

WELCOME TO EU GLASS INDUSTRIES NEWS



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EU COMMUNITY NEWS

NEW EU LEGISLATION

Council & Parliament Directive

N° (EU) 2019/130 of 16 January 2019

Directive (EU) 2019/130 is amending Directive 2004/37/EC on the **protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work** (CMD), by adding the following articles:

- Work involving dermal exposure to mineral oils that have been used before in internal combustion engines to lubricate and cool the moving parts within the engine.
- Work involving exposure to diesel engine exhaust emissions.

Annex III is replaced by the text set out in the Annex to this Directive (see details link). The Directive came into effect on 20 February 2019.

All details on page 112 at:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2019:030:TOC>

21694/O.J. L30 – 2019.01.31

Commission Delegated Directives

The Commission has revised Annex III of several directives in the framework of the **restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipments** (RoHS) for the purpose of adapting to scientific and technical progress. The following exemptions have been maintained:

All details on pages 17, 20 & 23 at:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2019:033:TOC>

21695/O.J. L33 – 2019.02.05

Commission Decision

N° (EU) 2018/2066 of 19 December 2018

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2019/266 of 14 February 2019 terminating the anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of solar glass originating in Malaysia.

The anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of solar glass falling within TARIC codes 7007 19 80 12, 7007 19 80 18, originating in Malaysia, is hereby terminated.

The investigation had not brought to light any considerations showing that a continuation of the case would be in the Union interest.

Therefore, the Commission considered that the investigation into imports into the Union of solar glass originating in Malaysia should be terminated. Interested parties were informed accordingly and were given an opportunity to comment. Ten users of solar glass came forward supporting the termination. No other comments were received. (8) The Commission therefore concluded that the anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports into the Union of solar glass originating in Malaysia should be terminated without the imposition of measures.

All details on page 31:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2019:044:TOC>

21696/O.J. L44 – 2019.02.15

Information / Declarations on BREXIT (EU Council)

- 1) Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community.
- 2) Political declaration setting out the framework for the future relationship between the European Union and the United Kingdom

All details at:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:C:2019:066I:TOC>

21697/O.J. C066I – 2019.02.19

TRADE POLICY

EU/Japan

As announced last December, the free trade agreement with Japan entered into force on 1st February 2019.

The historic Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with Japan is expected to establish a free trade area that is nearly one-third of the world's gross domestic product (GDP) and a market of 635 million people.

According to the European Commission, the agreement should generate a 34% increase in exports for the EU and 29% for Japan once the agreement is fully implemented, and remove the vast majority of the €1 billion in customs duties paid each year by European companies exporting to the archipelago.

But for Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission, "more than anything, this agreement [...] also embodies values and principles, guided by equity. It makes sure that our principles in areas such as labour, safety, climate and consumer protection" are respected, he said in a statement.

A major winner of this treaty, the European agri-food sector will benefit, over a period of 15 years, from the abolition of Japanese customs duties on dairy products and European wine as well as the protection of 200 European geographical indications. On the Japanese side, the automotive industry is the main winner: at the end of the seven-year transition period, Japanese cars will enter duty-free. The agreement opens up service markets, guarantees EU companies access to public procurement in 54 major Japanese cities and removes barriers to public procurement in the rail sector.

Finally, the agreement also includes an "ambitious" chapter on sustainable development, covering high common standards in labour, safety, environment and consumer protection and a specific commitment to the international climate agreement concluded in Paris in 2015. It may also be revised and strengthened in the future: some MEPs considered the guarantees on the environment and public services insufficient.

21698/Press Release – 2019.01.31

EU/New Zealand

Trade negotiators from New Zealand were in Brussels from 18-22 February 2019 for the third round of negotiations for a trade agreement with the EU.

Following the formal launch by Commissioner **Malmström** and New Zealand Trade Minister David **Parker** on 21 June 2018 in Wellington, and the first two rounds held in July and October 2018, both sides continued the negotiation towards an ambitious trade agreement covering all key aspects of a modern trade relationship. This round comes two weeks after the visit to Brussels of New Zealand's Prime Minister **Ardern** who agreed with President **Juncker** on the importance of the negotiations and their early conclusion.

The third round covered practically all areas of the future agreement. The round also included a first discussion on the respective market access offers for goods, which were exchanged recently. In most cases, the discussions were based on text proposals submitted by the EU side. The fourth round is envisaged to take place in New Zealand in May.

21699/Press Release – 2019.02.28

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

Air Quality Standards

Many countries in the EU and its vicinity are failing to meet international and European air quality standards and are thus threatening human health, according to a joint audit report by national financial control institutions and the EU Court of Auditors published on Thursday 31 January.

The audit was carried out in fifteen countries (Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Albania, Georgia, Israel, Kosovo, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Spain and Switzerland) and was coordinated by the institutions of the Netherlands and Poland.

It shows that most of the target countries are not meeting standards, and that their governments are not taking the necessary corrective measures. Estonia, a country in compliance with all standards, is an exception. Bulgaria and Poland are the worst performing countries and are the subject of proceedings before the EU Court of Justice. In particular, the auditors recommend developing and implementing air quality improvement plans, evaluating the effectiveness of actions, collecting relevant data and carrying out cost/benefit analyses, improving air quality monitoring systems and raising public awareness of the problem. The findings and recommendations are fully in line with the conclusions and recommendations of the European Court of Auditors in its Special Report published on 11 September 2018

21700/Press Release – 2019.01.31

Future Strategy for Decarbonising the Economy by 2050

European industry experts recommend strengthening strategic value chains of EU industry

The *High Level Industrialists' Round Table* issued several recommendations on Tuesday 5 February calling for coordinated action and investment to strengthen key strategic value chains in European industry.

This group of experts, set up by the European Commission in 2017, discussed the trends and challenges facing European industries between now and 2030 as part of the third edition of the *European Industry Days*.

Several preliminary recommendations for strategic value chains emerged from these exchanges. They aim to strengthen six key channels: - connected, clean and autonomous vehicles; - intelligent health; - low-carbon industry; - hydrogen technologies and systems; - industrial Internet of Things; - cybersecurity.

These proposals should complement initiatives already underway to strengthen the value chains of batteries, microelectronics and high-performance computing.

The *European Industry Days* are the Commission's flagship annual conference on industrial policy.

They bring together key representatives from industry, public authorities and civil society to discuss the future of European industry in the context of the Commission's strategy for industrial policy announced in 2017

21701/Press Release – 2019.02.06

Decarbonisation & Clean Planet for All

MEPs of the European Parliament's Environment Committee considered that an EU long-term climate strategy in line with the Paris Climate Agreement should aim for zero net emissions as soon as possible and by 2050 at the latest, which they believe requires the EU to raise its reduction target for 2030 to 55% compared to 1990 (instead of at least 40%).

This is the message of an own-initiative report adopted by a large majority (49 votes in favour, 6 against, 6 abstentions) on the communication “A clean planet for all”, in which the Commission sets out, in eight scenarios, its vision of a long-term strategy for the EU in 2020 to guide the transformations required by a climate-neutral economy by 2050.

MEPs call on Heads of State and Government to support the EU's renewed climate ambition at the 9 May summit in Sibiu (Romania) on the future of the EU, ahead of the UN summit in September.

MEPs note that only two of the eight scenarios would achieve zero net emissions by 2050, the only objective compatible with the EU's commitments under the Paris Agreement. They also note that GNP would increase further in the most ambitious scenarios, but with disparities within the EU. They believe that with adequate support for the most vulnerable regions, sectors and citizens, the transition has the potential for net job creation. They advocate that due consideration be given to the social impacts of climate, national and EU policies.

MEPs believe that the Commission should develop an industrial strategy to enable European industry to remain competitive on a global scale, under conditions of fair competition. They would also like the Commission to examine the effectiveness of WTO-compatible measures to protect industries exposed to the risk of carbon leakage.

Parliament's vote is scheduled for the March plenary session (11-14). The subject, already discussed at the Competitiveness Council, will be discussed at the Environment Council on 5 March and at the European Council on 21-22 March.

21702/Press Release – 2019.02.21

EU Energy Consumption

Energy consumption in EU increased by 1% in 2017

In 2017, energy consumption in the EU continued to increase (+1%) for the third consecutive year, “moving away from the energy efficiency targets”, says Eurostat. In 2017, primary energy consumption in the EU was 5.3% above the 2020 energy efficiency target. It decreased in comparison with the previous year in eight Member States (Estonia, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Sweden, Finland, the Netherlands, France and Belgium).

The highest increase was recorded in Malta (+12.9%), followed by Romania (+5.8%), Spain (+5.4%) and Slovakia (+5.1%). Eurostat also reports that, in 2017, final energy consumption in the EU was 3.3% above the energy efficiency target for 2020

21703/Press Release – 2019.02.07

EUR 97 Million More to Improve Energy Efficiency of Residential Buildings

European Local Energy Assistance (ELENA) will benefit from a new €97 million grant from the European Commission for residential buildings. This budget will support project development services for energy-efficiency investments in privately and publicly owned housing.

The European Investment Bank (EIB), which implements ELENA, will provide assistance and expertise and act as a point of contact.

Services to assist with project development will mainly target households and homeowners' associations in order to increase comfort and reduce energy costs.

In addition, assistance may be made available to other organisations – e.g. financial institutions including commercial banks – to help them set up and deploy financial instruments and loan products for energy-efficiency improvements in the residential sector. Public entities may also be supported with the implementation of large-scale energy rehabilitation programmes in this sector.

EU Member States have agreed to reduce energy consumption by 32.5 % by 2030 as compared to 1990. This objective will require massive investments, particularly in residential buildings, which account for around 40% of the EU's total final energy demand.

21704/Press Release – 2019.02.20

EU to Invest in Innovative Technologies Between 2020 and 2030

Thanks to the Innovation Fund, created as part of the European Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS), some €10 billion will be invested by the EU to encourage innovative low-carbon technologies between 2020 and 2030. The European Commission announced that the first call for proposals will be launched in 2020 and followed by regular calls until 2030.

“We are today unleashing technological solutions in all Member States and pressing the fast-forward button in our transition to a modern and climate-neutral society in Europe”, comments the Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy, Miguel Arias Cañete.

To achieve this objective by 2050, the EU must increase technological innovation in energy, construction, transport, industry and agriculture, according to the draft long-term climate strategy currently under discussion in the EU Council.

Fed by 450 million ETS allowances (currently priced at €20/tonne) and undisbursed revenue from the **NER 300** programme, this fund will support demonstration projects for carbon capture and storage (CCS) and renewable energy technologies, as well as highly innovative technologies in energy storage and energy-intensive industries.

It will allow loans to cover up to 60% of the capital and additional operational costs related to innovation for the selected projects, and to disburse the money in a flexible and adapted way to the needs of the different projects.

21705/Press Release – 2019.02.26

REACH – Two New Substances of Very High Concern

Member State representatives sitting on the EU REACH Regulatory Committee approved on 15 February the Commission's proposals aimed at reducing the exposure of workers and the environment to two chemical substances of very high concern, which therefore fall under the REACH Regulation authorisation procedure (1907/2006).

The substances in question are **chromium trioxide** and **sodium dichromate**.

Chromium trioxide, which is used in the medical, automotive and aerospace sectors, contains carcinogenic and mutagenic properties. The aim of the proposed decision is to obligate companies in these sectors to comply with strict risk management procedures. The companies will also have a maximum of 7 years to reassess the availability of safer alternatives, or to replace the substance with a substitute at an earlier date if at all possible.

