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WELCOME TO EUROPEAN GLASS NEWS

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EU COMMUNITY NEWS

NEW EU LEGISLATION

Commission Regulations

Regulation (EU) 2019/1338 of 8 August 2019

The EU Commission has amended Regulation (EU) 10/2011 on **plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food.**
Annex I to Commission Regulation (EU) No 10/2011, establishing a Union list of authorised substances of plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food, is now amended to take into account the new favourable scientific opinion on the extended use of the substance poly(R)-3-hydroxybutyrate-co-(R)-3-hydroxyhexanoate, either alone or blended with other polymers.
Since the total migration of all oligomers with a molecular weight below 1 000 Da should not exceed 5,0 mg/kg food or food simulant, business operators placing on the market the final article or material containing that substance should be required to include in the supporting documentation a description of the method and a calibration sample if required by the method.

Entry into force on 29 August 2019.

Full Text on page 5:
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2019:209:TOC

21992/OJ L209 – 2019.08.09

Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/1342 of 14 March 2019

The EU Commission has supplemented Regulation (EU) 305/2011 by establishing **classes of performance in relation to air permeability for rooflights of plastics and glass and roof hatches.**
The European standard EN 1873 on individual rooflights of plastics was initially adopted by European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) in 2005 and the European standard EN 14963 on continuous rooflights of plastics in 2006. Those harmonised standards did not contain a classification for the performance of the products covered by it in relation to the essential characteristic air permeability.
In order to better serve the needs of the market, the new versions of those standards, EN 1873-1, EN 1873-2, EN 1873-3 and EN 14963 will include a classification in three classes of the performance of the products covered by them.

Entry into force on 1st September 2019.

Full Text with annex on page 1:
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2019:211:TOC

21993/OJ L211 – 2019.08.12

Commission Public Consultation

Every year, millions of vehicles in Europe reach the end of their life. If end-of-life vehicles (ELV) are not managed properly, they can be a threat to the environment as well as a lost source of millions of tonnes of materials. Directive 2000/53/EC on end-of-life vehicles (ELV Directive) was adopted in 2000 to minimise the impact of end-of-life vehicles (ELVs) on the environment and to improve the environmental performance of all the economic operators involved in the life cycle of vehicles. The EU's **rules on end-of-life vehicles (ELVs)** aim to make dismantling, recycling and reusing these vehicles more environmentally friendly, and to push manufacturers to make new vehicles without hazardous substances, so their parts can later be reused.

The Commission is making an evaluation to assess how well the EU's rules are working and whether they are delivering the expected benefits for the environment, the public and industry.
Producers, distributors, collectors, motor vehicle insurance companies, dismantlers, shredders, recoverers, recyclers, and other authorised treatment operators with regard to dealing with ELVs, including their components and materials, General public, consumers, environmental protection organisations; Environmental non-governmental organisations will be relevant for their contribution on waste management, pollution, circular economy, etc.

The feedback period is opened until 29 October 2019 (midnight) at:
https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2018-4731779_en

21994/DG ENVI – 2019.08.06

TRADE & INNOVATION POLICIES

EU Commission Updates on Trade and Investment Negotiations

The Commission has published latest updates on trade and investment talks with Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia, Chile and China

As part of its commitment to transparency, implemented since the beginning of the current Commission mandate, the European Commission today published its regular reports summarising the latest progress in trade negotiations with

- Australia: https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/july/tradoc_158277.pdf
- Chile: http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/july/tradoc_158275.pdf
- Indonesia: https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/july/tradoc_158207.pdf
- New Zealand: https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/july/tradoc_158276.pdf
- China: Investment talks at https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/july/tradoc_158274.pdf

This relates to the negotiating rounds that took place from 17 to 21 June with Indonesia, from 1 to 5 July with Australia, the following week (8-17 July) with New Zealand, and just a week ago (14-19 July) with Chile.

21995/Press Release – 2019.07.26

EU Safeguards Measures for Steel

The Commission presented a proposal for adjustments to the existing safeguard measures for steel. The investigation conducted since mid-May showed that the measures have overall worked well during the first year of implementation. The adjustments notified to the World Trade Organization (WTO) aim however to make them more effective in full compliance with WTO rules.

This could be achieved by:

(1) adjusting the functioning of the quota for some products, including hot-rolled flat steel and steel intended for the automotive sector,

(2) updating the list of exclusions for developing countries on the basis of more recent imports statistics, and

(3) slowing down liberalisation of imports by reducing the pace of progressive increase of the import quotas from 5% to 3%.

The proposed adjustments will now be discussed with all affected WTO members. Following these consultations, the adjustments will be submitted for approval to EU Member States, so that they can become effective as of October 2019.

21996/DG Trade Press Release – 2019.08.14

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

Ambitious Circular Economy Policy to Serve Climate and Biodiversity

A **truly circular European economy including all sectors of activity** could be a way for the EU to combat the climate crisis and biodiversity loss, said European Environment and Climate Ministers on 12 July in Helsinki, calling for the EU to move to the next level - a circular economy 2.0 that would go well beyond the action plan adopted in 2015.
The Finnish Presidency of the EU Council invited them to consider the potential of the circular economy and the next steps to be taken by the EU.
The informal discussions between the ministers made it possible to reach a consensus on the following points:

- The circular economy is crucial to reducing pressure on the use of natural resources and negative impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems;
- Policy makers need to further integrate the circular economy into industrial policy;
- All sectors are concerned, starting with construction, food, textiles and mobility, which could be the subject of a holistic approach and a long-term strategy, similar to those adopted for plastics;
- EU-wide targets should be set for the use of natural resources;
- Cities and regions have a key role to play since they consume 70% of resources, generate 50% of waste and have enormous potential with regard to land management.

These introductory considerations will feed into EU Council conclusions, which the Finnish Presidency would like to see adopted at the 'Environment' Council on 9 October "*to ensure that the circular economy occupies a prominent place in the work programme of the new European Commission*", said Finnish Minister Ms. Mikkonen.
During the debate, several Member States called for the EU's long-term climate strategy to be guided by the circular economy. However, the desire to make progress in the circular economy must not be at the expense of material safety, Sweden insisted: "*We must both reduce greenhouse gas emissions and ensure a cycle of non-toxic materials*", the Swedish minister said.

Ongoing work to be continued at the Commission. The EU is a leader in the circular economy through regulation and industry, but the circular economy is still in its infancy, said Jyrki Katainen, European Commission Vice-President for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness. Referring to criticism often levelled at the EU, "*who are accused of prohibiting this or that*", he said "*I would like to see a ban on using the word waste*"; in a circular economy, waste must be considered as a resource.

He stressed the "*crucial*" importance of creating a single market for secondary raw materials and ensuring that EU legislation respects market economy principles and allows products made from recycled materials to cross borders easily.
The Commission is currently working on setting standards for plastic packaging. "*This will make it easier to trade packaging waste and create a new market*", he said. Establishing standards for biodegradable marine plastics will also be very useful for avoiding waste. It will be up to the next Commission to create a circular economy 2.0.

The Commissioner for the Environment, Karmenu Vella, asserted that the circular economy is the policy par excellence that makes it possible to approach environmental policy in a horizontal way. He announced the launch by the Commission of a two-year study to develop a methodology to assess the impact of circularity on climate change.
"*We also want to further strengthen the horizontal application by linking to our digital agenda, agricultural policies, and employment and skills*", he added. The Commissioner also argued that the prices of all products should include their cost of their environmental footprint. Pilot projects were launched 3 years ago to *"measure and compare the carbon footprint of products in 26 sectors",* he said.

The ministerial discussions were enriched by the participation of an expert in sustainable economics from *Material Economics*, Per Kelvenäs, who highlighted the importance of labelling all products to show their environmental cost.
A background note prepared by the Finnish Presidency pointed out that, according to a study by *Material Economics*, switching to the circular use of the most commonly used materials - steel, plastics, aluminium and cement - in the EU alone could cut industrial emissions in half by 2050.
In addition, according to the International Resource Panel, resource efficiency policies and initiatives could cut resource use by 26% and greenhouse gas emissions by an additional 15-20% by 2050.

21997/Press Release – 2019.07.12

Finnish Presidency of Council Ambitions on Climate

EU leadership in climate action, ambitious work for global biodiversity after 2020 and progress in the European circular economy are the three priorities of the Finnish Presidency of the Council of the EU in the field of environment and climate.
The Finnish Minister for the Environment and Climate, Krista Mikkonen, told MEPs on 23 July at the European Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Health and Food Safety, chaired by Pascal Canfin (*Renew Europe*, France).
She indicated that the three priorities were discussed by European Environment Ministers at their informal meeting in Helsinki to outline the EU's messages for the UN Summit on Climate Action on 23 September in New York and possible future priorities for an action plan for the circular economy 2.0 to be developed by the new Commission.

These climate objectives were not unanimously supported by MEPs.

Broadly speaking, an East-West geographical divide emerged, similar to that at the European Council, where four Eastern Member States opposed a climate neutrality objective set at 2050.
The Finnish wishes were generally welcomed by MEPs. However, many MEPs wondered, on the one hand, about the concrete action plan that the Presidency would put in place, and, on the other hand, about taking into account the specific geographical characteristics, particularly in terms of energy *mix*, of the different Member States.

On the latter point, several MEPs from Central and Eastern Europe expressed their concern about the impact that these climate objectives would have on their economies, as did Martina Dlabajová (RE, Czech Republic), who questioned whether SMEs should be taken into account. Robert Hajšel (S&D, Slovakia) expressed concern about the additional energy costs of these measures, which would weigh on the economies of the Eastern States, before raising the benefits of nuclear energy. Grzegorz Tobiszowski (ECR, Poland) also denounced the green taxes introduced. The far right, through Paolo Borchia (ID, Italy), called for traditional energies to receive the same subsidies as renewable energies.

On the Western side, on the other hand, Marie Toussaint (Greens/EFA, France) expressed concern about the lack of ambition in the fight against climate change at European and national level. Nicolás Gonzalez Casares (S&D, Spain) wondered whether national energy efficiency plans would live up to their ambitions.

Industry. Several MEPs, such as Patrizia Toia (S&D, Italy), criticised the Finnish Presidency's lack of appetite for industrial issues and stressed the need to develop an industrial strategy. The two ministers defended themselves against this and put forward a holistic approach that includes many aspects (trade, research, competence, digital). According to them, it is not only industry that should be focused on, but also the deepening of the single market for services.

