

Container



**Building, Solar,
Transport**



Special



Fibres



Domestic



Glass Alliance
Europe

JULY-AUGUST 2017

Newsletter N°343

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INTERNAL NEWS

At Glass Alliance Europe's **Statutory General Assembly (1st June 2017)**, members of the Assembly approved the nomination of **Dr Johann OVERATH** (Director of the German glass association BV Glas) as **new President** of the Alliance, and of **Mr. Guy de CLIPPELE** (General Director of the Belgian glass association FIV-VGI) as **Vice-President**, for a first two-year term.

Johann Overath,
Director



Guy de Clippele,
Director



The members thanked outgoing President Jacques BORDAT for his contribution and leadership to GAE during four years, his help and continuous support for a fruitful European glass network.

Mr. Bertrand Cazes was also confirmed as next Secretary-General for 2018.

COMMUNITY NEWS

A. EU NEW LEGISLATION

Council/Parliament Regulation

Regulation (EU) 2017/1369 of 4 July 2017 Setting a Framework for Energy Labelling and Repealing Directive 2010/30/EU

The Union is committed to building an Energy Union with a forward-looking climate policy. Energy efficiency is a crucial element of the Union's 2030 Climate and Energy Policy Framework and is key to moderating energy demand.

Energy labelling enables customers to make informed choices based on the energy consumption of energy-related products. Information on efficient and sustainable energy-related products makes a significant contribution to energy savings and to reducing energy bills, while at the same time promoting innovation and investments into the production of more energy efficient products. Improving the efficiency of energy-related products through informed customer choice and harmonising related requirements at Union level benefits also manufacturers, industry and the Union economy overall.

The Commission reviewed the effectiveness of Directive 2010/30/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council and identified the need to update the energy labelling framework to improve its effectiveness.

This new Regulation lays down a framework that applies to energy-related products placed on the market or put into service. It provides for the labelling of those products and the provision of standard product information regarding energy efficiency, the consumption of energy and of other resources by products during use and supplementary information concerning products, thereby enabling customers to choose more efficient products in order to reduce their energy consumption.

This Regulation does not apply to second-hand products, unless they are imported from a third country, and to means of transport for persons or goods.

All details on page 1 at:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2017:198:TOC>

B. TRADE POLICY**New EU Antidumping Methodology**

The European Parliament gave its green light in Strasbourg on 5 July to the opening of talks with the Council on the new EU anti-dumping methodology that aims to settle the issue of how to treat China in EU anti-dumping investigations now that the arrangements on this China's accession protocol to the WTO have expired.

These new rules on the calculation of EU customs duties aim to respond to the controversy around China's market economy status and the unfair trade practices of other third countries in which state interference at the level of the economy is significant.

MEPs call for anti-dumping investigations to take account of:

- the exporter country's respect of international standards on tax, the environment and labour;
- possible discriminatory measures against foreign investment;
- effective company law, property rights, taxation and bankruptcy systems.

They call for the Commission to produce and publish detailed reports describing the specific situation of a sector of activity, like steel, or of a country with unfair trade practices.

MEPs strengthen the proposal unveiled by the Commission in November 2016 by making the use of international prices obligatory (and not the prices of countries practising dumping) in order to determine the existence of market distortions. They call for European businesses not to be subject to further red tape in relation to the procedure planned for asking the Commission to launch an anti-dumping investigation. The main difference between the positions of the European Parliament and Council are found in the fact that the Parliament proposes a broader list of indicators enabling the existence of market distortions to be determined.

The Parliament will now begin negotiations with the EU ministers on 12 July based on this mandate.

20624/Press Release – 2017.07.05

EU / Japan Free Trade Agreement (JEFTA)

During the 24th EU-Japan summit held in Brussels on 6 July, the leaders of the EU (European Council President Donald Tusk and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker) and Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe confirmed the agreement in principle that was concluded the previous day by European Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström and the head of Japanese diplomacy, Fumio Kishida, and that seals the negotiations for a Japan-EU free trade agreement (JEFTA).

The two parties hope to complete the agreement definitively by the end of the year by coming to an agreement on its investment protection chapter. Its implementation would not come about before 2019.

European and Japanese leaders confirmed their agreements in principle that have been concluded in tandem with the bilateral agreements negotiated by the EU and Japan since spring 2013: the economic partnership agreement (free trade agreement) and the strategic partnership agreement (SPA) that encompasses it. The SPA will govern relations at political level (including cooperation on security and crisis management, and migration crises) and cooperation in around 30 sectors (including energy, science and technology, and also data protection) and will ensure the coherence of the economic partnership agreement.

The JEFTA negotiations picked up speed since Donald Trump took up office in early 2017 and since his quick decision to withdraw the US from the Transpacific Partnership (TPP) that was sealed with Japan and ten other Asia Pacific countries in 2015. Since Trump's decision, Tokyo has focused its negotiations on the EU.

On the substance of the trade agreement, transition periods and different means of handling and "respecting" sensitive products are planned, but when the transition periods expire the agreement will cover 99% of bilateral trade in goods.

With regard to automobiles, Japan obtained the lifting of EU taxes on personal-use vehicles – products that are sensitive for Europeans, who nevertheless obtained a grace period of over seven years, as requested by the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA).

JEFTA "will bring the economies of the EU and Japan closer together by addressing issues linked to market access for goods, services and investments, procurement, including railways, as well as those linked to non-tariff measures and the protection of geographical indications and intellectual property rights. It will enable our common commitment to international standards to be strengthened for ever closer cooperation in the future", Juncker stated.

"With this agreement in principle, the EU and Japan are showing the world and its citizens that free trade, together with clear and transparent rules fully respecting and upholding our values, remains an important tool for promoting prosperity in our societies. Our economic partnership agreement will be the basis of a strategic partnership for free and fair trade against protectionism", Juncker concluded.

Juncker also spoke of JEFTA's gains for Europe. For businesses in the EU, it will open up new possibilities in a market of 127 million people living in the fourth richest economy in the world. It has the potential to increase EU exports to Japan by more than a third, and would help cut the €1 billion worth of customs tariffs EU exporters have to pay every year.

The two parties need to continue their discussions on one last major stumbling block: the chapter on investment protection. Beyond the differences between the two parties on investment protection and standards on this, the issue of the mechanism for settling investor-state disputes remains open.

The EU wants to negotiate on this issue on the basis of the investment court system (ICS) for arbitrating in investment disputes (a system promoted by the EU in its agreements with Canada and Vietnam, and at the multilateral level), with the hope of establishing a multilateral investment court.

Japan still needs to be convinced. It recently obtained the inclusion of ISDS mechanisms in the recent free trade agreements it concluded and continues to be a supporter of this criticised arbitration system.

The two parties hope to complete the agreement definitively by the end of the year.

20625/Press Release – 2017.07.06

EU / CUBA

MEPs approved by a large majority (567 votes in favour, 65 against and 31 abstentions) the conclusion of the **first EU-Cuba association agreement**. This is aimed at fostering bilateral trade and establishes a political dialogue including the issue of human rights. The signature of the cooperation agreement put an end to the 1996 common position of the Council which made the deepening of EU relations with Cuba conditional upon progress in the area of human rights.

During the plenary vote, MEPs expunged all direct mention of the US blockade on Cuba since 1962 in favour of an EPP Group amendment that was adopted narrowly (310 votes in favour, 301 against and 56 abstentions). Nevertheless, they opposed the laws and measures with an extra-territorial effect that harm the people of Cuba. In addition, the European Parliament adopted (342 votes in favour, 254 against and 68 abstentions) an amendment from the ECR Group noting that politically motivated arbitrary detentions were on the upsurge. "The human rights situation in Cuba is not getting any better. The number of political prisoners has doubled since last year", Pavel Telička (ALDE, Czech Republic) stated.

With the approval of the Parliament, the arrangements of European competence in the bilateral agreement will now be able to enter into force provisionally while awaiting ratification of the agreement by all member states.

20626/DG Trade Press Release – 2017.07.05

EU-Mercosur Free Trade Negotiations

The third round of technical-level talks, in Brussels on 3-7 July, for a free trade agreement between the EU and Mercosur (**Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay** with Venezuela being suspended from the South American bloc) saw progress with a view to an agreement on certain key questions. The next round of talks will take place in early October in Brasilia, after an intersession meeting in Brussels on 4 to 8 September.

The discussions covered a wide range of negotiation texts including on the trade of goods, rules of origin, customs and trade facilitation, technical barriers to trade, sanitary and phytosanitary issues, trade defence instruments, services, public procurement, intellectual property (including geographical indications), trade and sustainable development, SMEs, dispute settlement and institutional affairs.

The negotiations for this agreement were relaunched in the spring of 2016, following a long freeze of around ten years.

20627/DG Trade Press Release – 2017.07.11

Peugeot's Acquisition of Opel Approved

The European Commission gave its unconditional green light to the acquisition of Opel by Peugeot, as it considers that the operation will have no significant impact on the national and European markets. The institution found that the two companies had a limited combined market share in the production and sales of vehicles in Europe, which is greater than 40% only in Estonia and Portugal. The merged entity would also face stiff competition on the European market. The European Commission furthermore found that the operation would have no negative impact on competition in the wholesale and retail distribution markets and that the companies use different distribution channels and also face competition from independent actors.

20628/DG Trade Press Release – 2017.07.06

C. ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

EU ETS: Inter-institutional Negotiations on Post-2020 ETS Reform



The fourth triologue meeting (Parliament, Council, Commission) is planned for 13 September.

The third triologue meeting (on 10 July 2017) persuaded the Presidency and the Parliament of the need to see more clearly with regard to the potential impact of any amendment of one of the text's three pillars (strengthening the ETS, protecting against carbon leaks, and the Solidarity Fund) on the balance of the whole proposal for the directive that has been tabled. They also asked the European Commission for a tool for assessing the impact of any change in order to help them with this (in the form of a table, or graphs, for example) – a tool which would enable them to identify how far they could respectively move. The Commission agreed. It will provide the Parliament and Council with this tool so that each institution can move ahead with its analysis.

For the time being, the Estonian Presidency has not yet enlarged its negotiation mandate. But it intends to discuss this with the permanent member state representatives (Coreper) before the next triologue, in order to renew the mandate entrusted it by the Council. The first Coreper meeting after the summer break, possibly on 8 September, could provide this opportunity, but it remains to be confirmed.

20629/Press Release – 2017.07.12

Amendment to Gothenburg Protocol Ready for Ratification

The European Parliament gave its backing to ratification by the EU of the amendment to the Gothenburg Protocol to the 1979 **Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP)** on reducing acidification, eutrophication and ground-level ozone.

Following the recommendation of rapporteur Adina-Ioana Vălean (EPP, Romania), MEPs voted by the overwhelming majority of 630 to 10, with 25 abstentions, to approve the Council draft decision.

The Council formally adopted this decision allowing it to ratify the amendment to the Gothenburg Protocol on behalf of the European Union.

In May 2012, the parties to the Gothenburg Protocol agreed a raft of revisions, among which was the inclusion of tougher emissions reduction commitments until 2020 through tighter limit values from stationary and mobile sources. The revised protocol is the first binding agreement containing commitments on reducing emissions of fine particles. It also comprises measures on black carbon, a pollutant with a short shelf life and a component of the particles. The reduction of particles brought by application of the protocol is considered to be a powerful way of curbing air pollution and bring climate benefits.

In the EU, implementation of the Gothenburg Protocol is through the national emissions ceiling (NEC) directive, directive adopted in 2016 and which has already been aligned with the amended protocol with regard to emission reduction commitments for each member state from 2020 to 2029 and sets more ambitious targets from 2030 onwards.

20630/Press Release – 2017.07.18

European Chemicals Industry Carbon Neutral by 2050

Becoming carbon neutral by 2050 while still remaining competitive is possible for the European chemicals industry under the most ambitious scenario of a study made public by Cefic (European Chemical Industry Council) on 19 July.

The study, “Low carbon energy and feedstock for the European chemical industry”, was carried out by German company DECHEMA. It analyses the technological options available for main chemical production processes and outlines the conditions necessary to facilitate the transition of the high-energy, carbon-intensive industry to carbon neutrality.

Among the conditions are:

- abundant low-carbon electricity in much larger volumes and at competitive prices;
- availability of alternative feedstocks (e.g. bio-based raw materials, CO₂ or industrial waste gases);
- an enabling fiscal structure to modernise ageing production facilities and equipment or build new plants;
- government or public-private support to scale-up technologies and share investment risk for those technologies that are first of a kind or high risk;
- innovation and research into new chemical technologies that help overcome these challenges;
- enabling business models to enhance cross-sectoral collaboration to find sustainable ways to re-use CO₂.

“Many promising low-carbon technologies are available at a relatively advanced stage of development. The industry will need to find the way to overcome the investment, raw material and energy challenges for them to be implemented on a large scale in Europe”, said Marco Mensink, Cefic Director General.

Implementing the technologies and options explored in this study would allow the European chemicals industry to achieve its ambition of playing a leading role in the transformation of the European economy to a low-carbon & circular economy, Cefic says.

20631/Press Release – 2017.07.19

RoHS – Revision of the Restriction of Hazardous Substances Directive

European Parliament committee approves inter-institutional agreement on review of RoHS 2 Directive

Progress was made in Brussels on 11 July towards the formal update of the **RoHS 2 Directive** (2011/65/EU) on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment, in the interest of the environment, public health and the circular economy.

Members of the Parliament's environment committee approved by a large majority (64 votes in favour, 0 against and 1 abstention) the provisional interinstitutional agreement found on 21 June on this legislative text.

The text will exclude pipe organs from the scope of the directive, as no alternatives exist. To address the Commission concerns arising from the “open-scope” product group (category 11) that was created at the previous revision, the text will ensure the possibility of secondary market operations (e.g. reselling, second-hand market) for electrical and electronic equipment that was not covered by RoHS 2 and the use of spare parts for such equipment if they are put on the market before 22 July 2019.

A more general revision of the text will take place in 2021.

20632/Press Release – 2017.07.12

Glass for Europe: reaction to EU Council General approach on Energy Efficiency Directive and Energy Performance of Building Directive

Bertrand Cazes, Secretary General of Glass for Europe gave the association's reaction to the EU Council General approach on the Energy Efficiency Directive and Energy Performance of Building Directive.

On 26 June, the European Council agreed its position to review the Energy Efficiency Directive and the Energy Performance of Building Directive. The General Approach reached these two dossiers form the basis for the preparations for the negotiations with the European Parliament, which will take place under the Estonian presidency (second semester 2017).

Bertrand Cazes, Secretary General of Glass for Europe: "The lack of ambition in the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) and the absence of legislative response to the well-known loopholes of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) in the Council's general approach are sources of great disappointment for the building glass sector."



“To Glass for Europe, a high ambition in buildings must not be feared. It could be met with readily available glass products if the EPBD review was to address the directive's deficiencies.”

20633/Press Release – 2017.07.03

D. SOCIAL ISSUES

Workers’ Protection against Carcinogenic and Mutagenic Agents (CMD)

The member states finally adopted the first revision of the directive on the protection of workers from risks related to exposure to carcinogens and mutagens at work (Directive 2004/37/EC) at the Committee of Permanent Representatives (Coreper). Essentially, the revision of the directive aims to establish or revise the upper exposure limits in the workplace for 13 carcinogenic and mutagenic substances.