With regard to sodium dichromate, a potentially carcinogenic substance, the proposal aims, for the first time, to refuse permission for its use to a company (HAPOC GmbH & Co KG) that wants to use it for the treatment of microsurgical instruments. This prohibition is based on the company's failure to comply with the information requirements set out under the REACH Regulation.

In both cases, the Commission's proposals are based on the opinion of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA).

21706/Press Release – 2019.02.18

Recast of Regulation on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

Parliament negotiators and the Romanian Presidency of the Council reached a provisional agreement on 19 February on the recast of the 2004 Regulation on persistent organic pollutants, chemical substances that are extremely harmful to human health and the environment.

The objective of the recast is to align this Regulation with the latest amendments to the Stockholm Convention and to transfer certain tasks to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA).

Under the agreement, bis(pentabromophenyl) ether or "decaBDE" - a flame retardant used in plastic and textile articles, in particular - is added to the list of substances for which a maximum concentration limit value is set in other substances, mixtures and articles and subject to strict waste management provisions.

The unintentional trace contaminant value is set at 10 mg / kg for cases where this flame retardant is present in substances.

In addition, the unintentional trace contaminant value is set at 500 mg/kg for the sum of all BDEs, including decaBDE, where they are present in mixtures and articles. The Commission will assess all health and environmental impacts of PBDEs two years after the entry into force of the Regulation.

Specific exemptions concerning the use of decaBDE are introduced for civil or military aircrafts, motor vehicles and electrical and electronic equipment, also in case of imports. It should be recalled that decaBDE is already subject to restrictions under the REACH Regulation as a substance of very high concern.

The agreement also provides that the limit values will be maintained in Annex IV of the Regulation and that amendments to Annexes IV and V will be made by the ordinary legislative procedure and not by Comitology (the Council initially wanted the limits to be removed in the Annexes and the values to be adopted by implementing acts, while the Commission and European Parliament advocated setting the limits in the Annex and delegated acts for any amendments).

21707/Press Release – 2019.02.20

More Transparent Risk Assessments by EFSA

Monday 11 February in Strasbourg marked an important step towards greater transparency and sustainability of the scientific risk assessment of certain substances such as pesticides or food additives by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), thus meeting a requirement of the European Citizens Initiative 'Stop glyphosate'.

Negotiators from the European Parliament and the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, assisted by the Commission, have reached a provisional interinstitutional agreement on the proposal to reform the EU's General Food Law (Regulation 178/2002).

The third trilogue on this issue was the last. In a statement, Petre Daea, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Romania said that "with this agreement we further strengthen trust between consumers, the European agro-food industry and the institutions".

According to Pilar Ayuso González (EPP, Spain), Chief Negotiator for the European Parliament, "it strikes a good balance between transparency and protecting European business", including SMEs.

Under the agreement, data and information submitted by industry as part of an application for authorisation will be made public after EFSA's assessment of the validity of the dossier, unless the applicant company proves that disclosure could significantly harm its interests and requires confidential treatment. If the applicant company does not agree with EFSA, it may submit a request for confirmation, in which case the data may not be disclosed until the final decision on confidentiality has been taken. Information on manufacturing or production processes will remain confidential.

A European bank of commissioned studies will be established.

In exceptional cases of scientific controversy with significant implications for society, the Commission may request EFSA to carry out verification studies itself.

EFSA will be strengthened with a greater involvement of Member States in its Management Board. Member States will also help EFSA to attract more distinguished scientists to participate in its scientific panels.

Risk communication will be improved by a more coherent, transparent and continuous flow of information throughout the authorisation process.

The Commission welcomed the achievement of this agreement. It sees this as a guarantee of "greater transparency at an early stage of the risk assessment process" and "a resounding response to the citizens' concerns".

21708/Press Release – 2019.02.12

Public Consultation on Food Contact Materials Regulation

The European Commission (DG Health and Food Safety) launched an online public consultation on 11 February 2019, open to all interested parties until 6 May 2019, to assess the effectiveness of the European Regulation (1935/2004) on materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs. The objective is to establish, with the maximum number of contributions, whether this Regulation is meeting its objectives of protecting human health and to identify possible impacts or problems not expected in its implementation. The Regulation provides a framework to ensure that these materials do not present a danger to human health, do not lead to an unacceptable change in the composition of foodstuffs or to an alteration in their organoleptic characteristics. It imposes migration limits for certain components and labelling requirements to avoid misleading the consumer.

The consultation is available at:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2017-5809429_en

21709/Press Release – 2019.02.11

Member States Far from Meeting Requirements of EU Water Legislation

EU Member States are not on track to meet the objective of good water status by 2027 at the latest and to reduce the potential negative consequences of major floods, according to the fifth report on the implementation of EU water legislation, published by the European Commission.

This report assesses both the implementation of the second river basin management plans under the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) and the first flood risk management plans (Directive 2007/60/EC) for the period 2015-2021.

"Most of Europe's 130,000 water bodies are falling short of the high standards we need. I am calling on Member States to step up their efforts and ensure we deliver the quality that citizens need and nature requires, as soon as possible", says Environment Commissioner Karmenu Vella.

In particular, the report shows that despite the obligation for Member States to make the necessary investments to improve water quality, most Member States continue to use exemptions - for about half of surface and groundwater - and do not adequately finance control measures.

WWF considers it unacceptable that "*with only 40% of lakes and wetlands currently healthy as a result of pollution and destructive infrastructure*", Member States are not taking action.

To consult the report:

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:bee2c9d9-39d2-11e9-8d04-01aa75ed71a1.0005.02/DOC_1&format=PDF

and the recommendations by country:

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:bee2c9d9-39d2-11e9-8d04-01aa75ed71a1.0005.02/DOC_2&format=PDF (

21710/Press Release – 2019.02.27

SOCIAL ISSUES

EU Agreement on Third Revision of Directive on Protection Against Carcinogens or Mutagens at Work (CMD)

Both the Coreper (Member States ambassadors to the EU) and MEPs of the European Parliament's Employment and Social Affairs Committee (EMPLOY) adopted the Interinstitutional agreement on the 3rd revision of the Directive on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens and mutagens at work.

More details in our previous Newsletter under article Nr.21625.

21711/Press Release – 2019.02.18 & 20

Unemployment Rates

The euro area seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was **7.9%** in **December 2018**, stable compared with November 2018. This remains the lowest rate recorded in the euro area since October 2008. The EU-28 unemployment rate was **6.6%** in December 2018, stable compared with November 2018. This is also the lowest rate recorded in the EU28 since January 2000.

Eurostat estimates that 16.306 million people in the EU28 were unemployed in December 2018, a decrease by 75,000 in both the EU28 and the euro area compared with November 2018.

Czechia	2.1%	Ireland	5.3%
Germany	3.3%	Belgium	5.5%
Poland	3.5%	Slovakia	6.1%
Netherlands	3.6%	Sweden	6.2%
Hungary (Nov.)	3.7%	Lithuania	6.3%
Malta	3.8%	Portugal	6.7%
Romania	3.8%	Finland	6.8%
UK (Oct.)	4.0%	Latvia	7.1%
Estonia (Nov.)	4.6%	Croatia	7.7%
Austria	4.7%	Cyprus	8.8%
Luxembourg	4.9%	France	9.1%
Denmark	5.1%	Italy	10.3%
Bulgaria	5.2%	Spain	14.3%
Slovenia	5.2%	Greece (Oct.)	18.6%

Elsewhere

USA	4.0%	Russia	4.9%
Canada	5.8%	Brazil	11.6%
Japan	2.4%	Australia	5.0%
Switzerland	2.8%	India	6.1%
Turkey	12.3%	China	3.8%

21712/Eurostat Press Release – 2019.01.31

GENERAL ISSUES

EU Commission: Appointment of Two New Directors-General



European Commission

The European Commission has appointed the current Deputy Secretary-General, **Ms Pia Ahrenkilde Hansen**, as **Director-General of the Directorate-General for Communication (DG Communication)**, with effect from 16 March 2019. Ms Ahrenkilde Hansen will be the first woman to hold this position.

Ms Ahrenkilde Hansen, who is a Danish national, is one of the three Deputy Secretaries-General and currently holds the position of Chief Operating Officer for the Commission. She joined the Commission in 1995.

The Commission has also decided that **Timo Pesonen**, the current Director-General of DG Communication from Finland, will take over as **Head of the Directorate-General for the Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW)** from 1 March 2019. He will succeed Ms Lowri Evans, who will retire on 1 March.

Timo Pesonen headed Olli Rehn's private office when Rehn was Vice-President for Economic and Monetary Affairs and the Euro from 2010 to 2014 and Commissioner for Enlargement from 2004 to 2009.

21713/Eurostat Press Release – 2019.02.06

Franco-German manifesto for a European industrial policy capable of meeting challenges of 21st century

Germany and France unveiled, on 19 February in Berlin, a Franco-German manifesto for a new European industrial policy that includes a plan for car batteries and calls for a revision of the European regulation governing company mergers.

"It is a revolution of minds", assured the French Minister of Economy, Bruno Le Maire, when presenting the manifesto with his German counterpart, Peter Altmaier, at an event attended by German and French industrialists. This manifesto sets out a common framework, the first concrete element of which is a project on the market for batteries for electric vehicles.

For the time being, the names of the companies that will participate in the consortium are not public, particularly because legal issues remain to be clarified in the context of existing partnerships with Korea and China, said a source close to the file.

Above all, France and Germany expect by April 1, not a final decision, but a "positive sign" from the European Commission on the granting of the status of "important project of common European interest" (IPCEI) to the consortium. Otherwise, French and German public funding would be considered as state aid, a French source pointed out. Germany has announced that it will put €1 billion on the table and France €700 million, Peter Altmaier recalled. Other Member States have expressed interest, citing Sweden, Poland, Austria, Italy and Spain. German Chancellor Angela Merkel will try to rally new countries to the Franco-German industrial initiative at the next European summit.

The two ministers did not specify where the future plants will be located. However, Peter Altmaier said that a "large chemical company" was considering investing in Lusatia, a mining region close to Poland and to which the German Coal Exit Commission promises billions of euros in investment. There will be two factories with thousands of jobs at stake.

The consortium will have to cover the entire industrial chain, from the exploitation of lithium and cobalt needed for batteries to final construction, Bruno Le Maire insisted, stressing that batteries represent between one third and half of the value of future electric vehicles.

France has contacted Argentina, Chile and Indonesia to work on the issue of rare metal supply, which has so far been dominated by China. Germany does the same, a French source said.

The two countries have also announced "massive" public investments in three other areas essential to European competitiveness: artificial intelligence, data storage and renewable energy storage.

A "stupid" **European competition law**

According to Bruno Le Maire, the Franco-German manifesto calls for the removal of one of the "obstacles" to European competitiveness, namely a European competition law "sometimes stupid" and "unsuitable for the 21st century".

As the recent rejection by the European Commission of the merger between Siemens and Alstom served as an "electroshock", France and Germany explicitly request the revision of the Merger Regulation (139/2004) and the current guidelines in order to take more account of "the global scale, potential future competition and the time framework". Both countries plead for consideration of "to what extent a right of appeal by the Council could repeal a Commission decision in very precisely defined cases and under strict conditions".

Until now, "we in Europe thought that unbridled competition between Member States was the only solution to competitiveness", said Bruno Le Maire, for whom "France and Germany are now saying - for the first time together - that the current regulations must be changed".

