. Rising disposable income, changing lifestyle, growing demand for fruit and soft drinks are some of the other factors driving the demand for glass packaging solutions. Recyclability and inertness are some of the major advantages offered by glass packaging products, which makes them more suitable for various packaging applications. Even though this market is expected to witness moderate growth over the next five years, significant challenge will be posed by plastic packaging solutions.

The first section of the report deals with detailed research methodology for calculating market size and forecasts, secondary data sources used and the primary inputs which were taken for data validation. This section also outlines various segmentation which have been covered as part of the report. The next section provides comprehensive market dynamics through an overview section along with growth drivers, challenges and opportunities which exist in the current market. This section of the report also provides supplier and industry outlook as a whole; key industry, global and regional regulations which are determining the product specifications and a brief technological aspect of Glass Packaging solutions. Complete industry analysis has also been covered through Porter's five forces model as a part of this report section.

Thirdly, Glass Packaging Market has been segmented on the basis of applications which are Food, Fruit Drinks, Pharmaceuticals, Personal Care, and Alcoholic Drinks among others.

Important regions for vendors in terms of market size are covered through detailed geographical segmentation. Geographical regions covered as a part of this section are Americas (North and South America), Europe, Middle East, Africa and Asia Pacific.

Finally, the competitive intelligence section deals with major players in the market, their market shares, growth strategies, products, financials, and recent investments among others. Key industry participants which have been profiled as part of this section are Amcor, Owens-Illinois, Saint Gobain, Gerresheimer, Ardagh Group, Vetropack Group, Nihon Yamamura, Consol Glass, Piramal Glass, Vidrala.

<https://www.researchandmarkets.com/publication/m5vs6v1/4377939>

20748/Press Release – 2017.09.05

DOMESTIC TABLEWARE AND CRYSTAL GLASS

Glass Company

At the end of June, the Mons court of commerce (Belgium, Hainaut Province) approved the takeover of the Durobor tableware manufacturer by the Dutchman Herman Green and the Sogepa, as well as the transfer of 144 workers to the new "Durobor NewCo" structure.

Work was resumed quickly at Durobor, after temporary suspension at the former location in the careers quarter of Soignies. Herman Green signalled his intention to build a new plant.

Durobor[®]



20749/Press Release – 2017.06.29

REINFORCEMENT GLASS FIBRES

Glass Companies

3B, Norway's Export Champion for 2017



Export Credit Norway has awarded 3B-the fibreglass company its export prize for 2017. Among 80 companies operating in Norway 3B stood out, based on 4 main criteria:

- a high percentage of export,
- value creation in Norway,
- sustained success over time,
- innovation.

This award further strengthens the position of 3B as a major player in the green industry value chain. "We are very proud of this prize, and we want to thank our customers for their trust, our employees for their dedication and engagement and Export Credit Norway", says Marc Hubert, CEO of 3B.

The company has an export rate of almost 100 percent, and is an excellent example of a Norwegian business that is creating local value in foreign markets. Three out of 10 windmill blades manufactured and installed in Europe are made of fibreglass delivered by 3B Fibreglass. The company also manufactures fibreglass for sale and further processing into products for the transport and automobile industries.

Over the past 10 years, 3B Fibreglass has completed an aggressive, focused product innovation programme with the aim of consolidating its market position through sustainable and energy-efficient production processes. The company is now one of Norway's ten largest green-technology exporters, and is already a good example of tomorrow's sustainable industry.

20750/Press Release – 2017-09

Owens Corning



Owens Corning has announced plans to invest \$50 million to rebuild a glass melter and expand production capacity by approximately 25 percent at its Chambéry, France, composites manufacturing facility. The investment will support the growing demand for thermoplastics in Europe. The state-of-the-art melter is expected to be operational by mid-2018.

"This investment will support our customers' growth in the thermoplastic chopped strand market by ensuring that we continue providing consistent, high-quality products," said Umberto Rigamonti, Owens Corning's Vice President and Managing Director of Glass Reinforcements Europe and Global Thermoplastic Products.

"Our Composites business benefits from a strong global footprint, R&D centres in five countries, and assets available and committed to support the increasing adoption of composites. The strategic investment in Chambéry strengthens our value proposition to thermoplastic customers, supporting our respective growth agendas."