New Upper Limits:

- **Reprotoxic substances:** The Commission will have to assess the possibility of including reprotoxic substances in the scope of the directive by the first quarter of 2019 at the latest, and may present a legislative proposal on the matter.
- **Chromium VI:** exposure limit value of 0,010 mg/m³ for a period of 5 years after the date of transposition, which limit will subsequently be lowered to 0,005 mg/m³. A derogation was agreed for welding and plasma cutting processes or similar work processes that generate fumes, with an exposure limit value of 0.025 mg/m³ for a period of 5 years after the transposition date, and 0,005 mg/m³ thereafter.

- **Hardwood dust:** exposure limit value of 3 mg/m³ for five years after the entry into force of the directive and thereafter to 2 mg/m³
- **Respiratory crystalline silica dust: the limit is set at 0.1mg/m³.** The Commission committed to evaluate the need to modify the limit (e.g. whether to set it at 0.05mg/m³), five years after the entry into force of the amendment (which will mean in principle in 2025).

Health surveillance: the doctor or authority responsible for the health surveillance of workers within member states may indicate that health surveillance must continue after the end of exposure for as long as they consider it necessary to safeguard the health of the worker concerned (lifelong healthcare monitoring).

Three Member States abstained from the vote: Poland, the United Kingdom and Croatia.

20634/Press Release – 2017.07.11

Appeal to a Holistic Industrial Strategy

During the 5th International Friends of Industry conference in Berlin on 30 June, representatives from the 20 Member States adopted a joint declaration on the Union developing a holistic industrial strategy. The Commissioner for the Internal Market and Industry, Elżbieta Bieńkowska, also attended this event.

The German Secretary of State, Matthias Machnig, stated, *“We need strong industry in Europe and a clear European industrial strategy with concrete measures to promote a sustainable strengthening of our industry’s competitiveness”*.

During this event, Mr. Machnig called on the European Commission to present this strategy as soon as possible. This could provide a way of further hammering home the message delivered by the Competitiveness Council in May 2017, which called on the Commission to present a holistic strategy by spring 2018.

The Berlin Declaration also underlines the demand made by the member states. **The European Commission is expected to present a holistic strategy by Spring 2018 for the industrial sector, which sets out medium and long-term strategic objectives.** This will also be accompanied by an action plan and concrete measures, as well as an impact analysis of the European policies on European industry.

The five-page long declaration tackles many different themes, such as digitalisation, access to investment, sustainability and the environment, as well as international trade. The question of industry’s digital transformation is a priority. In this regard, the signatories considered that member states should strengthen their investment in infrastructure at European, national and regional levels and that investment should be increased in digital skills. In this connection, they would also like to emphasise **STEAM** skills, or those relating to science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

In the context of start-ups, signatories would like to facilitate SMEs’ access to markets and finance, as well as, in a more general way, access to skills, knowledge, expertise and technological services, as well as innovation hubs.

In the area of innovation, they also mention at random: 5G, 3-D imaging and cyber security. The 20 Member States explained that they need to adjust financing programmes and the regulatory framework as a whole, as a means to respond to the challenges of the data economy.

Member states also call for: European strategic investment funds to be maintained, costs linked to European regulation to be reduced, a stable regulatory environment for environmental subjects. On the issue of the European Trading Scheme (ETS), signatories call for attention to be paid to high energy consuming industries.

International trade occupies a significant part of the declaration. The text points out that *"the time of major trading nations pronouncing that they are in favour of opening up the markets... is over"* whilst referring in thinly veiled terms, to the US. The signatories regret this change, which they consider will have a negative impact on the chain of industrial value. On this basis, the declaration highlights the importance of ensuring respect for the reciprocity principle and responding to unfair trade. It therefore reiterates the importance of multilateral and bilateral negotiations and insists on the need for the European Commission to defend European industry effectively.

Declaration signatures include Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain.

20635/Press Release – 2017.07.03

EU Unemployment Decreasing But Worrying Situation for Young People

According to the annual report on employment trends and the social situation in Europe published by the European Commission on 17 July, the recovery is continuing and unemployment is falling but the social disparities and differences in working conditions between young and older workers remain particularly pronounced and the subject of much concern.

Addressing the press, Marianne Thyssen, the Commissioner for Employment and Social Affairs welcomed the fact that, "We have reached the highest ever employment rates in the European Union: 71.1%".

According to the report, around 234 million workers (aged 20-64) are employed and 154.8 million of them are in the Eurozone. It should be pointed out that the target the EU set itself for 2020 is an unemployment rate of 75%.

Therefore, since 2013, unemployment has continually fallen: around 10 million new jobs have been created, of which 80% are full time and 20%, part-time. 70% of these new jobs are permanent

Between 2012 and 2015, available household income rose above the pre-crisis 2008 level and the number of people in danger of falling into poverty fell by 4.8 million. Nonetheless, 120 million Europeans are still in danger falling into poverty.

The report shows that employment levels vary considerably from one Member State to the next: in Greece, Spain, Latvia, Croatia and Romania, employment rates are around 10% below the pre-crisis employment level.

Long-term unemployment also remains a major challenge. 46% of the unemployed have been without work for more than a year, which accounts for 4% of the working population in Europe. Employment disparities between men and women remain high: approximately 12 points less for women.

Young people disadvantaged on labour market

The report highlights, above all, many differences according to the age of workers and the fact that workers aged between 15 and 24 remain significantly disadvantaged. This study therefore concentrates on the question of intergenerational fairness and solidarity in Europe and demonstrates that young people have been more affected by the crisis and are most frequently subject to non-standard contracts with less effective social cover.

This situation of insecurity has a direct impact on demographics, explains the Commissioner: young people tend to postpone decisions about having children. This phenomenon poses the question of the viability of national and European pension systems, given the widespread ageing population. The population of those aged over 64 increases by 1.4% every year.

The Commissioner explained, "This means that in 2060, for every retired person there will only be two people of working age, compared to four people at the present time". The Commission argues that this situation will have two effects: people will have to pay in more to the pension system to obtain pensions that are lower than they currently stand.

In its press release, the European Commission indicates that it will be necessary to develop a "proportionate" link between working life and life expectancy. The Commissioner appeared to be in favour of putting the age of retirement up. Ms. Thyssen claimed, "We need to have more people in work, who work for longer, if not, we're going to have problems with funding pensions and Social Security".

20636/Press Release – 2017.07.07

Unemployment Rates

The **euro area** seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was **9.1%** in **June 2017**, down from 9.2% in May 2017. This is the lowest rate recorded in the euro area since February 2009. The **EU-28** unemployment rate was **7.7%** in May and June 2017. This is also the lowest rate recorded in the EU28 since December 2008.

Eurostat estimates that 18.725 million people in the EU28 were unemployed in June 2017, a decrease by 183,000 in the EU28 and by 148,000 in the euro area compared with May 2017.

Czechia	2.9%	Estonia (May)	6.9%
Germany	3.8%	Slovenia	7.1%
Malta	4.1%	Lithuania	7.2%
Hungary (May)	4.3%	Belgium (Q1)	7.6%
UK (April)	4.4%	Slovakia	7.6%
Poland	4.8%	Latvia	8.3%
Netherlands	4.9%	Finland	8.7%
Austria	5.2%	Portugal	9.0%
Romania	5.3%	France	9.6%
Denmark (May)	5.7%	Croatia	10.6%
Bulgaria	5.9%	Cyprus	10.8%
Luxembourg	6.0%	Italy	11.1%
Ireland	6.3%	Spain	17.1%
Sweden	6.6%	Greece (April)	21.7%

Elsewhere

USA	4.4%	Russia	5.2%
Canada	6.5%	Brazil	13.3%
Japan	3.1%	Australia	5.5%
Switzerland	3.0%	India	4.9%
Turkey	10.5%	China	3.97%

20637/Eurostat News Release – 2017.07.03 & 31

E. GENERAL ISSUES

Parliament Calls for EU Industrial Strategy at Start of Next Year

A joint resolution adopted by the European Parliament in plenary session on 5 July once again calls on the European Commission to bring forward an action plan for a “*consistent and comprehensive*” industrial policy.

MEPs want the Commission to provide targets, indicators, measures and time scales. Like the Council, Parliament calls on the Commission to base its strategy on an assessment of the impact of mainstreaming industrial policy into EU strategic policy initiatives. MEPs also state that the strategy must be based, *inter alia*, on digitalisation, on an energy- and resource-efficient economy and on a life-cycle and circular economy approach, this last point echoing a report adopted the previous day on the lifespan of tangible goods and software and addressing planned obsolescence.



MEPs stress the need for greater account to be taken of SMEs, start-ups, young entrepreneurship, social economy enterprises and also the creative industries – these latter having been added in an amendment. They highlight the need to allocate “*sufficient financial means for the industry sector*” in the next multiannual financial framework. Parliament underlines the need for continued open international trade and calls on the Commission to “*assess the adequacy*” of market definitions and the current set of EU competition rules and to “*pay more attention*” to the role of foreign-based state-owned enterprises that are supported and subsidised by their governments in ways that the EU single market rules do not allow for EU companies – calls that respond to the large-scale dumping of which China is regularly accused, for example in the steel sector.

In parallel, BusinessEurope presented its proposals to support industry in Europe. On 30 June, the organisation that represents European businesses published its proposals for a renewed European industrial strategy. The document highlights the fact that contrary to what the European Commission may state, there is no mainstreaming of industrial competitiveness in EU policies. The organisation therefore makes a raft of sectoral proposals for the short and medium terms. Markus J. Beyrer, The Director General BusinessEurope, argues that “ambitious strategic” targets need to be laid down for the European industrial sector up to 2030. Readers may recall that the member states have asked the Commission to present a holistic strategy to support industry for spring of next year.

To see BusinessEurope's recommendations, visit:

<https://www.busseurope.eu/publications/building-strong-and-modern-european-industry-views-renewed-industrial-strategy>

20638/Press Release – 2017.06.30 & 07.05

European Legislation Still Improperly Applied

The number of infringement proceedings was up sharply in 2016 (+21%) compared to 2015, according to the annual report on the application of European Union law, published by the European Commission on Thursday 6 July.

In 2016, the European Commission launched 986 new infringement proceedings and sent out 292 reasoned opinions. In all, there are 1,657 infringement proceedings open, the highest level in the last five years, the European Commission laments, noting that 2016 was an ‘annus horribilis’, with a 21% hike compared to the previous year. In a press release, the Commission notes that this is worrying, as the absence of correct application of EU law prevents citizens from benefiting from the rights and advantages that this law confers upon them.

The transposition of directives is the Achilles heel of the single market. More specifically, the institution explains that the number of infringement proceedings over delays in transposing directives (847) has almost doubled compared to the previous year, when the Commission launched 543 proceedings.

The institution targeted member states for failing to transpose, for instance, the directives on public procurement and concessions (directive 2014/23, 2014/24/EU and 2014/25/EU), those concerning tobacco products (directive 2014/40/EU and 2014/109/EU) and the directive on driving licences (directive 2014/85/EU).

This time, the European Commission presented a summary sheet giving an overview of the situation at European level, country by country. This scoreboard is very telling. For instance, as of 31 December 2016, the European Commission had 30 infringement proceedings open against Estonia and 31 against Malta - the two Member States holding the Presidency of the Council of the EU in 2017. At the other end of the scale were Germany and Spain, with 91 infringement proceedings.

Portugal was the member state against which the Commission launch the highest number of infringement proceedings in 2016 (50), followed by Belgium, then Austria (47). Italy and Slovakia showed the lowest level of progression, with just 19 new infringement proceedings in 2016.

The Commission has also published a specific score board for the single market. The best results across all areas were achieved by Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Lithuania, Malta and Slovakia.

20639/News Release – 2017.07.06

EU / Turkey Relationship

Turkey's EU accession talks should be suspended if proposed changes to the constitution go ahead, as these go against EU membership criteria, warned MEPs on 6th July.

MEPs are concerned about Turkey backsliding in the rule of law, human rights, media freedom, and the fight against corruption. They condemn the repeatedly declared support for the reintroduction of the death penalty by the Turkish President, which would put into question Turkey's membership in the Council of Europe and lead to an immediate end of EU accession talks.

Taking note of the outcome of Turkey's recent referendum and the expansion of presidential powers, the resolution calls on the EU Commission and the EU national governments "to formally suspend the accession negotiations with Turkey without delay if the constitutional reform package is implemented unchanged."

MEPs also note in their annual assessment of Turkey's reform progress that 2016 was a difficult year for Turkey as a result of the war in Syria, the influx of refugees, a string of heinous terror attacks and a coup attempt.

They condemn the coup attempt and express their solidarity with the people of Turkey, but at the same time regret the Turkish government's disproportionate response, resulting in large-scale dismissal of civil servants, the closing of media outlets, the arrest of journalists, judges and human rights defenders, and the closure of schools and universities.

The resolution also recognises the importance of good EU-Turkey relations and maintaining a constructive and open dialogue, which is key to addressing common

challenges, such as migration, security or terrorism. MEPs support upgrading the EU-Turkey Customs Union, asking for human rights and fundamental freedoms to be a part of a new agreement.

The European Parliament supports a fair, comprehensive and viable settlement of the Cyprus problem, based on bi-communal and bi-zonal federation. It calls on Turkey to show active support for a rapid and successful conclusion to the negotiations and to start withdrawing its troops from Cyprus.

The resolution was approved by 477 votes to 64, with 97 abstentions. The Parliament is planning to send an ad-hoc delegation to Ankara in the autumn with the aim of renewing parliamentary dialogue.

20640/News Release – 2017.07.06

Future of the European Union

BREXIT Developments

1. EU and London recognise their differences, but stick to their positions

Negotiators of the EU and of the British government for Brexit, Michel Barnier and Minister David Davis, concluded the round of talks on 20 June that their respective positions have not changed on the main subjects of disagreement, such as citizens' rights and the role of the Court of Justice of the EU.

Barnier said that the aim was to start work on the substance and to continue to build mutual trust. Areas of agreement could be identified where a clear British position was given.

On substance, starting with **citizens' rights**, Barnier explained that there was still a fundamental difference of opinion over how these citizens and future members of their family should be guaranteed these rights. Exporting certain social rights is also a problem. But it is mainly over how to enforce these rights that the two sides disagree. For the EU, it is not a choice but a legal obligation to call on the Court of Justice to clarify European law when that is applied.

As for the **financial settlement**, the United Kingdom recognised the existence of obligations towards the EU beyond the date of withdrawal, but London did not clarify what it intends to include on the list. Barnier argues that a clarification of the British position is vital in order to come to any agreement on the financial side of things, which is inseparable from the rest. Davis confirmed that his country had recognised the existence of these obligations, but declined to be drawn on how London intended to honour them.

London's agreement to the financial settlement will not be forthcoming in the course of the rounds of negotiation. Instead, it is expected to be global and may not be reached until the end of the talks on the first phase, without being dissected during every round of talks.



European Commission

On the question of **Ireland**, which is the subject of political dialogue, London expressed its hopes that the provisions of the Common Travel Area (CTA) could stay in place, but the United Kingdom will again be asked to detail its position on this. We need a better understanding of how the UK plans to continue this cooperation between Northern Ireland and the Republic, the French official said.

It is difficult to say whether the timetable sought by the European side, which provides for a move to the second phase of negotiations on the future relationship this autumn, will be respected. According to one source, if the work makes good progress, one or two negotiating sessions could be added between now and October. The next round with London will be held on 28 August.

20641/News Release – 2017.07.20

2. The Parliament repeats red lines after second round of talks

The European Parliament steering group charged with assessing the progress of Brexit negotiations took stock of the second round of negotiations.

It reminded the EU Chief Negotiator Michel Barnier of the points – citizens' rights, the financial settlement, the future EU-UK cooperation within the field of nuclear activities (Euratom) and the border between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland – that it wants to see incorporated into the withdrawal agreement with the UK so that Parliament can ultimately approve the said agreement.