See the Franco-German manifesto (in French):

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/10kJJwINBRL6YS8d32Knhjaef6ahaqOcd/view>

21714/Press Release – 2019.02.19

Future of the European Union

BREXIT Developments



1. UK MEPs Endorse Ms May's Choice to Ultimately Request an Extension of Negotiating Deadline on *Brexit*

On 27 February, British MEPs supported the strategy of British leader Theresa May to ask them, ultimately on **14 March**, to decide on a postponement of the date of the United Kingdom's exit from the European Union via an **extension of the negotiation deadline** laid down in Article 50 of the Treaty.

This strategy was supported by MEPs through the adoption of the following two amendments, out of the five amendments put to the vote.

- Labour's amendment by Yvette Cooper calls for a new meaningful vote on the agreement on an orderly Brexit to be held in mid-March with, in the event of rejection, an extension of the negotiations.
- The other amendment adopted, that of Conservative Alberto Costa, consists in ensuring that the rights of British citizens will be preserved as they are set out in the withdrawal agreement, even in the event of a no-deal Brexit. The Commission recalled that, in the preparations of the Twenty-seven for a British exit scenario without agreement, it was ready to provide for the continuity of these rights as a matter of priority, subject to reciprocity.

Among the amendments rejected by British MEPs was an amendment from the Labour Party calling for a permanent customs union between the United Kingdom and the EU, closer links between the two sides via market access and supporting the position now defended by Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn to hold a second referendum on Brexit.

21715/Press Release – 2019.02.28

2. Irish Border Backstop

Talks took place between EU lead negotiator Michel Barnier and the UK's Brexit secretary Stephen Barclay and attorney general Geoffrey Cox about removing the Irish backstop (safety net) from the draft withdrawal agreement.

The EU maintains its NO but is discussing "imaginative" solutions to convince Brexiteers – particularly the 10 Democratic Unionist MPs and Tories in the backbench European Research Group – that the Irish border backstop is not permanent. Call it an annex, an implementing agreement, a codicil or whatever; it must be robust enough to allow Geoffrey Cox to go back on his December advice that the backstop could "endure indefinitely".

It's no surprise that no-deal preparations have stepped up a notch.

The Irish government published a 15-part "omnibus bill" to protect citizens and companies in the event of a no-deal Brexit. The draft legislation ensures, for instance, that:

- Irish patients can still be reimbursed for healthcare received in Belfast or London;
- The 12-year-old all-island electricity market can continue to function, via new temporary operating licenses;
- British students in Ireland and Irish students in the UK are still eligible for grants;
- School buses can continue to travel north and south of the border without having to apply for extra authorisation.
- A temporary insurance regime will give UK providers three years to "run off" their Irish portfolios.
- Income, capital and company tax reliefs will remain for the time being.
- Dublin is setting up a new extradition arrangement with the UK to replace the EU arrest warrant.

"A disorderly Brexit will be a lose, lose, lose for the UK, for Europe and for Ireland," said Ireland's foreign minister Simon Coveney. We cannot offset all the damage it will do, but we are doing everything we can."

21716/Press Release – 2019.02.23

3. British MPs Opposed to May's Proposal

More than 100 Tories defy plan to offer Article 50 delay. Theresa May has suffered another rebellion after a wave of Tory MPs defied the party whip on her plan to offer Parliament the chance to delay Brexit.

21717/Press Release – 2019.02.28

UK Business Owners Need to Get Prepared

HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) urges businesses to up no-deal Brexit preparation amid concerns warnings are not being listened to.

They need to do more to prepare for a no-deal Brexit by taking steps to ensure they can continue to trade with the EU if the UK leaves the bloc next month without a deal.

HMRC said that its figures indicate that only 17% of businesses that trade with the EU have so far sought the registration they need, in the form of an Economic Operator and Registration Identification (EORI) number to continue trading in the event of a no-deal exit on 29 March.

An estimated 240,000 businesses need to take action to continue trading with the EU if no deal is reached, but only 40,973 have registered for an EORI number.

Financial secretary to the Treasury Mel Stride said that the Government wants "businesses to be able continue trading with minimal disruption in any scenario" but recognised "we also know that people tend to leave things until the last minute and we would urge against that". Stride urged businesses not to take such a course of action, but said EORI registration was free and could be done in less than 10 minutes.

21718/Press Release – 2019.02.28

British Glass Warns of 'No Tariff' Damage to £1.3 Billion Industry

Representative body, British Glass, has warned that the £1.3 billion UK glass industry could be damaged by rushed Government proposals for zero tariffs if there is a no-deal Brexit.

British Glass and the Manufacturing Trade Remedies Alliance (MTRA) are fighting a proposal from Liam Fox, the International Trade Minister, to introduce 'most favoured nation zero tariffs' on all goods imported into the UK, and called for Parliamentary scrutiny before the measure goes ahead.

Dave Dalton (pictured), Chief Executive of British Glass, said: "From a manufacturing position, this is a dangerous intervention, which is likely to see the UK flooded with consumer goods priced at a market advantage against domestically manufactured goods here in the UK."



The UK's high volume glass manufacturing sector currently employs over 6,500 workers directly and another 115,000 in the supply chain.

Mr Dalton continued: "As a proposed unilateral move, this will also affect our ability to export, as our goods will still attract the same tariffs they currently experience in overseas markets. Such an intervention can only lead to a clear risk to jobs, business and the economy."

British Glass and other members of the MTRA have approached their MPs to fight Dr Fox's move. They argue that the legislation should be open to the full detailed scrutiny of Parliament so that Government will reconsider and take a more long-term approach to the welfare of the UK economy and manufacturing.

Mr Dalton added: "The aim of the Alliance has been to work with Government to develop a UK Trade Remedies regime aimed at protecting UK industry once we have left the EU. It is important to ensure UK manufacturing continues to enjoy the level of safeguards it currently has as part of the EU, and ensures a level playing field for imported goods."

Mr Dalton concluded: "It is clear from current economic activity and decisions being taken by internationally owned companies that the level of investment in UK industry is stalling as a result of uncertainty surrounding Brexit. Businesses are nervous about making investment decisions to ensure that the UK continues as a high technology, highly skilled manufacturing base, properly equipped and able to compete in the global market place."

21719/Press Release – 2019.02.25

Inflation Rate

Latest Eurostat figures show that the annual inflation rate was **1.4% in January 2019 in the Euro area**, down from 1.5% in December. **The EU28 annual inflation was 1.5% in January**, down from 1.6% in December.

The largest contribution to the annual euro area inflation rate came from services (+0.70%), followed by food, alcohol & tobacco (+0.36%), energy (+ 0.26%), and non-energy industrial goods (+0.06%).

Greece	0.5%	Austria	1.7%
Portugal	0.6%	Germany	1.7%
Croatia	0.6%	Belgium	1.8%
Poland	0.7%	UK	1.8%
Ireland	0.8%	Czechia	2.0%
Italy	0.9%	Netherlands	2.0%
Malta	1.0%	Sweden	2.0%
Spain	1.0%	Cyprus	2.1%
Denmark	1.2%	Bulgaria	2.2%
Finland	1.2%	Slovakia	2.2%
Slovenia	1.2%	Estonia	2.8%
France	1.4%	Hungary	2.8%
Lithuania	1.6%	Latvia	2.9%
Luxembourg	1.6%	Romania	3.2%

Elsewhere

USA	1.6%	Russia	5.0%
Canada	2.0%	Brazil	0.32%
Japan	0.3%	Australia	1.8%
Switzerland	0.6%	India	2.05%
Turkey	20.4%	China	1.7%

21720/Eurostat News Release – 2019.02.22

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GLASS NEWS

FLAT GLASS

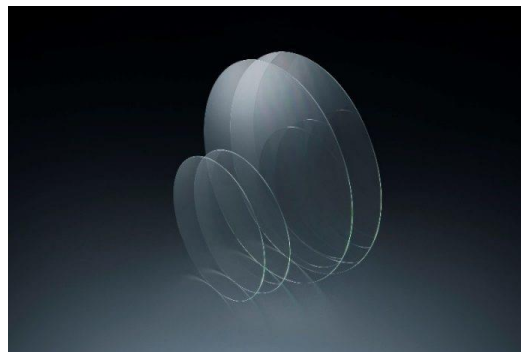
Glass Companies

AGC



AGC launch sales of glass substrate for AR/MR glasses

AGC has succeeded in developing a high-transparency, high-refractive-index glass substrate for use in AR/MR glasses (Augmented reality/Mixed reality glasses). The company has already established a mass production system for the glass in Japan and plans to launch sales from February 2019.



The development of displays that virtually augment the world around us by superimposing virtual visual info onto our view of the real world has been gathering momentum in recent years. In particular, eyeglass-fashioned wearable devices called “AR glasses” or “MR glasses,” which are able to display AR (augmented reality) or MR (mixed reality), have been capturing headlines. The market for these AR/MR glasses is expected to expand as the next-generation device following smartphones.

For the next-generation device, AGC has been developing and proposing glass substrates for semiconductor packages and optical electronic components with a wide range of characteristics. This has led to the new successful development of a high-transparency, high-refractive-index glass substrate ideal for use in AR/MR glasses, which the company had started researching and developing a few years ago

Glass substrate for AR/MR glasses requires a ‘high refractive index’ to extend the viewing angle as well as “high transparency” to vividly show images. It also requires highly advanced glass processing technology to transmit images with extreme accuracy, for instance by achieving high flatness and smooth surfaces. With its high refractive index and high transparency, this newly-developed glass substrate is a product that combines all these characteristics. AGC aims to continue expanding this product across

a wide range of markets that include not only the AR/MR glasses market, but also the in-vehicle technology market.

21721/Press Release – 2019.02.01

Asahimas

Asahimas Flat Glass Tbk, a flat and automotive glass manufacturer in Indonesia, announced the opening of Flat Glass Plant in Cikampek, 18 February 2019.



The opening ceremony was performed by the Indonesian Minister of Industry, Airlangga Hartarto, along with West Java Vice Governor, Uu Ruzhanul Ulum, Karawang Regional Head, Head of Government of Karawang Regency and their staff. In addition, the ceremony was also attended by other Stakeholders such as representatives from AGC Inc., Japan, PT Rodamas, Bankers, Contractors and Suppliers. During the ceremony, the Furnace Firing (heating-up) was also executed.

The new furnace is the Company's second furnace in Cikampek with a 210,000 tpa capacity and investment 17,250 million JPY. The Company expects to realize commercial production in March 2019. The opening of this second furnace complements the first flat glass furnace that has been operating in Cikampek since 2017.

With this new Furnace operating, the Company's total flat glass capacity will increase significantly to 720,000 tpa from the preceding 630,000 tpa. Previously, the Company operated four furnaces spread among Jakarta, Cikampek and Sidoarjo. With the closing of the furnace in Jakarta, the Company no longer has flat glass production facilities in Ancol, Jakarta. The company has relocated all its production facilities and the expansion of production capacity from Jakarta to Cikampek. The Company's flat glass factory located in Cikampek is located adjacent to the Automotive Glass Factory to integrate operations of the two factories.

On completing of the relocation of the flat glass plant from Jakarta to Cikampek, the Company's flat glass production facilities now have only two locations, namely in Cikampek, West Java and Sidoarjo, East Java with a capacity of 420,000 and 300,000 tons per year respectively.

