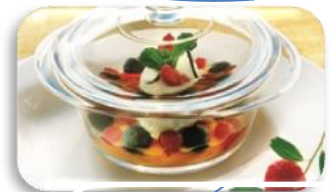


Container



Domestic



Fibres



Glass Alliance Europe



Building, Solar, Transport



Special



JANUARY 2017

Newsletter N°337

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INTERNAL NEWS

New Secretary-General for 2017



As usual at the beginning of each civil year, Glass Alliance Europe changes of Secretary-General. Succeeding to Bertrand CAZES, Secretary-General of **Glass for Europe** (Association of Europe's manufacturers of building, automotive and solar-energy glass), Adeline FARRELLY, Secretary-General of **FEVE** (European Container Glass Association), will be in charge of managing Glass Alliance Europe in 2017.

The 2017 annual work programme takes into account the Business Plan for 2016-2019 as well as the requests from members to maintain focus in activities on clearly defined and achievable objectives and to ground all positions and activities on consensus emerging between members on the common issues.

The 2017 annual work programme is mostly built around the rollover of all environmental dossiers (based on the European Commission annual work programme and roadmaps). It also includes proposals for activation of public affairs experts if and when specific public affairs and communication activities are deemed useful by the membership. Finally, this work programme leaves space for new issues to be dealt within Glass Alliance Europe. These needs are to be assessed on a case-by-case basis by the Executive Committee.

In terms of environmental dossiers, focus in 2017 will be as follows:

- ✓ Food contact: new values, overall migration limits, EURL work, specific concerns, Council of Europe.
- ✓ Respirable crystalline silica: regulation at EU level.
- ✓ Chemicals at Work (revision of the CMD – Carcinogens and Mutagens Directive - and of the CAD – Chemicals at the Workplace Directive): new working group.
- ✓ REACH: new substances proposed for classification; authorization and defence of raw materials as intermediates.
- ✓ Air quality policies: revised legislative proposal for Air Quality and National Emissions Ceilings (NEC) Directives, implementation of the IED Directive in Glass permits.
- ✓ ETS post 2020.

COMMUNITY NEWS

A. EU NEW LEGISLATION

Council Decisions

N° 2017/37 & 38 of 28 October 2016

EU / Canada and the CETA, EU-Canada free trade agreement

The Official Journal has published two Council Decisions on the signing and the provisional application of the CETA – Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement – between Canada and the European Union and its Member States.

The whole agreement is also provided.

All details and annexes in the Official Journal L11 at:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2017:011:TOC>

20245/Official Journal L11 – 2017.01.14

Commission Decision

N° EU 2017/126 of 24 January 2017

This Commission Decision amends as from 1st March 2017 Decision 2013/448/EU as regards the establishment of a **uniform cross-sectoral correction factor** in accordance with Article 10a of **Directive 2003/87/EC (EU ETS allocations legislation against greenhouse gases)**.

In consequence, Article 4 in the Decision 2013/448/EU shall be replaced by the following: 'Article 4 - The uniform cross-sectoral correction factor referred to in Article 10a(5) of Directive 2003/87/EC and determined in accordance with Article 15(3) of Decision 2011/278/EU is set out in Annex II to this Decision.'

Annex II shall be replaced by the following text:

The cross-sectoral correction factor values applying to allocations free of charge to installations not covered by Article 10a(3) of Directive 2003/87/EC for the years 2013-2020:

2013	89,207101 %	2017	82,905108 %
2014	87,657727 %	2018	81,288476 %
2015	86,090119 %	2019	79,651677 %
2016	84,506152 %	2020	78,009186 %

Full text at:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L..2017.019.01.0093.01.ENG&toc=OJ:L:2017:019:TOC>

20246/Official Journal L19 – 2017.01.25

B. TRADE POLICY

WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement To Enter Into Force Soon

Nepal submitted its instrument of ratification of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), bringing the number of countries that have ratified the agreement, concluded at the ninth ministerial conference of the WTO in December 2013, to 108. The TFA contains a raft of rules to simplify and streamline customs procedures and increase the participation of developing countries in global trade. Only two more ratifications of member countries are now needed to secure the entry into force of the TFA which, once fully in place, could reduce the costs of trade by 14.3%, benefiting the developing countries first and foremost, and swelling the volume of global trade in goods by \$1 trillion a year.

20247/Press Release – 2017.01.26

EU Possible Extension of Anti-Dumping Taxes on Chinese Solar Panels

On 21 December, the association of European solar module manufacturers (EUProSun) welcomed the European Commission's position that is clearly in favour of maintaining anti-dumping taxes on photovoltaic panels and solar modules imported from China.

In a preliminary report sent to the stakeholders as part of the investigation into the review of the measures currently in force, *"the European Commission concludes that the result of the expiry reviews and a partial interim review (...) should be the extension of the duties and Minimum Import Prices for an additional two years"*, EUProSun says in a press release. The Commission was reportedly of the opinion that *"the measures were necessary to counter anti-competitive dumping and enabled the EU industry to consolidate and reduce its costs significantly"*.

The Commission simply confirmed that the partial results of the ongoing review have been sent confidentially to the stakeholders. It will take account of the stakeholders' comments with a view to finalising its work by 3 March 2017 at the latest.

In mid-October, 403 European companies in the solar energy sector met under the banner of SolarPower Europe and called for the anti-dumping taxes to be lifted due to their having negative consequences on the whole value chain of the European solar industry and on the use of solar energy in Europe.

20248/Press Release – 2016.12.23

Maltese Presidency of Council Advocates Acceleration of Free Trade Negotiations with Asia-Pacific

Contrary to the inward looking behaviour initiated by new US President Donald Trump, the Maltese Presidency of the Council of the EU wants to bring progress to the free trade negotiations being conducted by the EU in all areas – bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral – and especially with the Asia-Pacific region, starting with Japan.

With the announcement of the USA's withdrawal from the TransPacific Partnership (TPP), *"there is an advantage for us to accelerate the negotiations with Japan and Mexico" and "other countries"* in the region, Australia and New Zealand and the ASEAN countries, Malta's Economy Minister Cardona stated.

In this spirit of strengthening links with the Asia-Pacific region, the first task of the Maltese Presidency will be to accompany the provisional implementation of the **EU-Canada free trade agreement (CETA)** – which is waiting for the Parliament's consent in February, following the green light given by the INTA committee on 24 January 2017.

The Maltese Presidency will also do its utmost to stimulate the conclusion of the **free trade negotiations with Japan**, which are approaching their end, and the continuation of the talks for **the free trade agreements launched in 2016 with Indonesia and the Philippines**.

Furthermore, the Presidency will also do its utmost to **update the comprehensive agreement with Mexico**, and will work on granting negotiating mandates for **free trade agreements with Australia and New Zealand**, and for **updating the free trade agreement with Chile**.

Valletta will moreover support the **continuation of the EU-Mercosur free trade negotiations**, which are on track after the exchange of offers on market access and an initial round of negotiations in October 2016.

In the EU neighbourhood, it will support the negotiations for a **free trade area with Tunisia**, and will also work on the negotiation mandate for the **modernisation of the customs union with Turkey**.

As regards the EU-US free trade negotiations (TTIP), which have been temporarily put on ice since Trump's election, *"we intend to consider what will become of them in the first six months"*, Cardona stated, showing caution as to the positioning of the Trump administration. *"These negotiations remain of major economic importance. But the EU will not accept an imbalanced agreement"*, he nevertheless stated.

The position of the new US administration will also be decisive for the continuation of the two plurilateral negotiations (for the Trade in Services Agreement – TiSA – and the Environmental Goods Agreement – EGA), for which the Maltese Presidency also wants to encourage the conclusion, Cardona stated. *"As regards the TiSA, a modern international agreement will enable the GATT to be replaced but it is important that the content of the agreement prevails"*, he said.

On the multilateral level, the Maltese Presidency will take care of the preparatory work for the 11th WTO ministerial conference in Buenos Aires in December, where the WTO member countries will try to obtain new significant results following on from the Nairobi conference in 2015.

On the legislative level, the Maltese Presidency intends to surf the *"good compromise based on a delicate balance"* made by the Slovak Presidency in December 2016 on the plan to **modernise the EU's trade defence instruments** with a view to negotiations in triadology.

It will also be for the Maltese Presidency to accompany the interinstitutional discussions on the Commission's proposal for a **new methodology for the anti-dumping calculation to settle the issue of China in the EU's anti-dumping investigations**, when the arrangements on China's WTO accession protocol expire. This is an issue on which Valletta *"wants to reach a fair and balanced proposal swiftly"*, Cardona stated.

In addition, the Maltese Presidency wants to work to promote the advantages of trade agreements better. *"Europe must be close to its citizens. We must be sensitive to the needs and demands of the stakeholders and public"*, Cardona said. *"Our trade agenda still has the aim of creating jobs. Trade policy must not be a policy of levelling downwards but must defend the EU's standards"*, he concluded.

Same Position from the EU Commission

"The EU is one of the world's most open economies, and remains committed to free and fair international trade, focused on the needs of citizens and aiming at ensuring the benefits of trade as widely as possible", European Commission spokesperson Margaritis Schinas told a press conference.

"The president of the Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, has repeatedly said that the EU's commitment to bringing progress to free trade remains unchanged. The EU is currently engaged in negotiations for almost 20 regional and bilateral trade agreements with different partners across the globe", he added.

Schinas stated that the EU was committed to the negotiation of free trade agreements or had negotiated free trade agreements "with all but one of the TPP signatories (*)". "Some negotiations, including those with Japan, have nearly come to a successful end and the ratification of agreements with Canada, Singapore and Vietnam is imminent", he said.

"We are determined to counter the trend towards unilateralism. Thirty-one million jobs depend on exports in the EU. The Commission is convinced that by working together with like-minded partners, we cannot just improve opportunities for our economy but shape globalisation to ensure it fits with our values in an open, fair and rules-based society. In a nutshell, Europe is open for business", Schinas said.

(*) The 12 countries around the Pacific Ocean – Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, Vietnam and the USA – signed the TPP agreement in February 2016. This had been concluded in October 2015 to create an enormous free trade area.

20249/Press Release – 2017.01.24

European Parliament's International Trade Committee Backs CETA Ratification

MEPs from the European Parliament's international trade (INTA) committee adopted (25 votes in favour, 15 against and one abstention) the draft recommendation by Artis Pabriks (EPP, Latvia) to ratify and provisionally implement the EU-Canada free trade agreement (CETA) that was signed on 30 November 2016.

"This is a strong and important signal in favour of the regulation of globalisation", the chair of the INTA committee, Bernd Lange (S&D, Germany), was pleased to state.

"CETA is the best example of a 21st century trade agreement. It shows that the EU can shape globalisation", the rapporteur Pabriks said.

"By adopting CETA, we are making a leap forwards. In the face of the rise in protectionism and populism, the European Parliament is able and willing to act on behalf of European citizens. I am strongly in favour of a strong Europe and open markets.

Ratifying this agreement will ensure a continuing contribution of wealth on both sides of our transatlantic friendship. The duty of our governments is to ensure that each of us can benefit from this", Pabriks said before the vote.

His draft recommendation will be put to the **plenary vote in Strasbourg on 15 February**. If this new milestone is reached, CETA will enter into force provisionally, possibly from March, according to European Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström, as long as it is also ratified by the Canadian Parliament – which is also due to give its decision in February. CETA was declared a "mixed agreement" by the Commission but will nevertheless have to be ratified by all the national and regional parliaments of the EU in order to enter fully into force. This procedure may take several years.

"This agreement will allow European companies access to more public procurement and protection of over 150 geographical indications in Canada. At the same time, CETA does not challenge our public services or European standards and it preserves our choices of society", said French EPP MEPs Tokia Saïfi and Franck Proust. They nevertheless called for close monitoring of CETA's implementation in order to address any "dysfunction".