21998/Press Release – 2019.07.23

ADEME Recommends Raising EU's 2030 Targets To Reach Climate Neutrality in 2050

The French government agency ADEME (Agence de l'Environnement et de la Maîtrise de l'Energie) said on 5 July that the EU should set itself an ambitious target to achieve carbon neutrality and that new carbon neutrality targets in 2050 would mean raising the ambition of the EU's 2030 targets.
In a note, ADEME welcomes the Commission's analysis in its communication 'A clean planet for all - a long-term strategic European vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate-neutral economy'. Of the 8 scenarios considered, it favours one that allows a maximum of 1.5 degrees C of average global warming to be achieved by 2100 and emphasises sustainable lifestyles.

The Agency recommends that the scenarios be broken down by country, in order to facilitate comparison, but also to strengthen the issues of solidarity between States. It considers that the Commission is too focused on technological choices and not enough on the evolution of food and mobility practices, to which it recommends that greater attention be paid.
In addition, ADEME considers that the proposed scenarios and the Commission's analyses could: - take greater account of other environmental issues such as air or water pollution; - be more precise with regard to carbon taxation; - give greater prominence to equity issues in the transition.

21999/Press Release – 2019.07.05

EEA (European Environment Agency) Positive on European E-PRTR Register of Data on Industrial Pollutants

Ten years after its launch, the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR) has proven to be a highly effective online tool, according to an assessment published on 8 July by the European Environment Agency. Used to assess industrial pollution trends and to evaluate the effectiveness of EU anti-pollution legislation, it has facilitated public access to information, notes the EEA. It contains more than 10 years of data, covering more than 34,000 installations in the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Serbia. They indicate, for each facility and year, information concerning the amounts of pollutants released to air, water and land as well as off-site transfers of waste and of pollutants in wastewater. Data includes releases and transfers of 91 individual pollutants, like mercury, particulate matter and sulphur oxides, across 65 industrial activities.

22000/ Press Release – 2019.07.08

Increased EU Emissions Monitored in 2017

After several years of decline for more than half of the 26 air pollutants monitored in the EU, emissions increased slightly in 2017 compared to the previous year, confirmed the European Environment Agency (EEA) on 22 July.
According to the EEA, the emissions came from agriculture, transport, industry and households.
Its report, based on the annual EU emissions inventory submitted to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) on long-range transboundary air pollution, shows that emissions of non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs) increased by 1.3%, carbon monoxide (CO) by 0.2% and ammonia (NH3) by 0.4% for the fourth consecutive year.
This was highlighted in June by the EEA in its report on the EU's NEC Directive on national emission ceilings for certain atmospheric pollutants.
Emissions of particulate matter and several heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants also increased slightly in 2017.

In addition, the stationary residential combustion sector (including domestic stoves) emits 51% of fine particulate matter (PM 2.5). In addition, 42% of carbon monoxide, 42% of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, 24% of dioxins and furans and 16% of heavy metal cadmium were released from this single source.

22001/Press Release – 2019.07.22

SOCIAL ISSUES

Unemployment Rates

The euro area seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was **7.5%** in **June 2019**, down from 7.6% in May 2019. This remains the lowest rate recorded in the euro area since July 2008. The EU-28 unemployment rate was **6.3%** in June 2019, stable compared to May 2019. This is also the lowest rate recorded in the EU28 since January 2000.
Eurostat estimates that 15.674 million people in the EU28 were unemployed in June 2019, a decrease by 36,000 in the EU28 and by 45,000 in the euro area compared with May 2019.

Czechia	1.9%	Slovakia	5.4%
Germany	3.1%	Belgium	5.6%
Hungary (May)	3.4%	Luxembourg	5.8%
Malta	3.4%	Lithuania	5.7%
Netherlands	3.4%	Sweden	6.4%
UK (April)	3.7%	Latvia	6.5%
Poland	3.8%	Cyprus	6.5%
Romania	4.0%	Portugal	6.7%
Bulgaria	4.4%	Finland	6.6%
Slovenia	4.4%	Croatia	7.1%
Ireland	4.5%	France	8.7%
Austria	4.5%	Italy	9.7%
Denmark	4.8%	Spain	14.0%
Estonia (May)	5.0%	Greece (April)	17.6%

Elsewhere

USA	3.7%	Russia	4.5%
Canada	5.7%	Brazil	12.0%
Japan	2.3%	Australia	5.2%
Switzerland	2.1%	India	6.0%
Turkey	12.8%	China	3.6%

22002/Eurostat Press Release – 2019.07.31

GENERAL ISSUES

Ursula von der Leyen Elected President of European Commission

European Commission

German Christian Democrat Ursula von der Leyen was elected President of the European Commission for 5 years on 16 July by a very narrow majority (383 votes 'in favour', 327 votes 'against', 22 abstentions, 1 nil vote) by MEPs meeting in plenary session in Strasbourg.
"In democracy, the majority is the majority", she told the press, questioned about the consequences of this very weak majority. An absolute majority of 374 votes was required for her to be elected, as 733 deputies voted.
"I believe that, 2 weeks earlier, I did not have the majority, because I was not known [...] And I am extremely happy that after 13 days, we managed to form a pro-European majority. It's a good starting point", she added.
In her first remarks as President-elect, Mrs von der Leyen did not refer to the first flagship measures that the future Commission will initiate, but rather to her understanding and vision of the European Union. She hoped that, in 5 years' time, the EU would be "a climate-friendly Europe, a Europe that serves people, an economically strong and digital Europe, a Europe that is based on the rule of law". And the former German Defence Minister expressed his willingness to put an end to the divisions "between East and West and between South and North".

22003/Press Release – 2019.07.16

Commissioners in the Next Commission 2020-2025

European Commission

The President-elect of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, opened on 26 August her interviews with candidates for the posts of Commissioners.
At this stage, 26 Member States have put forward candidates. Italy's nominee is still missing, while the United Kingdom formalized its decision not to participate in the process in a letter on 23 August, given its imminent exit from the EU.

Although Mrs von der Leyen insisted that gender parity be ensured in the composition of her Commission, in view of the candidates proposed by the Member States, her ambitions seem to be compromised. Currently, 10 women have been proposed (without taking into account the double proposals).

Germany. ***Ursula von der Leyen*** will be President of the Commission.
Austria. Vienna proposed that ***Johannes Hahn***, current Commissioner for Enlargement Negotiations and Neighbourhood Policy, and former Commissioner for Regional Policy, return for a third term.
Belgium. ***Didier Reynders***, Deputy Prime Minister of the Reformist Movement, a liberal party sitting with the Renew Europe group in the European Parliament, and former Minister of Budget, Foreign Affairs, European Affairs and Defence.

Bulgaria. The Commissioner for the Economy and the Digital Society, ***Mariya Gabriel***, is expected to remain on the Commission for a new term.
Cyprus. ***Stella Kyriakides***, currently a member of the Cypriot Parliament, has been appointed by Nicosia to become Commissioner.
Croatia. MEP ***Dubravka Šuica*** could become Commissioner.
Denmark. ***Margrethe Vestager***, currently Commissioner for Competition, is expected to become First Vice-President in the new Commission.
Spain. The Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, ***Josep Borrell***, is expected to become the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. The European Council decision was published in the *Official Journal of the EU* on 7 August, confirming its proposal of 2 July.
Estonia. ***Kadri Simson*** is expected to become the next Estonian Commissioner.
Finland. Finland has nominated its former Finance Minister, ***Jutta Urpilainen***, as a Commissioner.
France. Sylvie Goulard, former European deputy and Minister of the Armed Forces has been nominated by France.
Greece. The former Chief Spokesperson of the European Commission, ***Margaritis Schinas***, has been appointed by the Greek Government.
Hungary. The former Hungarian Minister of Justice and current MEP, ***László Trócsányi***, is expected to take up the post of Hungarian Commissioner.
Ireland. The Irish government has proposed that the current Agriculture Commissioner, ***Phil Hogan***, should serve a second term in the College of Commissioners.
Italy. The political crisis seems to be complicating the appointment of a Commissioner. The country has given itself until Tuesday 27 August to form a new government.
Latvia. The Vice-President and Euro Commissioner, ***Valdis Dombrovskis***, elected in the European elections, but who has decided not to sit, should be appointed for a second term as Commissioner.
Lithuania. Vilnius has decided to nominate its current Minister of Economy, ***Virginijus Sinkevičius***, as Commissioner.
Luxembourg. The MEP and former Luxembourg Minister of Labour and Employment, ***Nicolas Schmit***, could become the future Luxembourg Commissioner.
Malta. The Maltese government has decided to appoint ***Helena Dalli***, currently Minister for European Affairs and Equality, as European Commissioner.
Netherlands. The current First Vice-President of the European Commission, ***Frans Timmermans***, is expected to return for a new term, still with the position of Vice-President.
Poland. The Polish Commissioner could inherit the Agriculture portfolio and Mr. ***Janusz Wojciechowski*** has been proposed as candidate.
Portugal. Lisbon is said to have proposed ***Pedro Marques***, currently a MEP, and ***Elisa Ferreira***, currently Deputy Governor of the 'Banco de Portugal', for the post of Commissioner.
Czech Republic. The Commissioner of Justice, ***Vera Jourova***, is expected to be appointed for a new term.
Roumania. MEP ***Dan Nica*** and former Minister of European Funds, ***Rovana Plumb***, were proposed by the Romanian government.

Slovakia. ***Maroš Šefčovič***, current Vice-President in charge of the Energy Union, is expected to return for a new term as Commissioner.
Slovenia. The current Ambassador to the EU, ***Janez Lenarčič***, is expected to become Commissioner.
Sweden. ***Ylva Johansson*** was proposed by Stockholm as the future Swedish Commissioner.

The British government confirmed on 23 August that it would not propose a candidate for the post of European Commissioner.

Once Mrs von der Leyen has formed her Commission, the candidates for the posts of Commissioners will be heard by the European Parliament between 30 September and 8 October. In **plenary session**, the latter will have to validate, by vote on **23 October**, the von der Leyen Commission as a whole.