21722/Press Release – 2019.02.22

Vitro



Leading glass producer in North America, Vitro, S.A.B. of C.V., VITRO has announced the launch of a new brand identity rooted in the tagline “Together, We See Further.”

At a formative moment in Vitro’s evolution, the new brand represents a renewed commitment to partnership and innovative, long-term thinking—philosophies that have been central to the company’s success for over a century.

“We’re staying true to what has made us an industry leader,” says Chief Executive Officer, Adrian Sada Cueva. “The power of partnership remains our greatest asset. We have a reputation for working together and looking ahead to develop the next generation of innovative glass solutions. Now, that reputation becomes our identity.”

In addition to the new brand message, the refresh is also centred on a new visual identity and logo, as well as new Mission, Vision and Values statements. The brand launch signals a new era for the Mexico-based manufacturer. “With collaboration as our constant, we have made great progress in recent years,” adds Sada Cueva. “Today, with a stronger, more global leadership position, our new era demands a new commitment to our customers and partners.”

21723/Press Release – 2019.02.20

Turkmen Glass Products



Turkmenistan’s Türkmen aýna önümleri – Turkmen Glass Products – plans to export a wide range of finished products based on float technology, a method of manufacturing thermoligated glass on the melt of tin, replacing the costly method of grinding and polishing on bulky mechanical conveyors.

Turkmen Glass Products enterprise operates in the Owadandep, a locality of the Gokdepe District of Turkmenistan’s Ahal Region. The complex is designed to produce 1 million square meters of tinted glass, 100,000 square meters of laminated glass, 300,000 square meters of tempered glass, and 400,000 square meters of double-glazed windows annually, using German, Belgian, Italian, Austrian and Finnish equipment. In recent years, Turkmenistan has been actively developing its construction materials manufacturing industry.

“At the initial stage, 15 types of products are planned to be produced, the assortment will increase with time, and some part of the output will be exported,” Turkmen President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov said at the opening ceremony.

21724/Press Release – 2019.02.25

Quartz Joint Stock Company

The joint-stock company Quartz together with the Chinese company Shanghai Pony technology Co. Ltd began the construction of a production line aimed at the production of 400 tons of ground building glass per day, in Kuvasay (Fergana Region), eastern Uzbekistan. They are paying particular attention to increasing the volume and quality of products by studying and introducing international experience and modern technologies in the production of glassware.

For example, in the manufacture of glass products, metal forms are important. Therefore, to produce glass products that meet modern design requirements, the latest models of machinery have been delivered from the US.

Quartz Joint-Stock Company is one of the leading enterprises in Central Asia producing sheet coloured, tinted and tempered glass, glass jars and bottles, operating since 1975 in the domestic market and exporting to many countries like Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Kirgizstan and Afghanistan.

21725Press Release – 2019.02.08



Korean KCC Corporation

KCC Corporation confirms plans to build a glass factory in the Russian Far East. In the first stage of the project implementation it is planned to produce 800 thousand tons of flat glass per year. The second stage of the project plans the production of mineral wool and fibreglass.

The volume of investment in the project is estimated at 250 million US dollars.

There are KCC Corporation production facilities located in 12 countries, including South Korea, China and Singapore.

21726Press Release – 2019.02.19

Miscellaneous

Sedak

Sedak glass cube forms the prestigious entrance to the Torre Europa

The Torre Europa in Madrid has just been extensively renovated and modernized. A new glass cube made from 55 Sedak glass elements forms the prestigious entrance to the office tower.



The Torre Europa in Madrid is an impressive 121 metres high. The 33-year-old building in the Spanish capital has just been extensively renovated and modernized. A new glass cube made from 55 Sedak glass elements forms the prestigious entrance to the office tower. The 10x10x12 metre cube nestles against the building and its two supporting glass façades offer an unobstructed view of the time-honoured Santiago Bernabeu Stadium. At the same time, the transparent lobby provides the colossus, which appears inaccessible from a distance, with an inviting, open character once you get close to it. Stylistically, the up to ten-metre-high glass elements from Sedak (Gersthofen) reflects the imposing nature of the tower. An unusual task for the large-format glass specialists, the supporting glass beams in the roof of the cube achieve a width-to-length ratio of as much as 1:84.

The iconic Torre Europa has towered above the centre of Madrid since 1985. The building, which for a short time was the highest in the city, is reminiscent of the World Trade Centre with its small windows and ribbed façade. The stern architecture of the office tower has now been softened by the new lobby on the northern side of the building. The architects from Callison RTKL formulated a spacious cube, which leans against the Torre Europa and opens it up invitingly with a full-glass façade towards the boulevard. Its constructional framework is formed by Sedak glass fins. The glass façade, made from 3.0 by almost 10-metre panels, is supported by 60-centimetre narrow fins. The fine supports maintain maximum transparency of the cube. Into each of these, the company from Gersthofen laminated up to eight titanium fittings as attachment points, which were provided by the client Bellapart. In order to enable the non-right-angled floor plan, Sedak realized edge mitres of up to 39 degrees.

The fins connect the glass façade with the slender glass and steel roof construction. This uses glass beams with exceptional ratios between width and length that exceed the usual ratio of up to 1:20 by far. The beams have a length of almost 12 metres but narrow down from 35 centimetres at the widest point to just 15 centimetres, a width-to-length ratio of 1:84. Despite this extreme relationship, Sedak guarantees an enduring optical quality, also for multiple laminates, as well as the dimensional accuracy of the offset edges and the straightness of the glass elements. The beams fulfil the highest requirements of transparent architecture. The glass roof enables a view right up to the top of what is still the seventh highest building in Madrid. It is partly supported by the façade fins. The new Entrée, which opens to the north, does not need any additional shading facilities and can therefore realize its full effect. The eight insulation glass panes for the roof of the cube were decoratively enhanced by Sedak with a fine ceramic stripe print. In addition, a solar control coating was applied. The horizontal glass elements measure up to twelve metres and flow seamlessly into the overhanging roof construction. This swings around the building, underlining the filigree cube construction like the swoop of a fountain pen.

21727/Press Release – 2019.02.14

CONTAINER GLASS

Glass Companies

O-I



1. Owens-Illinois, Inc. reported its financial results for the full year and fourth quarter ended 31 December 2018.

Andres Lopez, CEO, commented that in line with its guidance, the Company delivered solid financial performance in 2018, demonstrating growing resilience in overcoming currency and inflationary headwinds, it continues to progress in the ability to deliver, while also investing to support future shareholder value creation.

Throughout 2018, Europe's focus on the top line sales mix management and premium products and the benefits of Total System Cost efforts drove higher profits and strong margin expansion. Over the course of the year, America's team responded to several unplanned headwinds and the stronger U.S. dollar by growing sales volume outside the U.S. and reducing structural costs across the region. Asia Pacific completed its 2018 asset advancement program and exited the year with a strong margin, as expected. Given favourable market trends, ascribable growth opportunities, and continued structural cost reductions, the Company expects higher earnings and cash flow generation in 2019.

The Company's joint venture with Constellation Brands (producer and distributor of alcohol drinks), continues to perform well, again delivering higher sales compared with prior year, driven in part by the fourth furnace that ramped up early in 2018. The fifth furnace is expected to be completed by the end of 2019.

In November 2018, the Company acquired a 49.7 per cent interest in Empresas Comegua S.A., the leading manufacturer of glass containers for the Central American and Caribbean markets.

In 2019, the Company expects to deliver higher earnings from continuing operations with higher segment operating profit partially offset by non-operational items.

21728Press Release – 2019.02.07

2. Owens-Illinois (O-I) is to invest more than €50 million in the modernisation of its Reims plant in Marne, France.

With all-new high-tech equipment, a new overall layout, and additional technical innovations, the plant will increase flexibility, capabilities and energy-efficiency.

The project includes a complete renewal of one of the plant's two furnaces as well as new industrial equipment on the attached production lines.

The upgrade is expected to be completed by mid-2019.

"This is a strategic investment to strengthen our position in the Champagne business," said Francois Pierrot, Country Group Executive, Southwest Europe, for O-I. "We will be able to serve our customers in the premium segment even better with improved flexibility at the plant and within O-I's overall manufacturing network in France." O-I will also hire approximately 30 new employees in Reims to further strengthen the capability of the plant. Following extensive training, they will join the more than 200 employees already working in the plant in areas such as production, supply and procurement, and maintenance.

"This €50 million project is a major long-term commitment to the Reims area. It represents one of the biggest investments in the region during the last few years, further bolstering O-I's reputation as a strong player in the region and making the plant an even more attractive employer," said Dallah Mekki, O-I's plant manager in Reims.

The O-I factory in Reims is located in the heart of the Champagne vineyards, minimising delivery routes and time to the wineries.

It also serves premium wine customers located in the other regions of France such as Burgundy, Alsace and the Loire Valley.

The Reims plant has a highly diverse customer base serving more than 1000 customers in France.

When the upgrade is complete, the Reims plant will be able to produce bottles in three colours and in the full range from 0.2l to Magnum-size.

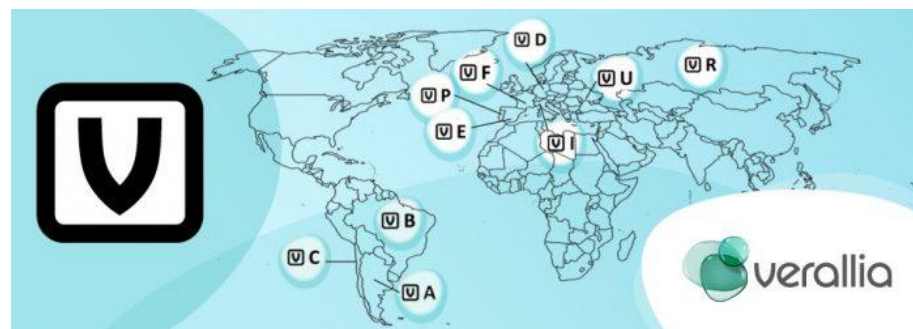
21729Press Release – 2019.02.22

Verallia Group



1. Verallia's new unique puntmark standardized worldwide

A new puntmark, common to all countries, will appear under the bottles and jars produced by the Verallia Group's 32 glass production facilities located in 10 countries.



The Verallia Group, a glass packaging manufacturer for food and beverages, has decided to standardize the puntmark under the bottles and jars it produces throughout the world, in France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Ukraine, Russia, Brazil, Argentina and Chile.

From now on, a “V” marking will appear on the production of all Verallia Group plants, regardless of the country in which they are located, followed by the country’s letter. The first productions with this new logo were carried out in the Verallia factories in Argentina, Chile, Italy, Germany, Portugal and Spain.

An international group that is very close to its markets, Verallia is known for its leadership in innovation and design for its customers in the still and sparkling wine, spirits, beer, soft drinks and food segments. This project for a new unique puntmark aims to facilitate the identification of Verallia bottles and jars throughout the world.

21730/Press Release – 2019.01.12

2. Verallia 2018 Annual Results

Verallia 2018 annual results show continued operating improvements leading to EBITDA growth and further deleveraging.

Highlights of the 2018 annual Results reported revenue of 2,416 million euros in 2018, a solid 5.7% revenue growth at constant foreign exchange rates and excluding IFRS15 impact. A meaningful adjusted EBITDA growth at 544 million euros, for example, +7.8% year-on-year, 14.4% at constant foreign exchange rates. The adjusted EBITDA margin expansion reaching 22.5%, up 210 bps compared to 2017, up 150 bps excluding IFRS15. Further deleveraging at 3.1x adjusted EBITDA through positive operating cash flow generation of 301 million euros and a good level of cash conversion at 58.6%.