With CETA, "the most progressive trade deal ever", "we are rejecting unfettered globalization and laying the foundations for a new era of rules-based trade, where the benefits are spread more widely and our labour and environmental standards are preserved", David Martin (S&D, UK) said on behalf of his group. "While globally the tendency is to turn in on oneself, the EU and Canada are leading the way towards a world trading system that is open for business without compromising our values or way of life", he added.

"The CETA deal is a landmark for free trade. Today's approval by the European Parliament's INTA committee will help restore the EU's reputation as a reliable trading partner after the deal was held up by socialist politicians in the Belgian region of Wallonia. This is one of the highest quality agreements ever negotiated and clearly highlights the benefits of free trade", Emma McClarkin (ECR, UK) stated.

"In the light of President Trump's many comments on trade policy and his cancellation of the Trans-Pacific-Partnership (TPP), it is now more important than ever that there is no further delay in the approval of CETA. We have to forge alliances with Canada and other partners in the world. The EU and Canada must work together to strengthen the multilateral system", Guy Verhofstadt (ALDE, Belgium) said.

"This green light given by the conservatives, the liberal democrats and half of the socialists to a scandalous project to transfer our democratic and legal sovereignty to a handful of multinationals is (...) a red carpet for the far right", said Yannick Jadot (Greens/EFA, France) on behalf of his group. "The European Parliament has not learned a single lesson from the victory of Trump and the Brexit vote", he added.

20250/Press Release – 2017.01.24

EU / Ecuador

Ecuador's accession protocol to the multipartite free trade agreement between the EU and the countries of the Andean Community (Colombia and Peru) entered into force provisionally on 1 January 2017.

Concluded in July 2014, signed on 11 November 2016 and ratified by the European Parliament on 14 December, the free trade agreement between the EU and Ecuador provides for the removal of customs duties on all industrial and fisheries products, and for access to the enlarged market for agricultural products, as well as for the opening up of services and public procurement markets. In addition to this, it provides for addressing technical barriers to trade.

According to the European Commission, full implementation of the agreement will enable €106 million in savings on customs duties for EU exporters annually and €248 million for Ecuadorian exporters.

The agreement is asymmetrical in order to respond to Ecuador's development needs, guaranteeing it progressive liberalisation over 17 years. From the time of the agreement entering into force, Ecuador will liberalise only 60% of its tariff lines compared with 95% for the EU. The agreement will offer Ecuador better access to the EU market for its main exports (fisheries products, cut flowers, coffee, cocoa, fruit and nuts).

Bananas will also benefit from a preferential rate, but a stabilisation mechanism is provided for so that the European Commission can examine and plan the suspension of trade preferences if an annual threshold is reached, following the model provided for in the free trade agreements with Colombia and Peru, and with Central America. In this respect, an interinstitutional agreement on the stabilisation mechanism for bananas was reached on 13 December.

On the European side, the agricultural sector will benefit from better market access for its products and from protection of around a hundred geographical indications on the Ecuadorian market.

The agreement also provides for commitments on sustainable development. The application of the international conventions on workers' rights and environmental protection will be controlled by regular dialogue with civil society.

In addition, the agreement is aimed at strengthening regional integration. The door of the multipartite agreement remains open to the fourth member of the Andean Community, Bolivia.

Bilateral trade in goods between the EU and Ecuador accounted for €4.6 billion in 2015, including €2 billion in exports for the EU.

20251/Press Release – 2017.01.07

EFTA and MERCOSUR to Negotiate a Free Trade Agreement

Representatives (ambassadors or ministers) of the European Free Trade Association (Iceland Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) and MERCOSUR (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay but not Venezuela, which was suspended from MERCOSUR at the end of 2016) signed a statement on the fringes of the World Economic Forum in Davos on 19 January on the successful conclusion of an exploratory dialogue on a possible comprehensive free trade agreement between MERCOSUR and EFTA. The eight countries pledge to rapidly finalise their domestic procedures to obtain the necessary negotiating mandates to the launch of negotiations. Trade in goods between EFTA and MERCOSUR countries totalled 8,7 billion dollars in 2015.

20252/Press Release – 2017.01.19

C. ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

EU ETS Reform

Improvements made to Commission non-ETS effort sharing proposal, say NGOs

The draft report by MEP Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy (ALDE, Netherlands), published on Monday 9 January, on the proposal for a regulation on effort-sharing among the member states on reducing greenhouse gas emissions in non-ETS sectors (transport, buildings, agriculture and waste) seeks to restrict the flexibility offered to countries in achieving their national targets. This is no mean challenge since this key proposal of the “summer package” presented by the Commission in July is to allow the EU to achieve its climate target in these sectors (a 30% emissions reduction by 2030 compared with 2005 levels) in order to implement the Paris climate agreement.

To this end, the rapporteur proposes to reduce from 280 million tonnes of CO₂ to 190 million tonnes the flexibility that would allow the LULUCF sector to be used as an offset to achieve national targets over the whole 2021-2030 period.

This is one of the improvements that environmentalist NGOs, which have been complaining about possible loopholes, have welcomed, stating that the text is moving in the right direction. They are pleased, too, with other changes to Article 7 of the draft regulation which establishes the link with the draft LULUCF (Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry) regulation.

The draft report proposes that, by 2019, the Commission should present a report summarising how member states will ensure land or forest removals of carbon dioxide are permanent.

It strengthens the requirement that countries can only use the LULUCF credits “if they are needed” by requiring that member states prove the LULUCF credits are needed in each five-year period. This means their starting point must be to look at what emissions reductions they can make without the use of these controversial credits.

In addition, the rapporteur clarifies that, if forest management credits are included in the effort-sharing regulation, the overall flexibility that countries are allowed will not increase beyond 190 million tonnes of CO₂.

20253/Press Release – 2017.01.11

Maltese EU Council Presidency Wants Progress on Climate, the Circular Economy and the Energy Package

When it comes to the environment, the Maltese Council Presidency has placed its work for the next six months under the banner of **sustainable development**.

They have decided to focus on initiatives to promote a competitive economy in terms of the use of resources and competitiveness under the sustainable development programme for 2030, explained Maltese sustainable development, environment and climate change minister Jose Herrera, who will be chairing the Environment Council, who will make implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement and the EU’s transition to a circular economy two of its priorities.

As a sign of its priorities, the informal meeting of the Environment Council in Valetta on 25 and 26 April will be devoted to maritime waste, the re-use of water and adapting to climate change.

Climate

The Maltese Presidency will work on 'tangible and substantial progress' on the draft structural reworking of the emissions quota trading system (ETS) for 2021-2030 – the EU's main low-cost instrument for reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40% by 2030 on 1990 levels. Progress on the 'winter package' on clean energy, particularly the review of the renewables, energy efficiency and the energy performance of buildings directives are the indispensable corollary.

On reform of ETS, two policy debates at the Environment Council did not enable ministers to overcome their differences so the Presidency is taking a cautious line and leaving more time for the Council's working group after the vote in first reading at the European Parliament, foreseen for the 13-16 February plenary, to increase the likelihood of a common position being reached.

It hopes to reach political agreement at the Environment Council of 19 June rather than 28 February, which was desired by the most optimistic ministers and the European Commission at the last Environment Council (on 20 December under the Slovak Presidency). On the summer package, the Maltese Presidency hopes to win progress on the draft regulation on burden-sharing among the member states in non-ETS sectors for a collective reduction of 30% in greenhouse gas emissions not covered by ETS (transport, buildings, forestry, agriculture and waste).

It hopes in this way, if possible, to obtain a political agreement on 19 June on the draft regulation on land use, change of land use and forestry (Lulucf) aimed at the contribution of agriculture and forestry to the fight against climate change.

Circular economy

The Maltese Presidency is planning to ensure progress in the circular economy by getting the Council to work on draft revision of the EU's six waste directives.

Water in the Mediterranean

Along with two formal Environment Council meetings, the Maltese Presidency is convening a ministerial meeting in Valletta in April on the Union for the Mediterranean with the hope of seeing it adopt a strategy for water in the Mediterranean.

Energy Union project

The Maltese Presidency hopes to move forward the agenda of the Energy Union by stimulating the inter-institutional work on the legislative proposals put forward by the European Commission on this subject in 2016.

In the framework of a common programme of work running from January 2016 to June 2017, the previous Dutch and Slovak Presidencies and the Maltese Presidency have undertaken to pursue the realisation of the Energy Union project launched in February 2015 and the completion of the single energy market of the EU, with an emphasis on interconnections, improving regional cooperation and tightening up energy relations with third countries.

This programme will also see the monitoring of commitments in the fight against climate change, in the light of the international agreement on climate concluded in December 2015.

Presenting the Presidency's programme at the Energy Council of 5 December last year, the competent Maltese Minister, Konrad Mizzi, explained that he would prioritise the dossiers still to be finalised, more specifically the key text of the **gas security package** tabled by the Commission in February 2016 (the proposed revised regulation on the security of gas supply). The Council and Parliament have already concluded a dialogue agreement in December, on the second key text of the gas security package, the draft revised decision on the transparency of inter-governmental agreements (IGAs) in the field of energy.

The Maltese Presidency will also have to finalise the trilogue negotiations with Parliament on the draft revised regulation on **the energy labelling of low-energy products**, which was tabled by the Commission in summer 2015. The Council reached a general orientation in November 2015 and the Parliament tabled its amendments in July of last year; informal trilogues under the Slovak Presidency allowed a provisional agreement to be reached on most of the non-core political issues.

Additionally, the Maltese Presidency also wishes to launch the debate at the Council in parallel on the **entire raft of eight legislative elements which make up the clean energy package** presented by the Commission on 30 November. These proposals concern **energy efficiency, renewable energy, the organisation of the electricity market and an EU system of governance for energy and climate up to 2030**.

Two formal meetings of the Energy Council are scheduled on 27 February (when the ministers will seek to agree on a general approach to the proposed revised regulation on the security of gas supplies) and on 26 June. The Maltese Presidency hopes to reach general approaches to the proposed **revised directive on energy efficiency** and the proposed **revised directive on the energy performance of buildings**. A debate on clean energy is also scheduled.

20254/Press Release – 2017.01.07

EU Parliament Call for Ambitious Waste Recycling Targets (Circular Economy)

MEPs from the European Parliament Environment Committee said that ambitious waste recycling and prevention objectives for environmental protection are a minimum requirement if the EU is to successfully proceed towards the circular economy. This view was obvious, given the strong support for the European Commission proposal on revising the EU wastes directive – a key element in the December 2015 “*Circular economy*” package.

The four 'Bonafè' reports voted on focused on the most important “framework directive on waste” (2008/98/EC), as well as directly related directives: directive 2000/53/EC on the environmental “scrapping of end of life vehicles” and directive 2012/19/EU “waste electrical and electronic equipment”, “Landfill of Waste” directive 1999/31/EC and “packaging & packaging waste” directive 94/62/EC.

70% of waste recycled in 2030. According to MEPs, 70% of all EU waste should be recycled by 2030, a binding objective that will accompany the obligation to prepare 5% of this waste for reuse or repairs. Definitions of waste and recycling processes are also expected to be harmonised in an effort to facilitate comparisons between member states on the efforts made in this connection.

Producers should also ensure that there is full liability for their products from the moment they are designed, to the moment they are scrapped. The Environment Committee called for a significant reduction in waste by 2030 and a 5% maximum ceiling on waste in landfills in the majority of member states.

MEPs would also like an obligation to be imposed on member states to introduce waste prevention measures and fees for landfill.

Reducing food waste by half. In effort to reduce food waste, MEPs called for a 50% reduction in food waste by 2030 as a voluntary target for member states.

Simona Bonafè (S&D, Italy) the rapporteur was delighted with the vote and stated, *“A large majority voted for an ambitious but pragmatic position. I think we need to work towards obtaining an agreement in the first reading. There is no agreement at the Council on targets or on the calculating method but this is going to affect Europe’s credibility. If we have a serious framework, this will attract investment”*. She made her intervention during the debate that took place that day with the Maltese Presidency of the Council, which came to present its environmental priorities to MEPs.