22004/Eurostat Press Release – 2019.08.26

BREXIT Developments

State of Play

The President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, recalled on 25 July, in a telephone conversation with the new British Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, that the withdrawal agreement negotiated between the EU and the British Government remained "the best and only possible agreement", but that the Commission remained "at the disposal" of London in the coming weeks "to add language to the political declaration" (on future relations).
In a formal speech to the House of Commons on 25 July, Boris Johnson called on the EU to remove the backstop for Ireland. A request that the EU negotiator, Michel Barnier, immediately deemed "unacceptable" and contrary to the mandate of the European Council, as he wrote in an email sent to the Twenty-Seven, made public by the British media.
The new Prime Minister has surrounded himself with a ministerial cabinet fully committed to a 31 October exit from the EU, even without agreement – such as the Minister of Brexit, Stephen Barclay, who was reappointed to his post, or Dominic Raab, who was placed in Foreign Affairs – and has forced out the more moderate ministers. He has also already announced that he will not appoint a Commissioner for the United Kingdom for the next von der Leyen Commission.

Boris Johnson stressed that failure to leave the EU by 31 October would cause "a catastrophic loss of confidence in our political system". Recalling that the agreement negotiated by Mrs May has been rejected three times, Boris Johnson denounced the terms "unacceptable" for the United Kingdom and called on the EU to abolish the 'backstop' for the island of Ireland.

On this subject, he considers “a time limit is not enough. If an agreement is to be reached, it must be clearly understood that the way to the deal goes by way of the abolition of the backstop”, said Boris Johnson, expressing his readiness to work quickly on it “as soon as the EU is ready” and to “negotiate in good faith an alternative, with provisions to ensure that the Irish border issues are dealt with where they should always have been: in the negotiations on the future agreement between the UK and the EU”. The Prime Minister said he hoped that the EU would be able to “review its current refusal” not to reopen the agreement and protocol on Ireland.
In the same speech, Boris Johnson said he preferred to reach an agreement, but if this was not the case, the country would leave the EU on 31 October. To this end, he asked Michael Gove, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, to make preparations for a ‘no deal’ as his “top priority”.

For Michel Barnier, this increased preparation for the ‘no deal’ must also be received carefully as it aims in part to “put pressure on the unity of the Twenty-Seven”. The negotiator has thus pleaded for calm and for Member States to stand behind their principles.

Following the Biarritz G7, contacts are continuing this week between European leaders and British Prime Minister Boris Johnson to try to reach an agreement on the UK's exit from the EU by 31 October. Boris Johnson is expected to urge President Juncker to reopen discussions on the withdrawal agreement.
On 28 August, the British Brexit negotiator, David Frost, is also in Brussels to meet the Article 50 team, with other meetings at other levels also being possible.
The Commission remained ready to engage in a "constructive way on any concrete proposal compatible with the withdrawal agreement", a proposal that must, however, come from the United Kingdom, putting forward somewhat more concrete ideas for alternatives to the backstop for Ireland.

22005/Press Release – 2019.07.25 & 08.27

Inflation Rate

Latest Eurostat figures show that the annual inflation rate was **1% in July 2019 in the Euro area**, down from 1.3% in June. **The EU28** annual inflation was **1.4% in July 2019,** down from 1.6% in June.
The largest contribution to the annual euro area inflation rate came from services (+0.53%), followed by food, alcohol & tobacco (+0.37%), non-energy industrial goods (+0.08%) and energy (+0.05%).

Portugal	- 0.7%	Luxembourg	1.6%
Cyprus	0.1%	Malta	1.8%
Italy	0.3%	Slovenia	2.0%
Denmark	0.4%	Estonia	2.0%
Greece	0.4%	UK	2.1%
Ireland	0.5%	Lithuania	2.5%
Spain	0.6%	Poland	2.5%
Croatia	0.9%	Bulgaria	2.6%
Finland	1.0%	Czechia	2.6%
Germany	1.1%	Netherlands	2.6%
Belgium	1.2%	Latvia	3.0%
France	1.3%	Slovakia	3.0%
Austria	1.4%	Hungary	3.3%
Sweden	1.5%	Romania	4.1%

Elsewhere

USA	1.8%	Russia	4.6%
Canada	2.0%	Brazil	3.2%
Japan	0.7%	Australia	1.6%
Switzerland	0.3%	India	3.2%
Turkey	16.7%	China	2.8%

22006/Eurostat News Release – 2019.07.17 & 08.19

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GLASS NEWS

FLAT GLASS

Glass Companies

Saint-Gobain

Saint-Gobain confirmed solid performance for the group's results of first half 2019: organic sales growth at 3.5 percent - operating income up 8.3 percent - recurring earnings per share up 17.6 percent.

Pierre-André de Chalendar, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Saint-Gobain, said, "The Group's first-half results progressed significantly, driven by continued upbeat trends on our main markets, a positive price-cost spread, and excellent advances in our transformation plan, which is delivering expected results faster than initially planned.
"The acceleration of our portfolio rotation program announced a year ago continues apace and we will exceed 3.0 billion EUR in sales divested by the end of 2019. The Group is confirming its objectives for full-year 2019 and for the second half, in a less supportive market overall, expects a like-for-like increase in operating income versus second-half 2018."
Benoit Bazin, Chief Operating Officer of Saint-Gobain, commented, "Thanks to our new organization, in place since January 1, the commitment of our teams on the ground is reaping rewards. Our portfolio optimization program and measures to unlock 250 million EUR in additional cost savings are being put into place with agility and determination, as illustrated by the accelerated timetable, with the cost savings target for 2019 raised from over 50 million EUR to more than 80 million EUR.
"Going forward, we are very confident in the capacity of "Transform & Grow" to give new impetus to our growth and profitability."

The full report / press release:https://saintgobain.fdmanagement.fr/uploads/saintgobain/Saint-Gobain%20First-Half%202019%20results.pdf.

22007/Press Release – 2019.07.26

NSG

The brief pressure of plant manager Reinhard Regulski on the red button was rather unspectacular compared to the investment sum, which was thus put into operation. NSG Group spent around EUR 30 million on the modernization of the float glass line at the Gladbeck plant, which was started at the push of a button on 17 July (pictured).

At the end of April, the production line GL2, which produces flat glass primarily for the automotive industry, had been taken out of service for the planned cold repair. For a total overhaul of the 24/7 installation, which must be done every 15 years or so. Because at an operating temperature of more than 1500 degrees, the glass melt is produced in a gigantic furnace with a capacity of 1800 tons, which continues to spread over a huge tin-filled bath to a glass ribbon whose thickness can be determined. The result is flat glass (float glass) in thicknesses of 1.5 to 12 millimetres, which is cut to size and further processed (coated) to be used throughout Europe in the automotive and construction industry (window glass). Building glass is primarily produced on the first float-glass line in Gladbeck, (GL1), which was still in operation during the repair period.

Production starts in August

The complete renewal of the technique of the glass melting furnace can improve the energy efficiency of the plant, reduce gas consumption and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 20 percent.

In addition, the emission control systems and dust filters have been modernized. In addition, new cutting tables and cutting technology for stacking de-cut glass plates were installed at the cold end of the float line.

The gentle heating up of the furnace to 1600 degrees will take about three weeks, so that production will begin in August.

22008/NSG Press Release – 2019.07.19

AGC

1. AGC Second Float Line at Guaratingueta (Brazil)

Zippe Industrieanlagen has received the order for the turnkey supply of a new second float line at AGC Glass in Guaratingueta, Brazil.
The scope of supply also included the batch plant, cullet return as well as the steelwork, and the charging technology. This was a float charger type EO 2525 TH with a charging capacity of 280t/day per machine. In total, four machines are installed at the furnace which have a total charging capacity of 1120 t/day.
The plant control system is affected by a modern automation technology with a reliable architecture. A redundant SPS control system and two SCADA-server guarantee a safe plant operation.
The furnace capacity is 850t/day. The plant has been in operation since April 23, 2019.

22009/Press Release – 2019.07.09

2. AGC honoured at AutomotiveINNOVATIONS Awards 2019

AGC has been honored at the AutomotiveINNOVATIONS Awards 2019 in Frankfurt, on 8 July, as second most INNOVATIVE supplier in the category of "Chassis, Carbody and Exterior" for its technological developments made in 5G on-glass antennas. The first prize in this category went to Goodyear while AGC was the only glass supplier rewarded in this ceremony. These Awards distinguish the industry's most outstanding achievements, many of which were related to the progress made in electric vehicles and connectivity. The event is organized by the Center of Automotive Management (CAM) in collaboration with the auditing and consulting company PriceWaterhouseCoopers.

More specifically, in the automotive sector, the AGC achievements related to 5G on-glass antennas include developing new components and providing solutions. In addition, on 15 March 2019, AGC Glass Europe has opened state-of-the-art anechoic chambers in Belgium. This new facility is used for developing and testing AGC technology for windows with on-glass antennas, in response to the growing demand for connectivity.

For Jean-Marc Meunier, Regional President of AGC Automotive Company, “this distinction gives international recognition by an independent scientific institute to the unique expertise that AGC has so far developed in automotive on-glass antennas.”
Under the mid-term management plan ***AGC plus-2020***, AGC group has positioned mobility, electronics and life science business as key strategic business areas. In the field of mobility where specific solution proposals for 5G utilization are required in the future, AGC group has been an industry leader in the research, development, and production of automotive on-glass antennas for over 40 years.
In order to meet the broad customer needs for "connected" cars in the age of IoT/AI, AGC group will further strengthen its system that contributes to customers from both sides of new component development and solution provision.

22010/Press Release – 2019.07.26

Şişecam

Şişecam Group continues its investments in Bulgaria where it operates in flat glass, automotive glass, glassware and chemicals business lines. The Group, which has accomplished a total of 600 million EUR investment in Bulgaria so far, fired the furnace, renewed with an investment of about 42 million EUR, at Şişecam Flat Glass Plant in Targovishte, at a ceremony held on July 2, 2019.

Şişecam Group Vice Chairman and CEO Prof. Ahmet Kırman hosted the ceremony attended by the Minister of Economy of Bulgaria Emil Karanikolov, the Member of Parliament Venka Stoyanova, Targovishte Governor Mitko Staikov and Targovishte Mayor Dr. Darin Dimitrov.
Giving a speech at the ceremony held with the participation of over 300 invitees including the customers of Şişecam Flat Glass in Europe, architects and sector professionals as well as the Şişecam Group executives and employees, Prof. Ahmet Kırman drew attention to the fact that Şişecam was a global actor in all main areas of glass industry such as flat glass, glassware, glass packaging and glass fibre as well as soda and chrome compounds.