Michel Giannuzzi, CEO of Verallia commented “2018 has been a very good year for Verallia with improvements in the service provided to our customers and stronger productivity. This joint effort in sales contribution and costs base reduction has enabled a solid increase in adjusted EBITDA both in value and in the margin. We expect continuing improvements in 2019.”

In 2019, Verallia expects further top-line growth and margin expansion, in spite of the challenges that the glass packaging industry may face due to rising energy and raw material costs; and potential macro-economic and geopolitical uncertainties, in particular in South America.

Despite these headwinds, Verallia continues to roll-out its strategy with the following Objectives: Positive organic sales growth and adjusted EBITDA increase, additional adjusted EBITDA margin expansion, disciplined CapEx spending with recurring CapEx amount around €200million (ca. 8% of revenue) and stronger cash flow generation.

The next results release will be first quarter results and are expected to be released on April 30th, 2019

21731/Press Release – 2019.02.19

Croxsons

Croxsons have been assigned with the task of introducing a glass bottle to Lewis Road Creamery's dairy liqueur product range. Croxsons created a bespoke 700ml glass bottle to be used for their Kahlúa Cream coffee cream liqueur.



Lewis Road Creamery is a New Zealand based dairy producer, famed for marrying the reinstatement of traditional dairy production, with forward-thinking, ethical decision-making. They have enlisted leading glass packaging company, Croxsons, with the task of introducing a glass bottle to their dairy liqueur product range.

Croxsons created a bespoke 700ml glass bottle to be used for Lewis Road's Kahlúa Cream, a coffee cream liqueur. The concept was adapted from an aluminium bottle previously used by the company.

The Lewis Road ethos is about doing things right, with a focus on sustainable packaging. Currently, all their 1.5L and 750ml milk bottles are made with 100 per cent recycled plastic packaging, which can keep being recycled after use. They are considering alternatives that will reduce their use of plastic, so Croxsons' glass bottles could become the catalyst for more change.

Croxsons needed to match the baseline design of Lewis Road's plastic bottles in a glass equivalent and improve the quality of the embossment. The bottles were sprayed gold, reflecting a high-value product whilst also providing the liquid with UV protection. The result is a standout, contemporary product that is still on brand with the rest of the range.

A 33mm GPI closure, in a special Pantone gold, was specifically produced for this project. This spec was chosen for its easy application properties, comprehensive printing capabilities, and a well-proportioned mouth opening for the size of the bottle.

Croxsons' James Croxson said: "In terms of delivery, we really pushed the limits of what is possible. Within forty-eight hours of starting the project, there was a concept and a drawing which were signed off within another thirty-six hours. The bottles were manufactured within nine weeks, despite considerable hurdles with production and shipping. Regardless of the setbacks, this is still a fantastic achievement in terms of turnaround time, which impressed the client immensely."

Croxsons were able to add value to the concept by including the Lewis Road Creamery trademarked cow emblem to the base of the bottle – an inventive yet simple way of creating a more premium product.

James Croxson adds: “We are delighted to make a connection with such an innovative brand, and we are looking forward to continuing the relationship by developing other product lines in the future.”

21732/Press Release – 2019.02.13

Anthem / Unilever

Anthem, a global creative agency that actively connects brands with consumers by amplifying desirability from brand design to brand campaign to drive brand performance, has designed a new range of 100% natural soups for Unilever’s Knorr.



The new range includes four variants (Tomato, Pumpkin, Vegetable and Zucchini) and has been launched across France, Spain, Italy, Belgium, Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

The ambient soup supermarket aisles across mainland Europe are a sea of sameness. In France specifically, the aisle is a consistent wave of duplicates – both in terms of format (brick tetra packs) and design (brand identity on top, product shot in the same style below).

Knorr’s mission was to disrupt this swathe of uniformity with a new range of 100% natural ambient soups using simple ingredients to be packaged in glass bottles. Despite the more premium price point, the new range design needed to be family friendly. Brand recognition needed to remain strong and range navigation easy. Moving into glass bottles would also allow the brand to contribute to Unilever’s sustainability mission and have new conversations with existing and new consumers around ‘healthy you, healthy planet’.

It was important to create a packaging design that mirrored the simplicity of the recipes and one that would support the naturalness of the products. Anthems design is clean and uncluttered to both support the product message and achieve stand out on the shelf.

The new range design is bold, iconic and beautiful allowing the brand to surprise and delight consumers with new easy to use and convenient meal solutions.

Marie Leroy, Knorr Soups Brand Manager at Unilever comments, “Working with Anthem helped us tap into new ways of thinking and approaching design – what it means and how it’s perceived by consumers. We wanted to really revolutionise the way Knorr communicates on pack without losing recognition, focused on communicating naturalness and freshness which consumers are really searching for. The new designs hit all our objectives achieving fantastic stand-out, especially in France.”

21733/Press Release – 2019.03.01

Gomel Glass

Gomel Glass has opened a container plant after reconstruction in Gomel, Belarus.

The plant will produce glass container packaging for baby food, milk juices and canned food.

Valery Chekhovsky, Director of the glassworks, said: “The best environmentally friendly packaging material is glass packaging. It is categorically lacking in Europe, Russia and Belarus. About 300 million bottles a year are produced in Belarus; the need is about 700 million.”

It will produce 134 drops of hot glass per minute. The machines will ensure the production of 200 million items per year.

Vladimir Nachatoy, Director of the parent company of the glass factory, said: “In Europe, from next year there is a complete ban on plastic packaging. We have opened a large export potential. We already have contracts. Under previously concluded contracts, approximately 35% of all products will be exported, which will give additional foreign exchange earnings.”

The Head of State has urged manufacturers to avoid plastic packaging. Milk and dairy products, canned vegetables and fruits, as well as soft drinks can be packed into glass, which Belarusians export and produce for the domestic market.

Mr Nachatoy said: “Products have already been sold almost a year in advance. Investors do not hide their joy and say: if you could double the issue, you would have done it already. From the first day the plant capacity is 100% loaded. For hundreds of Gomel residents, this means stable earnings and the well-being of their families.”

The bottles will be exported as both a package of Belarusian products and an independent product. It will begin shipping to Europe and a batch of 500,000 bottles will be delivered to Latvia.

Mr Nachatoy added: “The company created 280 new jobs. To recoup 13 million rubles invested in the modernisation, investors are planning over the next four years. According to forecasts of business analysts, it is during this period that the global market for glass containers is growing.”

The food industry is gaining special importance from the Government and is expected to be one of the most important components of the national economy in the near future.



The project will satisfy the local needs of glass containers, which are currently imported from outside sources at high costs, in addition to exporting some of its products to neighbouring Arab markets, particularly Lebanon, Jordan, Syria and Iraq. These countries suffer from a severe shortage in the availability of glass containers since they do not have any glass containers produced domestically, while their needs are very large given the size and importance of their food industries. It is expected that the project will be a good opportunity to compete in these countries as well as other global markets.

21734/Press Release – 2019.02.18

Stoelzle

Quali Glass Coat 2.0 a new process reducing the finishing carbon footprint by 77 per cent and Stoelzle continues to combine innovation and environmental commitment.



The relevance of the Quali Glass Coat 2.0 process compared to the traditional liquid paint process was assessed through the Life Cycle Assessment (LCA). This work carried out by EVEA an independent consulting firm in eco-design and Life Cycle Analysis, involved evaluating the environmental performance of 1 year of glass finishing at Stoelzle Masnières, considering 10 impact indicators on water, soil and air.

Results showed that the environmental benefit of the Quali Glass Coat 2.0 instead of liquid paint for glass finishing is minus 77 per cent CO₂, that is 556 T of CO₂ eq. avoided per year. This along with other commitments brings an average environmental benefit of 17% across all 10 indicators

A technology that brings a new finish to the market, a differentiation that liquid spraying cannot bring. The coverage rate is higher than traditional lacquering, it masks certain defects and provides better mechanical resistance.

This powder paint decoration process, first introduced in 2018, is now available in a wide range of colours for transparent, amber & opal bottles. This new 2019 generation allows the company to go even further in the search for creativity and personalisation of bottles and jars. In addition, on opaque vials, very fine laser engravings can now be added.

Etienne Gruyez, Ceo at Stoelzle Masnieres Parfumerie said “We already offer many sophisticated and innovative decoration techniques. With Quali Glass Coat 2.0. we have developed an eco-responsible glass powder coating technique that we further improved in 2019 and that allows us to lose only 3 to 4 per cent of the material. In addition, the impact of CO2 is reduced by 77 per cent compared to liquid paint. Empty vials can also be reused, powdered and redecorated. This gives us the opportunity to work on small quantities while respecting the environment.”

21735/Press Release – 2019.02.12

Gerresheimer

GERRESHEIMER

Gerresheimer AG closed a successful financial year 2018. Attaining its goals, Gerresheimer has excellently paved the way for profitable future growth.

With a strong fourth quarter, Gerresheimer increased revenues at constant exchange rates by 4.3 per cent from 1,348.3m euros to 1,406.7m euros in the financial year 2018. Reported revenues, meaning after exchange rate changes and acquisitions, grew in the financial year 2018 by 1.4 per cent to 1,367.7m. euros. Organically revenues were up 3.4 per cent on the prior year.

The business with injection vials, ampoules and cartridges in the US saw a clear recovery in 2018. Moulded glass also progressed well, with cosmetic glass products experiencing especially strong demand.

Adjusted EBITDA at constant exchange rates was 308.0m euros in the financial year 2018 compared with 310.8m euros in the prior year.

Net income, at 131.1m euros in 2018, was significantly up on the 103.1m euros prior-year figure. Adjusted net income after non-controlling interests came to 178.0m euros, compared with 127.5m euros in the prior year. These improvements are mainly attributable to the positive impacts of the US tax reform.

The Company set the course for further productivity gains and growth in 2018 with 114.7m euros in capital expenditure. Capital expenditure in the Plastics and Devices Division focused on the expansion of inhaler production in the USA and the Czech Republic, additions to the product portfolio and enlargement of production capacity. In the Primary Packaging Glass Division, capital expenditure mainly related to scheduled furnace repairs in the US and Germany, production plant modernization and automation, and expansion of finishing capabilities at the German cosmetic glass plant in Tettau.

Dietmar Siemssen CEO of Gerresheimer AG commented “We have a sound plan for 2019, which entails building up further growth impetus in the medium and long term. At the same time, we will continue to strive for excellence, sharpen our customer focus and foster our workforce. In addition to our strong core business, we will identify new projects and areas, which will drive sustainable, profitable growth, making Gerresheimer even more successful,”.

21736/Press Release – 2019.02.15

Miscellaneous

FEVE

1. Glass packaging Recycling Rate Stable at 74%

Latest industry data on glass recycling confirms that over 12 million tons of glass bottles and jars are collected and recycled in Europe, with an average glass recycling rate in the EU28 of 74% (1). Glass remains the best performing food grade closed loop in the world. The latest industry data have a two-year time lag dating from 2016.

This figure should be set to rise. With the Circular Economy now at the forefront of the political agenda, EU Member States have committed to ambitious targets on municipal waste reduction and glass packaging recycling. This signals a renewed investment in separate collection for glass packaging in the coming years, which will engage consumers, municipalities, Extended Producer Responsibility schemes, recyclers and manufacturers in a collaborative effort to collect, sort and treat the glass that is currently leaking from the system.