The European Parliament cannot make it any clearer that *“sufficient progress”* will have to be made across the board and not merely in one or two areas before negotiations can begin on the future relationship between the EU and the UK. The group says in a press release that *“the European Parliament will formally, and in due time, indicate when the point of ‘sufficient progress’ has been reached”*.

The members of the group – Guy Verhofstadt (ALDE, Belgium), who is also Parliament's Brexit coordinator, Elmar Brok (EPP, Germany), Roberto Gualtieri (S&D, Italy), Philippe Lamberts (Greens/EFA, Belgium), Gaby Zimmer (GUE/NGL, Germany) and Danuta Hübner (EPP, Poland) – state that Parliament *“will continue to push for full rights for EU citizens in the UK as well as UK citizens in the EU”*. It is the *“core mission”*, they say, of the European project to protect, not to diminish, the fundamental rights of all citizens. *“The European Parliament specifically seeks to fully safeguard the rights concerning family reunion, comprehensive healthcare, voting rights in local elections, the transferability of (social) rights and the rules governing permanent residence (including the right to leave the UK without losing this status). Simultaneously, we seek to avoid an administrative burden for citizens and want proposals which are intrusive to people's privacy off the table, e.g. proposed systematic criminality checks”*, the steering group says. Parliament also wants the withdrawal agreement to be *“directly enforceable and to include a mechanism in which the European Court of Justice can play its full role”*, the group adds.

The next round of negotiations between the EU27 and the United Kingdom is scheduled for 28 August.

20642/News Release – 2017.07.25



3. UK actively prepares ground for negotiating post-Brexit trade agreements

The UK is hurrying to lay the foundations for trade negotiations after it leaves the EU (Brexit). This was the objective of the tour of British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Boris Johnson to Japan on 21 July, to New Zealand on 23 July and to Australia 25-27 July, while British Secretary of State for International Trade Liam Fox launched a working group on UK-US trade with the US administration in Washington on 25 July in order to lay the foundations for a free trade agreement.

20643/News Release – 2017.07.27

Inflation Rate

Latest Eurostat figures show that the annual inflation rate was **1.3% in June 2017 in the Euro area**, down from 1.4% in May. **The EU28** annual inflation was **1.4% in June**, down from 1.6% in May.

The largest upward impacts to euro area annual inflation came from accommodation services (+ 0.08%), package holidays (+ 0.06%) and tobacco (+ 0.04%), while telecommunication (- 0.10%), social protection (- 0.04%) and bread & cereals (- 0.03%) had the biggest downward impacts.

Ireland	-0.6%	Italy	1.2%
Denmark	0.4%	Poland	1.3%
Romania	0.7%	Belgium	1.5%
France	0.8%	Germany	1.5%
Greece	0.9%	Luxembourg	1.5%
Cyprus	0.9%	Spain	1.6%
Slovenia	0.9%	Sweden	1.8%
Finland	0.9%	Hungary	2.0%
Malta	1.0%	Austria	2.0%
Netherlands	1.0%	Czech Republic	2.4%
Portugal	1.0%	U K (May)	2.9%
Slovakia	1.0%	Estonia	3.1%
Bulgaria	1.1%	Latvia	3.1%
Croatia	1.1%	Lithuania	3.5%

Elsewhere

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

GLASS NEWS

A. **FLAT GLASS**

Glass Companies



Saint-Gobain

1. The Compagnie de Saint-Gobain published the **first-half 2017 results**, showing significant progress in results across the board. Regarding flat glass, upbeat trends continued, with a reported 5.6% organic growth over the first half. The automotive business enjoyed further good momentum led by Asia and emerging countries. Sales in Europe remained healthy. Construction markets benefited from an upturn in volumes in Western Europe and an increase in float prices. Asia and emerging countries posted further growth despite Brazil remaining down. Organic growth combined with optimized operating leverage and a positive price-cost spread for raw materials and energy, drove a further rally in the operating margin, up to 9.9% from 8.8% in first-half 2016.

Full press release at: <https://www.saint-gobain.com/en/press/press-releases>

20645/Press Release – 2017.07.27

2. **Saint-Gobain named British Glass Company of the Year at the Glass Focus Awards 2017.**

A clear commitment to continuous improvement in its own production, the wellbeing of its staff, and the health of the sector have led to Saint-Gobain being named British Glass Company of the Year at the Glass Focus Awards 2017.

Six categories of the Glass Focus Awards 2017 covered areas including health and safety, sustainability, innovation and apprenticeships and were open to all companies working in or with glass manufacturing. The seventh award was – British Glass' Company of the Year – is chosen from among the British Glass members who entered in any of the other categories.

The award is made to a company which has – throughout all its preceding year's activity – demonstrated that it is striving for excellence in its own business as well as playing a part in strengthening and representing the whole sector.

Some of the specific achievements and initiatives of the past year which helped to earn the flat glass manufacturer this title includes reducing energy consumption of its furnace; making healthier meals and snacks available on site; and recently delivering their first year with zero tonnes of waste going to landfill. Their ongoing input as British Glass members has also been notable – with particular commitment to the Decarbonisation Roadmap Action Plan steering group.

Presenting the Company of the Year award to Saint-Gobain, British Glass chief executive Dave Dalton said:

“British Glass’ ability to represent and serve the UK glass industry depends directly on our relationship with members – their participation is the foundation of our credibility and influence. Over the past year Saint-Gobain has been a proactive force in the British Glass membership –involved in shaping our industry’s response to key challenges at a strategic and a practical level. I’m pleased to recognise that commitment with this award.”

20646/British Glass Press Release – 2017.06.20

AGC

1. The AGC Group’s CEO Takuya Shimamura (pictured below) announced the decision to change the corporate name of the Group’s parent company from Asahi Glass Co., Ltd., to “**AGC Inc.**” Asahi Glass Co. Ltd.’s Board of Directors resolved the change of the Company’s corporate name on August 1, 2017. This corporate name change is subject to the approval of a partial amendment of the Company’s Articles of incorporation at the Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders to be held late March 2018.

AGC



Reason for the change

The Company launched the global, integrated management of the AGC Group in 2002. When it marked its 100th anniversary in 2007, the Company unified its group brand as “AGC” and its consolidated subsidiaries changed their corporate name to incorporate AGC in their legal names.

And this year, on its 110th anniversary, the Company decided to change the corporate name of Asahi Glass Company, which plays the central role of the AGC Group, to AGC Inc. in order to further enhance the integrated management framework for the AGC Group on a global scale.

The AGC Group has been engaged in various businesses in the field of glass, electronics, chemicals and ceramics, and has established the world’s top-class technologies.

New Corporate name

AGC Inc. (Current corporate name: Asahi Glass Company, Limited) will be effective on 1st July 2018.

20647/Press Release – 2017.08.01

2. AGC Automotive Europe and NordGlass windshields for aftermarket are as compliant with ADAS as Original Equipment windshields and are ready to declare this with a specific quality testing procedure during the development phase. ADAS compliant windshields will now have a special sticker.



ADAS (Advanced Driver Assistance Systems) camera recalibration requires many things to go well: replacement windshield quality is one of them.

ARG (Automotive Replacement Glass) market has come under intense scrutiny in the recent years due to the increasing popularity of advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS) technologies.

Windshield replacement is no longer a straightforward mechanical job but involves increasingly complex technologies, requiring top quality materials and skilled people to perform the replacement.

Ultimately, the success or failure of ADAS windshield replacement boils down to the safety of the driver and his passengers: a botched job can have terrible consequences. AGC is committing to the ARG market with a statement “our windshields are as compliant with ADAS as Original Equipment windshields”. To earn the ADAS compliant status, AGC and NordGlass windshields go through a specific quality testing procedure during the development phase. Then, during production, the windshields are rigorously checked on critical parameters for the camera area, in line with the strictest OE requirements.

AGC is gradually adding stickers on the windshields that have earned the ADAS compliant status. By choosing an ADAS compliant windshield for any ADAS replacement, the replacement glass fitter can be sure to deliver the best standards of performance and safety.

NSG / Pilkington



1. NSG Group's architectural glass solar products certified to global design and safety standards



Pilkington and Solaria Corporation, global provider of solar module technologies, announced that the Pilkington Sunplus™ BIPV powered-by-Solaria has been certified according to IEC61215 and IEC61730 certification standards. This certification from Kiwa Netherlands confirms that Pilkington Sunplus BIPV architectural solar products comply with the product safety, design and quality tests.

20649/Press Release – 2017.07.13

2. Pilkington Activ™, which celebrates its 15th anniversary this year, has been independently verified and **officially meets the new European Standard for self-cleaning performance.**

Pilkington Activ™, the world's first self-cleaning glass, has been independently verified and officially meets the new European Standard for self-cleaning glass. EN 1096-5 tests and classifies the self-cleaning performance of coated glass. It is the only independent assessment that can verify the performance of products that use hydrophilic and photocatalytic properties to enhance the cleanliness of the glass. Pilkington Activ™, which this year celebrates its 15th anniversary, uses a microscopic coating with a dual action.

Firstly, the coating is activated by daylight to break down organic deposits such as dirt and then, when rainwater hits the glass, the coating allows the water to spread evenly and run off in a 'sheet' – removing any dirt at the same time.

Independently tested by the Fraunhofer Institute for Surface Engineering and Thin Films (IST) in Germany, this result further validates the performance of Pilkington Activ™, which has previously achieved Class A, the highest classification for coating durability in accordance with EN 1096-2. This standard is testing the durability of a coating to natural weathering conditions, as well as abrasion.

Alessandro Michetti, Commercial Director at Pilkington said: "We're seeing increased demand across both the commercial and domestic markets for self-cleaning glass as occupiers and homeowners look for products that help cater to modern life. As the pioneers of self-cleaning glass, it's important that we continue to invest in and develop our product range to ensure it remains best in class."



Not only will this standard provide peace of mind for homeowners, who can insist on installers supplying self-cleaning glass that passes this latest test, it will also enable specifiers to differentiate between products with an official self-cleaning performance and those without”.

“Pilkington Activ™ helps to reduce the amount of time and money spent on window cleaning, while providing clearer, better-looking windows, and this latest achievement is testament to the quality and strength of our offering.”

20650/Press Release – 2017.07.07

3. Pilkington Glass helps create retail landmark in Toronto

A shining example of the potential of Pilkington Planar™ for transforming locations into part of a neighbourhood revival.

The idea of using a shop window to entice potential buyers has been around for hundreds of years, but not often has it been used on the scale of the newly refurbished Yonge Eglinton Centre located near Midtown in Toronto, Canada.

Dominating a landmark intersection is a four-storey structurally glazed cube, creating a stunning atrium space to welcome visitors to the retail complex.

The cube, which sits at the foot of a 40-storey skyscraper, projects above the roof of the centre, providing access to a rooftop patio which will offer an outdoor living and dining space for warmer months of the year. This patio is surrounded by glass walls to provide a safety barrier for visitors without interrupting the impressive views of the city.

At ground level, a glass canopy projects over the entrance doors, supported by a custom designed stainless steel rod structure. To visitors walking in and out of the development, this gives the impression of an almost free-floating glass ceiling. A second canopy has been installed above the exit to the roof patio, this time featuring vertical glazed fins to achieve almost complete transparency.

The towering atrium walls are constructed from individual sections made up of six four metre double-glazed units. Pilkington Optiwhite™ true low-iron glass was used, and the inside of the outer pane in each features a high performance low-e coating to deliver better thermal insulation by reducing outward radiation of heat.



Yonge Eglinton Centre

An argon-filled cavity in the units further increases the thermal insulating properties of the glass, which will help reduce the amount of heating required during Toronto's cold winters.

The units used for the roof of the cube are also extra-clear low-iron glass with a low-e coating and argon cavity, but feature a laminated inner pane to provide greater structural integrity and security to remain in place in the event of any breakage. The units that make up the cube are supported by a steel beam structure to which they are point-fixed with Pilkington Planar™ 905 low-profile stainless steel fittings. Additional strength is provided by full-height vertical laminated glass fins.

Phil Savage, commercial contracts sales manager at Pilkington, said: "I think it's fair to say that Pilkington Planar™ has allowed the architect and wider team to create the defining feature of this project, the large cube made of high-span extra-clear glass units. "The clean lines and uninterrupted glass surface that the product makes possible gives the building an ultra-modern aesthetic that sends a clear message to visitors that this is a cutting-edge shopping destination. We're very proud of the system and it's a real pleasure to see it being used to its full potential in this project."

Howard Haber, managing partner at glazing system supplier W&W Glass LLC, added: "This is a shining example of the potential Pilkington Planar™ has for transforming otherwise pedestrian locations into part of a neighbourhood revival. The daylight allowed into the building through the energy efficient Pilkington Planar™ facade is a natural conduit to the new retail, restaurant and public spaces and invites one to enter and explore.

"The goal with this project was to create a sense of destination and open space for visitors to the centre, and the towering, virtually uninterrupted wall of glass that we, along with our partners at Tagg Industries, built achieves this in a spectacular way."

The \$100m refurbishment of the Yonge Eglinton Centre has created an almost 95,000 sq m mixed-use development, including a high-profile retail and dining destination, that will be home to up to 70 retail and hospitality brands.

20651/Press Release – 2017.07.20

Guardian



1. Guardian Glass Launches New Sustainability Calculator

An easy-to-use digital program helps users see how Guardian glazing make-ups can help a project earn certification from green building rating systems.

Architects and designers can now efficiently evaluate environmental performance attributes of Guardian glass products with the new Guardian Sustainability Calculator. This easy-to-use digital program helps users see how Guardian glazing make-ups can help a project earn certification from green building rating systems such as LEED®, the Living Building Challenge and the WELL Building Standard. “The Guardian Sustainability Calculator gives you the power to select Guardian SunGuard® or InGlass® architectural glass products, evaluate them and document their contribution potential,” explains Brian Schulz, product manager, Guardian Glass North America. “The program generates a comprehensive report on a range of rating systems, helps architects and designers see what’s possible™ and aids in the specification process.”

The newest component of Guardian Glass Analytics™ for North America, the Sustainability Calculator joins the Performance Calculator, Building Energy Calculator, BIM Generator and the Glass Visualizer. Together, these industry-leading tools provide comprehensive engineering and analytical modelling and custom glass content that demonstrate the advantages of high performance glass in building facades.

20652/Press Release – 2017.07.06

2. Guardian Industries Rewards Hard-Working Students

The Guardian scholarship program encourages and assists children of Guardian employees in their pursuit of higher education.

Guardian Industries and its U.S. subsidiaries eased some college planning worries for students throughout the U.S. by recognizing their hard work and academic achievement with scholarship dollars through the Guardian Industries Educational Foundation (GIEF). Winners represent all of Guardian’s businesses, including Guardian Glass, SRG Global and Guardian Building Products, as well as the corporate office.

“We believe a good education helps set a solid foundation for opportunity and future success,” says Ron Vaupel, president and CEO, Guardian Industries Corp. “Our scholarship winners have worked very hard to have the opportunity to continue their education and we are pleased that we can play a role in helping them achieve their goals.”