He added, “We are the third largest glassware manufacturer and the fifth largest flat glass manufacturer in the world. We rank seventh in synthetic soda production, and are the leader in chrome chemicals in the world. We are a Group on an international scale with our 22,000 employees, production activities spreading across 13 countries in three continents and sales to over 150 countries. With our new soda investment in the US, we will increase the number of countries of operation to 14.”
Pointing out the fact that the operations and capacities of Şişecam Group in Bulgaria have an important role in the Group being the largest flat glass manufacturer in Europe as well as one of the two largest glassware manufacturer, Kırman added as follows: “Today, our Group has an annual production capacity of 470,000 tons of flat glass, 7.5 million square metre coated glass, 3.5 million square metre mirror, 1 million square metre laminated glass at the flat glass plant with two furnaces, of 2,8 million square metre at the home appliance glass plant, 2.2 million square metre automotive glass at the automotive glass plant, and of 100,000 tons at the glassware plant with two furnaces in Bulgaria. A major part of our flat glass, glassware and automotive glass production is exported to Europe. Our Group’s investments in Bulgaria have reached 600 million EUR in total so far. Like the flat glass furnace we have renewed and fired with an investment of 42 million EUR, we will continue our investments in modernization and capacity increases in our Bulgarian manufacturing facilities. In addition to all these investments, we contribute to the Bulgarian economy with the employment of about 3,250 people as a result of our operations and aim to increase the labour force participation in the country with new employment projects.”

22011/Press Release – 2019.07.05

Glas Trösch

1. Glas Trösch in the **Amsterdam tower ensemble**.

Functional coating SILVERSTAR COMBI Neutral 51/26 from Glas Trösch was used for the atrium on the ground floor and the flush glass facade of the rebuilt office towers.
Zuidas is considered one of the most important business and banking districts in Amsterdam. Just a few minutes’ cycling distance from the historic city centre and not far from the motorway and airport, it is developing into a comprehensive urban centre – a place to live, work and dwell.

Photo © Egbert de Boer

The previously mono-functional 2Amsterdam office towers in the north are currently being rebuilt according to the design of the KCAP Architects&Planners so that they also correspond to the new approach: a new hotel in the west tower will complement the neighbouring office building in the future.
In cooperation with the insulating glass manufacturer Polypane and the metal constructor De Groot en Visser BV, the functional coating SILVERSTAR COMBI Neutral 51/26 from Glas Trösch was used for the atrium on the ground floor and the flush glass facade. With a light transmission of 51 percent, a g-value of 27 percent and a u-value of 1.0, the coating offers an ideal combination of sun control, thermal insulation and daylight inlet for this location. With a total area of 10,400 m², the glass is convincing in its functionality and underlines the environmentally friendly demands of the city planners.

22012/Press Release – 2019.07.04

2. Glas Trösch: **glass facade for new Lidl Schweiz headquarters**

Because the existing building in Weinfelden reached its limits, a new two-storey building has now been erected on the 19,000 square metre site across the road. It was designed by the Swiss architects Itten+Brechbühl AG.

For its construction, the planners chose four 8 mm thick Ultrastrong laminated safety panes from Glas Trösch to meet the structural requirements related to the storey height. As a result, the curtain wall not only protects the insulating glass and textile sun protection behind it, it also offers thermal benefits thanks to the continuous ventilation. The SILVERSTAR ZERO Eplus insulating glass from Glas Trösch, on the other hand, ranks among the most modern and energy-efficient multiple insulating glazings and is especially well suited for buildings constructed to the Swiss Minergie standard.
As a Minergie ECO building, it satisfies both stringent requirements in respect of sound insulation and construction ecology as well as exacting standards regarding daylight utilisation inside. In addition, the multifunctional insulating glass ensures clear vision thanks to the exceptional colour neutrality. The DGNB German Sustainable Building Councilawarded the building its Gold Certificate.

22013/Press Release – 2019.08.22

Miscellaneous

A £9 million project lead by Glass Technology Services and British Glass aims to completely recycle all types of waste from the construction industry.

The project is being undertaken by scientists based in South Yorkshire, along with 27 of its European partners. This includes construction company Acciona and other industry and research partners in Spain (Tecnalia), Turkey (TCMA) and Sweden (RISE CBI).
Their aim is to recycle glass, wood, ceramics, plastic and rubber.
They have shown that glass construction waste can be transformed into valuable reusable raw materials.
One application blends finely ground waste glass - which cannot be reused in a glass furnace - with other industrial waste to produce an 'eco cement'.
Eco cement has been used to build roads and made into pre-cast concrete blocks and other shapes for building homes and roads.
Using waste materials such as the finely ground glass has multiple benefits, improving the performance of the cement, reducing the energy requirements of cement manufacturing, and preventing waste materials from ending up in landfill.

Chris Holcroft (pictured), Senior Technologist and Technology Development Lead for Glass Technology Services, said: "This is an exciting project with a huge amount of potential for sustainable building.
"The more glass we can save from landfill the better it is for the environment."

Glass Technology Services specialised in early work looking at the available materials, while the partner teams then successfully demonstrated the new cement production in a laboratory, in a pilot study, and on an industrial scale.
The finished products are now being tested at a number of case study sites.
This activity is part of the FISSAC project funded by the EU's H2020 programme.
FISSAC stands for 'Fostering Industrial Symbiosis For a Sustainable Resource Intensive Industry Across the Extended Construction Value Chain'.

22014/Press Release – 2019.08.20

CONTAINER GLASS

Glass Companies

Ardagh

1. Ardagh signs 10-year agreement with The Absolut Company

The agreement sees Ardagh supply The Absolut Company with glass bottles for its Absolut Vodka brand.

At its core, the partnership will focus on sustainability, innovation and future growth. Both companies are said to be committed to keeping the environmental impact as low as possible.

The agreement will also ensure that carbon emissions are further reduced in the production of the glass bottles.

Anna Malmhake, CEO of The Absolut Company, said: "The great thing about this long-term partnership is that we can act on a world leading level when it comes to innovation and sustainability, throughout the whole supply chain."

Ardagh's production facility in Limmared is the largest supplier of the Absolut Vodka bottle since the brand's launch 40 years ago.

Ardagh produce more than 100 million Absolut Vodka bottles every year in Sweden's oldest operating glassworks, founded in 1740. Today, Ardagh Limmared employs approximately 480 people.
The Absolut Vodka bottles are produced using more than 40% recycled glass.
Furthermore, it is reported that 60% of all Swedish recycled clear glass is used in the production of Absolut Vodka bottles.
"We are delighted The Absolut Company have renewed their trust in Ardagh to consistently deliver quality, sustainable packaging," said Bo Nilsson, Operations Director Nordic, Ardagh Group.
"Our team at Limmared has worked in partnership with Absolut for 40 years, consistently delivering premium, innovative products.
Ardagh shares their commitment to sustainable packaging and, with this latest agreement, looks forward to cooperating on further advances for many years in the future."
The agreement lasts until 2029 and is The Absolut Company's largest supplier agreement.

22015/Press Release – 2019.07.19

2. Ardagh Group, Glass – North America long-term supply **agreement with Oliver Winery** to manufacture the majority of its wine bottles.

Oliver Winery is best known for its quality, and it's no secret that quality wine deserves quality glass bottles. The bottles for Oliver Winery leverage the brand's existing design assets with a modern, premium look and feel, all manufactured in the U.S. by Ardagh.
Oliver Winery started from modest roots back in the 1960s, as a hobby of Indiana University law professor William Oliver, until the official winery opened in 1972. Today, Oliver Winery is the oldest and largest winery in Indiana and one of the largest wineries in the U.S., distributing award-winning, fruit-forward wines to 27 states.
"Quality glass is an important part of our winemaking programme, and we are excited to work with Ardagh in this area," said Dennis Dunham, VP Operations and Director of Winemaking at Oliver Winery.
The ability to purchase U.S.-made glass direct from a local manufacturer is important to Oliver Winery. Ardagh Group's Glass – North America headquarters is located in Fishers, Ind., while Oliver Winery is a mere 65 miles south in Bloomington, Ind.

"Ardagh is pleased to partner with Oliver Winery – an icon in the Hoosier state," said John T Shaddox, Chief Commercial Officer for Ardagh Group's North American Glass division. "We are passionate about the success of the wine industry across the country, and are proud to support wineries with glass wine bottles made right here in the U.S."
Glass bottles are 100 percent and endlessly recyclable, and they can go from the recycling bin to the store shelf in as little as 30 days. Glass wine bottles preserve the true taste of the product and deliver great shelf appeal and brand differentiation in a premium, sustainable package.
Ardagh is dedicated to the wine market with capabilities and resources to grow with wineries every step of the way. For more than 125 years, Ardagh has been producing innovative glass bottles in the U.S. and offers a wide selection of premium wine bottles in a variety of colours, sizes, styles and finishes. Ardagh produces glass wine bottles from its glass manufacturing facilities located in the heart of the major wine-producing areas in North America.

22016/Press Release – 2019.07.16

3. Ardagh glass bottles for **Sprecher Brewing Company's new sparkling water product line**

Ardagh Group, Glass – North America, a division of Ardagh Group, is now manufacturing 12oz flint (clear) glass bottles in the U.S., for Sprecher Brewing Company's new sparkling water product line

Seltzer/sparkling/mineral water is the fastest growing segment of the water market and one of the fastest growing non-alcoholic beverages in the U.S. According to Mintel, sales of sparkling water are forecasted to grow 74 percent from 2018 to 2023.
With increased consumer interest in sparkling water, companies are responding by launching new sparkling water brands and products. It was important to Sprecher Brewing Company to utilize glass packaging to create brand differentiation with a premium, sustainable package.
"Ardagh Group's high-quality, attractive flint glass bottle is a key component of the high-end, above premium positioning for Sprecher's line of all natural sparkling waters," said Jeff Hamilton, President of Sprecher Brewing Company. "The glass bottle provides a vessel that locks in the freshness of the beverage, with the neck acting as an aroma reservoir. Upon opening and prior to drinking, consumers experience all the natural aromatics characteristic of each flavour."

Milwaukee's original craft brewery recently launched its all natural line of sparkling waters at Menards, Festival Foods and Stein's Garden & Home. The product line includes eight flavours – Fresh Cut Mango, Ripe Strawberry, Cool Cucumber, Valencia Orange, Lime Royale, Tropical Resort, Strawberry Basil and Red Raspberry – with 0 carbs, 0 calories, 0 sodium and 0 sugar. These sparkling waters also provide a flavourful option for spirits mixers.