“As an industry we commit to actually recycle all collected glass of sufficient quality in the closed loop. An estimated 90% of what is collected goes into creating new bottles from old ones, offering brands and consumers a food grade quality recycled material. Today, recycled glass is our most important raw material, which brings us major environmental benefits, and energy savings”, commented Adeline Farrelly, FEVE Secretary General.

Our recent study on glass packaging recycling (2) demonstrates that countries such as Austria and Sweden have gone beyond 90% collection for recycling rates by installing bottle bank systems and investing in consumer awareness. Tailored solutions will need to be found locally, but separating glass from the other materials is the best investment for public authorities to meet the new glass recycling targets. Our recent consumer research suggests that particularly for millennials, environmental credentials drive their product choice, and that the take-back culture for glass packaging is very strong where there is bottle bank infrastructure in place (3).

“Consumers have a strong connection with glass packaging, which is for them more than just a packaging”, she continued. “Over ten years ago, the industry decided to invest in consumer communications (www.friendsofglass.com) to raise awareness about the importance of glass recycling and the other key assets of glass packaging. We want to help bridge the collection gap, but clearly cannot do so on our own. Efforts across the value chain are needed.”

The average 74% EU glass collection for recycling rate masks a variety of situations between countries. If we look at performance rates, on the one side, we find countries in the ‘Over 90%’ top league: Belgium, Finland, Austria, Sweden and Slovenia where separate collection schemes for glass perform very well and provide a high quality

secondary raw material for the industry. On the opposite side we find countries in the 'Under 40%' league: Greece, Hungary, Slovak Republic, Malta, Romania where the collection culture and, consequently the glass collection schemes have important potential for growth. Looking at overall volumes of glass collected, the picture in larger countries such as France, Italy, the UK, Poland or Spain is different. In conclusion, each country is different and will need its own focused and tailored strategy to ensure top class glass recycling. In conclusion, each country is different and will need its own focused and tailored strategy to ensure top class glass recycling.

- (1) - See FEVE Recycling Statistics published on the FEVE website www.feve.org
- (2) - See <https://feve.org/study-on-impact-assessment-of-deposit-return-schemes>
- (3) - See <http://content.presspage.com/uploads/1081/friendsofglass-reportonpackaging-2017.pdf?10000>



2. Glass Packaging Demand Continues to Grow In Europe, Driven by Consumer Engagement in Sustainable Consumption Lifestyle

Glass packaging production in Europe grew by 1% in volume (tonnes) and by 1% in unit terms in the first half year 2018 compared to the previous half year according to data published today by the European Container Glass Federation, FEVE. The growth is in line with the Full Year 2017 data, which recorded a growth of 2% in weight terms and 2.4% in units and compares favourably with the historical trend since 2012. Between 2012-2017, production has increased by almost 1.7 million tonnes (8.3% increase) or 6.4 billion units (8.9% increase). Generally, all food and beverage market segments experienced a demand growth for glass, and the outlook is very positive also for the flaconnage sector for perfumery, cosmetics and pharmacy.

We are encouraged by this positive trend which confirms our belief that brands and consumers are switching to glass for environmental reasons”, comments Adeline Farrelly – FEVE Secretary General.

This positive market dynamic for glass reflects an increasing consumer engagement with environmental causes. Consumers – and particularly millennials – are increasingly aware of the impact their daily lifestyle can have on the environment: ‘plastics pollution’ has been amongst the most searched topics on Google in 2018 in UK. Sustainability is no longer a ‘buzzword’, now consumers see a direct link between their purchasing behaviour and major environmental issues, and they want to know more about the products they buy, and the way brands behave. According to a Unilever survey carried out in 2017, more than one in five (21%) of the people surveyed said they would actively choose brands if they made their sustainability credentials clearer on their packaging and in their marketing. A recent Europe-wide survey carried out with the Friends of Glass community states 78% of Europeans pay more attention on the environmental impact of their daily life and actions.

Due to the level of media and political attention on “marine littering”, not only plastics but all packaging materials have come under the spotlight, and consumers are more and more attentive to the way products are packed. In fact, this can drive product choice: the Friends of Glass research reveals that 73% of Europeans rate glass as the most ocean-friendly packaging, 78% rank it amongst top packaging choices when buying their food and beverage products, and 1 in 2 consumers say they use more glass than three years ago.

“This increased trust in glass from consumers is heartening for our industry. We are constantly making efforts to optimize the unique recycling properties of glass into a business model that is an authentic example of a Circular Economy. We work hard to improve our production technologies and product characteristics, to reduce energy use and minimize any environmental impact by using recycled glass.” says Adeline Farrelly.

Glass is more than ever the leading packaging material for spirits, wines and beer, while it is increasingly gaining share in the food, water and dairy sectors. It is the second leading packaging material in Europe in terms of volume. The industry is strongly committed to champion glass as packaging of the future.

21738/Press Release – 2019.02.18

British Glass Responds To Claim That Glass Is Worse Than Plastic

British Glass has rebutted a claim by Coca-Cola that glass could be more damaging to the environment than plastic.

Dave Dalton, Chief Executive at British Glass, said: “Recycling glass is straightforward, unlike recycling many other packaging materials. A glass bottle is re-melted back into a glass bottle. And glass doesn’t deteriorate no matter how many times it’s recycled.”

Glass is infinitely recyclable back into new bottles and jars. Whether it’s a bottle of wine from Argentina or a jar of marmalade from Oxford, glass can go directly into the local recycling infrastructure. A used bottle or jam jar is always 100% recyclable.

Figures from the European Glass Container Manufacturers’ Federation (FEVE) show that the amount of energy used to produce a tonne of glass has been halved over the last forty years.

Mr Dalton continued: “We call on Government to invest more decisively in infrastructure to help improve the recovery of used glass. We view every gram as a precious resource.

“We can see a future where glass is manufactured using only renewable energy and previously used glass, so becoming a zero-carbon material. But to make this a reality, we need a robust collection of infrastructure that is convenient for consumers.”

Glass manufacturers in the UK recycle almost 70% of all glass packaging sold in the UK, and are working hard with the Government and local authorities to match the levels reached in other countries. Belgium, Slovenia and Sweden have already achieved more than 95%.

21739/Press Release – 2019.01.31

Binder+Co Technology Recycles Norway’s Container Glass

Sirkel Materialgjenvinning AS from Oslo recently commissioned Binder+Co for the delivery of a recycling plant for glass in Fredrikstad.

Sirkel Materialgjenvinning AS from Oslo, the only glass recycler of packaging glass in Norway, is situated in Fredrikstad, recently commissioned Binder+Co for the delivery of a recycling plant for glass in Fredrikstad. This installation will be the most modern one of its type and can process 45 tons of collected glass and metal per hour. The glass is sorted as of a size of 5 mm into different coloured products (clear, green and brown glass), and metal is sorted into ferrous and non-ferrous fractions.

The recycling company from Norway has used technology from Binder+Co for more than 25 years. Hence, not only was the existing waste glass recovery plant from the year 1992 designed, built and subsequently expanded several times by Binder+Co, but know-how from Binder+Co is also used in the customer’s plant for foam glass production with the DRYON fluidized bed dryer.



The new plant will provide Sirkel Materialgjenvinning with the greatest possible flexibility in the processing of its products. Depending on the requirement, the customer can recover the entire quantity of recycled glass in the highest quality for sale or use part of the glass cullet for foam glass production. With this concept, Binder+Co ensures the maximum material yield for Sirkel Materialgjenvinning.

This order substantiates the company's market leadership in the recovery of waste glass and, at almost 14 million euros, it is the biggest order awarded to Binder+Co in the recycling area, as Jörg Rosegger, Member of the Executive Board of Binder+Co AG explains. Through its broad range of machines for processing bulk material, Binder+Co AG is able to supply the complete process to Sirkel Materialgjenvinning, from glass crushing, continuing with screening and cullet sublimation up to sensor-based sorting. In order to optimally prepare the waste cullet for sorting Binder+Co has developed cullet sublimation. The essential process steps are drying, cleaning, polishing and dust removal.

In Norway, glass and metal cans are logistically collected together. Therefore, both recyclable materials are processed in the new plant. Besides pre-treatment with screening, metal separation, comminution and organic separation, the plant includes metals processing by separation of ferrous and non-ferrous metals as well as the so-called cullet sublimation, which is decisive for the efficiency of the subsequent sorting stages of the coarse and fine fractions.

The sorting stages with 16 CLARITY sensor-based systems are the heart of the plant. They produce mono-fractions of flint, green and brown glass cullet. The glass is separated from any interfering glass ceramics and leaded glass with patented UV technology.

In this project, Binder+Co takes over both the machine technology as well as delivery of the complete plant from the structural steelwork up to extensive peripherals such as pipelines, chutes and electrical installations. Acceptance of the waste glass recycling plant is slated for the end of September 2019.

21740/Press Release – 2019.02.08

Soma Refillable Bottle

Evian is excited to reveal its first refillable glass water bottle designed by Virgil Abloh in collaboration with Soma.

Evian is excited to reveal its first refillable glass water bottle designed by Virgil Abloh the Creative Advisor for Sustainable Innovation Design. When Virgil Abloh joined Evian® in December 2018, they have been working closely together to explore new ways for consumers to hydrate. The limited-edition Soma bottle is a refillable glass water bottle which has been designed by Virgil Abloh ready for the New York and London Fashion Weeks period of which Evian is the leading water partner.



The limited-edition 17oz. water bottle in collaboration with SOMA is made of glass, with a bamboo lid and a white, protective silicone sleeve with “Evian” branding printed in grey, and “RAINBOW INSIDE” written vertically. The bottle is available with the text in 4 different colours, pink, purple, light blue, and dark blue. The standard SOMA bottle retails for around 30 US dollars, but the price for this limited-edition version is not yet available. This limited-edition Soma bottle will soon be available exclusively at matchesfashion.com

21741/Press Release – 2019.02.12

DOMESTIC TABLEWARE AND CRYSTAL GLASS

Glass Companies

Libbey Inc.

Libbey reports annual net sales growth of 2.1 percent and announces strategic alternatives review of its China-based business; introduces outlook for fiscal-year 2019.

Full-year 2018 Financial & Operating Highlights

- Net sales were \$797.9 million, compared to \$781.8 million for full-year 2017, a 2.1 percent increase (or an increase of 1.5 percent, excluding a \$4.3 million currency impact).
- Net loss was \$8.0 million, compared to a net loss of \$93.4 million during the full-year 2017, which included a \$79.7 million non-cash goodwill impairment charge associated with the Latin America segment.
- New products, defined as products introduced within the previous 36 months, contributed \$54.1 million in net sales, or 6.8 percent of total net sales.
- E-commerce sales were approximately 12.1 percent of total U.S. & Canada retail sales, an increase of 34.1 percent compared to the full-year 2017.

Libbey®

- Adjusted EBITDA was \$71.0 million, compared to \$70.6 million for full-year 2017.
- Net sales in the U.S. & Canada segment increased 0.4 percent, driven by higher volume, partially offset by unfavourable channel mix.
- In Latin America, net sales increased 2.6 percent (an increase of 3.6 percent excluding currency fluctuation) as a result of higher volume and favourable pricing. The increase was achieved despite unfavourable product mix in the retail and business-to-business channels and an unfavourable currency impact.
- Net sales in the EMEA segment increased 9.0 percent and were favourably impacted by \$5.1 million of currency. Favourable pricing on product mix sold in all three channels, as well as higher sales volume in the retail and business-to-business channels, also contributed to year-over-year improvement.
- Net sales in Other were down primarily as a result of lower sales volume in China, partially offset by favourable price and product mix and a favourable currency impact.