NGOs welcome this vote. The largest Federation of environmental NGOs, the European Environment Bureau (EEB), immediately welcomed this vote, because it considers that MEPs have laid the foundations for an expansion in green jobs throughout Europe.

It also welcomed the more robust action taken but still thinks this is not enough to combat food waste. The European court of Auditors, itself, recently called on the Commission to display greater political determination in this respect.

Piotr Barczak, Waste Policy Officer at the EEB, said, *“The strong support shown for the recycling and repair sector by MEPs today can pave the way for over 800,000 jobs to be created across Europe by 2030. But for this boom to materialise, the Council must now put the economy and the planet first and support these ambitious targets”*. Around 800,000 new green jobs (867,000 exactly) is the figure the EEB highlighted in its assessment of the resource efficiency potential in Europe.

The EEB emphasises that, *“Halving the amount of food wasted within the EU by 2030 would cut greenhouse gas emissions, save households money and reduce the pressure on land exerted by Europe’s insatiable demand for food”*. It regretted, however, that the target requested by the Environment Committee is not binding.

The European Parliament will give its view on this dossier during the plenary session on 13-16 March.

On 25 January, **FEVE, the European Container Glass Industry**, reacted with a press release welcoming the ambitious proposals that were adopted on the Circular Economy Package. The request for mandatory separate collection across all EU Member States is particularly important as it guarantees the highest quality of recycled secondary raw materials for manufacturing. This is fundamental for the Container Glass circular economy model centered on the closed loop recycling of glass waste to be reused in new production.

“Focusing on quality of recycled material, in particular for food contact materials, is more important than setting targets, which are there to channel investments in the right direction”, commented Adeline Farrelly, Secretary General of FEVE.

“That is why we pay particular attention to separate collection and safe and circular recycling, and we hope the European Parliament will be strong in upholding its position on this point in plenary”.

This goes hand in hand with the strong position of the ENVI Committee to focus the Packaging Waste targets on recycling only, and not combine them with preparation for re-use which would water down the recycling ambition by artificially boosting figures with business-as-usual activities. However, the European Parliament position remains ambiguous on re-use: “It already makes perfect business sense to re-use packaging before it becomes waste. But setting a flat re-use target for all packaging without differentiation between consumer packaging and business or transport packaging will not encourage any step changes on promoting re-use among consumers”.

The ENVI Committee has also sent mixed signals by singling out bio-based packaging over other packaging materials. This fails to acknowledge that the circular economy is about keeping resources productive without requiring the input of new resources, whether renewable or not. Permanent materials which can be recycled several times do not need to be renewed. “Surely this legislation must remain material neutral and focus on setting rules and principles on end of life for all materials to fulfil”, concluded Adeline Farrelly.

The European Container Glass Industry looks forward to continuing the debate with Member States and the European Parliament on how legislation can support a genuine Circular Economy.

Glass for Europe, the trade association of the flat glass sector, welcomes the adoption by the European Parliament's ENVI Committee of its proposals to improve the Circular Economy Package. Glass for Europe considers that the reports rightly address longstanding bottlenecks in the recycling of building glass.

The vast majority of end-of-life building glass, used in windows and façades, is not properly sorted at source in Europe which renders its recycling in new glass products difficult. To increase the recycling rates of its products and manufacturing sustainability, Glass for Europe commissioned a study to Deloitte Sustainability on the present situation in the management and recycling of end-of-life building glass in Europe. Bertrand Cazes, Secretary General of Glass for Europe, said ‘This study provided many findings which helped us identifying the necessary conditions to render the recycling of building glass both environmentally and economically viable across Europe's regions’.

Glass for Europe welcomes suggestions endorsed by the European Parliament's ENVI Committee yesterday when they address the identified bottlenecks and create conditions for new recycling initiatives to emerge. For instance, Glass for Europe supports the incentive to generalise pre-demolition audits and the call on a harmonisation of the status of by-products. However, Glass for Europe regrets the lack of support for initiatives aiming at granting free access to container parks to professionals.

‘Although we do realise that there is no one-size-fits-all solution for the recycling of building glass in Europe, this report gives a signal to the construction and demolition, recycling and glass industries that concrete solutions need to be developed locally’, said Bertrand Cazes. In this respect, Glass for Europe welcomes the call for introducing recycling targets for construction and demolition waste, and that Member States are asked to develop measures to ensure sorting of building glass.

DG Environment Revision of Implementation of EU legislation

This will be the year of the circular economy and implementation of EU environmental and sustainable development law, according to European Environment Commissioner Karmenu Vella. At the start of 2017, almost mid-way through his term of office, Vella says he is happy with the **legislative progress made on air quality, the circular economy and the fitness check on the habitats and birds directives**, which were found to be “fit for purpose”, though room for improvement exists in their implementation.

Efforts have to be maintained, with new initiatives right from the start of the year, in the circular economy and specifically in implementation of European environmental law, the commissioner stated in his blog in which he provided an informal mid-term report on what has been done thus far and the progress that remains to be made this year.

As early as 25 January, the European Commission’s mini package on the circular economy will contain a proposal on turning waste into energy and a report on the action plan of December 2015.

Also falling within the ambit of the circular economy is European Green Week, this year devoted to green jobs “to highlight the job creation capacity” of this approach.

In the second half of the year, the Commission will bring forward proposals on water re-use (one of the topics for discussion at the informal meeting of the Environment Council on 25-26 April) and in the autumn (September/October) “we will unveil our plastics strategy”, Vella announced.

In February, the Commission will present its review of European environmental law. In the commissioner’s view “one secret to success is Member States working together to effectively implement what we have all agreed should be our priority objectives, seeing the economic benefit of sustainable policies, and taking the hard decisions on behalf of Europe’s next generations”.

20256/Press Release – 2017.01.12

D. SOCIAL ISSUES

New Workplace Exposure Value Limits for Chemical Products

The European Commission is proposing new measures to promote health and safety in the workplace throughout the Union. On 10 January, it presented a range of new exposure value limits for seven cancer-causing chemical products. These values complete the first package of measures presented in May 2016.

In the Union, the principles relating to protecting workers against carcinogenic agents are set out in framework directive 89/391/EC on health and safety in the workplace and by the directives specially focusing on chemical hazards, particularly the directive on chemical agents (CAD) and the directive on carcinogenic and mutagenic agents (CMD).

The latter (2004/37/EC) puts the onus on employers to ensure a maximum reduction in the risks facing their workers. It is also calling on the Commission to set out value limits as soon as it has sufficient information.

The Commissioner for Employment, Marianne Thyssen, explained “*The European Union has particularly high standards on workers’ protection. This is proved by the fact that their health and safety has improved over recent years*”. She argued that the death rate in this connection had fallen by 25% and workplace related problems by 10% since 2008.

Following the first wave of proposals, the Commission is now suggesting new exposure limit values for seven chemical products causing cancers: epichlorohydrin, ethylene dibromide, ethylene dichloride, 4.4'-methylenedianiline, trichloroethylene, complex HAP compounds with benzo[a]pyrene as an indicator, as well as oils used for internal combustion engines. The country that will be most affected will be Cyprus. Its current exposure values are particularly high. The Commission will subsequently present a variety of advice and tools to help employers assess psycho-social and ergonomic risks, as well as those connected to their ageing workforces.

Finally, it will also be proposing a reflection process with member states and social partners in an effort to find ways of scrapping or updating the rules that will become outmoded over the next two years.

The Parliament employment and social affairs committee will give its verdict on 28 February on the first batch of the Commission proposals to set out the limits for 13 chemical substances. The draft report by Rapporteur Marita Ulvskog (S&D, Sweden) contains recommendations such as the additional inclusion of reprotoxic substances and stricter value limits for half of the substances identified by the Commission.

More info at: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2709&furtherNews=yes>

20257/Press Release – 2017.01.11

13th High-Level Meeting Between the European Commission and the International Labour Organization (ILO)

On 18 and 19 January, the International Labour Office (ILO) and the European Commission held their 13th high-level meeting at ILO’s Headquarters in Geneva.

Some very **concrete EU/ILO projects** supporting **decent work inside and outside the EU** were reviewed. They cover a varied area of action such as

- establishing a fund to support Occupational Safety and Health in garment global supply chains,
- improving respect for core labour standards by EU Trade partners,
- fighting forced labour and other unacceptable forms of work in the fishing sector starting with Thailand,
- contributing to the eradication of child labour in cotton harvest in Uzbekistan,
- establishing tripartite action to combat undeclared work in Greece and Western Balkans
- sharing analytical work on long-term changes in the world of work including as regards the sharing economy and digitalisation.

The future of work and the European pillar of social rights, supporting decent job creation, social protection, decent work in global supply chains, trade and labour and international labour standards were **key areas of attention** for exchange of views and **future cooperation**. The ILO and the Commission further discussed developments and agreed to **intensify their exchanges or embark on joint initiatives** in specific countries as well as:

- regarding skills and youth employment,
- informal economy and undeclared work,
- migration and refugees
- the social dimension of maritime and fishing.

20258/Press Release – 2017.01.24

Unemployment Rates

The **euro area** seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate remained stable at **9.8%** in November 2016. This is the lowest rate recorded in the euro area since July 2009. The **EU-28** unemployment rate decreased by 0.1% to **8.3%** in November 2016, down from 8.4% in the previous month. This is also the lowest rate recorded in the EU28 since February 2009.

Eurostat estimates that 20.429 million people in the EU28 were unemployed in November 2016, a decrease by 41,000 in the EU28 and by 15,000 in the euro area compared with October 2016.

Czechia	3.7%	Estonia (Oct.)	7.4%
Germany	4.1%	Belgium	7.6%
Hungary (Oct.)	4.6%	Slovenia	7.6%
Malta	4.8%	Lithuania	7.9%
UK (Sept.)	5.6%	Finland	8.8%
Netherlands	5.6%	Slovakia	9.0%
Romania	5.7%	France	9.5%
Austria	5.8%	Latvia	9.6%
Poland	6.0%	Portugal	10.5%
Luxembourg	6.2%	Croatia	11.4%
Denmark	6.5%	Italy	11.9%
Sweden	6.8%	Cyprus	14.2%
Bulgaria	7.1%	Spain	19.2%
Ireland	7.3%	Greece (Sept.)	23.1%

Elsewhere

USA	4.7%	Russia	5.4%
Canada	6.9%	Brazil	11.9%
Japan	3.1%	Australia	5.8%
Switzerland	3.5%	India	4.9%
Turkey	11.8%	China	4.04%

E. GENERAL ISSUES

New European Parliament Presidency



Italian national **Antonio Tajani**, the EPP Group candidate, was elected president of the European Parliament at around 9.00pm on Tuesday 17 January, in Strasbourg. He will serve as president during the second half (two and a half years) of the current Parliament's mandate.

Tajani was elected at the fourth and final round of voting, with 351 votes compared with 282 for his rival Gianni Pittella, a fellow Italian from the Social Democrats. There were abstentions from 80 MEPs. Four rounds of voting were thus needed to appoint the successor to Martin Schulz (S&D) as president of this five-year parliament.

Owing to the break-up of the Grand Coalition (EPP, S&D and ALDE), which until now had prevailed on sharing the presidency, this presidential election remained long undecided. The EPP/ALDE agreement to reform the EU was a turning point, as was the ECR Group rallying behind the EPP runner. Guy Verhofstadt (ALDE) withdrew his candidacy before the vote, after making a pact with the EPP Group.

Schulz has already ceded his presidential seat to Tajani, who was given an ovation after the results of the vote. The new president of the Parliament hailed a "democratic" election and promised to be the president of all MEPs. He dedicated his victory to the victims of the earthquake that struck his country. He paid tribute to the victims of terrorism and to those who suffer, like the homeless and unemployed. "I will keep all my promises and I will ask for the support of all MEPs", he said.