After the rebuild, all thermoplastic chopped strand products from the Chambéry facility will be based on boron-free Advantex® glass. Advantex glass contributes to decreased emissions and reduces the environmental impact of manufacturing fiberglass, compared to standard E-glass. Advantex also provides superior performance in composites-facing corrosive environments when compared to E-glass.

20751/Press Release – 2017.09.29

SPECIAL GLASS

Glass Companies

SCHOTT

SCHOTT Gemtron celebrates 25 years producing innovative flat glass in San Luis Potosí (Mexico).

The facility in Mexico was certified with the international Quality standard ISO9000 and has received numerous safety awards from the Mexican Secretariat of Labour and Social Welfare.

A quarter of a century ago, German technology group SCHOTT followed a customer to San Luis Potosí, and a Latin American success story began.

SCHOTT
glass made of ideas



This plant for the Flat Glass Business Unit was initially founded by the US company Gemtron in 1992, but following a joint venture in 1998, it became part of SCHOTT. Today more than 130 employees work on five production lines in San Luis Potosí over an area of 4,500 square meters.

The plant chiefly produces refrigerator shelves, cook tops, control panels and oven doors, each in various versions.

In the past fiscal year, more than 5 million processed glass parts were shipped to customers. Important customers since the beginning are Mexican companies in the home appliance segment.

“We are considered as one of the most reliable suppliers in our industry”, says Dr.Christian Mias, VP SCHOTT Flat Glass/Operations Americas. “To fend off the competition – primarily from Asia – and to remain competitive, progress in innovation is critical. The next step is to make further progress in terms of innovation and productivity. Whether metallic refrigerator shelf designs, integrating innovative LED technology into household appliances or the large glass tablets that the team recently developed using laser technology, I’m confident that innovations like these take us to the next level.”

20752/Schott Press Release – 2017.09.19



We make it visible.

ZEISS

ZEISS plans to build a new shared innovation hub on the north campus of the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2018; the EUR 30 million hub will cover 12,000 square meters.



From left: Prof. Dr. Thomas Hirth, Vice President of KIT for Innovation and International Affairs at KIT, Prof Dr. Michael Kaschke, President and CEO of Carl ZEISS AG, Prof. Dr.-Ing. Holger Hanselka, President of KIT

ZEISS plans to build a new shared innovation hub on the north campus of the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2018; the EUR 30 million hub will cover 12,000 square meters.

With the ZEISS Innovation Hub, the global technology leader in optics and optoelectronics is making a sustainable investment in Germany as a place for innovation. As an active sponsor of the sciences, these closer links between industry and science mean that synergy effects can be utilized more intensively.

ZEISS wants the hub to house high-tech and digital start-ups, as well as its own innovation and new business activities. KIT will thus join forces with ZEISS experts to pave the way for the technologies of the future.

KIT, whose third pillar is innovation – alongside research and teaching – aims to use this hub to provide long-term prospects for carve-outs at the site. The space currently available to this end has been maxed out. At the ZEISS Innovation Hub, KIT will be able to lease a portion of the space for its own carve-outs and innovation activities.

This collaboration between KIT and ZEISS is based on solid foundations as the hub will also be home to Nanoscribe GmbH. It has been a successful KIT carve-out since 2007, and ZEISS is a stakeholder. With this move, Nanoscribe will have more space to grow its innovative technology for micro 3D printing.

The new building will encompass modern offices, labs and production areas on a total of 12,000 square meters. Construction is scheduled for early 2018. The building should be operational by the end of 2019. The agreement is currently being defined by the parties.

The longstanding successful collaboration between ZEISS and the KIT is set to develop into a strategic partnership. The collaboration agreement, which is currently being finalized, will regulate work in research, teaching and innovation, as well as in internationalization, the careers service and dialog with society. The focus will be on topics such as machine learning and computer vision applications.

20753/Press Release – 2017.09.28

Research and Markets Report on Global Photovoltaic Solar Glass Market

Global solar photovoltaic glass market is predicted to grow by 34.2 percent to reach 46.51 billion USD by 2025.