2019 Outlook and Strategic Alternatives Review of China Business

The Company anticipates that uncertain, global macroeconomic conditions, as well as a challenging competitive environment, will continue through the first half of 2019, but expects to offset some of those pressures through continued execution against its strategic plan.

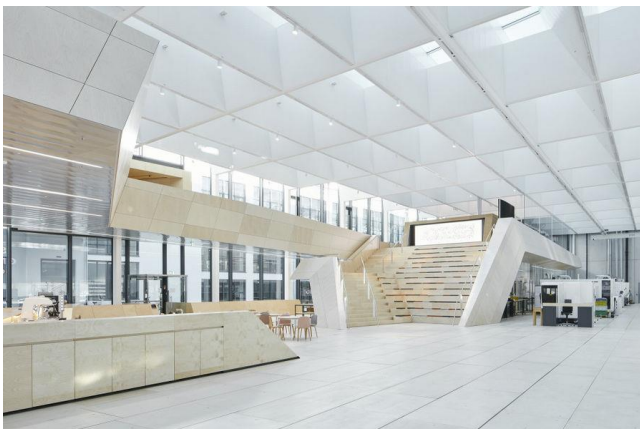
21742/Press Release – 2019.02.20

Swarovski

SWAROVSKI

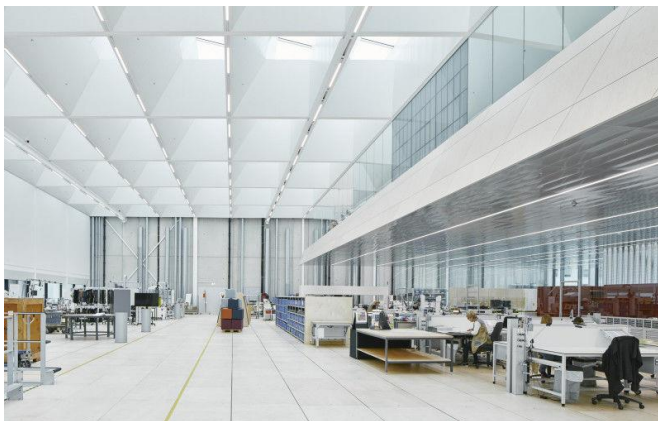
Located in Wattens, Austria, the Swarovski factory is undergoing renovation. The new version, called Swarovski Manufaktur, is intended as "the crystal workshop of the 21st century", and brings together all the actors and processes of manufacturing the products. It is designed by the Norwegian architects Snøhetta, Swarovski Manufaktur is presented as "the 21st century crystal workshop".

Swarovski's historic production site in Wattens, Austria is getting a makeover! Designed by the Norwegian architects Snøhetta, Swarovski Manufaktur is presented as "the 21st century crystal workshop".



Faithful to its time, the place is meant to be inclusive: it brings together customers, designers, artists, researchers, technicians and operators, as well as all the different product manufacturing processes, such as "rapid prototyping", which makes it possible to produce parts quickly from computer-designed models.

To encourage creativity, the architects wanted to create a "specific atmosphere". Natural light is diffused everywhere thanks to the numerous openings of the ceiling. Numbering 135, these "cassettes" of six by three meters are directly integrated in the steel structure and are protected by a coating filtering the sun's rays.



The ceiling and walls are also lined with sound insulation that absorbs all noise. Despite the machines next door, it is possible to be understood without having to raise his voice.

The modification of the workshop is part of the Swarovski campus renovation project, which the company opened in 1995 and where the company's products are manufactured. It also includes the creation of a new factory next door.

Founded in 1895 in Wattens by Daniel Swarovski, the brand quickly specialized in the manufacture and polishing of crystals, and became one of the main suppliers of these throughout the world. The Austrian historic site, with its campus, now employs around 5,000 people. The brand has production sites in India, Thailand, Vietnam, Serbia and the United States.

21743/Press Release – 2019.02.13

Saint-Louis



For the prestigious Manufacture Saint-Louis, the first private employer in the Pays de Bitche, the 2018 report was quite satisfactory, despite a rather turbulent national and international situation.

"Ask our teams on rue Royale in Paris if they worked a lot on Saturdays in December. This has been quite limited," says Jérôme de Lavergnolle, the president and CEO of the glassworks.

And yet, Saint-Louis ended the year again with growth of more than 5% in 2017. Thanks in particular to bold collections.

In 2018, the crystalline factory continued its development in the light segment. "A special order from the French Comedy for example has demonstrated our expertise in tailor-made. As part of the restoration of the Mounet-Sully room, which was once used for the rehearsal of the actors, Saint-Louis has achieved a masterly chandelier of 85 lights, with 6,000 pieces of crystal, inspired by an engraving by Pierre Fontaine de 1830," continues the CEO.

The art of the cocktail being in the air of time, the house Saint-Louis has just rethought his Manhattan collection. The 13 objects in the collection, including new accessories such as jigger and shaker, bring together the essentials of mixology, from preparation to tasting. This beautiful collection was presented for the first time to the press and influencers during a Music & Cocktail Party, organized in Paris.

Internationally, the expansion of Saint-Louis continued with the opening of two new sales outlets in Chengdu (China) and Dubai (United Arab Emirates). "In early 2019, the economic context of our country is still difficult. But our house will continue its development by asserting itself as an innovative brand and in motion," says Jérôme de Lavergnolle. And to support this evolution, large store openings are still planned, in Saudi Arabia, China and Kazakhstan.

21744/Press Release – 2019.01.27

Lalique

LALIQUÉ

Lalique manufactured a barrel all in crystal, including rivets. Inside, 225 litres of Sauternes. This unique piece in the world, signed Lalique workshops, adorns for some weeks the castle Lafaurie-Peyraguey in French Gironde, which celebrates 400 years. The barrel, which has the size and shape of a Bordeaux barrel, weighs nearly 400 kilos once filled with the precious sweet wine Sauternes. Its hoops are leather.



Its transparent background is illustrated with a reproduction of a René Lalique engraving of 1928 entitled "Woman and Grape", which also appears on the bottles of this first Grand Cru Classé in 1855.

Twelve trades and two years of work were needed to realize, assemble and decorate it in Lalique workshops in Wingen-sur-Moder (Bas-Rhin). Its price has not been revealed.

This piece was created on the occasion of the 400th anniversary of Château Lafaurie-Peyraguey, owned by the Lalique Group and its CEO Silvio Denz. "The idea is to make it an object of exhibition to testify of this convergence between the crystal and the wine. The crystal that dresses the wine is a world first," said David Bolzan, Director General of Vignobles Silvio Denz.

It is made to be on display because it is too fragile and too heavy to use. It contains the first vintage that Silvio Denz did: 2013. It represents a "merger between Sauternes gold and Alsace crystal," according to the group.

This exceptional piece is on display in one of the cellars of this château, which also houses a luxury hotel-restaurant. It was blessed on December 3, 2018 by a priest, just in the chapel adjoining the cellars.

The barrel is the latest in a series of unique crystal pieces on display at the château's wine library, including an Imperial (six-litre bottle) and a six-bottle transparent case.

221745/Press Release – 2019/02

Baccarat

The famous crystal factory has taken a new step: it has just unveiled its first true furniture collection, Baccarat La Maison, made with the expertise of Luxury Living. This Italian specialist in high-end furniture already manufactures Fendi Casa furniture, Ritz Paris Home Collection, Bentley Home, among others.

The project was initiated two years ago by Alberto Vignatelli, then boss of Luxury Living, who died in December 2017. "My father loved Baccarat, but he had a very classic vision of what this collection should be," says Raffaella Vignatelli, who took over the reins of the group. Last year, with Daniela Riccardi (CEO of Baccarat, Ed), we decided to continue the adventure but starting from scratch. We wondered who the brand's customers really were, what their expectations were. It seemed essential to offer timeless and important pieces, with or without crystal. "

Baccarat



Fifteen lines were developed, dedicated to the living room, the dining room and the bedroom, whose furniture was made by Italian craftsmen and crystal pieces by the best workers in France from the Lorraine factory. "With his glasses, his vases, his objects, Baccarat is an integral part of the interiors, but we lacked something," says Daniela Riccardi. They were placed on tables, pedestal tables that were not ours. With Raffaelfa, we have chosen designers who can create a cocooning atmosphere for creations, to create seats in which our customers tell us that they want to sit down, as they tell us that they want to drink their food. wine in our glasses. Among them, Gilles & Boissier who previously worked on the Baccarat hotel in New York, Chafik, who signed two collections, Alban Le Henry and the in-house team of Luxury Living.

<https://www.baccarat.fr/fr/la-legende-de-baccarat/lieux-emblematiques/?scrollto=lob-emam-maisons>

21746/Press Release – 2019.01.25

REINFORCEMENT GLASS FIBRES

Glass Companies

Owens-Corning



Owens Corning reported full year consolidated net sales were \$7.1 billion, an increase of 11% compared with net sales of \$6.4 billion in 2017.

Full-year 2018 net earnings attributable to Owens Corning were \$545 million, compared with \$289 million during 2017. Adjusted earnings in 2018 were \$550 million, compared with \$498 million during 2017.

"Owens Corning had another record year in terms of revenue and adjusted EBIT, with all three businesses delivering double-digit EBIT margins," said Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Mike Thaman. "Today, Owens Corning is a more resilient and diversified company, better able to generate attractive returns for investors through the cycle."

2019 Outlook

- The company expects an environment consistent with consensus expectations for global industrial production growth, U.S. housing starts, and global commercial and industrial construction growth.
- In Insulation, the company expects a flat macroeconomic outlook for the North America residential fiberglass insulation business. In this business, the company expects continued positive pricing momentum to be offset by lower volumes and production curtailments. In the technical and other building insulation businesses, the company expects earnings growth driven by improved operating performance and growth in global construction and industrial insulation markets.

- In Composites, the company expects growth in the glass fibre market consistent with global industrial production growth, with a more uncertain global economic environment. The company expects volume growth and improved operating performance to be offset by inflation.
- In Roofing, the company expects relatively flat U.S. shingle end-market demand with industry shipments slightly below last year, assuming average storm demand. For Owens Corning, the company anticipates a favourable geographic mix comparison with the prior year and a higher share of shipments. Contribution margins entering 2019 position the business for continued strong performance.

21747/Press Release – 2019.02.20

Lanxess / Bond Laminates GmbH



Tepex continuous-fibre-reinforced thermoplastic composites are among the few composite materials of their type worldwide to be gaining a foothold in the mass production of lightweight components. That is why Bond-Laminates GmbH, the manufacturer of Tepex and a subsidiary of specialty chemicals company LANXESS, will be putting Tepex's new large-scale production applications right at the centre of its activities at the 2019 JEC World Composites Show & Conference in Paris.

"The success of Tepex is built on our diversified product range, one that features distinct differentiation by application. At the same time, the number of technologies allowing cost-effective processing of complex, highly integrated lightweight components with high-quality surfaces is growing all the time," explains Dr. Dirk Bonefeld, who is responsible for areas including sales in the Consumer Electronics and Sport application segments at Bond-Laminates.