During his statement before the first round of the voting on Tuesday morning, Tajani had said he believed in Europe, but he underlined that there was a need "to change things". He argued for a "strong" Parliament and a "good" president working in the common interest. He flagged up his hopes of coming closer to a Europe of the citizens, thanks to a more democratic EU. He will not have a personal programme but a programme supported by the European Parliament, in agreement with the Commission and Council (upholding the inter-institutional agreement). Among the priorities, he mentioned the fight against terrorism, management of the migration crisis, the fight against climate change, and the digital agenda.

As regards Brexit, he said it will be important to defend the rights of the EU, while knowing that in the future the UK will be a leading interlocutor for the EU. At the end of the election, he reaffirmed his confidence in Guy Verhofstadt (ALDE, Belgium) as the European Parliament's Brexit negotiator. Pittella congratulated his competitor and said he was sure "that he will interpret his new role in full respect of equal rights and the prerogatives of all the groups and MEPs". It is a long time since the president of the European Parliament has been elected in a ballot that was "totally transparent and open, without any prior agreement", Pittella stated. The ECR Group also hailed Tajani's election, saying in the end it was happy with the clear assurances that Tajani would act as a neutral voice for the Parliament and not as a prime minister.

Mid-term Changes in Parliamentary Committee Presidencies

The MEPs have started the process of voting for the presidencies and vice-presidencies of the 22 parliamentary committees and parliamentary sub-committees of the European Parliament. The terms for the positions last until the end of the legislative period 2014-2019.

Committee	President
Foreign Affairs (AFET)	David Mc Allister (EPP, Germany)
Agriculture (AGRI)	Czesław Adam Siekierski (EPP, Poland)
Budgets (BUDG)	Jean Arthuis (ALDE, France)
Culture (CULT)	Petra Kammerevert (S&D, Germany)
Development (DEVE)	Linda McAvan (S&D, UK)
Economic & Monetary Affairs (ECON)	Roberto Gualtieri (S&D, Italy)
Employment & Social Affairs (EMPL)	Thomas Händel (GUE/NGL, Germany)
Fisheries (PECH)	Alain Cadec (EPP, France)
Regional Development (REGI)	Iskra Mihaylova (ALDE, Bulgaria)
Environment (ENVI)	Adina-Ioana Vălean (EPP, Romania)
Single market and consumer protection (IMCO)	Vicky Ford (ECR, UK)
International Trade (INTA)	Bernd Lange (S&D, Germany)
Industry, Research & Energy (ITRE)	Jerzy Buzek (EPP, Poland)
Legal Affairs (JURI)	Pavel Svoboda (EPP, Czech Republic)
Civil Liberties, Justice & Home Affairs (LIBE)	Claude Moraes (S&D, UK)
Transport & Tourism (TRAN)	Karima Delli (Greens/EFA, France)
Constitutional Affairs (AFCO)	Danuta Hübner (EPP, Poland)
Budgetary Control (CONT)	Ingeborg Gräßle (EPP, Germany)
Petitions (PETI)	Cecilia Wikström (ALDE, Sweden)
Women's rights and gender equality (FEMM)	Vilija Blinkevičiūtė (S&D, Lithuania)
Security and defence (SEDE)	Anna Fotyga (ECR, Poland)
Human Rights (DROI)	Pier Antonio Panzeri (S&D, Italy)

20261/Press releases – 2017.01.20/25

Industry: No Commission Commitment for Clear European Reindustrialisation Strategy

The European Commission has placed the strengthening of the industrial fabric at the head of its priorities for 2017. The mention given to this issue, however, may only partially respond to the expectations of the member states and European Parliament, which have long been calling for a genuine European re-industrialisation policy.

In its work programme, the European Commission unsurprisingly seeks to pursue a further deepening of the internal market but by way of greater emphasis on the “*strengthened industrial base*”.

By thus mentioning the strengthening of the industrial base, the Commission is seeking to respond to the expectations formulated by several member states and MEPs in light of the recent Caterpillar (Belgium) and Alstom (France) affairs. Last September, the Competitiveness Council called on the Commission to present an “ambitious” industrial strategy. In October the European Parliament also adopted a resolution on the need for a European reindustrialisation policy. However, no industrial strategy has yet been clearly mentioned in the document.

A mixed bag. The list of initiatives and reviews undertaken by the Commission is long and extremely diverse. At random, we can mention the “services” package (formerly known as the “services passport”), the intellectual property review and support for the automobile industry’s transition to comprehensive connectivity. Facilitating SMEs’ access to financing should not be forgotten either, nor the revision of the Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base (CCCTB), VAT simplification for SMEs and the fight against tax evasion.

Space, new lever for reindustrialisation. One interesting point involves the space sector, which is given a clear mention in the Commission’s 2017 work programme. European level space policy has a greater profile and political weight since last October’s presentation of the European space strategy and since the European defence action plan that was put forward last December. The Commission will thus be putting forward an initiative for promoting the expansion of a coded communication service known as the GovSatCom, as well as several initiatives to help expand the commercial use of space data.

20262/Press release – 2017.01.05

Revision of the Construction Products Regulation

During an informal meeting with the construction sector and experts from a number of member states, the European Commission presented three options to improve the Construction Products Regulation (CPR): keeping things as they are, amending the regulation in force (305/2011) or totally changing the approach.

This time, the debates particularly focused on derogations for SMEs (article 5) and simplification procedures (articles 36, 37, 38) for the EC trademark standard for construction products. No one considers these articles as perfect because the SMEs find them difficult to apply as their provisions are too restrictive.

According to several sources, the third option was immediately rejected by the participants. The two others were debated without a clear majority being obtained in favour of the first or second.

For the time being, the European Builders Confederation (EBC) appears in favour of maintaining the status quo in an effort to guarantee regulatory stability. The European Construction Industry Federation (FIEC), the Construction Products Europe body (CPE) would be in favour of amending the Regulation but without reopening a new legislative procedure. According to one source, experts from France, Belgium, United Kingdom, Sweden and Austria have also informally said they prefer the second option.

Possible revision in two years' time

Speaking on behalf of Internal Market and Industry Committee, Tapani Mikkeli, informed certain speakers that the publication of new guidelines may not be sufficient for ensuring that the regulation operated effectively because they are not legally binding. He indicated that this could mean reopening the regulation in two years' time. In a few months, the Commission will be launching an impact study into the revision of the regulation and a decision on the approach to follow is expected by the end of 2017.

In December 2016, the Commission presented a raft of measures to speed up the transition to clean energy. The revision of the regulation on construction products is clearly mentioned in an effort to rectify any fragmentation in the European market.

European Parliament's rapporteur on this issue is Catherine Stihler (S&D, United Kingdom).

20263/Press release – 2017.01.20

London Wants Free-Trade Deal Guaranteeing Best Possible Single Market Access

Almost seven months since the people of the United Kingdom voted for their country to leave the European Union, UK Prime Minister Theresa May delivered a keenly awaited speech on her government's strategy for delivering Brexit.

May stated that leaving the EU meant leaving the single European market. She gave assurances, however, that her government would seek to ensure the best possible access to that same single market without actually belonging to it.

With the UK due to trigger Article 50 of the Treaty of the EU before the end of March, May announced that her country would seek to negotiate a customs agreement with the EU, which could mean reaching a completely new agreement or signing up to some parts of the existing customs union. Since, the prime minister argued, the country could not be "half in, half out" of the EU, it could be "some sort of associate customs union status".

"I do not want Britain to be part of the common commercial policy and I do not want us to be bound by the common external tariff. These are the elements of the customs union that prevent us from striking our own comprehensive trade agreements with other countries. But I do want us to have a customs agreement with the EU", she said.

"Whether that means we must reach a completely new customs agreement, become an associate member of the customs union in some way, or remain a signatory to some elements of it, I hold no preconceived position", she stated. The UK will not, however, look to negotiate "partial membership of the European Union, associate membership of the European Union, or anything that leaves us half-in, half-out" nor will it seek to adopt a model already enjoyed by other countries.

The UK prime minister hopes to make the United Kingdom a champion of global trade and will "pursue a bold and ambitious free-trade agreement with the European Union" that will allow her to "remove as many barriers to trade as possible". "I want Britain to be free to establish our own tariff schedules at the World Trade Organisation, meaning we can reach new trade agreements not just with the European Union but with old friends and new allies from outside Europe too", she went on to say.

May sought to give assurances that her aim was to achieve a smooth, "phased" exit and to avoid a brutal Brexit. The interests of both sides must be maintained and May promised to

engage in positive and constructive negotiations with her European partners, with whom the UK wishes to be the “best friend and partner” after it leaves the EU.

May warned her counterparts, however, against any temptation to punish her country as a means of discouraging other member states from leaving the bloc. Any punitive response on the part of the 27 member states could lead the UK to adopt a more aggressive trade policy, and perhaps a very attractive fiscal policy that would tempt the biggest companies to the UK.

Cautious European reaction. May’s chosen path of taking her country out of the single market was welcomed by Berlin, pleased that some clarity had been brought. “We are happy that the UK prime minister has outlined her government’s vision for leaving the EU and at last delivered a degree of clarity on British plans”, said German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier, calling for “as good and as close relations as possible” once Brexit has been formalised. But “negotiations will only begin when Great Britain has officially declared its wish to leave” the EU, he stressed, making clear that the remaining 27 member states had to “strengthen the cohesion of the European Union and preserve the integrity of the single market”.

European Council President Donald Tusk, too, felt that May’s announcement was “at least more realistic”, even though Brexit remains a “sad process”, he tweeted.

“The UK prime minister had a whole range of options on how to shape her country’s exit from the EU. It has to be acknowledged that she has opted for the hard Tory interpretation of the referendum result. She has also repeated the threats delivered by her finance minister of tax and social dumping to increase the UK’s attractiveness”, said the joint leader of the Greens/EFA in the European Parliament, Philippe Lamberts (Belgium).

Michel Barnier, the Commission negotiator on Brexit, however, said that an orderly withdrawal of the UK from the EU was a prerequisite for the future partnership between the two parties.

The European Parliament’s Brexit negotiator Guy Verhofstadt (Belgium) said that it was important that May was clear about the UK’s position because “she is saying clearly that ‘we are leaving the single market’, that ‘we are leaving the customs union’”. That said, he added, that this, too, “creates an illusion, an illusion that you can leave the single market, leave the customs union and then that you can pick and choose, that you can still enjoy some of the advantages. I don’t think that will happen. We will never accept a situation where it is better to be outside the EU and outside the single market than to be a member of the EU”, he stated.

20264/Press release 2016.01.18

London Draft Brexit Law

On 26 January, the British government published the draft law that it will put to Parliament in order to be authorised to launch the negotiations on the UK leaving the European Union. The government has been forced to do this by the ruling of the Supreme Court that was handed down on Tuesday, and it must thus obtain Parliament’s approval before notifying the EU of the country’s exit. This simple draft law, which gives the power to the prime minister to trigger Article 50, will be presented to the House of Commons and House of Lords before obtaining royal assent in time to keep to the 31 March timetable, the British Prime Minister’s Office said in a press release.

20265/Press release 2016.01.26

Inflation Rate

Latest Eurostat figures show that the annual inflation rate was **1.1% in December in the Euro** area, up from 0.6% in November. **The EU28** annual inflation was also **1.2%**, up from 0.6% in November 2016.

The largest upward impacts to euro area annual inflation came from fuels and transport (+ 0.21%), vegetables (+ 0.07%) and heating oil (+0.05%), while gas (-0.10%), telecommunications (- 0.05%) and personal care products (- 0.04%) had the biggest downward impacts.