"After manufacturing amber (brown) glass bottles for their beers and craft sodas for a number of years, Ardagh Group is honoured to manufacture this new glass packaging for Sprecher Brewing Company's premium line of sparkling waters," said John T Shaddox, Chief Commercial Officer for Ardagh Group's North American Glass division. "The glass bottle preserves product integrity, has beautiful shelf appeal and is 100 percent and endlessly recyclable."

22017/Press Release – 2019.07.25

4. Ardagh Glass chosen for **Mountain Culture Kombucha glass bottles**

Ardagh Group, Glass – North America partnered with Mountain Culture Kombucha to introduce a new 12oz glass bottle design for its kombucha, which features a convenient, twist-off cap.

In the non-alcoholic craft beverage world, easily resealable 12oz clear bottles are the most popular. In an effort to differentiate its products, Mountain Culture Kombucha chose to package its product in a 12oz glass amber bottle that would offer UV protection for the live organisms within the kombucha.

"Connecting with Ardagh Group, and their willingness to produce the exact bottle we have been searching for during the better part of a decade, has been a game-changer for us," said Peter Roderick, Owner of Mountain Culture Kombucha. "From initial conversations all the way through delivery of the final product, we have never had a better experience working with a new supplier. We look forward to working with Ardagh for years to come."

Nearly 33 percent of new beverage launches tracked by Mintel GNPD in 2017-2018 featured new packaging, focusing on a more streamlined look using bold graphics, simplified information and prominent visual components. According to Mintel's Beverage Packaging Trends 2019 report, glass bottles are still widely used and stand out for their strong association with more premium offerings. Furthermore, around one in five U.S. beverage consumers say they have paid more for a beverage product because they liked the packaging format (e.g., material) (20 percent) and the packaging design (e.g., artwork) (17 percent).

22018/Press Release – 2019.08.20

5. Ardagh and **Glenfiddich nod to heritage**

The new Glenfiddich bottle has been designed to emphasise the brand's special provenance and unique heritage, taking cues from its origins in the Valley of the Deer. The triangular bottle design includes a dramatic 'V' shape cut into the glass, framing the brand's stag logo, plus shoulder embossing and new red tab neck labelling.

Ardagh Group's Design Team worked closely with Production, using their creativity to adapt the triangular bottle, designed by Here Design, to work flawlessly on production and filling lines, while delivering William Grant & Sons' vision for the distinctive new bottle.

The moulds were manufactured from an upgraded material to achieve the desired definition in every bottle. Tiny modifications were made around the V-shaped 'Valley' on the face of the bottle, to ensure a more premium glass finish.

The neck design's bulbous surface was adapted to a tapered, conical platform for the new tab label to sit on.The design has a sharper, triangular shape but by contouring the edges, it still acts like a round bottle for ease of handling and efficiency on production lines. Two contact points were also created in the foot and shoulder to give stability on the high-speed filling lines.

The redesign provides a fresh and distinctive new look, creates standout and is designed to appeal to existing Glenfiddich drinkers, whilst also attracting those around the world who are new to the brand and category.

22019/Press Release – 2019.08.26

O-I

1. O-I reports second quarter 2019 results

Owens-Illinois, Inc. reported financial results for the second quarter ended June 30, 2019 "The Company has been on a transformational journey and has made meaningful progress over the past three years. However, the second quarter was a challenging period for O-I. Earnings fell short of management's guidance as sales volumes were essentially flat with last year compared to our expectation of modest growth. Despite encouraging demand trends in April and May, June shipments were softer than anticipated including the impact of extreme weather conditions in Europe," said Andres Lopez, CEO. "We also incurred higher than expected costs in the Americas related to the commissioning of a furnace at a joint venture as well as unplanned downtime due to flooding and weather-related issues.

While 2019 is turning out to be a difficult year, we believe many of these factors are temporary and we are taking action to accelerate performance."

Highlights

For the second quarter 2019, earnings from continuing operations were $0.42 per share (diluted), compared with 0.31 USD per share (diluted) in 2018. Net sales were 1.8 billion USD, essentially flat with the prior year second quarter. Higher prices were offset by unfavourable foreign currency translation while sales volumes were essentially flat with the prior year.

Earnings from continuing operations before income taxes were 98 million USD, compared to 78 million USD in the second quarter of 2018. This improvement reflects lower restructuring charges in the second quarter of 2019 than in the prior year.

Segment operating profit was 236 million USD which compares to 255 million USD in the second quarter of 2018. While the benefit of higher selling prices more than offset cost inflation, operating costs were higher than the prior year. Increased costs reflected additional costs related to the commissioning of a furnace at a joint venture, unexpected weather-related downtime and timing of an energy credit.

Despite a challenging second quarter, O-I recently achieved key milestones across a number of strategic priorities:

- Sales volume growth was strong in the markets where O-I recently commissioned new capacity including Brazil, Colombia and China.
- Production of commercial ware at the Company's first MAGMA line started in early July.
- The acquisition of Nueva Fábrica Nacional de Vidrio, S. de R.L. de C.V. ("Nueva Fanal") was completed at the end of June and is supported by a long-term customer supply agreement. Nueva Fanal is expected to be immediately accretive to earnings.
- The Company refinanced its Bank Credit Agreement to improve financial flexibility and reduce future interest expense.
- On July 31, 2019, the Company's Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of 0.05 USD per share, payable on September 16, 2019, to stockholders of record as of the close of business on August 30, 2019.

O-I has revised its full year 2019 earnings guidance and now expects 2019 adjusted earnings of approximately 2.40 – 2.55 USD per share. The Company also now expects its cash provided by continuing operating activities for 2019 to be in the range of 550 to 575 million USD and adjusted free cash flow of at least 260 million USD for 2019.

22020/Press Release – 2019.07.01

2. O-I set to produce bottles from recycled kerbside glass

Container manufacturer Owens-Illinois (O-I) could soon produce bottles from glass collected from kerbside recycling. The company has signed an agreement in principle with Canadian recycler Groupe Bellemare, based in Quebec.

Groupe Bellemare has a business plan to invest in a new recycling glass facility in the Canadian province.

It said it was ready to purchase new equipment as soon as the supply guarantees are confirmed.
The new outlet for glass recycling in Québec is the result of efforts initiated by Éco Entreprises Québec under its Innovative Glass Works plan.
Beyond guarantees of feedstock, it will foremost require a change in Quebec regulation to ban any use of glass in landfill sites.
One final condition must be met. The Québec government must now put an end to a temporary solution that, for the past several years, has sent glass to landfill to be used as cover material.
"Should the Ministre de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques announce that it is choosing to end this practice and fully support the glass recycling, we will work to secure our feedstock needed for the immediate investment, and our plant will be operational within a year, as per our discussions with O-I," said Mr. Serge Bellemare, Co-president of Groupe Bellemare.

22021/Press Release – 2019.08.14

Verallia

1. Verallia released its first half year results

Strong first half of 2019: reported revenue up 6.9 percent - adjusted EBITDA up 13.5 percent
The favourable trends observed in the first quarter of the year continued in the three months to June 30. Revenue came in at 1,329 million EUR for first-half 2019, representing reported growth of 6.9 percent versus first-half 2018.
At constant exchange rates, revenue rose 9.6 percent, driven by volume growth in all regions along with the full impact of the selling price increases implemented at the start of the year mainly to pass on the rise in energy and raw material costs. The mix also improved, reflecting the increasing premiumization of the product range.
Adjusted EBITDA grew sharply, up 13.5 percent (16.6 percent at constant exchange rates) to 313 million EUR, driven by the operating leverage linked to the robust revenue growth and by the ongoing plan to improve operating efficiency. The selling price increases implemented in the first half helped offset cost inflation. The impact of applying IFRS 16 on adjusted EBITDA represents 11 million EUR in first-half 2019. Adjusted EBITDA margin increased by 137 bps, including 80 bps due to the IFRS 16 impact, reaching 23.5 percent.

22022/Press Release – 2019.07.30

2. Verallia releases new version of its glass packaging creation tool

Verallia has released the newest version of its Virtual Glass packaging creation tool.
The tool enables Verallia customers to obtain realistic renderings of their projects in high quality and in record time.
It has introduced the new version of Virtual Glass to help its customers optimise their development time, time to market and costs.
As a result of a significant R&D effort, the digital tool makes it possible to create and visualise glass packaging projects.

Virtual Glass quickly generates hyper-realistic renderings of quality in terms of image definition. These renderings include up to six models and can be used for communication purposes (online catalogue, promotional visuals, etc.).
Karim Boussabah, Marketing Director of the Verallia Group, said: "Ease, speed, quality. These are the key strengths of Virtual Glass. In a few minutes, the tool allows you to test models and their packaging before showcasing them and obtain renderings as good as a high definition photo. It is a collaborative design work tool. More than a decision-making aid, it is also a marketing aid."
With this new tool, accessible only from MyVerallia - Verallia's customer portal - it only takes a few clicks to generate a realistic look and feel for a complete package.
After choosing a bottle from the catalogue, customers can add the content and/or a cap of their choice, and import their own labels.
They can then visualise their product, placing it in a neutral or realistic scene, and can compare it with another project or an existing product.
The users can share their creations with their partners.

Virtual Glass is said to be a valuable tool for Verallia's customers' marketing and product development departments, who can test their ideas in collaboration with other departments and save time. Launched in France, Italy, Spain and Portugal, Virtual Glass will soon be available in all countries where Verallia is present.

22023/Press Release – 2019.07.29

3. Verallia: EstaTHE now available in glass

Verallia has put its glass expertise at Ferrero's disposal to complete EstaTHE's packaging range with a glass reference.

In its Italian plant in Gazzo Veronese, Verallia produces the glass bottle for EstaTHE, the iced tea that has been one of Ferrero's flagship products in Italy for 40 years.
Verallia has put its glass expertise at Ferrero's disposal to complete EstaTHE's packaging range with a glass reference. This 25cl flint glass bottle combines tradition and innovation: its fluted design reminds us of EstaTHE's traditional plastic packaging, while the glass material gives the product a premium dimension. The bottle is equipped with a ring crown easy-open cap designed for drinking on the move. It is distributed in HORECA (hotel, restaurant and catering sector).
This bottle, designed by MrSmith Studio, was awarded an A'Design Award and an Oscar in the "Quality Design" category at the Italian Packaging Institute's Packaging Oscars.

22024/Press Release – 2019.07.25

4. Verallia discover the Jacutinga facility (Brazil)

Located in the State of Minas Gerais, Verallia's Jacutinga plant was inaugurated at the beginning of July 2019. The manufacturing facility produces 1 million green and amber bottles a day for the beer, spirits and wine markets.