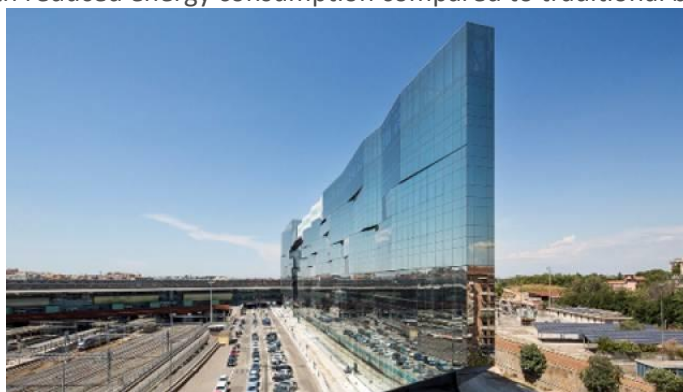
The late William Davidson, former president and CEO of Guardian Industries Corp., established the Guardian scholarship program to encourage and assist children of Guardian employees in their pursuit of higher education. The scholarships pay up to \$4,000 a year and are renewable for up to three years for a total award of \$16,000. GIEF selected the winners based on recommendations by International Scholarship and Tuition Services, Inc., an independent service organization.

Applicants were evaluated based on high school or college academic record, extracurricular activities, leadership quality and the SAT and ACT scores of the applicant. Since 1986, when the foundation began awarding scholarships, over 1200 students have received more than \$15 million in funds.

20653/Press Release – 2017.07.13

3. Guardian Solar Control Glass to Play with Colours and Reflections

The headquarters of the BNL-BNP Paribas Group building in Italy is a stunning example of how to successfully combine innovative architectural design with optimum comfort and wellbeing for the building's occupants. The project also stands out for its high level of commitment to environmental sustainability, which will see it certified as class A and LEED Gold, with reduced energy consumption compared to traditional buildings.



Designed by Italian company 5+1AA Alfonso Femia Gianluca Peluffo architectures, the building was created in such a way that it integrates into the surrounding urban environment. Due to the clever structural glazing, the aesthetics are visually appealing, reflecting the building's surroundings on all sides and changing its appearance depending on the time of day and the weather.

It helps transform the building into a mirage-like structure, whose appearance continually changes as it catches the reflections of the sky and the city lights, whilst at the same time avoiding being seen as an obstruction to views.

The aesthetics also provide the perfect transition between the Tiburtina Station and the surrounding residential districts.

As Alfonso Femia, Founder Partner, President and CEO at 5+1AA and project manager states: "With its dynamic, reflective colours, the glass in the building seeks its own dialogue with its surroundings and with the lights of Rome. Night or day, the glass provides unique, ever-changing light reflections, colours and transparencies."

For the structural glazing, Guardian Glass supplied five different products from its SunGuard® range of solar control glass – SunGuard Solar Silver 10, SunGuard Solar Silver 20, SunGuard Solar Neutral 67, SunGuard HP 35/26, SunGuard HP 43/3. Four of these providing a silver aspect, the other a more neutral appearance. All of these coated glass products provide different levels of light transmission and external reflection to suit the architect's precise requirements.

20654/Press Release – 2017.07.19

4. Guardian is to build a second float and coated glass plant in Poland

Guardian Industries has approved the investment for an additional float and coated glass manufacturing plant in Czeszochowa, Poland, to meet the growing demand for float, coated and fabricated glass products across Europe.

The new facility location is planned to be adjacent to the company's existing plant, with preparation and execution of the project starting immediately. The facility is expected to begin operations in the third quarter of 2019, and will create more than 150 new jobs. It will pull 1,000 metric tons of glass per day and will include a technologically advanced glass coater.



Guardian Glass President and CEO Kevin Baird says: "The new facility will be the biggest green field capital investment in Guardian Glass' history and will further position us as a leading producer of high performance, safety and energy-efficient glass products for European residential and commercial buildings." He adds: "Guardian is excited about the growth we've seen in Poland -- and confident that the Czeszochowa location is well positioned to meet our customer's needs. We've enjoyed strong support from the city of Czeszochowa, the Katowice Special Economic Zone and the Polish government."

Further evidence of the company's commitment to Poland, Guardian Glass' existing float line in Czeszochowa will go through a repair project at the start of 2018 that will increase its production capacity.

"We look forward to continued growth in Poland and neighbouring countries. The colocation of the two plants will create a competitive and efficient structure to deliver a wide range of glass products and will contribute to generate long-term value for our customers in the region," says Guus Boekhoudt, Vice President of Guardian Glass in Europe.

20655/Guardian Press Release – 2017.08.07

Press Glass

Press Glass, which specialises in the production of glass for the construction industry, provided glazed units with solar control high selectivity glass and parameters close to 60/30 for the Museum of the Second World War in Gdansk, Poland.



MUSEUM OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

The Museum of the Second World War in Gdansk, Poland is a place of a historic journey in time to the period of experience of the difficult war times, presented from the perspective of civilians and soldiers as well as European communities and nations. In the implementation of the historic showcase of the city, more than 1500 m² of facade and window glass was used with selective glass and rotulas to assemble glazings in the system of point fixing of our production.

The new museum means modern and historic architecture – located against the backdrop of a historical surrounding – a showcase of the city and the region. In accordance with the design of the Architectonic Studio Kwadrat, the building is embedded in the ground down to about 18 m. The aboveground part forms a structure similar to an inclined prism – a tower about 40 m high.

The authors of the design decided to apply numerous glazing elements that make the museum unique and provide sufficient daylight.

The interesting thing is that the building was ‘anchored’ in a specially designed water environment. The museum, the surrounding yard and the administrative building cover the area of 1.7 ha which is located between the Radunia Canal and the river of Motława. The building was protected against water inflow with underwater works, including the construction of a concrete stopper and sheet piling.

While admiring the Museum of the Second World War, attention should be paid to the uniform red colour of the building facade and of the surroundings. The dominant red is broken in a subtle manner with the glazed front facade of the museum. For the structure of the glazed facade and the skylight, Press Glass which specialises in the production of glass for the construction industry, provided glazed units with solar control high selectivity glass and parameters close to 60/30. The glass is characterised with light transmittance of about 60% and low total solar energy transmittance of about 30%. Such glass parameters ensure high comfort of use – the inside of the museum is reached by most of sunlight – while the interior does not overheat.

The glass manufactured by Press Glass with built-in fixing elements in the system of point fixing has been used to construct the glazed connector between the museum and the administrative building.

The glass manufactured by Press Glass was also used in the window joinery in the administrative building and to glaze the patio.

The central point of the interior of the museum is composed of the central exhibition covering almost 5 thousand square metres in the underground part of the building. This is the world's largest historic exhibition of the type. In order to facilitate visits, the exhibition was split into 18 thematic sections where the visitors can see 2 thousand items.

The building is used not only for exhibition purposes. Inside the building, at the '0' level there is a library with a reading room as well as educational and conference rooms. The top level is occupied by a coffee shop and a restaurant with a glazed skylight that "open" the building onto a panorama of Gdansk.

The museum was officially opened to visitors on 23 March 2017.

20656/Press Release – 2017.08.01

Scheuten / VEP

Scheuten Glass Holding will be **taken over by Value Enhancement Partners (VEP)**, an actively involved investor in medium-sized companies funded by institutional investors. The Competition Authority yet has to approve the acquisition. The Works Council also has to give its counsel. With this sale, Scheuten definitively sets aside old burdens from the past and paves the way for a solid future with an improved financial situation. The acquisition concerns the entire company, including all employees and all subsidiaries in the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany (including BGT Bischoff Glastechnik AG and SITEC Produktions GmbH).

The anticipated sale will therefore as such not affect the workforce, nor the current activities, which will be continued on the earlier set course, focusing on the three core activities (insulation glass, projects and base glass).

Donald Eshuis, CEO of Scheuten Glass Holding, welcomes the planned acquisition. "VEP is a practical private equity investor and as such a perfectly suited partner for Scheuten. We wanted to remain an independent player in the market, and that is herewith guaranteed. At the same time, the refinancing improves the company's continuity and our opportunities for the future. We are also looking forward to working with VEP's team to further shape our challenging ambitions."

Chris de Weers, Senior Partner at VE Partners, illustrates further: "The construction industry is currently booming, and Scheuten is one of the market leaders in the field of flat glass in the Netherlands."

This acquisition also arranges follow-up of founder Jacques Scheuten (69).

20657/Press Release – 2017.07.17

Tvitec

Tvitec gives Amazon Italian headquarters a new look

Amazon's new headquarters in Milan Porta Nova district, northern Italy, will mark the completion of some very impressive renovation work. The new façade includes more than 10,000 square metres of functional glazing and over 1,100 glass fins supplied by ISOLAR® partner Tvitec Técnicas de Vidrio Transformado S.A. from Ponferrada in northern Spain.





The Viale Monte Grappe building complex was the former headquarters of the multinational chemical engineering company Maire Tecnimont SpA. It was designed at the beginning of the 1970s by the architects Claudio Longo and Giulio Ricci and it is considered to be an architectural icon among Milan's office buildings from this period. The complex comprises two parallel eight-storey buildings with connecting bridges on all floors. It is particularly well-known for its distinctive façade made from anodised aluminium and glass. The building is owned by an international property fund.

Milan-based architecture firm GBPA Architects was awarded the contract to design the complete refurbishment of the complex. Antonio Gioli and Federica De Leva have recapitulated the essential elements of their refurbishment project under the heading "regenerating the modern".

The internal structure of the building has been adapted to suit the current requirements of a large company. This has involved completely gutting the building. The vertical structures (including lifts) are being moved.

In addition, the former connecting bridges are being replaced with a new central section that includes a courtyard and an impressive main entrance. There will be roof terraces on each building. GBPA Architects are particularly committed to creating an innovative, high quality and sustainable building design, which is why the highest level of LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification is an integral part of the project package.

In terms of the façade, an effort has been made to preserve the characteristic vertical elements, which have given the building its distinctive appearance. In contrast to its dark and heavy appearance in the past, transparent glass cladding shall be used to improve the relationship between the indoor and outdoor spaces and to dramatically improve the amount of natural light inside the building so that the principles of modern daylighting design can be applied. The vertical structures are being created by placing glass fins on the glass façade.

Italian steel company Stahlbau Pichler GmbH (Bozen factory) has been chosen to construct the façade, primarily due to its extensive experience and reliable track record in developing and implementing sophisticated projects for modern architects.

"In terms of selecting the coatings, we jointly decided on a highly selective neutral solar control glass," reports Tvitec Project Manager Ricardo Santos. "The requirements for the façade glass ultimately stipulated a structure with 10 mm heat-soaked toughened coated glass on the outside and 88.4 laminated glass with acoustic interlayers on the inside. When installing the façade elements, a section of insulated glazing was used as stepped glazing with processed edges at 45°. We have supplied 3,000 units of ISOLAR

SOLARLUX® superneutral in total covering an area of approximately 10,000 square metres.

10 + 10 mm and 8 + 8 mm thick low-iron glass was supplied, thermally toughened and laminated for the glass fins, which also included different types of silk screen printing and fastening holes. "The requirements that needed to be fulfilled in terms of quality and the organisation of our production process were very rigorous," added Ricardo Santos. "We always feel really proud and gratified when we successfully complete projects of this type."

20658/Press Release – 2017.07.04

Vietnam's First Ultra-Clear Float Glass Factory

The construction of the first ultra-clear float glass factory in Vietnam started at the Phu My 2 Industrial park started in Tan Thanh district, the southern province of Ba Ria-Vung Tau, on 24 July.

Phase I of the plant, owned by the Phu My Ultra Clear Float Glass Co. Ltd., will be carried out from now to 2018 and has total investment of VND 2.6 trillion (about USD 114.4 million). When operational, it is set to produce 600 tonnes of the product a day. Phase II will be built from 2019 to 2022, raising the factory's capacity to 900 tonnes per day.

China's Kaisheng Science & Technology Group Co., one of the three founders of the Phu My company, pledged to purchase all ultra-clear float glass of the factory. With charter capital of 886 billion VND (39 million USD), **the Phu My Ultra Clear Float Glass Co. Ltd was established by the Viglacera Corporation, the Vietnam Urban and Industrial Zone Development Investment Corporation (IDICO), and the Kaisheng group.**

The factory in Ba Ria-Vung Tau is one of the two ultra-clear float glass plants expected to be constructed in Vietnam. The other is in northern Bac Ninh province. The Prime Minister approved in principle the construction of these plants in 2016.

20659/Press Release – 2017.07.31

Miscellaneous

Bohle America Partners with Q-Railing



Bohle America, a leading manufacturer and distributor of products and materials for the glass professional is pleased to announce a new partnership with Q-railing, providing customers with the ultimate in railing systems and glass balustrades.

"At Bohle America we take immense pride in being associated with the best products that feature extraordinary quality and offer an efficiency advantage to the glass professional," said Gareth Francey, President of Bohle America.

“Having the products from Q-railing and their beautiful design, impeccable quality, and uncompromising safety is a very exciting piece for us and we’re excited to bring it to our customers all over the United States.”



Thomas Sixt, Sales Director of Q-railing North America, adds: “Q-railing is a global brand, but we strive to meet the demands of our local customers, within their specific market. With Bohle as our trusted, well established partner, we offer superior local service for our international brand of designer railing systems. Like us, Bohle strives for the best quality solutions in the building industry.”

Because a railing system needs to do more than look good, all Q-railing systems are designed to exceed the highest industry safety standards. “Through extensive testing, institutions and internationally-leading enforcing authorities have certified the safety of our products and systems. Railing systems are there to protect people from falling and at Q-railing we take this very seriously,” states Sixt. The offerings from Q-railing via Bohle are tested in compliance with IBC, Miami-Dade, FBC and ASTM and feature several fully engineered system options to meet virtually any glass railing need.

Q-railing has projects all over the world in many different applications from interior office settings to exterior public, commercial and residential venues.

20660/Press Release – 2017.07.03

Visualplanet expands with touchglass touch sensors through market-strategic partnership with Romag



Market-leading, large-format touch sensor expert Visualplanet™ has formed a strategic partnership with Romag to create touchglass™, a glass laminated variant of touchfoil™. Building on touchfoil’s success, touchglass bolsters Visualplanet’s offering to worldwide integrators requiring durable and customised glass touch sensors for public-facing touchscreen solutions.

The market-disrupting partnership is an industry game-changer. Using state of the art glass shaping, curving and ceramic printing machinery, Romag will supply glass that incorporates customised borders and motifs. This enables Visualplanet to offer bespoke touchglass designs that are ideal for kiosks, self-service ticketing, vending and wayfinding, as well as multiuser tables and curved cabinets for the gaming industry. Dan Spencer, Product Manager at Visualplanet commented: “Visualplanet invented touchfoil and founded the large format, 15-75 inch, flexible film Pro-Cap touch market – a market that continues to grow significantly at 6-8% CAGR. Customers have been asking for an ‘on-glass’ version of touchfoil and we are now able to respond with touchglass, allowing us to directly compete against the incumbent suppliers of glass laminated touch sensors.”

He continued: "With over 70 years of unrivalled, customised glass manufacturing and processing experience, Romag share our passion for innovation. Together, we can tailor-make touchglass in volume, as a single, dual or multitouch sensor to meet integrators' vast scope of needs, and an anticipated 99% of design briefs." Ryan Green, CEO of Romag concluded: "Romag has a proven track record of innovation and we are delighted to have partnered with Visualplanet who share this enthusiasm. Using our advanced manufacturing processes and visualplanet's touchfoil™ technology, we are the only supplier that can produce completely bespoke solutions to service this growing market."

20661/Press Release – 2017.07.07

B. CONTAINER GLASS

Glass Companies

O-I

Owens-Illinois, Inc. (O-I) has reported financial results for the second quarter ended 30 June 2017. For the second quarter, earnings from continuing operations were USD 0.85 per share (diluted), compared with USD 0.65 per share in 2016, primarily driven by improved segment operating profit and lower interest and tax expense. Excluding certain items management considers not representative of ongoing operations, adjusted earnings were USD 0.75 per share, up 15% compared with prior year. This exceeded management's second quarter guidance of USD 0.63 to USD 0.68 per share, largely due to a four cent per share benefit from a tax audit settled late in the quarter.