Bulgaria	-0.5%	Malta	1.0%
Ireland (Nov.)	-0.2%	Finland	1.1%
Romania	-0.1%	Spain	1.4%
Cyprus	0.1%	Luxembourg	1.6%
Slovakia	0.2%	Austria	1.6%
Denmark	0.3%	U K	1.6%
Greece	0.3%	Germany	1.7%
Italy	0.5%	Sweden	1.7%
Slovenia	0.6%	Hungary	1.8%
Croatia	0.7%	Lithuania	2.0%
Netherlands	0.7%	Czech Republic	2.1%
France	0.8%	Latvia	2.1%
Poland	0.9%	Belgium	2.2%
Portugal	0.9%	Estonia	2.4%

Elsewhere

USA	2.1%	Russia	5.4%
Canada	1.2%	Brazil	6.3%
Japan	0.5%	Australia	1.3%
Switzerland	0.0%	India	3.4%
Turkey	8.5%	China	2.1%

GLASS NEWS

A. **FLAT GLASS**

Glass Companies

AGC



1. Asahi Glass is purchasing Denmark's CMC Biologics for an estimated 70 billion - 80 billion yen (\$598 million to \$684 million).

Asahi is a major global supplier of automotive glass which is facing growing competition from such emerging economies as China. Glass production techniques are already well-established, making significant growth in the business unlikely. Asahi Glass is instead bolstering operations in the more promising field of life science, hoping to tap into pharmaceutical-sector growth fuelled by the rising middle classes in emerging markets. CMC Biologics is a biopharmaceutical contract manufacturer whose operations include making biologics and protein-based components used in drugs. It has substantial output capacity, with Danish and American plants, and employs roughly 500.

Asahi Glass is one of Japan's leading contract manufacturers of biologics. It once had only domestic facilities but has now begun expanding abroad with a German acquisition. Asahi Glass will be making further inroads into the European market, the largest for biopharmaceutical contract manufacturing, as it eyes an entry into the U.S. as well.

Asahi Glass plans 300 billion yen in strategic investments, such as mergers and acquisitions, over the five years through 2020. It announced recently an agreement to buy a Thai plastic maker owned by European chemical producer Solvay for 33.5 billion yen.

20267/Press Release – 2016.12.22

2. AGC Automotive Europe acquires Dan-Glas (Denmark), active on the automotive replacement glass market.

In order to consolidate its ARG activity (automotive replacement glass) in Denmark, AGC Automotive Europe is acquiring the distribution activities of the Dan-Glas company (Denmark). Located in Vibörg (Jutland region), Dan-Glas used to be a customer of AGC Automotive Europe and is specialised in distribution of premium brand windshields. It generated a turnover of € 2.8 million in 2016.

This acquisition is complementary in geographical terms to the existing network of NordGlass Denmark which was taken over by AGC in late 2015. It will therefore reinforce AGC position in Denmark. The fitting activities of Dan-Glas are not part of the transaction. The acquisition has become effective in January 2017.

Dan-Glas: with headquarters and distribution warehouse based in Viborg (Jutland), Dan-Glas was established in 1986. The company combines distribution and fitting of automotive replacement glass. It has eight of its own branches covering the Danish market. The company employs around 35 people, with sales of around 25,000 windshields per year.

20268/Press Release – 2017.01.19

Saint-Gobain



Saint-Gobain Research has supplied samples for the MATISS experience led by the French astronaut Thomas Pesquet in the International Space Station (ISS).

Designed by the ENS-Lyon and with the participation of Leti, the CEA's technology institute, the CNES and the CNRS/Saint-Gobain mixed unit, the experimentation is aimed at testing antibacterial materials to reduce the contamination of the station's walls, before using it for Earth-bound applications, such as buttons on lifts and public transport handrails.

Given the ISS's confined environment, a breeding ground for the development of pathogenic micro-organisms due to the on-going recycling of air and water and the on-board storage of waste, the European Space Agency (ESA) sees the MATISS experiment as an interesting way of testing new materials that could stop bacterial colonisation and proliferation in this weightless enclosed environment.



Four identical plates bearing six strips of glass coated in different materials are placed in the European laboratory Columbus and the ISS's air vents. Thomas Pesquet will bring them back to Earth at the end of his six-month mission to have them analysed

20269/Press Release – 2017.01.23

Şişecam Flat Glass

The products of Şişecam Flat Glass have been selected for Istanbul's new Airport Project qualified as a "mega project".



Operating under the body of Şişecam Group, the global player of the glass industry, Şişecam Flat Glass will equip Istanbul's new airport project with its products to be used for the façades and skylights covering an area of more than 200,000 square meters.

By the time of completion of its first phase in the first quarter of 2018, the project will serve 90 million passengers per year, while this number will be increased to 200 million passengers per year by the time all the phases are completed.

Şişecam Flat Glass products of various performance classes were preferred for the project, offering solutions for effective energy savings, noise control, aesthetics, safety and security requirements. The high-quality new product of Şişecam Flat Glass developed for Istanbul's new airport project, "Tempered Solar Low-E Glass" will be used for the façades of the project, combined with Isıcam products to offer a light permeability of 51%, and thus ensure a transparent design with optimum light permeability and low reflectivity, and a transmission of 29% of solar energy (heat losses reduced by 50%).

20270/Press Release – 2016.12.22

Guardian



1. Koch gets green light to buy Guardian, India

The fair-trade regulator Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed acquisition of US-based glass products maker Guardian Industries by Koch Industries.

As per the deal entered into by the companies in November last year, Koch Industries subsidiary KGIC Merger Corporation would acquire sole ownership of Guardian Industries.

In 2012 Koch bought about 45 per cent stake in Guardian Industries.

"The deal is an all-cash transaction for the remaining 55.5 per cent outstanding shares of Guardian Industries' common stock not already owned by affiliates of Koch," a company press release said.

20271/Press Release – 2017.01.13

2. Koch also received green light from the EU Commission to buy Guardian Europe activities.

See Official Journal C18 of 19 January 2017 on page 21 at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:C:2017:018:TOC>

20272/OJ C18 – 2017.01.19

Pilkington (NSG)



1. The new Westin Hotel and Conference Centre at Denver's International Airport was envisioned even before Denver International Airport opened in 1995. Plans for a hotel at DIA were delayed not once but twice — when 9/11 occurred and then when the airport's largest carrier, United Airlines, declared bankruptcy.

Designed by Gensler of San Francisco, The Westin and transit centre will feature three key components: the hotel and conference centre, a transit centre, and a public plaza. The outdoor plaza will become Denver's newest venue for arts, entertainment, and relaxation. The 82,000 square-foot open air facility will create a community connection between the airport and downtown Denver through special event programming.

The plaza's square footage is equivalent to the size of one football field and two basketball courts and can handle up to 2,000 people during a normal day and up to 4,500 for special events. This unique space will allow passengers to enjoy Colorado's 300 days of sunshine, great views, art, entertainment, and food.



The aluminum and glass-clad curtain wall is exquisite and has great attention to detail. The amount of glass used on the exterior of the hotel is equivalent to four football fields. The architect's vision for the hotel was "a bird in flight". The upper area of the design represents the movement of a bird's wings in flight above the "head" of the curved canopy. It is highlighted by a large Pilkington Planar™ point-supported structural glass cable wall façade. With over three decades of structural glass experience combined with the extreme complexity of an irregular cone geometry, W&W Glass was hired by the installer Harmon, Inc. to engineer and supply the system. Another reason W&W Glass was utilized on this project was their unique experience working in, on, and around airports. While the whole project was delayed almost 20 years, W&W Glass spent over 18 months in schematic design and production, and then invested over 9 months in project administration and construction with Harmon.

The windows, including that of the cable wall area, give guests an impressive view outside...snow-covered mountains to the west, the airport's tent-covered terminal to the north, planes on the runways to the east and the new transit centre to the south. While some people say the hotel blocks the view of the airport's iconic tented roof structures, in reality, it actually adds another view of them. The tents from the terminal are now reflected in the hotel's exterior when standing inside the terminal looking out.

It took this kind of specific expertise, creativity and craftsmanship to help create a key feature on a striking building that stands adjacent to the natural beauty and surroundings of the Rockies.

20273/OJ C18 – 2017.01.16

2. Pilkington **Pyrostop** releases **new fire protection products for indoor applications.**

Pilkington Pyrostop® is classified in the EI class of fire resistance, integrity and insulation performance.

Recent tests have certified the appropriate quality of the glasses, more than thirty years after their installation.

The company has recently released two new additions to the range, Pilkington Pyrostop® Line and Pilkington Pyrostop® Line Triple, which can be used in flush glazing without vertical framing sections between the glass units.



This is the monolithic version for butt-jointed vertical glazing for internal applications with integrity and insulation fire resistance performance. The glasses are installed in a peripheral frame fixed in the profile.

The Pilkington Pyrostop® units are glazed one next to the other, with the butt-joints filled with ceramic tape and being sealed with a special silicone, creating a continuous glass partition, without vertical frames between the glass units. The slim vertical butt-joint, with a nominal thickness of only 5mm, is a characteristic of Pilkington Pyrostop® Line.

The Pilkington Pyrostop® Line Triple has been designed for internal partitions with integrity and thermal insulation performance, without the need for further vertical frames. It offers a flush glazing solution aesthetically pleasant and sustainable.

Pilkington Pyrostop® Line Triple is composed of a pane of Pilkington Pyrostop® inserted between two toughened glass panes, combined into an Insulating Glass Unit with a nominal thickness bigger than 39mm.

The flush glazing is installed in the opening of a wall by means of a circumferential framing profile using ceramic tape and a special silicone, creating a continuous glass partition.

The vertical edges of the glass are available in a wide range of colours to match the Pilkington Pyrostop® Line Triple with the interior design of the environments or to emphasize a colour tone. This sophisticated glazing system offers a variety of options for extensively glazed interior partitions.

Pilkington Pyrostop® Line and Pilkington Pyrostop® Line Triple are extremely useful in those open space architectural solutions, where they can separate areas with risks of fire and, at the same time, let people see through them, for functional or aesthetic reasons. These products also offer a very high level of light transmission, from a minimum of 74% up to 87%.

20274/OJ C18 – 2017.01.24

Düzce Cam

Fives has successfully started a new complete float glass line with a melting capacity of 800t/day to produce a glass thickness from 3mm to 10mm for the Turkish glassmaker Düzce Cam.

The start-up took place as planned in November 2016 at Düzce site, some 220 km from Istanbul. The new float glass line incorporates the latest melting technologies, in compliance with quality, output and energy performance objectives, for the production of both residential and automotive glass. The major asset of this new float glass line is Fives proprietary furnace technology with ultra-low energy consumption Prium® Melt Float L.E.M.® (Low Energy Melter).

DÜZCE CAM



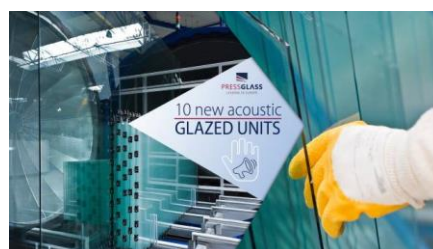
Thanks to its geometry, the furnace makes it possible to save up to 20% energy compared to conventional technologies. The furnace is also equipped with a comprehensive digital control system and smart software for production optimization providing a comprehensive vision of the glassmaking process. Thanks to all these features and technologies, Fives Stein confirms its position as a preferred partner for newcomers in glass. After its successful entry into float glass production, Düzce Cam is now ready to embark on a major expansion. The first float glass line of 600 t/day was already supplied by Fives Stein in 2010.

Thanks to L.E.M.[®], Low Energy Melter Technology, developed by Fives, melting energy can be dramatically reduced, without compromising with glass quality. The combination of proprietary technologies, in combination with the use of modern refractory technologies, allows achieving unrivalled low consumption, down to 1200 kcal/kg (5 GJ/tonne) for architectural and automotive applications.

20275/Press Release – 2017.01.17

Press Glass

Press Glass now has 10 more products on offer, and is ready to provide its customers with as much as 98 various acoustic glazed units with Rw coefficient in the range of 31 to 52 dB.



“The ever-expanding offer of acoustic glazed units is the effect of catering to needs of individual customers, expecting glazed units with specific values of Rw coefficient.