Verallia invested 77 million EUR to build this ultra-modern site which replaces the Agua Branca factory in the city of São Paulo.
Production reaches 400 tonnes a day with direct employment of 170 workers.

22025/Press Release – 2019.08.08

Sisecam

Şişecam Group's glass packaging production capacity in Turkey now reaches 1.3 million tons. Şişecam Group has invested 18.2 million USD, to commission a new furnace with an annual production capacity of 80,000 tons at the Mersin Glass Packaging Plant.
In a statement regarding the new investment, Prof. Ahmet Kırman, Şişecam Group Vice Chairman and CEO, underlined how the Group continues their investments without pause, and the new furnace at the Mersin Glass Packaging Plant was an indicator of the Group's confidence in Turkey's future.
Şişecam Glass Packaging Plant in Mersin draws attention with its prominent position in exports, thanks to its proximity to the port. Breaking its own record every year in exports volume, Şişecam Glass Packaging has expanded its target, and focused particularly on the European and American markets.
Şişecam Glass Packaging exceeded the threshold of 100,000 tons in 2016 for the first time with 125,000 tons of overseas sales, and reached 170,000 tons of export volume in 2018.

22026/Press Release – 2019.08.02

Croxsons

Scottish distillery, Eden Mill, has enlisted glass packaging company, Croxsons, to design and create a bespoke glass bottle for their new range of craft gin liqueurs. Croxsons, who recently won the Queen's Award for Enterprise, has taken Eden Mill's project from design conception through to the finished packaging.

Eden Mill is Scotland's first single-site distillery and brewery, crafting gin, whisky and beer. The Love Gin Liqueur range takes inspiration from nostalgic tastes of summer and comes in three experimental flavours – raspberry, vanilla and meringue liqueur, mango and pineapple liqueur, and spiced rhubarb crumble liqueur, all of which have been recently released.

Tony Kelly, co-owner of Eden Mill said, "Love Gin Liqueurs are outrageously decadent. We wanted to make a bold on-shelf statement, appealing to a refined customer using intriguing flavours. A standalone colour choice for each flavour gives a bold, striking impact, which the clear glass bottle takes advantage of.

"We gave Croxsons a challenging brief. We wanted a bespoke bottle design that was unique and distinguishable, to stand out in a heavily populated gin market. The bottle also needed to complement the existing range and preserve our sleek brand image. The result is a quality on-brand bottle that still retains the playfulness of the range concept. Croxsons' expertise delivered exactly what was needed, and expertly guided the process from design to the final packaging."

The 500ml & 700ml clear glass bottles features a dimpled geometric design, which indicates quality by both visual and touch. The dimpling effect clears to reveal a front label, and at the back of the bottle the brand name is subtly embossed. The closure is a wooden debossed API cap.

Croxsons' chief operating officer, Tim Croxson, said: "Eden Mill's brand has an established ceramic look, but in order to drive sales into new markets we made the switch to glass to give a more sophisticated aesthetic that would work well within both off and on-trade channels.

Our brand and structural design teams built on the successes of the ceramic design, whilst carrying some cues from the established whisky bottle to create packaging that is both striking and stylish.
"A screen print ensured a premium finish, and allowed for economical and expeditious printing. This printing process provided precise engineering with the label panels so that they fit flush with the exterior of the dimples of the design, ensuring a perfect fit and feel within the hand."
The popularity of gin shows no signs of fading. The Wine and Spirits Trade Association end of year report showed 41 percent more gin bottles being bought in 2018 than the previous year, and that flavoured gin drove over half of all gin growth, which bodes well for this vibrant new gin range.

22027/Press Release – 2019.07.26

Arglass Yamamura

Construction of a greenfield glass plant in Georgia, USA is set to start next week.
The $123 million Arglass Yamamura plant in Valdosta, Georgia will employ 150 people and be the company's first glass manufacturing facility.
Arglass Yamamura is a joint venture partnership between Nihon Yamamura Glass Co and Cambium Arglass, a privately-held investment company led by Mr Diego-Arozamena.
Arglass Yamamura was created to serve customers' needs for flexibility, efficiency and customisation and help reduce the need to import glass bottles from overseas glass plants.
The company said the facility will incorporate the latest glass forming technology and cutting-edge environmental controls for a reduced environmental footprint.
According to its website, the plant will have a capacity of 100,000 tonnes a year and be capable of producing 265,000,000 units a year.
Furnace start up is due in Q4 2020 with full operation by Q1 2021.

22028/Press Release – 2019.08.09

Gerresheimer

The setup for Gerresheimer's small batch production (SBP) for glass products has made good headway to move into its plant by 2020.
After laying the foundation for the TCC expansion one year ago, tooling optimisation and traineeships has now moved into the Gerresheimer plant.
Gerresheimer say that in future all processes in injection production can be realised in small batches.
SBP works at the same quality level as large-scale production but is designed for quick-changing products, making it especially fast-paced and flexible.
With the set-up of an ultra-pure water system, an important component of SBP has now successfully passed its test run.
In accordance with the European Pharmacopoeia PhEur, water for injection (WFI) is produced in three steps.

In the first step, hardening ions such as calcium and magnesium are bound by means of hardness stabilisation.
In the second step, reverse osmosis is used to filter out sodium ions and other impurities, resulting in clean purified water (PW).
During the third step, the PW is distilled to produce ultra-pure sterile WFI.
The site acceptance test (SAT) that verifies function in line with specifications was passed in week five, allowed Gerresheimer to begin with performance qualification in March 2019.
The test will take until the first quarter of 2020, and ensures that the system maintains the required quality criteria even with changing supply water qualities.
This test will also make sure climatic influences varying due to the season and changing production environments are looked at.
At the end of 2019, Gx InnoSafe is scheduled to be the first ready to fill product manufactured in SBP.

22029/Press Release – 2019.07.11

Stölzle Glass

Stölzle is pleased to welcome the next generation of the Grupp family, owners of the Company. August Grupp, son of Dr. Cornelius Grupp, will join the company as Head of the Business Unit SPIRITS on September 2, 2019.

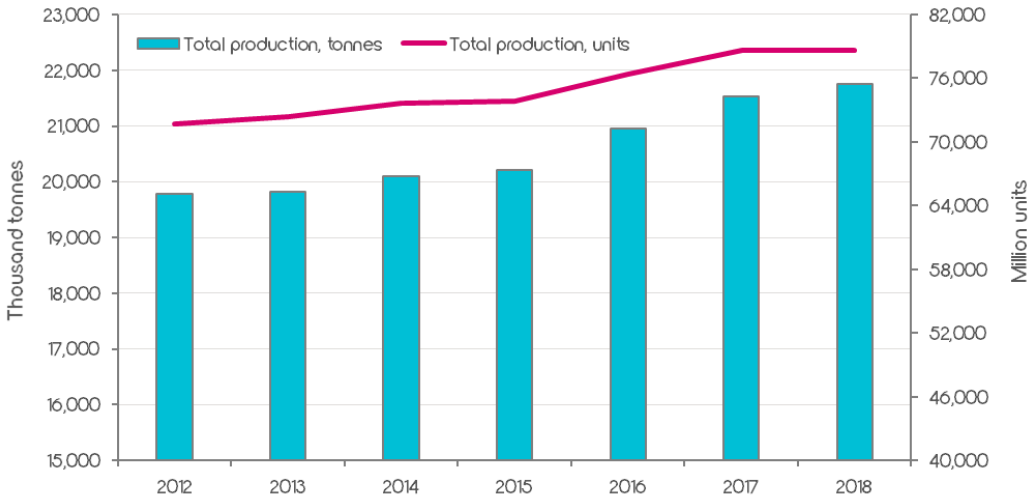
August Grupp (pictured) holds a master's Degree in mechanical Engineering from ETH in Zurich and an MBA degree from the Business School INSEAD. He has already worked for Stölzle in the French site at Masnières, which produces perfume bottles and cosmetic containers for international brands.
As head of the Business Unit SPIRITS, August Grupp will be responsible for the development, manufacturing and decoration of premium spirits.

22030/Press Release – 2019.08.27

Miscellaneous

Glass Packaging European Production Continues to Steadily Grow

Primary industry data gathered through FEVE show European glass container production continued to grow in 2018 confirming positive trends of the previous years, although at slower pace which is line with prevailing sluggish macroeconomic trends. Container glass production among FEVE members grew 217 thousand tonnes from 2017 levels, or 1% while unit production remained unchanged. Overall production now stands at 21,755 thousand tonnes and 78,662 million units, respectively 10% and 9.8% increases relative to 2012 levels respectively. Glass is more than ever the leading packaging material for spirits, wines and beer, while it is increasingly gaining share in the food, water and dairy sectors. It the second leading packaging material in Europe in terms of volume.



22031/FEVE Press Release – 2019.07.02

DOMESTIC TABLEWARE AND CRYSTAL GLASS

Glass Companies

Libbey Group

1. Libbey Inc. announced second quarter 2019 results

Expanded gross profit margins and improved net cash provided by operating activities drove solid second-quarter performance; the company reaffirmed full-year outlook.

Second-quarter 2019 Financial & Operating Highlights

Net sales were 206.2 million USD, a decrease of 3.5 percent, or a decrease of 2.5 percent in constant currency versus the prior-year period.

Gross profit margin was 22.7 percent, an increase of 90-basis points versus the prior year.

Net loss was 43.8 million USD, compared to net income of 4.0 million USD in the second quarter of 2018. Net loss in the second quarter of 2019 was affected by non-cash impairment charges for goodwill and an intangible asset totalling 46.9 million USD in the quarter.

Adjusted Income from Operations increased 22.8 percent to 15.9 million USD.

Adjusted EBITDA was 25.3 million USD, compared to 26.8 million USD in the prior year's second quarter. Adjusted EBITDA improved 4.4 percent after further adjusting for a negative 2.7 million USD currency impact.

Net cash provided by operating activities improved 10.7 million USD, driving a Free Cash Flow improvement of 12.9 million USD compared to the second quarter of 2018.

The e-commerce business continues to make solid contributions to quarterly results, aiding growth in the US/Canada retail business and advancing efforts to bring Libbey's industry-leading products to a broader collection of customers.

22032/Press Release – 2019.08.06

2. Organizational Realignment Plan to Drive Improved Performance and Growth

Libbey Inc. announced an organizational realignment plan that is expected to reduce annual pre-tax run-rate costs by approximately $9 - $11M.