Net sales were USD 1.8 billion, on par with prior year second quarter. Price increased 1% on a global basis, which was offset by modestly lower sales volume and adverse currency translation. For the year-to-date period, net sales increased more than 50 basis points compared to 2016. Earnings from continuing operations before income taxes were USD 152 million for the second quarter compared with USD 141 million for the same period in 2016, an increase of 8%.

Segment operating profit of reportable segments¹ for the second quarter of 2017 was USD 252 million, an increase of 8% compared with prior year. **More than half of the increase was generated in Latin America** which benefited from sales gains and the early adoption of a total systems cost approach to managing structural costs.

Higher spirits and beer shipments in Latin America boosted O-I sales volumes. Growth was concentrated in Mexico, which reported record sales.

Another positive sign was reported in Brazil where low single-digit growth in shipments in the quarter was driven by gains in June.

The 10% improvement in **Europe** was primarily driven by higher production volume and continued success in improving total systems costs, while European shipments were nearly on par with the prior year as expected.



Sales volume in **Asia Pacific** declined primarily due to lower domestic sales in China, as production was exported to support sales to mature markets.

North America sales volume declined due to lower shipments and the ongoing unfavourable mix seen in prior quarters. Shipments declined primarily due to a fewer number of shipping days in the quarter and lower sales of returnable bottles in Canada. O-I said it was mitigating itself from the impact of the ongoing decline in megabeer in the USA by positioning itself to benefit from the growing market of US beer imports through its joint venture with Constellation Brands (CBI) and long-term sales contracts in Mexico. In the first half of 2017, shipments in beer for North America, plus Mexico and the joint venture with CBI were up mid-single digits.

The company continues to successfully execute on its strategic initiatives in commercial activities, end-to-end supply chain management and working capital reduction.

The focus on total systems cost improvement is on track to yield USD 35 million to USD 45 million in segment operating profit for the full year.

Successful program execution will allow the closure of the plant in the Netherlands earlier than anticipated.

The company is raising its annual earnings guidance to reflect continued solid operating performance, favourable currency translation and a lower tax rate. The company is confirming its cash flow guidance.

The company now expects earnings from continuing operations attributable to the company (diluted) for the full year 2017 to be in the range of USD 2.37 to USD 2.47 per share. Excluding certain items from the first half of 2017 that management considers not representative of ongoing operations, this equates to adjusted earnings per share³ for full year 2017 in the range of USD 2.55 to USD 2.65. The company expects cash provided by continuing operating activities for 2017 to be approximately USD 750 million and adjusted free cash flow to be approximately USD 365 million.

The earnings and cash flow guidance ranges reflect uncertainty in macroeconomic conditions and currency rates, among other external factors.

20662/Press Release – 2017.08.02

Ardagh

1. Xpar Vision Technology at Nienburg plant (Germany)

Ardagh's Nienburg plant in Germany recently installed an Xpar InfraRed Dual (IR-D) camera system, including an InfraRed Gobweight Control (IGC).

The IR-D systems are positioned on both sides of the conveyor belt, between the IS Machine and the Hot End Coating tunnel, providing real time information about deviations in the Hot End of the glass production process.

The IR-D inspects all bottles in real time for critical defects and rejects incorrect bottles at the Hot End. At the same time, process information on cavity level is presented to the upkeeps and the operators, allowing them to react immediately on any form of process or quality deviation.

The InfraRed Gobweight Control (IGC) is connected to Xpar Vision's IR-D system. It detects the intensity of infrared radiation emitted by the hot glass containers.

The pre-conditional IR-D measures the intensity of each single glass container, where the IGC relates this measurement to the weight of the gob. Any deviations in gob weight are automatically compensated by the IGC in adjusting the position of the tube.

Herbert Wilcken, Plant Manager at Nienburg, said: "The benefit of the IR-D system is that it provides us with real time information about deviations in our production process. Therefore we are able to adjust as quickly as possible.

"In this way we commit to the ever-increasing customer expectations, while increasing the plant's efficiency at the same time."

The partnership between Ardagh Group, the second largest container glass manufacturer in the world, and Xpar Vision, a privately-owned Netherlands-based company, started 15 years ago.

Michael Podgorski, responsible for Customer Relations with Ardagh Group, said: "We are very proud to extend our cooperation and we are committed to support the Ardagh Nienburg team through our proven Implementation Roadmap. We will embed the IR-D's into their daily operation for the highest benefit."

20663/Press Release – 2017.07.04

2. Ardagh Group presents a premium new glass bottle for Łomża Beer

As part of a new communication strategy, Łomża Brewery, has launched the Łomża Jasne beer in a premium new bottle design, introducing modern features to the sleek bottle that consumers love. The new design emphasises the slim shape, and the neck of the bottle has been embossed with the brewery's logo, reflecting Łomża brand's history. The design brief was to create glass packaging that captured Łomża's historic identity while retaining key brand icons and features. Working in collaboration with Ardagh Group in Poland, in-house designers used their creativity and technical expertise to develop a range of different bottle designs to meet the brief, from which the final shape was selected.

"The bottle's fresh look is achieved using two design techniques: traditional embossing and debossing. It has a 500ml capacity and is tall and imposing, giving it real shelf stand-out", explains Roman Sobecki from the design department of Ardagh OEG Design, Gostyń glassworks.



"Łomża beer has been on the market for 49 years. During that time, we have gained a well-established position in the beer market and have captured the hearts of successive generations of beer lovers. The new communication strategy shows that we listen to our consumers and are responding with a stunning, premium new bottle "says Maciej Dymalski, Brand Marketing Manager of Van Pur – Łomża's brand owner.

Łomża beer is an alternative to both mass market and craft beers. "We embrace the authenticity of traditional beer brewing, which we know guarantees a quality product. We don't mass-produce, nor do we over-complicate the process as some craft beers do. We want to make Łomża the best regional beer in Poland, hence the rebranded image that responds to consumer interest in authentic products" explains Maciej Dymalski.

20664/Press Release – 2017.07.25

Verallia Group



1. Verallia Portugal recently celebrated 30 years in the country with a special event for customers, partners and the local authorities in its Figueira da Foz plant.

The occasion also to celebrate Verallia's success on the Portuguese market where the business is today in pole position.

"Inside the Group, Verallia Portugal perfectly embodies the values of Verallia, especially professional commitment and customer service. I am proud of Verallia's teams and warmly thank our customers for their loyalty," stated Jean-Pierre Floris, chairman and CEO of Verallia during the event.

In Portugal, Verallia has around 250 employees. Its headquarters, factory and product development centre are located on the Atlantic coast, in Figueira da Foz, between Porto and Lisbon. With its two furnaces, the business produces daily over 2 million bottles and jars for still wines (including the famous ports), sparkling wines, beers, spirits, soft drinks and food.

Verallia Portugal serves local and international customers. The business stands out for its remarkable knowledge of the Portuguese market and the close relations it has nurtured with its customers over the last 30 years.

Thanks to its product development centre, Verallia Portugal is able to offer its customers responsive services for their creations. The company also organizes the Verallia Design Awards (<http://www.criatividade-verallia.pt/edicao2017>), a design contest aimed at sensitizing Portuguese students on using glass as a material. Run in Portugal for the last 4 years, the competition has this year attracted more than 87 projects. In 1987, the Spanish company Vicasa – at the time a Saint-Gobain subsidiary – acquired the installations of Vidreira da Fontela glassworks closed since 1982 and renamed the company Saint-Gobain Mondego. Operations started up again the same year. The factory increased its production capabilities in 1991, installing a second furnace. At the same time, it managed to reach the best industry standards. This level of excellence was confirmed by the series of certifications obtained: ISO 9001 for quality in 1996, ISO 14001 for the environment in 2002, and OHSAS 18001 for health and safety in 2004. In 2006, the first furnace and all its production lines were completely rebuilt and modernized.

The factory installed an electrostatic precipitator (ESP electro-filter), an advanced environmental technology for which it is pioneer on the Portuguese market. From 2008, the second furnace and its installations were in turn replaced by state-of-the-art technology. In two years, over EUR 60million were invested to make the Figueira da Foz site a leading-edge plant in the glass packaging sector.

20665/Press Release – 2017.07.04

2. Verallia Packaging S.A.S. has announced the appointment of Mr. Michel Giannuzzi as Chairman and CEO of the Group starting from September 1, 2017.

He will take over from Jean-Pierre Floris, who is appointed as Honorary Chairman and will continue to serve the company as Independent Board Member.



Aged 52 years old, Michel Giannuzzi served as CEO of Tarkett, a worldwide leader of innovative flooring and sports surface solutions, from 2007 to 2017. During his tenure at Tarkett, Michel Giannuzzi pursued a profitable and sustainable growth strategy, which led to a successful IPO in 2013. Prior to that, Michel Giannuzzi held several leading positions within the Michelin Group and Valeo Group. He graduated from Ecole Polytechnique.

Jean-Pierre Floris declared: "I am honoured to have led the team that established the independence of Verallia and that implemented the business plan developed in partnership with Apollo and Bpifrance. Today marks the beginning of a new phase for Verallia. I am delighted with the choice of Michel Giannuzzi, which I supported. He has all the qualities and the experience necessary to guarantee the deployment of our company's business strategy. I wish Verallia and Michel Giannuzzi every success and I want them to know that they have my full support.

I would like to thank our shareholders, our 10,000 customers, and the 10,000 employees of Verallia, with whom I had a great pleasure to work."

"I am very excited to join Verallia and partner with both Apollo and Bpifrance. Verallia is a leader in its industry and Jean-Pierre Floris has built an exceptional team with years of experience in glass packaging manufacturing, which will lay the foundation for a successful future", said Michel Giannuzzi.

"We would like to thank Jean-Pierre Floris for his service to the company and his efforts to successfully transition Verallia to a standalone entity. We look forward to continuing to serve Verallia alongside him in his new capacity as Honorary Chairman and Independent Board Member", stated Robert Seminara, Senior Partner of Apollo and Sébastien Moynot, Board Member of Verallia representing Bpifrance.

"We are delighted to welcome Michel Giannuzzi to Verallia, who brings the unique combination of entrepreneurial spirit and proven leadership that will be instrumental to continue the successful development that the company enjoyed under Jean-Pierre Floris' leadership."



Vidrala

Vidrala has secured a €45 million loan to help transform its Italian production site. The loan from the European Investment Bank (EIB) will be used to completely rebuild its Corsico site near Milan in Italy, in order to transform it into a 'smart glass factory' by the end of 2018.

It said the production site will incorporate the most advanced innovations in the manufacturing process of glass.

20667/Press Release – 2017.07.18



Encirc

1. UK glass manufacturer and bottler, Encirc, enjoyed success in **four industry award categories** at this year's **Glass Focus 2017 event** at the Royal Armouries in Leeds.

The Glass Focus Conference and Awards dinner is hosted by industry trade body, British Glass, and showcases the year's achievements from within the UK's glass sector.

Encirc impressed the judges with its ongoing commitment to corporate responsibility and staff wellbeing, winning in both the Sustainable Practice and Strengthening the Business through People categories.

The Sustainable Practice category looks at how glass sector organisations are able to minimise their environmental impact, while still remaining competitive.

Encirc's entry was boosted by its recent £6 million investment in a new onsite railhead at its Elton plant.



The new terminal is enabling around half of its raw materials to be delivered by train, saving millions of road miles each year and reducing annual CO₂ emissions by around 800,000 tonnes.

Encirc was recognised in the Strengthening the Business through People award due to a number of initiatives that have resulted in an upskilled workforce.

- The company offers easy-to-access development schemes and a new academy programme to support the next generation of glass making experts.
- In addition, Colin Beggan – an electrical apprentice at Encirc's Derrylin facility – received a special commendation for his outstanding work on a technical project that has helped boost efficiency and safety across the premises.

- Meanwhile, measurement specialists, Land Ametek, also brought home the Innovative Solution award for its thermal imaging technology within Encirc's furnaces.

British Glass CEO, Dave Dalton, said: "Glass manufacturing and technology offers fascinating roles. To remain competitive and progressive our industry needs a workforce that's properly trained for them – with technical, commercial, management and leadership skills. "It's great to see companies investing in that talent pipeline – and right that we should recognise that through the Glass Focus Awards. Encirc deserve to be congratulated for the work they are putting into staff development, and the results they are achieving."

Fiacre O'Donnell, head of strategic development at Encirc, stated: "Sustainability is an integral part of our business strategy. To receive the Sustainable Practice award is certainly a reflection of the hard work carried out by everyone across the business to help us minimise our impact on the environment.

"Having skilled, engaged workers is of course essential to making these types of changes across the business and the second award we took home is a testament to the substance of our employees. Colin should also be very proud of himself as he's made a real impact on everyone he's worked with, as well as safety procedures at our facility in Northern Ireland."

20668/Press Release – 2017.06.28

2. Encirc Academy goes global with launch of Vidrala Academy

Encirc's award-winning Academy will now become the Vidrala Academy.

Following a three-year period of growth and success, the provider of industry training and consultancy services will adopt the name of the parent company, Vidrala, to reflect its global reach and its current eight sites.

Originally started as a business unit in Encirc, the Encirc Academy was founded in 2014 as a response to demand from other glass container businesses for training on how to achieve increased operational productivity and efficiency.

The Vidrala Academy's members today provide support internally within the group and travel the globe, supporting the global glass sector in sharing the best ways of working to achieve manufacturing excellence.

The Academy's name change has been chosen to accurately reflect its global presence, taking advantage of Vidrala's international influence. The refresh will also ensure that Vidrala sites across Europe can capitalise on the knowledge-sharing scheme.

Under the new banner, the Vidrala Academy will continue to offer technical assistance agreements and training for container glassmakers around the world.

Rob Healy, general manager of the Vidrala Academy, said: "Over the last few years, our team of experts has been working tirelessly to instill best practice in container glass manufacturing worldwide.

"This relaunch helps introduce the Academy to a wider audience of manufacturers, as well as bringing in a greater depth of expertise from other Vidrala businesses.

"Our end-goal is to help our partners maximise efficiency in their plants and the quality of their final products, leading to cost savings and more sustainability across the sector."

More information from www.encirc-academy.com/

20669/Press Release – 2017.07.26

Şişecam Glass Packaging



Şişecam Glass Packaging has commissioned a third furnace at its Mersin plant.

Şişecam Group's glass packaging capacity in Turkey reaches the 1 million tons mark.

Şişecam Glass Packaging is a member of the Şişecam Group and the world's fifth largest glass packaging producer with a 2.3 million tons/year output and production facilities in four countries. The new furnace, which has been modernized using state-of-the-art technology, offers a 90,000 tons/year capacity. Şişecam Glass Packaging operates three plants in Bursa, Eskişehir and Mersin, and the modernization of the third furnace, which cost around TL 120 million, will push the company's annual production capacity in Turkey above the 1-million-ton mark.

Commenting on the furnace investment, Şişecam Group Deputy Chairman and CEO Prof. Ahmet Kirman pointed out that the group ranked third globally in glass home accessories, and fifth globally in glass packaging and flat glass. Stating that the glass packaging plant in Mersin was established in 1969, Kirman said: "Throughout its 81-year history, our group has always invested its earnings in the country's future, and has now become a global player in its field. Our new state-of-the-art furnace in city of Mersin, where we have been active for almost fifty years, is yet another example of our contribution to the national economy. As always, our group remains committed to sustainable growth".