We care about the high quality of our products, and only add those panes whose properties are confirmed by certificates issued by independent certification bodies. Our customers are our inspiration, and it is their needs that we have in mind when conducting necessary acoustic examinations, expanding our offer of panes with expected and tested products. Thanks to our partnership with customers, we already have nearly 100 tested acoustic glazed units,” said Tomasz Ślusarek, Quality Specialist at Press Glass.

For more information see <https://www.pressglass.com/market-offer/glazed-units/acoustic-glazed-units-old-2>

20276/Press Release – 2017.01.10

Carlex Glass



Carlex Glass America LLC has announced the appointment of Don Michelotti as President and Chief Operating Officer. Michelotti, who held the position of Executive Vice President for six years, has already assumed responsibilities of COO and will work closely over the next three months with retiring President Jim Shepherd, to take on the role of President on April 1.



"I am extremely honoured for this opportunity to lead Carlex as we continue to grow in the global automotive glass industry," said Michelotti. "I am grateful for the support of our incredible team and look forward to what the future holds for our brand."

Shepherd, who has served as President for the last six years, will continue to support Carlex as a senior advisor to the CEO for the year following his retirement., after 40 years in the glass industry. Through his leadership, Carlex has grown from a single automotive glass fabrication plant to a multi-national five plant operation.

"Looking back on the past six years, I am very proud of the progress we have made and of the team we have in place today," said Shepherd. "With Don's leadership and the continued support of our team, I have great confidence in the future of Carlex."

A graduate of West Virginia University, Michelotti holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in engineering and has completed continuing executive education studies at Columbia University and the University of Michigan.

Carlex Glass America LLC is a premier global Tier 1 supplier of original equipment and replacement glass.

20277/Press Release – 2017.01.20

Xinyi (Malaysia)

On 30 December 2016 Xinyi (Malaysia) successfully fired its first architectural glass float line outside of China. The 1200MT capacity glass float line marks a milestone to the Xinyi Group as this is their first production base outside of China, demonstrating Xinyi Group's strategic international direction.

20278/Press Release – 2017.01.12

Miscellaneous

Glass for Europe Welcomes Proposals to Improve Building Glass Recycling

Glass for Europe, the trade association of the flat glass sector, which manufactures energy saving technologies for the building, transport and solar-energy sectors, welcomes the adoption by the European Parliament's ENVI Committee of its proposals to improve the Circular Economy Package. Glass for Europe considers that the reports rightly address longstanding bottlenecks in the recycling of building glass.

The vast majority of end-of-life building glass, used in windows and façades, is not properly sorted at source in Europe which renders its recycling in new glass products difficult. To increase the recycling rates of its products and manufacturing sustainability, Glass for Europe commissioned a study to Deloitte Sustainability on the present situation in the management and recycling of end-of-life building glass in Europe. Bertrand Cazes, Secretary General of Glass for Europe, said 'This study provided many findings which helped us identifying the necessary conditions to render the recycling of building glass both environmentally and economically viable across Europe's regions'.

Glass for Europe welcomes suggestions endorsed by the European Parliament's ENVI Committee yesterday when they address the identified bottlenecks and create conditions for new recycling initiatives to emerge. For instance, Glass for Europe supports the incentive to generalise pre-demolition audits and the call on a harmonisation of the status of by-products. However, Glass for Europe regrets the lack of support for initiatives aiming at granting free access to container parks to professionals.

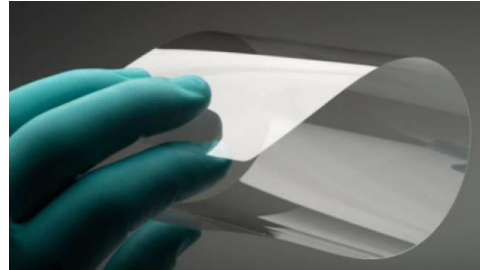
'Although we do realise that there is no one-size-fits-all solution for the recycling of building glass in Europe, this report gives a signal to the construction and demolition, recycling and glass industries that concrete solutions need to be developed locally', said Bertrand Cazes. In this respect, Glass for Europe welcomes the call for introducing recycling targets for construction and demolition waste, and that Member States are asked to develop measures to ensure sorting of building glass.

20279/Press Release – 2017.01.26

SolarWindow to Produce Electricity-Generating Flexible Glass

SolarWindow Technologies, Inc., a leading developer of transparent electricity-generating coatings for glass windows and flexible veneers, has announced plans to develop electricity-generating flexible glass.

SolarWindow scientists and engineers recently applied layers of the company's liquid coatings on to Corning® Willow® Glass and laminated them under conditions that simulate the high pressure and temperatures of the manufacturing processes used by commercial glass and window producers. The result is a bendable glass 'veneer', as thin as a business card, which generates electricity. SolarWindow anticipates installing these sheets of electricity-generating glass veneers over existing skyscraper windows, turning entire buildings into vertical power generators and helping reduce their carbon footprint. These same veneers could be applied to flat and curved surfaces on automobiles, trucks, buses, airplanes, and boats to generate onboard electrical power.



“Along with our SolarWindow™ liquid coatings for rigid glass, we’re excited to expand our capabilities with brand new ways of generating clean electricity on almost any surface imaginable by using flexible Corning Willow Glass,” said John Conklin, President and CEO of SolarWindow. “As leaders in the sector, we’re setting out a clear vision for the future with this new, innovative technology.”

SolarWindow™ products are being developed in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) under a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA). The primary development goal of the CRADA is the commercialization of SolarWindow™ products.

“While generating electricity on flexible glass presents obvious commercial opportunities, this approach is especially attractive to high-speed roll-to-roll manufacturing for maximizing output while lowering production costs,” said Dr. Maikel van Hest, a Senior Scientist in the Thin Film Material Science and Processing Group within the Material Science Center at NREL.

20280/Press Release – 2017.01.23

Markets & Trends

Low-E Glass market growing at a CAGR of 15.51% to 2021

The Global Low E-Glass Market - By Type (Single, Double, Triple), By Application (Residential, Commercial): Analysis By Region, By Country - Opportunities and Forecast (2016-2021) suggests that a rise in CO2 emissions due to increasing heat radiations and increasing demand daylight transmitting solution is affecting the growth of low-e glass product market.



The market is forecast to grow at a CAGR of 15.51% during 2016 - 2021. The strong growth is driven by the surging demand for energy saving products with new infrastructural and construction projects in developing and developed regions.

Although, double low-e glass holds the major percentage share in the total market and is projected to display a faster growth in the future, still market for triple low-e glass is also growing at higher pace. Among the regions, APAC holds the largest market share mainly due to growing regulations and infrastructural developments in the region. It is expected to grow at a faster pace during forecasted period.

According to research report, "Global Low E-Glass Market - By Type (Single Low E-Glass, Double Low E- Glass, Triple Low E-Glass), By Application (Residential, Commercial): Analysis By Region, By Country - Opportunities and Forecasts (2016-2021)", Global Low-E Glass Market is projected to exhibit a CAGR of over ~15.51% during 2016 - 2021. Global Low E-Glass market has been segmented on the basis of Coating Type (Offline Low-E Glass and Online Low-E Glass), By Type (Single, Double and Triple Low-E Glass, By Application (Residential and Commercial), By Region (North America, Europe, APAC and ROW), By Country (US, Canada, Germany, UK, China, India, Saudi Arabia, Brazil and South Africa).

Companies profiled are AGC Group, Nippon Sheet Glass Co. (NSG Group), PPG Industries, Saint-Gobain, Guardian Glass, Taiwan Glass Ind. Corp., SCHOTT AG, Cardinal Glass Industries, Inc., Xinyi Glass Holding and Fuyao Group.

20281/Press Release – 2016.12.23

Global Flat Glass market to 2020

A recently released report from Persistence Market Research segments the global flat glass market into seven broad categories namely annealed glass, toughened glass, laminated glass, coated glass, mirrored glass, patterned glass and extra clear glass.

Based on the various manufacturing methods, the market can be segmented in three broad classes namely float glass, sheet glass, and rolled glass.

Float glass technique is most widely adopted technology worldwide. It grasped the largest market share in the year 2013. Based on the various end user applications, the global flat glass market is broadly categorized as construction, automotive and others. Construction is the largest application segment of flat glass. It covers more than 50 per cent of the total market share of the flat glass market.

The various properties of flat glass such as energy saving, noise control, cost benefits, luxury design, fire resistant, chemical inertness and self-cleaning properties are making it as one of the preferred choice for construction industry. Moreover the increasing use of flat glass in modern architectural designs is driving global flat glass market. Growing original equipments manufacturing (OEM) in automotive industry is further boosting the flat glass market.

The rising demand of renewal energy sources such as photovoltaic cells, solar panels, and E-glass is providing new growth opportunity for the flat glass market. The rising cost of raw material and lack of proper logistic supply chain management in developing countries are posing challenge for global flat glass market.

Asia Pacific is the largest market of flat glass followed by Europe and North America. China alone covers about 50 per cent of global market share of flat glass. Japan is the second largest market of flat glass in Asia Pacific. Germany accounts for the largest market of flat glass in

Europe. Asia Pacific region is the fastest growing market of flat glass owing to the massive urbanization and demand of passenger car from developing countries in this region.

Some of the major companies operating in global flat glass market include Taiwan Glass Group, Trakya Cam Sanayii A.S., Pilkington Group Limited, Nippon Sheet Glass Co., Ltd. Gujarat Guardian Limited, Guardian Industries Corp., Carlex Glass Company, Central Glass Co., Ltd., Compagnie De Saint-Gobain, PT Asahimas Flat Glass Tbk, AGC Glass Company North America and Asahi Glass Co., Ltd.

For more information visit: <http://www.persistencemarketresearch.com/samples/3361>

20282/Press Release – 2017.01.10

China Automotive Glass Industry Report 2016-2020

Research and Markets has announced the addition of the "China Automotive Glass Industry Report, 2016-2020" report to its offering.

China's automotive glass market size reached 110 million square meters in 2015, with a CAGR of 7.9% compared with 2011. With the slowdown in the automobile market in the future, the automotive glass market will decelerate, at a CAGR of 5.9% in the next five years. By 2020, the market size is expected to reach 146 million square meters.

Chinese automotive glass market is mainly divided into the supporting market and the maintenance & replacement market. The supporting market shared about 88.3% of the whole automotive glass market in 2015, but the demand herein will decline in the future with the falling automobile output growth; the maintenance & replacement market occupied about 11.7%, while the demand herein will jump with China's rising car ownership and extended car service life.

In terms of products, the current mainstream automotive glass still centres on tempered glass and laminated glass. With higher requirements of drivers and passengers on safety and comfort as well as in-depth applications of optical, mechanical and other technologies in glass products, special function glass has been more and more popular in the market.

As for competitive landscape, Chinese auto parts supporting market has entered into a relatively stable stage with high concentration after years of development. Fuyao Glass seized 63% market share exclusively in 2015 and has established relationship with most of major Chinese automakers to support a wide range of passenger cars and commercial vehicles. Asahi Glass (AGC) enjoyed 12% market share in 2015, serving passenger cars under Japanese brands.

Saint-Gobain that mainly targets European passenger cars ranked third by market share. The followers - Xinyi Glass, NSG, Shanghai Yaohua Pilkington Glass and other companies held the respective market share of less than 10%, mainly involved with passenger cars; other manufacturers mainly focus on low-grade commercial vehicle supporting and replacement markets.

Companies mentioned: AGC, BSG Auto Glass Co., Ltd., Changzhou Changjiang Glass Co., Ltd., Fuyao Glass Industry Group Co., Ltd., Guangzhou Dongxu Automobile Glass Co., Ltd., Hebei Tongyong Glass Industrial Co., Ltd., Jiangsu Tiemao Glass Co., Ltd., Ming Chi Glass Co., Ltd., NSG, Nanjing Yunhai Automobile Glass & Equipment Manufacturing Co., Ltd., SYP Kangqiao Autoglass Co., Ltd., Saint-Gobain, Shandong Jinjing Science & Technology Stock Co., Ltd., Shanghai Yaohua Pilkington Glass Group Co., Ltd., Shanxi Lihu Glass (Group) Co., Ltd., Taiwan Glass Ind. Corp., Xinyi Glass Holdings Limited.