Research and Markets has released a new report, Global Solar Photovoltaic Glass Market Analysis & Trends - Industry Forecast to 2025. According to the research institute the global solar photovoltaic glass market is poised to grow at a CAGR of around 34.2 percent over the next decade to reach approximately 46.51 billion USD by 2025.

Some of the prominent trends the market is witnessing include increasing awareness about renewable energy in developing regions, favourable government regulations to promote spending on solar equipment and shifting of production plants to emerging economies such as China and India.

This industry report analyzes the market estimates and forecasts of all the given segments on global as well as regional levels presented within the research scope. The study provides historical market data for 2014, 2015 revenue estimations are presented for 2016 and forecasts from 2017 till 2025. The study focuses on market trends, leading players, supply chain trends, technological innovations, key developments, and future strategies.

Leading Companies analysed include: Dongguan CSG Solar Glass Co., Ltd, Thermosol Glass, AVIC Sanxin Co., Ltd., Shenzhen Topray Solar Co., Ltd., Euroglas, Sunarc Technology A/S, Changzhou Almaden Co., Ltd., Jin Jing (Group) Co., Ltd., Qingdao Migo

Glass Co., Ltd., Emmvee Toughened Glass Private Limited, Hecker Glastechnik GmbH & Co. Kg, Henan Huamei Cinda Industrial Co., Ltd, Guangdong Golden Glass Technologies Limited, Interfloat Corporation, Borosil Glass Works Ltd., Siseecam Flat Glass, Saint-Gobain.

https://www.researchandmarkets.com/research/rr2vps/global_solar

20754/Press Release – 2017.09.07

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DIVERSE

GLASS & SUPPLIERS

US NGA and GANA Move Forward on Combining Associations



The Boards of Directors of the National Glass Association (NGA) in Vienna, Virginia, and the Glass Association of North America (GANA) in Topeka, Kansas, have unanimously approved combining the associations into one unified voice for the glass and glazing industry. Unification process is expected to commence late in 2017 or early in 2018. The new association will combine the best elements of NGA and GANA to better serve members and the industry. GANA's technical and advocacy work will be supported and magnified through NGA's robust delivery platforms, including Glass Magazine, e-glass weekly and GlassBuild America, the largest industry trade show in the Americas.

Both organizations are committed to training the industry's workforce, and their dedicated volunteers will leverage the growing capabilities of MyGlassClass.com and other education resources.

"The combination of our associations will unify our industry, giving stronger voice to our advocacy and industry standards efforts, our technical resources and many other initiatives to ensure the continued use of glass in buildings the world over," said Doug Schilling, GANA President.

NGA and GANA will continue to operate as separate and collaborative entities until the transaction is complete and a closing date is established, likely by the end of 2017 or early 2018. Between now and then, the leadership will establish a joint integration working group to create a roadmap for the integration.

"The industry thanks the Joint Task Force members who worked to get us to this important threshold," said Ken Mariotti, NGA's incoming chair.

The NGA task force was represented by Michael Albert of S. Albert Glass, Angelo Rivera of Faour Glass Technologies, NGA President & CEO Nicole Harris and NGA General Counsel Jerry Jacobs.

The GANA task force was represented by Stanley Yee of Dow Corning Corporation, Doug Schilling of Schilling Graphics, Gus Trupiano of AGC Glass Company North America, Steve Marino of Vitro Architectural Glass and GANA General Counsel Kim Mann. Nicole Harris, NGA president & CEO, continues as staff head of the combined association. Urmilla Jokhu-Sowell and Sara Neiswanger will join her staff.

20755/Press Release – 2017.09.13

Call for Abstracts for the 79th Conference on Glass Problems

The 79th Conference on Glass Problems (GPC) 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. The 79th Conference on Glass Problems is organized by the Glass Manufacturing Industry Council and Alfred University, and endorsed by The American Ceramic Society.

Broad topics of interest include:

- Furnace design and reconstruction
- Physics and chemistry of the melting process
- Thermodynamics and reaction kinetics of oxide systems relevant to industrial glass melting
- Modeling of glass melting and processing
- Combustion and heat transfer
- Refractories
- Safety
- Raw materials: engineered, minerals, and chemicals, batching and recycling
- Forming
- Energy efficiency and management
- Environmental impact of glass
- Advanced process controls and sensors
- New topics (relevant to glass manufacturing)

79th GPC selected oral presentation authors are required to submit a paper for publication in the proceedings of the conference.