The plan focuses on transformational actions and structural changes to lower the Company's cost base, improve its financial performance and cash flow generation, and create a simplified organization best positioned to deliver against its key financial and operational priorities.

These priorities, which include leveraging digital marketing capabilities to reach and influence distributors and end users, driving growth in underpenetrated segments of foodservice, continuing the business transformation enabled by ERP, and optimization of our global supply chain, are intended to drive operating performance improvement and growth over the next several years.

The plan includes the following actions:

- Transition to a global, functionally aligned organization to better leverage expertise and scale.
- Centralize manufacturing operations and supply chain management to optimize and leverage capabilities and capacity across the global network.
- Integrate key e-commerce functions into our core business, resulting in a more efficient omni-channel commercial operating structure as well as the creation of a new global marketing organization to drive efficiencies and better leverage digital marketing capabilities across our top foodservice distribution and retail customers.
- Decrease the number of layers and broaden managers' spans of control to simplify decision making and improve agility and responsiveness.
- Leverage our extensive sales and channel expertise to drive synergies and growth across Libbey's United States & Canada and Latin America regions.

In connection with the organizational realignment plan, the Board has approved the appointment of James C. (Jim) Burmeister to the additional role of senior vice president, chief operating officer, effective October 1, 2019.

22033/Press Release – 2019.08.27

Vetrerie Riunite

Vetrerie Riunite Group is a global leader in the market for glass fronted door glasses for the home appliance market and works with over 3,000 clients all over the world. Since the seventies, the Group started producing glass for headlights at the Colognola ai Colli plant (Province of Verona) and since 1999 high quality glass tableware (under the name Vividi Vetri delle Venezie).
At the plant of Colognola ai Colli the old furnace is to be soon demolished and substituted by a new one. July 22 started the construction work on the new furnace at Vetrerie Riunite, in the plant of Colognola ai Colli.

The photo is a reminder of the old furnace, soon to be demolished, with plant director Giuseppe Velli, representatives of the construction company Bertoli Costruzioni and photographers from Tiziano Raguzzi Studio and Studio Digitalart.

22034/Press Release – 2019.07.23

Durobor

Durobor glassmaker faces bleak future. The Belgian tableware glassmaker Durobor is to shut down its furnace unless an investor is found.
The company went into receivership at the beginning of May. Three potential buyers of the glassware company from Europe, Israel and the Middle East- came forward after a subsequent appeal for investment.
But Sogepa, the financial arm of the Walloon region in which Durobor is based, announced that two potential buyers of the factory had withdrawn and that it would now proceed to a shutdown of the oven.
Durobor is based in Soignies, near Mons, Belgium and employed 144 people.
Sogepa had decided to temporarily maintain the furnace in working order after the bankruptcy announcement was made in May.
A team of about 20 staff were still working under temporary contracts. But the costs associated with it are such (the unions have mentioned €10,000 per day) means the situation is only temporary.
A Sogepa spokeswoman said the furnace will be shut down in a procedure which will leave an option to restart the oven.
This approach does not mark the end of the search for a buyer candidate.

22035/Press Release – 2019.07.19 & 26

REINFORCEMENT GLASS FIBRES

Glass Companies

Owens-Corning

Owens Corning Reports Second-Quarter 2019 Results

- The company Delivered Record Net Sales of $1.9 Billion (5% increase compared with second-quarter 2018,
- Net Earnings Growth of 14% to $138 Million,
- Roofing improved EBIT by $24 million, to $151 million on above-market volume growth,
- Insulation delivered $42 million in EBIT, with continued strong performance in the technical and other building insulation businesses,
- Composites generated $67 million in EBIT on strong operational execution,
- Improved operating cash flow by $42 million, to $438 million.

Highlights in the quarter included strong performance in the Roofing business and manufacturing productivity across the company.
"Our team's focus on three operating priorities - accelerating organic growth, driving improved operating efficiencies, and generating strong free cash flow - resulted in record revenue, strong earnings growth, and improved cash flow in the second quarter," said Chief Executive Officer Brian Chambers. "Overall, I am pleased with our execution in the first half of the year and believe we are well positioned to continue to capitalize on our market opportunities."

Todd Fister was recently named President, Insulation. Mr. Fister, who previously served as Owens Corning's Vice President, Global Insulation and Strategy, has more than two decades of experience in various marketing, strategy and finance positions at Owens Corning and other global organizations.

2019 Outlook
The company's outlook is based on an environment consistent with consensus expectations for global industrial production growth, U.S. housing starts, and global commercial and industrial construction growth.
In Composites, the company continues to expect growth in the glass fibre market, although at a lower rate than its previous outlook. The company continues to expect volume growth and improved operating performance to offset inflation.

22036/Press Release – 2019.07.24

Johns Manville

Johns Manville announced that its fiberglass batt and narrow roll insulation products received the NAIMA R-Value Certification, offering third-party verification of JM's thermal performance.
The NAIMA R-Value Certification program is a voluntary program that allows manufacturers to certify that the R-values for their products comply with the thermal performance requirements of the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) Home Insulation Rule.

22037/Press Release – 2019.08.28

Lanxess

LANXESS remains on track after a stable second quarter.

- At EUR 1.810 billion, sales down only slightly year-on-year.
- At EUR 286 million, EBITDA pre exceptionals almost at the prior year's strong level.
- EBITDA margin pre exceptionals remains stable at 15.8 percent
- Net income increased to EUR 100 million
- Share buy-back complete – shares cancelled
- Guidance for full year 2019 confirmed: EBITDA pre exceptionals of between EUR 1.000 billion and EUR 1.050 billion

Specialty chemicals company LANXESS is on track despite the weaker economy and geopolitical uncertainties and can look back on a stable second quarter. EBITDA pre exceptionals declined only slightly by 1.4 percent to EUR 286 million, nearly reaching the figure of the strong prior-year quarter of EUR 290 million.
Due in particular to the weak demand from the automotive industry, sales volumes declined in the Engineering Materials and Specialty Additives segments. In addition, earnings were burdened by a weak chrome ore business. However, this development was nearly offset by the company's stable portfolio and advantageous exchange-rate effects, especially from the strong U.S. dollar. The EBITDA margin pre exceptionals remained stable at 15.8 percent after 15.9 percent in the prior-year quarter.

22038/Press Release – 2019.08.02

SPECIAL GLASS

Glass Companies

SCHOTT

1. SCHOTT builds state-of-the-art plant for high-quality pharmaceutical glass tubing in China

The international technology group SCHOTT held a groundbreaking ceremony for its greenfield pharmaceutical glass tubing plant in Jinyun, Zhejiang. The capacity expansion comes at a time when China is aspiring to become an innovative global powerhouse. Particularly the pharmaceutical sector plays a key role within China's innovation roadmap, which is moving from manufacturing generics to new drug development. This shift is further underlined by the "Healthy China 2030" initiative. Subsequently, there is a high demand for premium pharmaceutical packaging made out of Type I pharmaceutical glass in the local market. The demand for high quality drug packaging products is further underlined through government initiatives and ever-growing patient safety standards.
The new plant will enable SCHOTT to participate in the advancement of the Chinese pharmaceutical packaging industry. SCHOTT will invest 60 million Euros in the first phase to install a yearly capacity of up to 20.000 tons. The production is scheduled to start at the end of 2020.
The plant will manufacture FIOLAX® glass tubing, which is a 5.0 middle borosilicate glass. Hence, the manufacturing site will support the move away from the low borosilicate glass (so called 7.0 glass type) to the higher quality middle borosilicate glass (so called 5.0 glass type), which is already well established globally. Production will be based on SCHOTT's unique perfeXion® process with 100% quality control of each individual tube and in accordance with the worldwide quality criteria of SCHOTT Tubing.

22039/Press Release – 2019.08.28

2. SCHOTT: Static ceramic converters enable superior luminance

A new product line from SCHOTT can accelerate the breakthrough of new compact laser light applications. The lighting solutions market seek laser technologies for their superior performance in a smaller package, and manufacturers demand sophisticated materials to optimize performance and reliability. For laser-pumped phosphor light sources, SCHOTT experts have developed special phosphor ceramic converter components, which power high irradiance and superior luminance. The international technology group SCHOTT will launch its new static ceramic converters product line at the CIOE 2019 in Shenzen, China (September 4 – 7, 2019). Integrated on a heat spreader, they enable innovative, compact light sources without moving parts.

SCHOTT´s new static ceramic converters allow high irradiance and superior luminance in innovative laser-light sources e.g. in the area of digital laser projectors, searchlights, medical lighting like endoscopy, life science or stage lighting. (Photo: SCHOTT)

"The brighter solution from SCHOTT offers the highest luminance as well as reliability and a high irradiance limit. The 100 percent inorganic ceramic converter material is soldered on the heat spreader to allow high power use. This requires a heat management to conduct the heat out of the ceramic sustainably," explains Jens Vietor, Product Manager Ceramic Converters at SCHOTT. "With the now-unveiled static ceramic converter our customers can realize many different applications and designs enabling high brightness."

More info at: https://www.schott.com/advanced_optics/english/products/optical-materials/special-materials/ceramic-phosphor-converter.html

22040/Press Release – 2019.08.28

Corning

1. Astra™ Glass enables higher pixel density for high-performance displays

Corning Incorporated announced the selection of Corning® Astra™ Glass by Chengdu CEC Panda Display Technology Co., Ltd., (CCPD) for its line of oxide-TFT liquid crystal display (LCD) panels used primarily for high-performance, large-size TVs and monitors. Corning was named majority display glass supplier for CCPD's Oxide-LCD panels.

CCPD, one of the industry's leading oxide panel makers, selected Astra Glass as its backplane substrate because it has the inherent fidelity – dimensional and thermal stability – to thrive in high-temperature oxide-TFT fabrication for immersive high-performance displays.

High-temperature oxide-TFT technology helps panel makers achieve high resolutions while providing attractive panel economics, particularly in large form factors, like TVs.
CCPD's advanced oxide-TFT process is widely used in 4K and 8K display panels. Corning will showcase one of these displays, completely designed by CCPD and enabled by Corning® Astra™ Glass and CCPD's latest core technologies of Oxide PAT, Super-UVA, Cu connect, at Touch Taiwan 2019, August 28-30 in Taipei.
Corning introduced Astra Glass globally in May 2019. Astra Glass joins industry-favorite Corning® EAGLE XG® Slim Glass and premium-performance Corning Lotus™ NXT Glass in Corning's advantaged display glass portfolio. Corning is collaborating with valued customers to define the next chapter of display technology with this advantaged and proven portfolio.