Kirman continued saying that Şişecam Glass Packaging's strategy is to achieve the highest quality standards: "Şişecam Glass Packaging continuously modernizes its existing facilities in line with advances in technology.

The newly commissioned furnace will both contribute to Turkish economy and allow us to achieve the state of the art at our Mersin plant. This furnace has been equipped with Industry 4.0 technologies. Şişecam Glass Packaging now has three production lines that can produce anything from jars to bottles in various colours."

Emphasizing that Şişecam Glass Packaging was one of the world's largest glass packaging producers, Kirman said: "Exporting 125,000 tons in 2016, Şişecam Glass Packaging has broken both the industry's record and its own record. The Mersin plant is of critical importance in terms of exports, thanks to its proximity to the port. This new furnace investment has further added to this position. Şişecam Glass Packaging targets to continue investment projects that will allow it to sustainably increase its export volume in the coming years.

Stölzle First Sustainability Report



Over the last few years, the Stölzle Glass Group has been growing steadily. Linked with this growth and expansion of production capacity, Stölzle has invested heavily in the field of environmental protection. Today, we can be proud not only of meeting our legal obligations, but also of making a significant contribution to the environment as a result of our ongoing improvements and innovations. Our medium-term targets for 2020 and beyond continue to pursue this strategy.

From the inert raw material of glass, we develop, manufacture and market high-quality packaging for the pharmaceutical, food, spirits and cosmetics industries.

Thanks to its unlimited recyclability, only glass can claim the capacity to go back into the production process over and over again; to be re-used endlessly without compromising on quality, flavour-neutrality or functional safety. This fundamental unique selling point with regard to longevity will be a key aspect in our group's sustainability strategy in the future.

The Stölzle Glass Group is pleased to present its **first sustainability report**. This report underscores our actions and sense of responsibility with respect to resources and the environment, and reflects our social commitment towards our employees and business partners.

In the period between 2015 and 2016, the following milestones have been achieved:

- 3% decrease in energy consumption
- 20% decrease of NO_x emissions
- 3% decrease of water emission
- 15% increase in female employees

Being more than conscious of its economic footprint, the Group uses in its average production of three billion bottles per year. 120,000 tonnes of recycled cullet what helps save 140,000 tonnes of precious raw materials and reduce CO₂ emissions by 30,000 tonnes.

Executive summary: [-http://www.stoelzle.com/en-sustainability-147.html](http://www.stoelzle.com/en-sustainability-147.html)

Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability

Sustainability will lead the Stölzle Glass Group successfully into the future. Therefore, our corporate policy pursues economic, social and environmental goals in a balanced relationship.

20671/Stölzle Press Release – 2017.07.31

Heinz-Glas

Family-owned cosmetic glass manufacturer Heinz-Glas has chosen a Glas Produktions-Service (GPS) IS 8-section machine for its Piesau, Germany plant.

The German-based GPS said the machine will produce articles at high speed in single, double and triple gob mode for its compatriot company.

GPS recently patented six technological developments, which are new to the entire industry.





These innovations, as well as the made-in-Germany quality, process reliability, efficiency and environmental performance convinced Heinz-Glas – a long-term customer of GPS – to award the IS machines manufacturer with the order. The machine is scheduled to go under glass in July.

20672/Press Release – 2017.07.04

Industria Vidrera de Coahuila (IVC) (Mexico)

Zippe Industrieanlagen has successfully installed a batch plant for a 560tpd furnace at Mexico's Industria Vidrera de Coahuila (IVC).

German company Zippe implemented the project on a turnkey-basis and its scope of



supply includes two cullet return systems for the new melting furnaces, F3 and F4.

IVC is a joint venture of US-based glass manufacturer Owens-Illinois (O-I) and the brewer, Constellation Brands.

The new building site is in the city of Nava, north Mexico, 30km from the Texan border in the USA. The plant will manufacture bottles exclusively for a directly adjacent brewery.

20673/Press Release – 2017.07.18

San Miguel Acquires Barossa Bottling Services

San Miguel Yamamura Australasia unit purchased the Australian bottling company Barossa.

Factoring in the latest acquisition of Barossa Bottling Services, San Miguel expects its packaging business in Australia and New Zealand to contribute A\$300 million in sales.



San Miguel logged sales of 685.31 billion pesos (\$13.56 billion) in 2016, up 1.94% on the year, while its consolidated net income surged 80.2% to 52.24 billion pesos.

"We remain bullish on the Australasian market and will continue to look for bigger and better opportunities in that region," San Miguel President and Chief Operating Officer Ramon Ang said. "In the meantime, our Philippine operations will continue to expand to meet growing domestic and export demands."

San Miguel Yamamura earlier this year acquired assets of Endeavour Glass Packaging in New Zealand and a 100-percent stake in Portavin Australia. It also acquired the cork and wine closures business of Vinocor and packaging company Cospak. Factoring in the latest acquisition, San Miguel expects its packaging business in Australia and New Zealand to contribute A\$300 million in sales.

San Miguel logged sales of 685.31 billion pesos (\$13.56 billion) in 2016, up 1.94% on the year, while its consolidated net income surged 80.2% to 52.24 billion pesos.

20674/Press Release – 2017.07.17

Arglass (USA)



Arglass is building a greenfield, 122,000 tonnes/year glass container manufacturing facility in Valdosta, Georgia US State. The design is based on the European model of highly flexible plants, permitting the production of both small and large runs at competitive prices. Forehearth colouring will permit a wide range of colours to be produced. In addition, full in-house decoration capabilities will improve efficiency, reduce handling and logistics costs, thus optimising time to market. Construction starts in summer 2017, with start-up scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2018 and full operation planned by early 2019.

20675/Press Release – 2017.07.04

Coca-Cola HBC Romania

Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling Company has installed a high-speed bottling line at its Timisoara plant, Romania, to serve both the Romanian market and the European markets in the future.



Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling Company (HBC) has inaugurated a high-speed bottling line at its Timisoara plant, following a EUR 7 million (USD 7.9 million) investment. With a maximum production capacity of 90,000 units per hour in 330 ml and 500 ml bottles, the new line will serve both the Romanian market and the European markets in the future, Coca Cola said in a press release. The project started in November 2016, and the testing period was completed in late May 2017.

"We are committed to investing further, Romania is a very important market within the Coca-Cola HBC Group, and we are very excited about what's coming next," Coca-Cola HBC Romania general manager Jaak Mikke said.

Timisoara factory also has the most energy-efficient bottling line and the one with the lowest water consumption per litre of beverage produced, Coca Cola said.

The Coca-Cola HBC factory in Timisoara was inaugurated on August 1995 and currently bottles Coca-Cola, Fanta, Sprite, Schweppes, Nestea and Joy products. These products serve both the Romanian market, except for Joy, and other countries where the Timisoara plant exports, such as Bulgaria, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia and Greece.

Coca-Cola HBC started operations in Romania in 1991 and currently employs 1,700 people. Besides the Timisoara factory, Coca Cola operates two other plants in Romania. One was inaugurated in 2012 in the southern city of Ploiesti following a EUR 22 million investment, making Romania a regional production hub which exports Cappy Pulpy to six countries across Central and Eastern Europe. The other one, located in Poiana Negrii, in the northern county of Suceava, has been part of an extensive investment programme, since 2002, when Coca-Cola acquired the production capacities and the springs in Dorna area.

In September 2015, Coca Cola decided to close the factory in Moldova's capital Chisinau and to supply the local market from its plants in Romania and Ukraine.

20676/Press Release – 2017.07.04

Miscellaneous

Glass Focus Awards 2017 Winners

Winners of the 2017 Glass Focus Awards include:

- Stölzle Glass Group (Design of the Year), for the Squadron 303 Vodka bottle,
- Encirc (Sustainable Practice category) for investment in an in-site railhead at the Elton plant that has saved millions of road miles,
- Ardagh Group (Health and Safety Action category) for a multi-faceted, plant-wide strategy with excellent results,
- AMETEK Land (Innovative Solution category) for the innovative use of real-time, in-furnace thermal imaging in a project with Encirc and Simpson Combustion and Energy,
- Encirc (Strengthening Business Through People category) for a two-pronged initiative using easy-to-access learning for the wider workforce and intensive technical training for hand-picked talent.

20677/Britglass News – 2017.06.20

Glass Packaging Market 2017-2027

Visiongain's new 163-page report estimates that the Glass Packaging market will reach USD 56.8 billion in 2017. The report includes forecasts by application (food, beverage, healthcare, personal care, other industries) plus leading players and regional market.

This new report from Visiongain is a completely fresh market assessment of the Glass Packaging market based upon the latest information. Our new market study contains forecasts, original analysis, company profiles and, most crucially, fresh conclusions. The report gives detailed forecasts and analysis of the Glass Packaging markets by region and end-use sectors.

The Glass Packaging Market Forecast 2017-2027 report provides definitive market data:

- ❖ Where are the Glass Packaging market opportunities? 111 tables, charts, and graphs reveal market data enabling to target required strategy more effectively.
- ❖ When will the Glass Packaging market grow? Global, national and the Glass Packaging submarket forecasts and analysis from 2017-2027 illustrate the market progression.
- ❖ Which Glass Packaging submarkets will flourish from 2017-2027? submarket forecasts for beverages, food, healthcare, personal care, and other industries, 2017-2027.
- ❖ Where are the regional Glass Packaging market opportunities from 2017-2027? Focused regional forecasts and analysis explore the future opportunities for Asia-Pacific, North America, Europe, RoW, US, Mexico and Canada, Russia, Germany, Turkey, U.K., Italy, Rest of Europe, France, China, Australia, Indonesia, Japan, India, South Korea, South Africa, MEA, Brazil and Other Countries 2017-2027.
- ❖ What are the factors influencing Glass Packaging market dynamics? SWOT analysis explores the factors, Research and development (R&D) strategy, Supply and demand dynamics, Advances in product quality.
- ❖ Who are the leading 8 Glass Packaging companies? The report reveals market share, positioning, capabilities, product portfolios, R&D activity, services, focus, strategies, M&A activity, and future outlook on: Owens-Illinois, Saint-Gobain, Ardagh Group, Vidrala, Vetropack, Gerresheimer, Corning, AGC Group.

20678/Press Release – 2017.07.06

C. REINFORCEMENT GLASS FIBRES

Sector's News

GlassFibreEurope

APFE - European Glass Fibre Producers Association (AISBL)

GlassFibreEurope calls on industry's value chain to support the continuation of duties against illegal Dumping of Open Mesh Fabric from China.

GlassFibreEurope, the European Glass Fibre Producers Association (APFE) and Tech-Fab Europe (TFE) have called on all actors in the glass fibre value chain to stand united in the fight against illegal trade practises by China.

Chinese predatory dumping is a recurrent and critical issue for both the upstream as well as downstream industries in the European glass fibre sector. "We must recognise that aggressive and illegal dumping by Chinese producers, in the end, threatens the survival of all members of the glass fibre value chain," pointed out Axel Jorns, Secretary General of Glass Fibre Europe.

In the most recent case of open mesh fabrics, which has set off alarms bells across a number of EU manufacturing industries, five years after initial EU trade defence measures were adopted, European producers requested an expiry review.

The reason for this is the fact that Chinese producers have continued to build up massive underutilized overcapacity and to sell at dumped prices, and the EU market remains the largest and most attractive for them.

EU Commission's DG Trade agreed to open the expiry review of measures on imports of open mesh fabrics, and its findings were disclosed on 26 June 2017. Despite clear and irrefutable evidence, which showed the likelihood of dumping and injury recurring if the anti-dumping measures were removed, DG Trade proposed the termination of the measures.

The analysis in the Commission's disclosure is incomplete and does not consider all the relevant evidence, which supports the continuation of the duties. For example, a very relevant factor not examined in evaluating the likelihood that injury would recur is the fact that China's overcapacity in open mesh fabrics is equal to the EU's total consumption.

"The Commission's conclusions are simply naive," said Mr Jorns, adding: "The EU producers cannot compete with Chinese products priced below cost if the EU's anti-dumping measures are removed. Indeed, given the huge overcapacity in China, we expect a significant increase in dumped imports from China should the measures be terminated. This would have a devastating impact on EU producers".

According to China's 13th '5-Year New Materials Plan' there is a clear state-backed strategy to support Chinese producers by underwriting products being exported, below cost, to third markets - and in particular onto the EU market.

"We are expecting the vast overcapacities in glass fibre materials in China to increase over time. This creates terrible uncertainty for the future of European producers," pointed out Mr Jorns.

Chinese producers rapidly obtained more than 50% of EU market share before the EU imposed anti-dumping duties on imports of open mesh fabrics in 2011.

The message of the proposed findings from the Commission to European producers is rather unsettling and raises questions - is there an intention to defend European industry against unfair trade and to apply the law as it has been consistently applied until now? These questions are particularly pertinent in the context of proposed changes to the EU's anti-dumping methodology in cases involving China.

GlassFibreEurope supports TechFabEurope in its fight for fair market conditions. "We must wake up and stand united as an industry. We must pull the entire value chain together to stop the virulent spread of illegal dumping and circumvention practises by China. We must demand that international trade rules are respected and enforced by the European Commission," Mr Jorns concluded.

20679/Press Release – 2017.07.20

D. SPECIAL GLASS

Glass Companies

CORNING

- 1. Corning Incorporated and Gerresheimer** announce that they are accelerating the supply of Corning Valor™ Glass.

Valor Glass is a breakthrough glass container engineered for the storage and delivery of XXI century injectable drugs. Valor Glass is an unprecedented improvement in glass container quality. Valor Glass's superior strength, chemical durability and damage resistance result in better protection for drug products. Valor Glass also enables increased throughput and higher levels of quality assurance for pharmaceutical companies, and higher-quality medicines for patients.

Corning and Gerresheimer have been working together since 2015 to accelerate Corning innovations for the pharmaceutical glass packaging market.

"We are thrilled to be working with Corning on innovations to enhance quality across the industry. Valor Glass is a remarkable Type I glass with outstanding performance on every attribute," said Uwe Röhrhoff, Chief Executive Officer of Gerresheimer AG.

"Gerresheimer is a long-standing leader in the industry. They've been a terrific collaboration partner, and we're excited to be working with them to bring Valor Glass to the pharmaceutical industry," said Ron Verkleeren, Vice President and General Manager, Corning Pharmaceutical Technologies.

20680/Press Release – 2017.07.25

CORNING

2. Corning and Stevanato Group enter new supply agreement for Corning Valor Glass
Corning Incorporated and Stevanato Group are collaborating on the supply of Corning Valor Glass to the pharmaceutical industry.

Corning Incorporated and Stevanato Group have announced a new collaboration agreement focused on supplying Corning Valor Glass to the pharmaceutical industry. Valor Glass is a high-quality glass container designed for the storage and delivery of injectable drugs. Drug formulations and drug manufacturing processes have evolved significantly over the past century, requiring a stronger, chemically durable, 21st century packaging technology to better protect drug products, including life-saving medicines. Valor Glass offers superior chemical durability, strength, and damage resistance, resulting in better protection for drug products, according to Corning.

Corning and Stevanato Group have been working together since 2011 to enable higher quality pharmaceutical containers. The latest agreement extends that relationship and combines Stevanato's state-of-the-art converting technology with Valor Glass to provide pharmaceutical customers with the highest quality pharmaceutical containers. Franco Stevanato, chief executive officer of Stevanato Group, commented: "Corning and Stevanato Group have a shared commitment to innovation and bringing the highest quality pharmaceutical containers to the industry.