The 79th annual GPC will run November 5-8, 2018, once again at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, Ohio.

The conference is the largest glass manufacturing conference in North America, and attracts glass manufacturers and suppliers worldwide to exchange innovations and problem solutions. Co-organized by the Glass Manufacturing Industry Council and Alfred University, the conference provides expert lectures, panel discussions and focused courses and symposia, along with exhibiting and networking opportunities. True to its tagline, GPC is the conference where glass manufacturers meet. Submit your abstract today to become a part of the technical program.

To submit an abstract:

<http://glassproblemsconference.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/79th-GPC-Call-for-Abstracts-Form.pdf>

Fill in the abstract submission form fields and return the completed abstract submission form as an email attachment to Donna Banks at dbanks@gmic.org.

Deadline for submission of abstracts is January 24, 2018, 9 pm EST — no exceptions

If you have questions about the 79th Conference on Glass Problems, please visit <http://glassproblemsconference.org>.

20756/Press Release – 2017.09.05

SEMINARS / CONFERENCES / WORKSHOPS

Şişecam Glass Symposium, Istanbul

The 2017 ICG Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with 32nd Şişecam Glass Symposium in Istanbul, Turkey on October 22-25, 2017.

Şişecam and ICG proudly invite visitors to Istanbul, the city which connects two continents, to share, discuss and connect knowledge about the latest developments on glass science and manufacturing technology.

All presenters must be registered to attend the 2017 ICG Annual Meeting. All abstracts must be submitted via the online system. Please note that abstracts sent by mail, fax or e-mail will not be accepted. All abstracts will be published on the Book of Abstracts. The papers and presentations will be uploaded on the web site upon the authorization of the author, after the conference.

Topics will include:

- Glass formation, transition, relaxation and modelling
- Glass properties
- Crystallization and glass ceramics
- Chemical durability and leaching
- Nuclear waste vitrification



- Surface properties and coatings
- Bioactive and sol-gel glasses
- Glass melting, forming
- Energy and environment
- Raw materials
- Refractories

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20757/Press Release – 2016.06.08

Conference on Glass Problems at its 78th edition

The **78th Conference on Glass Problems will be taking place 6-9 November 2017** at the Greater Columbus Convention Centre. This year's conference programme is doubled in size, and also includes the 11th Advances in Fusion and Processing of Glass symposium (AFPG), organized in collaboration with the American Ceramic Society's Glass and Optical Materials Division.



Registration is now open for the 78th Conference on Glass Problems with Advances in Fusion and Processing of Glass symposium. This content-rich, technically-oriented combined conference attracts glass manufacturers, suppliers, and researchers worldwide to exchange innovations and solutions.

Invited experts will present the latest technologies, problem solutions and innovations in glass melting, refractories, energy efficiency, process control, modelling, safety, emissions, raw materials & batching, forming, and more.

GMIC Symposium — Reducing Construction, Rebuild, & Hot Repair Times for Glass Manufacturing Furnaces will focus on the latest technologies to significantly support reducing the time to construct and rebuild furnaces. It provides a forum for the audience to gain technical knowledge and exchange experiences with each other in support of streamlined project execution.

The event will also include a series of Short Courses for Glass Manufacturers: Fundamentals of Batch and Furnace Operation, Instructor: C. Philip Ross, Glass Industry Consulting International. The course is an introduction to the principles of commercial glass production employed in Batch & Furnace operations by US Glass producers.

Raw Materials, Glass Technology & Properties, Melting Furnaces, and Environmental Issues will all be touched upon. Suggested attendees could be vendors or newer individuals to glass manufacturing seeking an introduction to the issues faced in glass production.

Exploring the Changing Safety Landscape of Silica, Hexavalent Chromium, and Confined Space in the Glass Industry, Instructor: Dragan Savic, Vice President of Glass Technology and Safety Staff Augmentation, SCT. Savic, a leader in the safety industry, will delve into the changes in OSHA standards and guidelines for crystalline silica, hexavalent chromium, and confined space, all of which are/can be critical hazards for those working in the glass industry.