For more information about this report visit:

http://www.researchandmarkets.com/research/64xc5h/china_automotive

20283/Press Release – 2017.01.27

B. CONTAINER GLASS

Glass Companies

Ardagh

Executives of Ardagh Group recently celebrated a decision by **New Glarus Brewing** to buy all of its bottles from the **Ardagh glass manufacturing plant in Burlington (Wisconsin), employing about 400 people.**

New Glarus Brewing Co. founder and President Deb Carey said her company's decision to buy its bottles from Ardagh instead of a manufacturing plant in Virginia means \$6 million of business kept in Wisconsin. According to New Glarus Brewing, glass is one of its largest annual expenses.

Alex Robertson, chief commercial officer of Ardagh North American Glass Division, also said the relationship between the two companies works well for other reasons.

"The key for us has been the sustainability side of things," he said. "From a freight point of view, a sustainability perspective, a local-supply perspective, everything comes together really, really well."

The Burlington Ardagh plant produces close to 2 million bottles a day.

Having New Glarus Brewing as a customer will add about 42 million bottles per year to the production total. John Riordan, president and CEO of Ardagh Group's North American Glass division, said the added business will not likely increase employment at the 50-year-old plant but added: "What this business will do is secure the plant into the future."

As part of its contract with Ardagh, New Glarus Brewing required that all of the bottle-making remain in Burlington rather than move to another plant, said Drew Cochrane, the brewer's chief operating officer and general counsel. That's part of a pattern for New Glarus Brewing, which Carey founded in 1993 and which now employs 120 people. All of its beer, about 220,000 barrels this year, is brewed in that Green County village, Carey said. In addition to the beer and now bottles, the cans are made in Fort Atkinson by the Ball Corp. and the boxes are made in Neenah by Menasha Packaging.

20284/Press Release – 2017.01.18



Verallia / VOA – Verrerie Ouvrière d’Albi



Verallia has invested more than €46m in one year to modernize VOA’s 2 furnaces, emblematic of the Group’s glassmaking expertise. The teams working for VOA celebrated the restart of its number 2 furnace on 6 January with a match-lighting ceremony.

VOA’s furnace n°1 dedicated to the production of very high quality flint and extra-flint glass underwent a complete rebuild at the end of 2015 and came into service at the beginning of 2016. Fully refurbished in turn, furnace n°2, which produces green, dead-leaf and cannelle-coloured bottles, has just restarted.

With these new installations, VOA can rely on extremely flexible manufacturing assets to ensure the continuous production of a wide variety of bottle line-ups.

VOA, that celebrated its 120th anniversary in 2016, employs more than 300 people and manufactures 800,000 bottles every day.



Benoît Chatillon, managing director of VOA – Verrerie d’Albi said “The modernization of furnace n°2 and all its manufacturing lines concludes an investment program historically high for our site. Today, our plant is new and equipped with industry-standard tools. This is a key competitive strength that will help us to grow our presence on the market, support our differentiation strategy, and ensure that our customers are delivered an exemplary level of performance and service. We are proud to have the support of our Group, Verallia, and of its shareholders.”

20285/Press Release – 2017.01.10

Allied Glass

Allied has launched stunning range of premium glass bottles.

Isaac Newton and Isambard Kingdom-Brunel were incredible individuals who strived to be creative, to do something different and who always looked to improve, fundamentals and values that Allied Glass embraces.

These beliefs are reflected by Allied’s new premium glass bottle range which was designed and manufactured to celebrate the very best in innovation and forward thinking. Therefore, when it came time to give identities to this new premium range, the names Newton and Brunel immediately stood out as an inspiration and a standard to abide by.





This range of glass bottles has been designed with the clear purpose to showcase any gin, whisky, vodka or rum product as a premium offering. The range was produced in collaboration with top bartenders to ensure a premium look with a raised push for greater presence on shelf, they also include a tapered body for better feel and handling.

20286/Press Release – 2017.01.20

Heinz Glas

Heinz Glas will introduce both its luxury spirits and beauty products packaging at Packaging Innovations 2017.



A company spokesperson said Heinz Glas looks forward to welcoming visitors to its stand, “where we can present samples demonstrating superb glass colour, surface quality and glass distribution.”

The company manufactures high quality flacons for the cosmetics and fragrance markets, this includes developing innovative designs, offering in house decoration and closures to fit. “We are experts in custom development and in addition to this we also have a great range of standards available from stock which we can make unique by way of decoration. Heinz Glas produces beautiful bottles of all weights and sizes which is now translating into larger Luxury Spirit bottles, something which we showcased at the recent Edinburgh Spirits Summit.”

20287/Press Release – 2017.01.26

Envibol (Bolivia)

Bolivian packaging group Envibol (Empresa Pública Productiva Envases de Vidrio de Bolivia) has signed contracts with European suppliers to implement its glass plant.

Italian companies Bottero, Antonini, Zecchetti and French inspection group Tiama have all signed contracts with the Bolivian government, which is constructing the plant.

The new glass plant in the municipality of Zudáñez is expected to produce 120 tons of glass per day, that is more than 200,000 glass containers per day.

The glass packaging company was created by a Bolivian government's Supreme Decree in April 2015, with the aim of manufacturing and marketing glass containers.

Officials of the Bolivia-based Productive Public Company of Glass Containers (Envibol), a subsidiary of the Public Enterprises Development Service (Sedem), signed contracts with the overseas officials in Chuquisaca last year.

The glass plant's operation will generate approximately 150 direct and over 500 indirect jobs.

20288/Press Release – 2017.01.24

Gerresheimer

The PCD Congress - Packaging of Perfume, Cosmetics and Design - took place in Paris on January 18 and 19.



This year's congress was attended by 6500 market experts from 70 countries around the world and more than 420 exhibitors. One of the leading suppliers at PCD is Gerresheimer. Its product experts presented exclusive glass packaging concepts for branded fragrances and cosmetics to the trade public and customers.

"The cosmetics industry thrives on its customers' beauty and personal care desires. Our bottles and jars are designed to optimally showcase the cosmetic brand products they contain, and to give those products a unique identity", explained Olivier Delicourt, Development Manager at Gerresheimer Momignies.

20289/Press Release – 2017.01.12

SGD Pharma

The Chinese state-owned JIC (China Jianyin Investment), which recently bought SGD Pharma, the world's largest pharmaceutical glass bottles, said it would open up the promising markets of Asia ... without sacrificing its factories in Europe.

"Our principle is to commit ourselves to the long term (...) We are not just shareholders, we are implementing a long-term strategy," insists Gu Jianguo, chairman of the fund (JIC).

SGD Pharma has around 2,750 employees worldwide, including 30% in France, where it owns two factories (Saint-Quentin and Sucy-en-Brie near Paris). It has three more locations in Germany, India and southern China.



JIC, which previously had no assets in the pharmaceutical industry, does not hide its intention to rely more on SGD's Chinese plant "with a very high level of gross profitability" and to dig into the under-exploited Asian markets.

China is expected to see its pharmaceutical market expand to \$ 167 billion by 2020, compared with \$ 108 billion in 2015. But this forecast is well below the numbers advanced a few years ago, noting the sharp decline in industry revenues due to state pressure to reduce prices and regulatory tightening.

SGD Pharma has recently contributed to the design of a new coating to protect liquid medicines, which will allow the commercialization of new preparations.

20290/Press Release – 2017.01.12

Miscellaneous

Ambitious though Ambiguous Outcome to European Parliament Vote on Circular Economy



The European Container Glass Industry warmly welcomes the ambitious proposals that were adopted yesterday by the European Parliament's ENVI Committee on the Circular Economy Package. The request for mandatory separate collection across all EU Member States is particularly important as it guarantees the highest quality of recycled secondary raw materials for manufacturing. This is fundamental for the Container Glass circular economy model centered on the closed loop recycling of glass waste to be reused in new production.

"Focusing on quality of recycled material, in particular for food contact materials, is more important than setting targets, which are there to channel investments in the right direction", commented Adeline Farrelly, Secretary General of FEVE. "That is why we pay particular attention to separate collection and safe and circular recycling, and we hope the European Parliament will be strong in upholding its position on this point in plenary".

This goes hand in hand with the strong position of the ENVI Committee to focus the Packaging Waste targets on recycling only, and not combine them with preparation for re-use which would water down the recycling ambition by artificially boosting figures with business-as-usual activities. However, the European Parliament position remains ambiguous on re-use: "It already makes perfect business sense to re-use packaging before it becomes waste. But setting a flat re-use target for all packaging without differentiation between consumer packaging and business or transport packaging will not encourage any step changes on promoting re-use among consumers".

The ENVI Committee has also sent mixed signals by singling out bio-based packaging over other packaging materials. This fails to acknowledge that the circular economy is about keeping resources productive without requiring the input of new resources, whether renewable or not. Permanent materials which can be recycled several times do not need to be renewed. "Surely this legislation must remain material neutral and focus on setting rules and principles on end of life for all materials to fulfil", concluded Adeline Farrelly.

The European Container Glass Industry looks forward to continuing the debate with Member States and the European Parliament on how legislation can support a genuine Circular Economy.

- (1) See FEVE Key Recommendations on the CEP published on the FEVE website <https://goo.gl/snDu7j>
- (2) See Study "Permanent Materials in the framework of the Circular Economy concept: review of existing literature and definitions, and classification of glass as a Permanent Material", Stazione Sperimentale del Vetro, June 2016 - <http://feve.org/glass-is-permanent-material>.

20291/Press Release – 2017.01.25

Indian Container Glass Sector

India is emerging as one of the most important container glass markets in the world due to its market size, large population and potential for future growth.

A report by *Seema Gahlaut* in Glass International (December-January 2017).

20292/Press Release – 2017/01

How Hybrid Consumers Have Changed the Glassmaking Market

European beer bottle glassmakers have been hit by a double whammy. Consumption of beer is declining among consumers and, at the same time, brewing companies are getting larger, meaning they have greater negotiating power when discussing contracts. Rabobank's glass strategist, Susan Hansen, explains in a three-page article about the changing face of the beer bottle market.

20293/Glass International – 2017/01

C. REINFORCEMENT GLASS FIBRES

Company

Owens Corning



Owens Corning) has been recognized as one of the world's most sustainable companies for the fourth consecutive year by sustainability investment specialist RobecoSAM. This recognition earned Owens Corning placement in RobecoSAM's 2017 Sustainability Yearbook. Owens Corning's score – within 1 percent of the top score globally – earned it the "Gold Class" distinction from RobecoSAM. The company was also named an "Industry Mover" by RobecoSAM.

This distinction recognizes the firms that achieved the largest proportional improvement in their performance over the previous year.

“We are pleased to be recognized again by RobecoSAM as a global sustainability leader,” said Thierry Denis, vice president of investor relations, Owens Corning. “We believe strengthening our sustainability efforts benefits our global enterprise and, ultimately, the value we deliver to shareholders.”

Every year since 2004, the Sustainability Yearbook has listed the world’s most sustainable companies in each industry as determined by their score in RobecoSAM’s annual Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA). For the 2017 yearbook, RobecoSAM assessed nearly 2,500 companies globally. They are evaluated against 18 criteria in three dimensions, or categories – economic, environmental, and social.

Owens Corning received a 100 th percentile ranking in the economic dimension of RobecoSAM’s assessment. This category comprises customer relationship management, supply chain management, risk and crisis management, and more. It also had a 100 th percentile ranking in the social dimension, which includes talent attraction and retention, health and safety, corporate citizenship, and human rights. Owens Corning’s progress in environmental reporting accounted for its significantly higher score in the environmental dimension. The environmental dimension also includes recycling strategy, operational eco-efficiency, environmental policy and systems, and climate strategy.