Owing to high demand for Tepex – primarily from the automotive and IT industries – LANXESS is currently carrying out a major expansion of its production facilities for the structural material in Brilon, Germany. As Bonefeld comments, "We are on schedule to have two additional production lines up and running by mid-2019."

New applications in light weight design and electric mobility

The new applications for Tepex in lightweight automotive design include door module carriers for a German mid-size vehicle, front end carriers of SUVs (sport utility vehicles) for the US market and rear seats for a German luxury car. "Series production applications such as carriers for electrical and electronics modules and components of lithium-ion battery modules are emerging in the field of electric mobility," states Henrik Plaggenborg, head of Tepex Automotive, looking to the future of the sector.

On a par with new goods

One example of materials currently under development comes in the form of Tepex product types made from recycled fibres in a matrix of recycled thermoplastic material. "Tests on initial material samples have already demonstrated that these types of recycled material are on a par in terms of mechanical and flame-retardant properties with their equivalents made from new materials," explains Bonefeld.

In-mould decoration

One example of a new processing technology opening up new areas of application for Tepex is a hybrid manufacturing process. It combines hybrid moulding with in-mould decoration (IMD) technology. “The painting of components made using hybrid moulding can be integrated into the injection moulding tool. This simplifies the entire process, and saves having to use a painting line,” comments Bonefeld.

Directly paintable laptop lids

Typical applications for Tepex in the IT industry include the lids of laptops, tablets and smartphones. These tend to be made using the hybrid moulding method. This involves the semi-finished composite product being formed in an injection moulding tool and then being given additional features such as reinforcing ribs, guide channels and snap fits by means of injection moulding. “Not having to use a forming tool, the high level of automation and the short cycle times coupled with limited waste result in a production process that, despite higher costs for the injection moulding tool, is much more cost-effective than the separate forming and back injection moulding methods previously used for the semi-finished product, or other processes based on thermoset plastics or even light metals,” explains Bonefeld. Not only that, but the method also produces smooth, directly paintable surfaces and eliminates the need to apply a filler layer that levels out small rough spots such as sink marks and microholes.

21748/Press Release – 2019.02.28

SPECIAL GLASS

Glass Companies

Corning

1. Corning Incorporated introduced its latest breakthrough in glass substrates for the semiconductor industry – **Advanced Packaging Carriers**. This enhanced line of glass carrier wafers is optimized for fan-out processes, a type of cutting-edge semiconductor packaging that enables smaller, faster chips for consumer electronics, automobiles, and other connected devices.

Corning Advanced Packaging Carriers feature three significant improvements:

- Fine granularity in a wide range of available coefficients of thermal expansion (CTE)
- High stiffness composition
- Rapid sampling availability



CORNING

These attributes are important for customers pursuing fan-out packaging because:

- Fine granularity enables customers to more easily select the optimal CTE needed to minimize in-process warp.
- Precise CTE offerings thereby help reduce customers' development cycle time. Corning's high stiffness compositions help further reduce in-process warp. Minimizing warp helps maximize their yield of packaged chips.
- Rapid sampling availability also contributes to reduced development time and enables customers to move to the mass production phase more quickly.

"We created Corning Advanced Packaging Carriers especially for our customers pursuing the most challenging types of chip manufacturing processes," said Rustom Desai, commercial director of Corning Precision Glass Solutions.

21749/Press Release – 2019.01.20

2. Corning Incorporated announced results for full-year 2018.

All businesses delivered full-year sales growth powered by adoption of innovations and strategic growth investments

- Optical Communications full-year sales growth of 18% for second consecutive year puts business on pace to exceed goal of \$5 billion in 2020 sales, with continued growth beyond.
- Specialty Materials full-year sales growth of 5% follows exceptional 2017 growth of 25%, driven by adoption of latest Corning innovations.
- Environmental Technologies full-year sales growth accelerated to 17%, driven by adoption of gasoline particulate filters (GPF).
- Display Technologies sales grew 4% as the company ramped its new Gen 10.5 facility and reached important milestone of mid-single-digit percentage year-over-year price declines in the second half.
- Life Sciences full-year sales were up 8%, as the business continued to outpace market growth.

Corning expects continued growth in 2019 and beyond, driven by benefits from its investments as well as adoption of technologies well-aligned to key industry trends and Corning's cohesive portfolio

21750/Press Release – 2019.01.29

Gauzi

The material science specialist Gauzy will build its second factory to produce smart glass by Research Frontiers in Stuttgart, Germany.

It has partnered up with developer Research Frontiers to produce SPD-Smart light control film, including automotive and architectural applications.

Eyal Peso, CEO of Gauzy, said: "Our manufacturing facility will be strategically located in Stuttgart near our key automotive customers. We have already completed five months of design work and have acquired the production site. We are investing millions of euros to build this state-of-the-art facility with specifically-designed coating and curing areas that that will give Gauzy the capacity to coat over one million square meters of SPD film per year."

Gauzy expects the new facility to be in production within the next six months. SPD-Smart light control film, invented and patented by Research Frontiers, is a key component in SPD SmartGlass products. The film allows users to instantly, precisely and uniformly control the shading of glass or plastic products, either manually or automatically. Products using Research Frontiers' smart glass technology are being used in tens of thousands of cars, aircrafts, yachts, trains, homes, offices, museums and other buildings.

21751/Press Release – 2019.02.04

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DIVERSE

SEMINARS / CONFERENCES / WORKSHOPS

Glass Technology Services (GTS) Training Programme 2019



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

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

Please find herewith the list of the courses for 2019:

16-18 April 2019	Glass failure analysis (3 day course);
Wednesday, 8 May 2019	Fundamentals of Glass (1 day course);
Tuesday, 9 September 2019	An introduction to glass packaging (1 day course);
Tuesday, 10 September 2019	Glass appreciation – an introduction to glass (1 day course);
Wednesday, 9 October 2019	#PharmaGlass (1 day workshop);
15-17 October 2019	Glass failure analysis (3 day course);
Wednesday, 13 November 2019	Fundamentals of Glass (1 day course);

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

21752/Glass Technology Services Press Release – 2018.12.13

DGG-USTV

The German Society of Glass Technology (DGG) and the French Union for Science and Glass Technology (USTV) are calling for papers for the 93rd annual joint meeting, which will take place on **13-15th May 2019 at the Maritim Hotel in Nürnberg, Germany**.

Seven sessions will take place.

- Session one will be held on 'High temperature properties/ Hot forming, secondary manufacturing, link properties structure/ Mechanic of Glass';
- Session two will cover 'Glass for Optics/Fibers/ Laser Application on Glass';
- Session three will demonstrate 'Glasses in Healthcare'
- Session four will be on 'Thermodynamics, Redox, Colour/ Furnace, Energy and Environment'.
- Session five will be held on 'Glass surface and alterations/coatings/Heritage';
- Session six will cover 'Glass Ceramic/Crystallization/nano-and microtexturation'
- Session seven will be 'modeling from the atom to the final product: Process control, data mining and deep learning in the glass industry.'

There will also be activities, including: the 'International School, Thermodynamics of Glass (TC3 ICG, USTV, DGG) in Erlangen, Sunday 12th May 2019; a special session of FunGlass – Centre for Functional and Surface Functionalized Glass; Oral and poster presentations on a variety of topics relating to glass; a students' special programme and workshops on the theme of glass in German.

The DGG-USTV conference is 14 days earlier than usual.

21753/Press Release – 2019.01.11

Glass Service

Glass Service (GS) will organise the 15th International Seminar on 'Furnace Design – Operation and Process Simulation' on **22-23rd May 2019** at Hotel Horal in **Velke Karlovice, Czech Republic**.

In conjunction with the seminar, the ICG Technical Committee 15 & 21 Meeting and GS Glass Furnace Model (GFM) User Meeting will be held on the 21st May.

Topics will focus on energy consumption and savings. This will include:

- Application of modelling – furnace design and forehearth simulation;
- modelling of combustion and electric melting;
- use of models in furnace operation and related advanced control;
- glass quality and yield improvement;
- glass forming simulation;
- CO2 reduction strategies and Industry 4.0 and hot end.

It will be aimed at those seeking to learn more about Industry 4.0 and the optimisation of glass melting furnaces with CFD simulation. Delegates can present and learn about the newest developments in the simulation of furnaces and advanced furnace control.

The seminar will focus on presentations that provide solutions to reduce CO2 emissions by 40% or more by the year 2030, following the Paris Climate agreement.

The event takes place every two years and brings together more than 150 glass experts from around the world to discuss the use of simulation and control tools, with the goal of optimising the glass melting and forming process.

Contributions will include invited lectures, regular lectures and posters. Oral presentations will be limited to 25 minutes plus five minutes for discussion. Posters will be presented in a separate session.

21754/Press Release – 2019.02.01

GPD Finland 2019

The Glass Performance Days (GPD) event in 2019 will celebrate its 27th year of service to the glass industry, **from 25 to 28 June 2019**.

The technical sessions of the conference and workshops will address the challenges the industry faces today regarding the ever-changing demands on City planning, building design, energy-efficiency and environmental fit. A special focus will be on the contribution of new glass technologies to these demands.

To see the registration fees and register, click:

<https://gpd.us10.list-manage.com/track/click?u=a865f4b251e1897d5ba548c9f&id=87148bfd9&e=c3eb320b90>

More general info at <https://gpd.fi/events/gpd-finland-2019/>.

21755/Press Release – 2019.01.17

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

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

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

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

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

A more complete programme will appear soon on the ICG website: www.icglass.org

Participation will be limited to 20 Glass Applications and 30 Glass Science applicants.

Pre-registration deadline 15 April 2019 by email to verres2019@mycema.fr.

Registration deadline 15 May 2019.

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Society of Glass Technology

SGT special conference on raw materials for glass making

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

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

The first speakers have been recently announced.

- Hans van Limpt of Sibelco will give an overview of the silica sand situation and future glass industry requirements.
- Tom Paterson the managing director of Fife Silica Sand and will discuss its contribution to the UK glass sand market.
- Diego Zurolo, General Manager of Loch Aline Sand Mine (LQS) will present a report about the position of LQS regarding the supply of their well-known high-quality sand.
- Professor Chris Rayner of C-Capture a branch from Whiterose.ac.uk a consortium consisting of Leeds, York and both Sheffield Universities, will speak about the CO2 stripping trial being carried out at Drax Power Station, the first such full-scale project in Europe.
- Nicola Johnson of Appleby Calumite will describe the history of Calumite use in the UK and Czech Republic and its role in lowering furnace emissions.

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

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

21757/Press Release – 2019.02.20

80th Annual Conference on Glass Problems



The 80th annual Conference on Glass Problems at the Greater Columbus Convention Centre in Columbus, Ohio **28–31 October 2019** invites engineers, educators, students, and solutions providers working on various aspects of glass manufacturing to submit an abstract for an oral presentation

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

This conference is the largest glass manufacturing conference in North America and attracts glass manufacturers and suppliers worldwide to exchange innovations and problem solutions. The conference is co-organized by the Glass Manufacturing Industry Council and Alfred University, and provides expert lectures, panel discussions and focused courses and symposia, along with exhibiting and networking opportunities.

The topics of interest for this convention broadly include glass melting & quality, combustion and heat transfer, refractories, process control, sensors and Industry 4.0, modelling of glass melting and processing, raw materials, batching and recycling, forming issues and container customization, environment safety, emissions and respirable silica, carbon reduction, energy management and electric boosting, furnace design and reconstruction, furnace life extension and maintenance and any new topics relevant to glass manufacturing.

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