Fundamentals of Glass Melting Control Systems, Instructors: Dale Gaerke, Senior Member, The International Society of Automation (ISA), Retired Director of R&D; Controls and Electrical Engineering for Owens-Illinois, Inc. The course is an introduction and general overview of the control system features and adjustments typically employed in regenerative glass melters by US glass producers.

Focus will be on control system settings for regenerative gas fired melters with time for in depth open discussion and questions. This can also include discussion of oil fired and oxy/gas fired melter issues. Suggested attendees are newer individuals to glass melting control systems and their operational adjustments.

More information can be found at: <https://t.e2ma.net/click/9r2ot/dfrm3i/9z04qq>

20758/Press Release – 2016.06.07

GlassPrint 2017 – Solutions For Glass Decoration

Europe's only dedicated event for glass decoration, the seventh GlassPrint conference and **exhibition returns to Düsseldorf, Germany on 29-30 November 2017**.

Following an excellent response to the early-bird delegate and exhibitor registration offer that launched last month, the organisers anticipate the largest GlassPrint event yet, following on from GlassPrint 2015 that was deemed an outstanding success by a record audience of 200 glassmakers, decorators, end-users, suppliers and brand owners from 26 different countries in Europe, North America, Asia and the Middle East.

Taking place at the easily accessible Radisson Blu Scandinavia Hotel in Düsseldorf, GlassPrint 2017 delegates will benefit from an extensive conference programme that will see industry experts present detailed solutions for flat and hollow glass decoration, covering the latest advanced digital and screen technologies. Industry figureheads will provide keynote presentations and a specially selected panel of glass decoration experts will join together for the GlassPrint LIVE open forum to answer topical questions from the audience.

GlassPrint will be staged immediately after the Direct Container Print conference (www.dcp2017.org) that will introduce printers, packaging manufacturers and brand owners to the potential of direct to shape container decoration on plastics.

20759/Press Release – 2017.02.24

Challenging Glass Conference 6

The next edition of the Challenging Glass Conference will take place **17 and 18 May 2018 at TU Delft in the Netherlands.**



Challenging Glass is an international bi-annual conference that aims at gathering world class designers, engineers, researchers and industry partners to discuss on the architectural and structural use of glass.

Previous editions of the Challenging Glass conferences were held in 2016 at Ghent University in Belgium, in 2014 at the EPFL in Switzerland and in 2012, 2010 and 2008 at the TU Delft in The Netherlands.

Those who would like to present their work in glass at this conference, can submit an abstract of 300-500 words by 22 September 2017 at latest via the online abstract submission form using the abstract template.

Abstracts will be evaluated by the Scientific Committee. If the result is positive, candidates will be invited to submit a full paper and to prepare an oral or poster presentation for the conference.

Key-dates for authors

Abstract submission deadline	22 September 2017
Abstract review notification	1 November 2017
Paper submission deadline	1 January 2018
Paper review notification	1 March 2018
Paper revision deadline	18 March 2018
Conference	17-18 May 2018

Conference themes: Projects & Case studies, Joints & Fixings & Adhesives, Strength & Stability, Laminated Glass & Interlayer Properties, Hybrid & Composite Glass Components, Numerical Modelling & Experimental Validation, Curved & Bended Glass, Architectural Design, Geometries & Lighting, Structural Glass Design Philosophy & Structural Safety, Insulating Glass Units, Glass in Facades.

20760/Press Release – 2017.07.06

15th PNCS / 14th ESG – France (Saint-Malo) from 8 to 12 July 2018

We wish to draw to your attention two conferences being held jointly in Saint-Malo, France on 8-12 July 2018: **the 15th PNCS (Physics of Non-Crystalline Solids) and the 14th ESG (European Society of Glass Conference).**

- Abstract submission deadline: December 31st, 2017
- Notification of abstract acceptance: February 15th, 2018
- Early bird registration: May 1st, 2018

For more information, visit <https://pncs-esg-2018.sciencesconf.org>

20761/Press Release – 2017.05.03