Progress in 14 of the 18 criteria across the three dimensions earned Owens Corning the ‘Industry Mover’ distinction. Of the nearly 2,500 companies that were assessed, 77 were recognized for Gold Class performance, and 54 were listed as an Industry Mover.

RobecoSAM is based in Zurich, Switzerland, and is a subsidiary of the Robeco Group. RobecoSAM is an investment specialist focused exclusively on sustainability investing. It offers asset management, indices, impact analysis and investing, sustainability assessments, and benchmarking services. Together with S&P Dow Jones Indices, RobecoSAM publishes the globally recognized Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI). Based on its corporate sustainability assessment (CSA), an annual ESG analysis of over 3,800 listed companies, RobecoSAM has compiled one of the world’s most comprehensive databases of financially material sustainability information. The data of the CSA is included in \$87.3 billion of assets under management by subsidiaries of the Robeco Group.

D. SPECIAL GLASS

Glass Companies

SCHOTT



Schott is integrating a big data solution into its pharmaceutical tubing production. The data solution will replace statistical sample-based quality assurance with 100% on-line measurement.

Its new IT-based process, called perfeXion, process- and product-quality data of each individual glass tube is collected online and in real-time.

Making accurate glass tubes for the pharmaceutical industry is no light feat: at several metres per second, a virtually endless glass tube comes from the melt at over 1600C and is drawn over a rotating mandrel.



By making adjustments to the drawing speed and the air supply, wall thickness and tube diameter can be precisely determined down to the hundredth of a millimetre.

A few metres further down the line, the cooled glass section is then cut into roughly 1.50 metre-long pieces. From these glass tubes, converters can later manufacture pharmaceutical containers such as vials and syringes. Schott is now able to measure 100% of every single glass tube in production. This data also enables for post-processing steps to be efficiently aligned with the tubing quality.

Instead of selecting a few glass tubes from each batch for statistical quality control, the new perfeXion system measures the entire glass tube many times over as it is drawn from the melt. Lasers recognise deviations in diameter and wall thickness, for example, and camera and IR inspection systems can even detect the smallest inclusions in the glass. Around 100,000 data tags are generated every minute.

An integrated IT system, evaluating the continuous glass tube with real-time data measurements, calculates incidents of imperfection with such precision that it can later differentiate corresponding individual tubes which can then be sorted out. Each tube is checked again at its completion.

The system's development took several years. Analysing a curved tube surface zooming down a production line was a particularly difficult challenge. The effort has paid off because the data analysis is a source of insight into how production can be further optimised.

The perfeXion approach means quality data can be traced back in more detail, not only by Schott but also by companies at subsequent steps in the value chain.

Dr Patrick Markschläger, Executive Vice President at Schott Tubing, said: "By gathering information on each individual glass tube, we've already made an important contribution to quality assurance for downstream post-processing steps at the very beginning of the value chain."

20295/Press Release – 2017.01.23

CORNING

CORNING

Corning Unveils Vision for Ultimate Driving Experience

Innovations in advanced glass technology enable cleaner, safer, more enhanced automotive solutions. Corning Incorporated unveiled its glass-enabled concept vehicle, showcasing the breadth of Corning® Gorilla® Glass for Automotive applications.

As the automotive industry rapidly changes, driven by new trends in connectivity, fuel efficiency, and social behaviour, Corning sees exciting new opportunities for the role of advanced glass technologies, both inside and outside vehicles.

"By bringing Corning Gorilla Glass to the automotive industry, Corning is delivering lighter, tougher, and more optically advantaged solutions, enabling improved fuel efficiency, and a safer, more enhanced user experience for both drivers and passengers," said Marty Curran, executive vice president and innovation officer. "Corning's leading position in mobile device cover glass has provided an excellent launch pad for glass solutions enabling smart-phone like connectivity in cars. We are excited to be demonstrating all of these new technologies and opportunities in a custom-built connected car."

Corning's Connected Car features:

- A lightweight Gorilla Glass hybrid windshield with augmented reality capabilities, providing real-time updates on traffic and landmarks, and enabling a lighter, more fuel-efficient ride.
- A seamless, flowing Gorilla Glass dashboard and elegantly floating center console, providing users with fully integrated connectivity that keeps drivers and passengers informed and entertained.
- Gorilla Glass hybrid sunroof and backlites, with additional lightweighting benefits, contributing to improved fuel efficiency.

Corning is now leveraging its precision glass capabilities, fusion manufacturing expertise, and auto industry experience to extend Gorilla Glass into the automotive glass market.

20296/Press Release – 2017.01.05

Glass Scientific Apparatus Market - Global Industry Share to 2023

Glass scientific apparatus is designed for technical experiments particularly in biology and chemistry laboratories.



The test procedures used in a laboratory will determine what types of equipment are required. Certain applications demand use of glass over other materials due to its relative inertness, heat resistance, transparency, and easy customization. Laboratory glassware products are more suitable for harsh chemicals than plastics. Moreover, glass offers much easier sterilization than most plastics and can be reused. As demand drops, prices have had to go up. Various grades and types of glass used in laboratories have their own purity, thermal resistance and strength. Sodium borosilicate glass is most commonly used in laboratory under the trade names Pyrex and Kimax and is highly resistant.

The global glass scientific market can be segmented based on product type, glass type, end-users and geography. Product types include test tubes, funnels, cuvettes, watch glasses, beakers (low form, tall form, flat form, autoclave, electrolytic and others), measuring cylinders, desiccators, bottles (narrow neck, reagent bottles), petri-dishes, microscopic slides, burettes, pipettes (microfluidics, graduated), vials, and flasks (Erlenmeyer flask, Schlenk flask, retort, Florence or boiling flask, Buchner flask, conical flask, volumetric flask and others). Soft soda lime glass, hard borosilicate glass, pure fused quartz glass, amber coloured glass, heavy wall glass and other glass materials are various types of glass used in construction of scientific glassware. Borosilicate glass is most commonly used in reagent bottles due to its ability to withstand thermal stress. Glassware made of pure fused quartz is better able to withstand quick changes in temperature than its counterparts. Geographically, the market has been segmented into four major regions: North America, Europe, Asia Pacific and Rest of the World.

Beaker is usually used as measuring devices or containers for mixing various liquids. Flasks are containers often made of glass and usually designed to carry a liquid. Some of the flask types include flat bottomed flask, conical flask, circle bottomed flask, suck in flask and pear-shaped flask. The Erlenmeyer flask is not only used for holding and measuring liquid samples, but also have applications in mixing, heating and boiling of liquid chemicals. Test tube is generally used to hold the substance in place and allows observation of reactions taking place due to transparency. Measuring cylinder is used to measure the volume of solutions.

Pipettes are available in a variety of types and sizes for many different uses. These are calibrated glass tubes used to transfer small quantities of solution (around 50 mL or less) from one vessel to another. Most commonly used pipettes include volumetric and measuring pipettes. Burettes are long, graduated glass tubes comprising a valve for use in measuring accurate volumes of liquid. These are used for titration carried out in analytical experiments.

Some of the major factors that influence the market growth are R&D increased activities by private biotech and pharmaceuticals firms, growing investments in clinical and life sciences research. However, increase in the preference of plastic over glass may hamper the market growth.

Becton Dickinson and Company, Borosil Glass Works Ltd., Bellco Glass, Inc., Corning, Duran, Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., Research Products LLC and Kimble Chase Life Science are some of the key players in the global glass scientific apparatus market.

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E. DOMESTIC TABLEWARE AND CRYSTAL GLASS

Glass Company

Zwiesel Kristallglas

FINESSE by SCHOTT ZWIESEL is awarded the prestigious Design Plus Prize January 2017. The Design Plus competition is held at the world's leading trade fair, Ambiente 2017, with a special one-off theme of "Ethical Style". Unusual design and product sustainability were the focus of the international jury. A total of 86 exhibitors submitted products of particular ecological quality and unique design for the preliminary stages.

The gourmet stemmed glassware FINESSE by SCHOTT ZWIESEL was particularly impressive with its striking kink in the chalice, the flowing form and the elegant, timeless contours. The jury honoured the patented and lead-free Tritan® crystal glass for the ecological production methods used to produce the glasses in this range.



FINESSE from SCHOTT ZWIESEL – Winner of the Design Plus Ethical Style Edition 2017.

"We are delighted about this prestigious award for FINESSE. As the Design Plus competition this year was not judged solely on design, but also on sustainability, this is both a fantastic acknowledgement of our company's innovation culture and our ecological commitment" said Gerhard Frank, Brand Manager of SCHOTT ZWIESEL.

No matter whether for the festive table or a classically laid table, FINESSE gives every arrangement a special sophistication. A striking kink in the chalice supports the different wine and grape varieties perfectly and provides a generous surface area for the delicate bouquet to unfold. The tapering funnel also pools the scent molecules together in the glass and paves the way for an intense and authentic sensory perception of the individual flavours. The aromas of the classic wine varieties – Bordeaux, Claret, Burgundy, Chardonnay, Riesling – are perfectly presented.

Glasses for sparkling wine/Champagne and water complete the collection. The range is the perfect accompaniment for at home and in exclusive catering.

The patented Tritan® crystal glass collections from SCHOTT ZWIESEL combine functional design, natural materials and an enduring sparkle. Working together with TÜV Rheinland the products are continually optimised in terms of ecological considerations. The development of the internationally patented Tritan® technology by ZWIESEL KRISTALLGLAS marks a new milestone in the history of glass production. Modified raw materials as well as an innovative manufacturing process create a crystal glass of the utmost purity. A unique composition, automated material and mixture supply and computer-aided process monitoring guarantee a constant high level of quality and unrivalled splendour. Functional, stylistically confident design, natural materials, the highest level of stability and surface strength – these product features are valued by over 3,000 restaurants, bars and hotels and other establishments, many of which are at the very high end of the catering and hotel industry.

Tritan® crystal glass sets ecological standards and has already an ecological profile from an independent institution (ISO 14040:2009) with a low carbon footprint, which will continue to be reduced throughout the day-to-day process. This is how ZWIESEL KRISTALLGLAS achieves sustainable transparency through Corporate responsibility. TRITAN® PROTECT has been enhanced with an innovative surface finish, which significantly increases the breaking resistance and resilience of the glass by means of a specially tempered stem surface. If the glass is tipped over or exposed to heavy stresses in the dishwasher, it is even better protected.

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IN BRIEF

GLASS & SUPPLIERS

Testing the Mechanical Strength of Chemically Strengthened Glass

The correlation between potassium depth, surface compression and mechanical strength tested according to EN 1288-5 have been investigated on **float glass samples** chemically strengthened with different time/temperature cycles.

Report by Ennio Mognato, Matteo Schiavonato and Alessandra Barbieri at SSV (Stazione Sperimentale del Vetro), and Marco Pittoni, Technical Director at Viraver Technology srl.

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SEMINARS / CONFERENCES / WORKSHOPS

Şişecam Glass Symposium, Istanbul: Call for papers



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

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

Contributions are welcome on the topics given below, in technical program and students are especially encouraged to attend.

Abstracts (about 300 words) should be written in English, which is the official language of the event. Please find the instructions for abstract preparation at the web page: <http://www.icgistanbul2017.com>

Post-docs and students at national and international level, are especially encouraged to attend the ICG 2017 Istanbul, the registration fee for them will be half of the regular fee. Registration fee will include one set of conference materials, entrance to all conference sessions (lectures, posters), the welcome reception on Sunday evening, lunches, morning and afternoon refreshments.

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

Topics will include:

- Glass formation, transition, relaxation and modelling
- Glass properties
- Crystallization and glass ceramics
- Chemical durability and leaching
- Nuclear waste vitrification
- Surface properties and coatings
- Bioactive and sol-gel glasses
- Glass melting, forming
- Energy and environment
- Raw materials
- Refractories

For more information visit www.icgistanbul2017.com

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