Valor is a Type I glass that is well aligned with that shared commitment and we are delighted to be working together on it." "Stevanato Group is well respected in this industry because they ensure the highest standards of quality and innovation throughout their production process. We look forward to continuing this work with Stevanato to improve quality in the pharmaceutical glass packaging industry," said Ron Verkleeren, vice president and general manager, Corning Pharmaceutical Technologies.

20681/Press Release – 2017.07.27

3. Corning in \$500 million glass project with Merck and Pfizer

Corning plans to invest \$500 million in a pharmaceutical packaging modernisation project.

The investment includes expanding Corning facilities in Corning, New York, and Vineland, New Jersey, and building a new manufacturing plant at a yet to be disclosed location in the Southeast of the United States.

Corning could eventually invest \$4 billion and hire up to 4,000 new employees.

It has worked alongside pharmaceutical groups Merck and Pfizer to introduce Corning Valor Glass.

It said the new pharmaceutical glass packaging solution enhances the storage and delivery of drug formulations, and provides a more reliable access to medicines essential to public health.

Corning said pharmaceutical formulation and manufacturing process insights from Merck and Pfizer, in combination with its glass science and precision forming capabilities, helped deliver the glass packaging solution for injectable drugs in vials and cartridges.

The companies' continued collaborations will focus on additional evaluations and the deployment of the new innovation.

20682/Press Release – 2017.07.24

SCHOTT



1. SCHOTT, an expert provider of glass-to-metal electrical penetration assemblies to the nuclear power industry, has welcomed a report released by **the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)** highlighting the potentially severe issues that can occur as a result of complete failure of electrical and instrumentation and control (I&C) equipment under severe accident conditions.

The report, the latest in the IAEA TECDOC Series, is entitled *Assessment of Equipment Capability to Perform Reliably under Severe Accident Conditions*, and highlights the fact that severe accidents can 'subject electrical and instrumentation and control (I&C) equipment to environmental conditions exceeding the equipment's original design basis assumptions (DBA).

Furthermore, it recommends that when qualifying electrical and I&C equipment for use within nuclear power plants, components should be tested to be able to withstand severe accident conditions – such as a core melt.



Final quality checks of a glass-to-metal sealed SCHOTT Eternaloc® electrical penetration assembly.

Its objective is to provide 'an international technical basis to be considered when assessing the electrical and I&C equipment reliable performance under severe accident conditions needed for implementation of mitigative measures during severe accidents. Maintaining the integrity of the containment is key to mitigating severe accidents. This is where glass-to-metal sealed Electrical Penetration Assemblies (EPAs), such as those produced by SCHOTT in its Eternaloc® line of components, can play a critical role in nuclear power plant safety. Glass barriers remain hermetic as the material does not degrade like organic epoxy-based variants, even under currently defined severe accident conditions. Glass barriers are also resistant to radiation leaks, able to withstand extreme temperatures and pressures simultaneously, and provide a hermetic barrier against humidity. In addition, glass barriers have been tested to withstand pressures found under water depths of 12m for up to 30 days – which enables the containment to remain sealed under flooding conditions, whether caused by the event itself or as a consequence of mitigation strategy.

Thomas Fink, General Manager Nuclear Safety Division of SCHOTT, commented: “In the event of a severe accident, the most important area of concern is maintenance of the fission product barrier - effectively maintaining the barrier between the radioactive fuel inside the containment and the outside environment. The deployment of glass-to-metal seals for electrical penetrations should be considered best and standard practice. This logic applies to all equipment responsible for monitoring and mitigation of severe accidents, such as isolation valves and emergency cooling injectors. The findings and recommendations from the IAEA should be reflected in international and national standards as soon as possible, especially in the UK where major new build plans exist. All new plants must fulfil these long-term safety requirements as they have targeted operational lifetimes of 60 years. The use of non-aging materials like ceramic, glass, and steel – as recommended by the IAEA – will also reduce total cost of ownership, as components made of these materials do not require maintenance or replacement. Additionally, costs could be far better managed under a system of universal international standards, as at present each new power plant that is constructed effectively reinvents the wheel due to differing local standards that must be adhered to. SCHOTT welcomes this new report and would encourage regulators to adopt its recommendations at the earliest possible opportunity.”

The full report is available to view here:

http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/Publications/PDF/TE-1818_web.pdf

20683/Schott Press Release – 2017.07.20

2. SCHOTT has recently announced a **partnership with Chinergy Co., Ltd and Jiamusi Electric Machine Co., Ltd** to help support the safe and cost-efficient operation of the Shidaowan twin-reactor high temperature reactor (HTR) through the use of ETERNALOC electrical penetration assemblies (EPAs).

20684/Schott Press Release – 2017.07.25

ZEISS

1. **Jörg Schmitz** has become **Head of the Consumer Optics business group for ZEISS**, taking over from Dr. Winfried Scherle, and reporting directly to Dr. Matthias Metz, Member of the Executive Board of Carl Zeiss AG.



We make it visible.

Effective 1 July 2017, Jörg Schmitz (50) became Head of the Consumer Optics business group. He will report directly to Dr. Matthias Metz, Member of the Executive Board of Carl Zeiss AG. Schmitz will assume the responsibilities of Dr. Winfried Scherle (62). Schmitz studied business economics and began his career at Procter & Gamble. After holding various international positions in marketing and sales, he joined Kärcher in 2010. "With Jörg Schmitz, we are delighted to have found an expert in marketing, sales and innovative business and product development who will add important momentum to ZEISS Consumer Optics," added Metz. "With his many years of international experience in the top brand business with consumer goods and technical durables, Schmitz will shape and advance the ongoing and successful development and future orientation of the business group together with his team."

20685/Press Release – 2017.07.04

2. Nokia smartphones to feature ZEISS optics

Exclusive collaboration sees ZEISS innovating in imaging experience on Nokia smartphones; rekindles commitment to set new imaging standards for Nokia smartphone consumers. HMD Global, the home of Nokia phones, and ZEISS jointly announced the signing of an exclusive partnership that aims to set new imaging standards within the smartphone industry. This long-term agreement builds on the shared history and expertise between ZEISS and Nokia smartphones.



Florian Seiche, HMD Global, and Andreas Back, ZEISS

With a joint ambition to advance the quality of the total imaging experience on smartphones spanning the entire ecosystem from software, services, through to screen quality, and optic design, the partnership will see ZEISS and HMD Global co-develop standard-defining imaging capabilities and will bring the ZEISS brand back to Nokia smartphones. This pledge to constantly improve consumers' imaging experience is a reflection of the shared values between both businesses – a single minded commitment to quality, true craftsmanship and a desire to improve real life experience.

The relationship between ZEISS and Nokia phones began more than a decade ago, and is founded on a shared passion for innovation and always delivering the best for the consumer. The past collaboration saw ZEISS and Nokia phones driving technology innovations such as the world's first multi-megapixel mobile phone and many more standard-setting devices, from the Nokia Nseries to those featuring Nokia PureView technologies. This renewed relationship is a long-term commitment to build on that technology innovation over the years to come.

Arto Nummela, CEO, HMD Global: "Collaborating with ZEISS is an important part of our commitment to always deliver the very best experience for our customers. Our fans want more than a great smartphone camera, they want a complete imaging experience that doesn't just set the standard but redefines it. Our fans expect it and, together with ZEISS, we're delivering it – co-developed imaging excellence for all."

Dr. Matthias Metz, Member of the Executive Board of ZEISS Group: "The collaboration of HMD Global with ZEISS for Nokia smartphones will again enhance consumers' holistic imaging experience based on excellence and innovation. Our partnership is built on a solid foundation. Together, we look forward to an exciting journey into the future of sophisticated smartphone imaging."

20686/Press Release – 2017.07.07

3. ZEISS opts for continuity: CEO Kaschke confirmed until 2020

Zeiss has confirmed the appointment of **Dr. Michael Kaschke** as President & CEO until 30 June 2020; also extending the contract of Executive Board Member Dr. Matthias Metz until 30 June 2023.



Kaschke joined the ZEISS Group 25 years ago and has served on the Executive Board since 2000. He has been President & CEO of Carl Zeiss AG since 2011. The Supervisory Board of Carl Zeiss AG had decided previously on the continued appointment of Dr. Ludwin Monz until 30 September 2022. Dr. Monz began working at ZEISS as a research scientist in the Central Research Division in 1994.

He was appointed Member of the Executive Board of Carl Zeiss AG in 2014 and is responsible for the ZEISS Medical Technology segment. Dr. Monz has been President & CEO of Carl Zeiss Meditec AG since 2010.

Dr. Metz joined the ZEISS Group in 2015, and since this time has been responsible, as a Member of the Executive Board, for the ZEISS Vision Care/Consumer Products segment. "We are delighted that we will be able to continue the collaboration as it enables us to successfully continue our growth trajectory," says Dr. Dieter Kurz, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Carl Zeiss AG. "Michael Kaschke and his Executive Board team have succeeded in further sharpening customer focus at ZEISS while making the company more dynamic and global."

"With the ZEISS Agenda 2020, we have given ourselves a clear program which will allow the ZEISS Group to remain successful and competitive in the future," says Dr. Michael Kaschke, President & CEO of Carl Zeiss AG. "I am looking forward to continuing the outstanding collaboration with the Supervisory Board and the global ZEISS team."

20687/Press Release – 2017.07.28

E. DOMESTIC TABLEWARE AND CRYSTAL GLASS

Glass Companies

Bormioli Rocco



1. Italy's glass bottles and tableware products manufacturer **Bormioli Rocco spa** is said to be close to be sold to two different buyers in a deal that will see **Triton**, private equity firm to buy the pharma division, and **Bormioli Luigi**, glass container manufacturer, to buy the household division.

Last Spring Chinese conglomerate **Deliglass** was instead said to be in pole position to buy the company. This would be the end of a long auction that saw bids from other industrial groups such as Germany's Gerresheimer and Italy's Zignano Vetro. The controlling shareholder **Vision Capital** has been trying to sell the company for some months with Rothschild as mandated advisor.

Bormioli Rocco had four different units since April 2014: Pharmaceutical Glass; Pharmaceutical Plastic; Tableware and Food & Beverage.

Vision Capital already sold Bormioli's cosmetics division in December 2013 to Austrian **Stölzle Glass Group** and Bormioli's food&beverage division to Swiss **Vetropack Holding** in June 2015.

Bormioli Rocco was said to be valued about EUR 500-600 million. However now it seems that bids are for a EUR 400-500 million prices or 9-10x 2015 Bormioli's ebitda.

Bormioli reached EUR 451.9 million in revenues in 2015, with a EUR 52.3 million ebitda and a EUR 29.2 million net financial debt. The Bormioli bond is listed at the Frankfurt Stock Exchange and quotes around 102.8.

20688/Press Release – 2017.07.17

2. Bormioli Rocco receives EUR 1.5 million **reimbursement from Parma City Council**.

In 1993, Bormioli Rocco was obliged to pay Parma City Council a considerable sum of money for purification and sewage services that it had never used. According to the Supreme Court, the Parma City Council must now reimburse Bormioli Rocco EUR 1,493,796.40, together with the accrued interest for the past 24 years.

The clash between Bormioli Rocco and the Parma City Council started back in 1993, when the City Council demanded that the company pay several million Lira (the currency in use in Italy at that time) for purification and sewage services. Bormioli, however, responded explaining that it had never used these services, because the water it used to cool its furnaces was clean water coming directly from the Naviglio canal, and without therefore passing through the city sewage system.

The City Council, on the other hand, continued to insist and Bormioli Rocco was obliged to pay the amount requested, but it did not waste time in asking for the money back, arguing its case. And this was the start of the legal 'battle' that today, after almost 25 years, has concluded with the defeat of the City Council.

Bormioli started to see its reasons acknowledged in 2005 when the Tax Commission spoke of 99% refund of the sum, as purification and sewage services had not been used, and that the water used by the company was only for the bathrooms. After having recourse to the Regional Commission and the Supreme Court, the Parma City Council has been defeated definitely. The amount due to Bormioli Rocco will be paid by the City Council as an 'off-balance sheet debt'.

20689/Press Release – 2017.07.31

Paşabahçe



The Turkish company plans to invest \$100m in the Egyptian market in the coming period. Paşabahçe completed the acquisition of the Pearl Glass Group for \$50m. The deal reached its final stage.

Paşabahçe intends to invest \$100m in the Egyptian market as soon as the acquisition deal is completed, and aims to develop the Egyptian glass company starting production in the next year.

According to Cemil Tokel, Paşabahçe's vice chairman, the Turkish company's new project will provide 1,200 jobs as soon as the new expansions are completed, alongside 650 existing jobs. He pointed out that the company intends to export its products to foreign markets, including the United States, Latin America, Arab, African, and Eastern European markets, benefiting from the free trade agreements signed between Egypt and those countries.

The Egyptian minister for trade said that the recent gas discoveries in the Delta and the Mediterranean area provide all the needs of the national industry of gas, including the glass industry, pointing out that Egypt will achieve self-sufficiency of gas during the next year.

20690/Press Release – 2017.07.14

Libbey



Libbey has reported results for the second quarter: net sales are in line with company expectations; second-half outlook expected to demonstrate growth as compared to the prior-year.

- Net sales USD 197.5 million, down 5.0% versus prior year, or down 4.1% in constant currency
- Net loss of USD 0.8 million, down USD 9.5 million versus prior year
- Adjusted EBITDA USD 20.2 million, compared to USD 40.6 million in the second quarter of the prior year

"Second quarter sales results were in line with our expectations, as an intensely competitive pricing environment continues to linger on a global basis," said Chairman and Chief Executive Officer William Foley. "We remain confident that we are taking the appropriate measures to improve the long-term performance of our business. We're seeing indications that certain pricing initiatives we implemented last quarter are taking hold, and that our new product initiatives are beginning to gain traction in the marketplace. We're also very pleased that our new e-commerce platform launched on time and on budget in mid-July."

Foley concluded, "As we look to the second half of the year, we believe that the strategic initiatives we've been focused on over the last year will start to contribute and alleviate some of the short-term competitive pressures in our market. We remain the strongest, most innovative glass tableware company in the world, and we look forward to a better second half compared to the prior-year period, supported by improved profitability in EMEA as a result of our furnace realignment activities, improved operating performance and cost reductions, and sales contributions from new products and e-commerce."

During the first six months of 2017:

- Net sales in the US and Canada segment were lower due to softer retail and foodservice channel sales, which were down approximately 9% and 2%, respectively.
- US and Canada business-to-business net sales increased compared to prior year approximately 4%, mainly related to an increase in volume.
- In Latin America, net sales declined as a result of lower net sales across all channels, specifically due to lower volume in the retail and business-to-business channels and unfavourable currency.
- Net sales in the EMEA segment decreased primarily as a result of unfavourable currency across all three channels, as well as lower volume in the retail channel.
- Net sales in Other were down as a result of softer sales in China.

The company still expects:

- Net sales decline in the low-to-mid single digits, compared to the full year 2016, on a reported basis, with continued currency headwinds.
- Capital expenditures of approximately USD 50 million.

20691/Press Release – 2017.08.04

Duralex

For Autumn 2017, French glass brand Duralex will receive a next-generation furnace Specialist in tempered glass technology, French glass manufacturer Duralex has invested in a new forward-thinking production tool, a next-generation furnace that will arrive in the Autumn.

Less energy-consuming and guaranteeing even higher glass quality than the company already produces, Duralex is - more than ever - building on its image and Made In France positioning, while intensifying its commitment to protecting the environment.

A brand synonymous with toughness, Duralex markets more than 300 references: tumblers, plates, oven dishes, salad bowls and other table accessories, all available in various shades.

20692/Press Release – 2017.06.27-28



Steklarna Hrastnik welcomes Peter Cas as General Director



Peter Cas is the new General Director at Steklarna Hrastnik and he will manage the company by pursuing operational excellence, flexibility, and customer-orientation. After graduating and obtaining his master's degree from the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of the University of Ljubljana, Peter Cas, MSc., upgraded and extended his knowledge at various programmes at IEDC – Bled School of Management. He started his career at Gorenje, managing various departments. Along with occupying the position of Chief Technology Officer at Gorenje Valjevo d.o.o. in Serbia, he co-created a plant with 600 employees, which was the result of a successfully completed green field project. He continued his career at the parent company Gorenje d.d. Slovenia. After leaving Gorenje, he joined the SIJ Group as CEO between 2014 and 2016, managing the companies Novi Ravne, Serpa and Sistemska Tehnika, and in 2016 oversaw the merger of these companies into a joint entity SIJ Ravne Systems. He transformed these three from very traditional companies into a modern, socially-responsible firm with excellent bases for extensive organic and acquisition growth.



Between September 2016 and March 2017 he was Managing Director of SIJ Acroni d.o.o. He became General Director of Steklarna Hrastnik on 1 August 2017, following a three-month stint as Deputy General Director. He decided to join Steklarna Hrastnik due to its vision and strategic focus, which places employees in the centre. With the aim of consolidating the leading position of Steklarna Hrastnik in the top-quality niche segment, he will manage the company by pursuing operational excellence, flexibility, and customer-orientation and will continue fostering good relationships with employees and a responsible attitude to the environment.

20693/Press Release – 2017.08.03

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IN BRIEF

GLASS & SUPPLIERS

British Glass Filter-Dust Recycling Study at the Glass Link Group



British Glass hosted a meeting of the Glass Link Group to present the findings of its recent study into uses and markets for glass plant filter dust – and support balanced and evidenced-based regulation of glass manufacturing emissions and waste.

When the sulphur dioxide from glass furnace exhaust gases is captured a dust is generated, which is collected by filters. The majority of this filter dust can usually be recycled back into the glass furnace – but the rest must be safely disposed of. Balancing sulphur dioxide emissions and filter dust production is a challenge that the industry has been looking at as part of a two-year review of glass plant emission regulation.

As part of this work British Glass' Environment and Energy Committee commissioned Andrew Gadd of Link2Energy, an expert in industrial symbiosis, to explore potential uses for this dust – for example as a raw material for other industries. British Glass senior technical adviser Mark Pudner said: "There are lots of examples of one industry's waste being another's valuable input. Finding these areas of symbiosis is an important part of creating a circular economy – something the glass industry is actively pursuing on many fronts, for example through action on recycling and our work on the EU funded FISSAC project.

"Sadly this study wasn't able to identify a use or market for glass factory filter dust - yet. But the results do help the regulators to establish workable, evidence-based policies for regulation of waste and emissions – and that helps the glass industry."

The Glass Link Group – which brings together the local authority and Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) representatives who set emissions and waste regulations for the glass industry – said that the report fitted the requirements of the Waste Framework Directive and was a useful contribution to the current review of filter dust recycling.

Mark Pudner said: "The Glass Link Group is a really important forum – it brings consistency across the UK and lets the regulators share learning and best practice on this complex area. To have the people responsible for regulating 11 of the 16 UK major glass manufacturing sites together with us, face to face, was very productive. We're delighted to have had the chance to explain this aspect of our business to them in some detail."

Associated with this work, British Glass has also produced guidance note on assessing the waste classification and properties of filter dust.

The British Glass Environment and Energy (E&E) Committee works to make the UK glass industry sustainable and competitive for the future by proactively addressing policy, regulatory and legislative matters as well as actively pursuing technical innovation.

The committee is made up of representatives from across the British Glass membership, and supported by British Glass subject experts.

The World's Longest Pedestrian Suspension Bridge Opened in Switzerland

At 494 metres long and 86 metres above the ground at its highest point, the longest pedestrian suspension bridge in the world has opened in the Swiss Alps near the village of Randa.



Stretching across a valley between Grächen and Zermatt, along the Europaweg foot trail (which sits between 1,600 metres and 2,200 metres above sea level), hikers crossing the Charles Kuonen Suspension Bridge can enjoy scenic views of some of Switzerland's highest peaks including the famed Matterhorn, as well as the Weisshorn and the Bernese Alps.

The bridge takes around 10 minutes to walk, cutting down a circuitous journey that previously took up to four hours.

The Charles Kuonen Suspension Bridge surpasses the length of the world's previous longest glass-bottomed bridge, unveiled last year in the Hunan province of southern China. The 430-metre bridge, suspended 300 metres above China's Zhangjiajie Canyon, allows visitors to peer down into the abyss through glass panels.

It also joins a string of other vertigo-inducing attractions around the world, including others in China – such as a 69-metre glass walkway built in the mountains of the Shaanxi Province unveiled last July. In the same week, a walkway outside the 88th floor of the Jinmao Tower was opened in Shanghai. Set 340 metres above the ground, visitors are required to attach themselves to the building using a safety rope to scale the walkway.

Air Products



Latest burner is ideal for ageing glass furnaces and use during regenerator repairs.

Air Products' latest oxy-fuel burner helps glass manufacturers restore full production in an aging furnace and avoid downtime during regenerator repairs. The Cleanfire® ThruPorte™ burner is a quick, cost-effective heating solution that is installed from the underside of an existing furnace port to provide heat where and when it is needed.

The patent-protected water-cooled ThruPorte burner can deliver precision mixing of primary oxygen and fuel—either natural gas or fuel oil—to produce a highly luminous oxy-fuel flame. The unique configuration enables the introduction of staged oxygen to adjust the flame length and angle, ensuring optimal heat distribution and surface coverage.

“Ageing equipment can lead to reduced pull rate and shortening of a furnace campaign, which can result in tens of thousands of dollars in lost revenue per day,” said Bill Horan, glass applications engineer at Air Products. “The ThruPorte burner has a durable design that can be easily installed while the furnace is running, offering glass manufacturers a safe and rapid solution for restoring furnaces to full production. In fact, we recently installed this unique burner solution at two float glass plants and, in both instances, not only was full production achieved, but energy efficiency increased substantially relative to baseline operations.”

In keeping with its vision of developing the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) by deploying “smart” burner technology, Air Products offers the ThruPorte burner with the option of state-of-the-art on-burner diagnostic sensors and wireless communications technology. This technology enables instantaneous viewing and tracking of key burner operating parameters. This data can be conveniently and securely streamed from the on-burner transmitters to the control room or remote computers and smart devices, providing up-to-date information and alerts.

For more information about Air Products' Cleanfire® ThruPorte™ burner, or to request a demonstration in the company's pilot-scale advanced Clean Energy Lab, visit www.airproducts.com/thruporte.

20696/Press Release – 2017.07.20

9th ICG Montpellier Summer School



This year's ICG Montpellier Summer School – the 9th edition – took place over a period of five days and attracted about 50 students, some coming from Japan, USA, Colombia and Brazil. These ICG Montpellier Summer Schools are aimed at those just starting research in the area of Glass Technology.

37 attendees came from academia and 12 from several different glass manufacturers. The School timetable consisted of 18 formal one hour lectures either on a pure science theme (glass formation, structure and properties) or mathematical modelling (how numerical modelling can respond to the technological challenges in glasses). All the students were together on the first day but then split into two groups for the remainder of the event.



On the first afternoon, each student was expected to introduce their research interests to the rest of the group. The aim was to improve confidence in presentational skills, to identify subject interests for project allocation, and also to make the group aware of the wide range of the subject of glass technology and the analytical techniques being used. The formal activities of the day concluded with a detailed presentation from Dr Manoj Choudhary of Owens Corning and also current ICG President. He spoke on the proper treatment of heat transfer by radiation in a partially absorbing medium and how this influences processing of glass.

Tuesday followed the same pattern except as two separate streams from 11am to lunch time. After lunch came the allocation of projects, 8 in total with 6 students in each group. They were given their tasks but unfortunately no one was ready to capture the surprised expressions on many of their faces. These exercises were open ended with the goal of giving a 15-minute presentation at the end of the week analysing the key issues involved and how they might be investigated. The groups were selected to mix students from different backgrounds and so formed a major part of the network building philosophy of the school. Lecturers made themselves available for consultation while the students used their knowledge and internet searching skills to begin to crack the problems set.

On Wednesday afternoon, the students were given the chance to attend ad hoc tutorials with several of the lecturers and these proved very popular.

Thursday marked the conclusion of the more formal part of the teaching process. Both streams of students were brought together again for a lecture on Project Planning in Industry with interesting insights into the differences between PhD projects and real industrial process development.

Friday morning marked the close of the school with several having to leave before lunch to catch both flights and trains home. Just a few stayed on for another day or two to explore Montpellier itself. But before leaving we had our project presentations. With such a large group this year, time pressures were significant and some groups managed to avoid the intense grilling that presentations in previous years have received. Nevertheless, the event went well and finally, after a 25-minute deliberation by the judges, first, second and third places were awarded.

The project titles were respectively:

- 1) Given the environmental problems caused by polymer microbeads in shampoos would glass microbeads be a better choice?
- 2) Some glass beads ancient (3400 years old) recently discovered in graves in Denmark were alleged to have come from Egypt. How would you confirm this?
- 3) There is currently considerable interest in glasses made under extreme conditions (experimentally and computationally). What glass system would you like to investigate, how would you attempt this and what properties of the resulting glass would you investigate?

This year 16 individuals contributed to the school at no charge: K. Bange, M. Choudhary, R. Conradt, L. Cormier, P. Florian, E. Gouillart, R. Hand, A. Habraken, B. Hehlen, A. Karadag, H. Mahrenholtz, F. Maurer, H. Mueller-Simon, J. Parker, M. Pascual, A. Takada.

Next year is being planned as a jamboree to celebrate 10 years of schools and will include a major publication describing the history of the school and including academic reviews by those who have contributed the teaching content over this period. The school will run from 2nd-7th July i.e. extended to Saturday morning so that delegates wishing to attend the ESG meeting in St Malo starting on 8th July can easily do so.

ICG is also planning to facilitate student exchanges between the Summer School in Montpellier and the Winter School in China by providing student bursaries to cover the extra costs of travel. Watch this space (www.icglass.org/education/) for further information.

20697/Press Release – 2017.08.02

SEMINARS / CONFERENCES / WORKSHOPS

Vitrum Announces Innovations for 2017



New services that add value for exhibitors and seminars for trade professionals make the 20th edition of the glass industry trade show even more inviting.

Expectations are on the rise for Vitrum 2017, the international exhibition that will open its doors on **October 3rd**, attracting the world of glass processing to Fiera Milano Rho.

This year the show will focus specifically on the close connection between all the industry's players – foreign and Italian businesses, domestic and international glass industry associations, institutional stakeholders, research centres and trade press from around the world.



Vitrum stakes its claim as the **“House of Glass”**, the ideal setting for machinery manufacturers and operators, researchers, technicians, industry professionals and institutional stakeholders to meet and share ideas that drive product innovation and optimization, and stimulate growth of the industry.

Detailed information about all the promotional tools for exhibitors is now available on the Vitrum website at:

http://www.vitrum-milano.com/sito/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/PresentazioneServiziVitrum_GB.pdf

20698/Press Release – 2017.02.10

Şişecam Glass Symposium, Istanbul



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

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

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

Topics will include:

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

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20699/Press Release – 2016.06.08

Conference on Glass Problems at its 78th edition

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



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

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

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

The event will also include a series of Short Courses for Glass Manufacturers: Fundamentals of Batch and Furnace Operation, Instructor: C. Philip Ross, Glass Industry Consulting International. The course is an introduction to the principles of commercial glass production employed in Batch & Furnace operations by US Glass producers. Raw Materials, Glass Technology & Properties, Melting Furnaces, and Environmental Issues will all be touched upon. Suggested attendees could be vendors or newer individuals to glass manufacturing seeking an introduction to the issues faced in glass production.

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

Fundamentals of Glass Melting Control Systems, Instructors: Dale Gaerke, Senior Member, The International Society of Automation (ISA), Retired Director of R&D; Controls and Electrical Engineering for Owens-Illinois, Inc. The course is an introduction and general overview of the control system features and adjustments typically employed in regenerative glass melters by US glass producers. Focus will be on control system settings for regenerative gas fired melters with time for in depth open discussion and questions. This can also include discussion of oil fired and oxy/gas fired melter issues. Suggested attendees are newer individuals to glass melting control systems and their operational adjustments.

More information can be found at: <https://t.e2ma.net/click/9r2ot/dfrm3i/9z04gg>

20700/Press Release – 2016.06.07

GlassPrint 2017 – Solutions For Glass Decoration

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



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

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

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

20701/Press Release – 2017.02.24

Challenging Glass Conference 6



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

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

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

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

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

Key-dates for authors

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

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

20702/Press Release – 2017.07.06

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

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

IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

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

For more information on the conferences including the list of plenary speakers, please visit: <http://www.ustverre.fr>

20703/Press Release – 2017.05.03

PUBLICATIONS

Focus on Poland

- 1) **Growing global success for Polish flat glass processing expertise.** Press Glass has emerged as Europe's largest independent flat glass processing organisation in recent years.
- 2) **Solid growth realised by Poland's glassmakers.** Glass is produced and processed by approximately 100 companies in Poland. Currently, the sector produces some three million tonnes of glass annually, making it Europe's sixth largest.
By Piotr Kardas, Polish Glass Secretary-General.

20704/Glass Worldwide – Issue 72/2017

Focus on CIS (Russia)

- 1) **Russian government stimulates local glass industry development.** The Russian glass industry is steadily recovering from the financial crisis and its consequences, although its further development is prevented by serious problems according to leading industry producers.
- 2) **Hollow glass industry shows signs of stabilisation.** The wave of bankruptcies in Russia's hollow glass industry over the past two years gave a second breath to effective manufacturers and weakened the oversupply crisis in the domestic market. Russian plants produced 9.355 billion glass containers in the first nine months of 2016, a 5.9% increase compared to the same period in 2015.
- 3) **Turkmenistan adds Central Asia float glass capacity.** At the end of 2016, Turkmen Insaat started construction of Turkmenistan's first float glass factory, with a planned production capacity of 7.2 million m²/year. In government plans, this amount will allow the facility not only to meet local building industry demand fully but also to establish export opportunities, primarily across the CIS region.

20705/Glass Worldwide – Issue 72/2017

Turkey to Dominate Soda Ash Market

At this year's World Soda Ash conference in Dubrovnik (in September 2017), HIS Markit's Marguerite Morrin will provide an extensive overview of the current soda ash market, including recent shifts in supply/demand dynamics and what this may mean for the future.

20706/Glass International – June 2017

Quality Assurance in Recycled Cullet

Discussion on the Institut für Glas und Rohstofftechnologie's (IGR) research on how glass recyclers and manufacturers can obtain a homogenous sampling of the cullet used in glassmaking, using quality assessments. It means the entire supply chain can be assured of the quality of the end product.

By Heiko Hartung, Physics Analytics & IT, IGR, Göttingen, Germany.

20707/Glass Worldwide – Issue 72/2017

Characterisation of emissions and energy balances in furnaces

Discussion on the PRIME Glass project's contribution to the improvement of methodologies for the characterisation of emissions and energy balances in glass melting furnaces.

By Ing. Simone Tiozzo, Dr. Walter Battaglia and Dr. Alessandro Migatta, Stazione Sperimentale del Vetro (SSV) Environmental Department.

20708/Glass Worldwide – Issue 72/2017