22041/Press Release – 2019.08.22

2. **Corning® Astra™ Glass received the Gold Panel Display Component Technology Award at Touch Taiwan**.
   The Gold Panel Award – presented by Taiwan's Industrial Development Bureau, and Ministry of Economic Affairs, along with the Taiwan Display Union Association – recognizes a company that is actively engaged in the development and production of display materials or equipment in Taiwan. Award candidates are evaluated based on three main categories: marketability, innovation, and technology.
   Designed for its ability to enable the higher pixel density of high-performance displays that panel makers require to meet consumer demand for brighter, faster, and more lifelike images, Astra Glass was the only glass solution to win the 2019 Display Component Technology Award.

   22042/Press Release – 2019.08.27

3. **Corning New Manufacturing Facility for Industry's First Large-Part AutoGrade™ Cover Glass Solutions in China.**
   Corning opened in Hefei, China, the company's first facility focused on high-volume manufacturing for automotive interior glass parts. It hosted an opening ceremony for its new Automotive Glass Solutions facility in the Hefei Xinzhan Hi-Tech Industrial Development Zone in Anhui province, China.
   This high-volume manufacturing facility will enable Corning to deliver AutoGrade™ Gorilla Glass parts for Automotive Interiors directly to automakers around the world as they incorporate more displays and more technical glass into their vehicle designs. Introduced earlier this year, AutoGrade™ cover glass parts widen the window to reliably and economically enable next-generation automotive designs, led by consumer demand for more in-vehicle connectivity and immersive driving environments. This milestone builds on the company's decades-long leadership in the display, mobile consumer electronics, and automotive markets.
   With designs evolving to incorporate larger, curved, and higher-resolution automotive displays, there is an increased demand for technical glass developed to withstand rigorous automotive industry standards while delivering smartphone sophistication. This new facility supports the company in its goal to double sales to the automotive market, as outlined in Corning's newly announced Strategy and Growth Framework.

"This new facility in Hefei will be vital to our goals of meeting automotive interior trend demands and doubling market sales by 2023," said Kunigonis, vice president and general manager, Corning Automotive Glass Solutions. "We will begin fulfilling customer orders from our high-volume facility in Q3 2019, offering the best product performance with the best service and best economics."

22043/Press Release – 2019.07.09

4. **Corning Reports Strong Second-Quarter Results with Year-Over-Year Growth Across All Businesses**

Summary:

- Strong second-quarter 2019 performance driven by year-over-year growth in every business segment,
- GAAP sales of $2.9 billion and core sales of $3.0 billion increased 7% and 8%, respectively, on a year-over-year basis,
- GAAP EPS of $0.09 declined from $0.78 in the second quarter of 2018 driven primarily by non-cash, mark-to-market losses associated with the company's currency-hedging contract,
- Core EPS grew by 18% to $0.45, reflecting year-over-year sales and earnings growth across all businesses,
- Display Technologies, Environmental Technologies, and Life Sciences posted double-digit net income growth.

All business segments on track for sales growth for full-year 2019

- Environmental Technologies second-quarter sales growth of 15% year over year significantly exceeded expectations; results position business segment to surpass previous full-year growth expectations.
- Display Technologies second-quarter sales grew 9% year over year; glass pricing environment better than expected with full-year 2019 price declines now expected to further improve to a low- to mid-single digit percentage.
- Optical Communications met second-quarter expectations; continues to grow approximately twice as fast as the passive optical market despite lowered full-year 2019 growth expectations.
- Specialty Materials sales grew 8% year over year; Life Sciences sales increased 6% year over year; both business segments remain on track to meet full-year growth expectations.

Corning's leadership priorities are to focus its portfolio and utilize its financial strength to grow and increase shareholder returns.
Under the company's 2016-2019 Strategy and Capital Allocation Framework introduced in October 2015, Corning has met its goal of returning more than $12.5 billion to shareholders before the end of 2019. Through June 30, 2019, the company increased dividends per share 67% and reduced outstanding shares by more than 37%.
The 2020-2023 Strategy & Growth Framework was introduced in June. The plan is to invest $10 billion to $12 billion for growth and to return $8 billion to $10 billion to shareholders.

Highlights include:

- Automotive: executing on plan to double automotive market sales by 2023 with production capacity ramping in Hefei, China, facilities for both AutoGrade™ glass and gas particulate filter products for committed customer demand; now delivering glass parts for more than 25 car models; and fuelling GPF sales growth with continued platform wins;
- Optical Communications: on track to continue growing approximately twice as fast as the passive optical market; CenturyLink announces utilization of Corning technologies for its ultra-low-loss fibre network that will span 4.7 million fibre miles;
- Mobile Consumer Electronics: making excellent progress toward doubling sales; Corning® Gorilla® Glass has now been used on over 7 billion devices worldwide, with expanded adoption of Gorilla Glass 6 and advanced glass innovations for smartphones, wearables, and other devices;
- Life Sciences Vessels: on track to grow sales at more than double the life sciences industry rate and launch a Valor® Glass franchise; bringing new capacity on line to meet increased demand for cell and gene therapy products; partnering with key customers to obtain FDA approval for use of Valor Glass packaging;
- Display: delivering stable returns; pricing environment continuing to improve; advancing technology leadership with Corning® Astra™ Glass for 8K TVs.

22044/Press Release – 2019.07.30

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DIVERSE

GLASS, RESEARCH & SUPPLIERS

Why the UN's Year of Glass is important

The industry has endorsed a plan to pursue a **United Nations (UN) International Year of Glass for 2022.**
There are plenty of arguments supporting the significance of glass as an enabling material for building a sustainable society.
The concept of a UN International Year of Glass was first introduced at the 2018 fall annual meeting of the International Commission on Glass (ICG) in Yokohama, Japan.
Encouragement received at this meeting gave rise to renewed effort to secure a UN International Year of Glass for the year 2022.
This was to coincide with ICG's International Congress on Glass in Berlin, Germany during the 100th anniversary of the German Society of Glass Technology.
The initiative to solicit the United Nations to declare a resolution for an International Year of Glass evolved from a series of events in recent years.
In 2014 Corning Incorporated introduced arrival of the "Glass Age."
A special issue of the International Journal of Applied Glass Science published the article 'Welcome to the Glass Age' by Dr. David L. Morse and Dr. Jeffrey W. Evenson.

Subsequently, this idea of a Glass Era was spearheaded in technical presentations at scientific meetings across the globe.
In May 2019, the ICG, The Corning Museum of Glass, the American Ceramic Society and the Glass Art Society endorsed this initiative to the Office of the US Mission of the UN in New York City.
A meeting in Madrid with the UN Ambassador from Spain further encouraged the effort to promote and lead this historical undertaking.
At a celebration in Boston, Massachusetts, USA on 11th June 2019, the Council of the International Commission on Glass strongly supported and approved the initiative and agreed to bring the proposal to the United Nations.
The Community of Glass Associations organised by Italian glass manufacturers and machinery associations, gathering glass associations, journals and magazines of the glass field met 10th-12th July 2019 in Venice, Italy, and added the most recent strong support to the initiative.

A UN Year of Glass in 2022 would underline the technological, scientific and economic role of glass and the importance of a year of glass for improving the performance and development of key technologies that contribute to meet the challenges of a sustainable society.
Extensive planning is now underway at the international level to make possible a UN Year of Glass.

Part of this planning process is to reach out to both art and scientific glass-themed societies and museums and share this concept with them.
Formal endorsements will be requested to permit arriving to a successful resolution at UN General Assembly in July 2020.
Securing a Year of Glass would the first time a material has been celebrated in this manner.

22045/Press Release – 2019.08.05

ICG honours Prof. Ahmet Kırman with "President's Award"

Şişecam Group Vice President and CEO Prof. Ahmet Kırman has been honoured with the "President's Award" by the International Commission on Glass (ICG), which has been carrying on its activities since 1933 as the most reputable world-wide organization in the field of glass, comprising 33 national organizations in glass science and technology.

Şişecam Group Vice President and CEO Prof. Ahmet Kirman is honoured with the ICG's "President's Award" in recognition of his extraordinary contributions to the development of the world glass industry. The award ceremony was held during the 25th International Glass Conference in Boston, USA between June 9 and 14, 2019.
At her speech during the award ceremony, Prof. Alicia Duran Carrera (pictured with Prof. Kirman) noted: "Under Prof. Kirman's management, through strategic investment initiatives, the number of countries where Şişecam Group is carrying out production activities increased from 4 to 13, while the number of production facilities rose from 26 to 43. Subsequently, the volume of glass and chemicals production has doubled, while the number of employees increased from 15,000 to 22,000. During this growth, with his strong support, leadership and vision, Şişecam has significantly invested and improved its existing capabilities in R&D to build Turkey's largest glass science and technology research centre. Prof. Kırman's leadership boosts open innovation and pre-competition cooperation, even co-creations on a corporate scale, through joint studies and projects with strategic partnerships. In this road map, the ICG activities and close involvement with Technical Committees have been one key partner of uppermost importance. Prof. Kırman has provided a continuing and all-round contribution to this cooperation to encourage the work on glass science and technology at an international scale."

"Prof. Kırman's consistent commitment to glass science and technology is evident in his notable professional achievements and he has served as an extraordinary role model to senior professionals as well as an inspiration to development of staff at the beginning of their careers. As an industrialist, his nomination for this honour represents for ICG an opportunity to recognize a person from the industry. Beyond his outstanding input to the growth of his Company, his commitment with R&D in glass, with particular attention to the ICG activities at all levels, are qualities that meet the essential characteristics recognized by this award," Prof. Duran Carrera added.

In his speech at the award ceremony Prof. Ahmet Kırman said, "Today Şişecam Group is a global actor with its 22,000 employees in 13 countries and its sales to over 150 countries. Şişecam is among the leading companies in the world with its competent human resource and its advanced R&D infrastructure in the competition of new product and new technology development in flat glass, glass packaging, glassware, glass fiber and chemicals. Şişecam, the third largest glassware, the fifth largest glass packaging and flat glass manufacturer globally as well as the seventh largest synthetic soda ash producer in the world and the world's leading supplier of chromium compounds.
"We carry out the research and technological development activities, which began in 1976 with an institutional understanding, now at our Şişecam Science, Technology and Design Center, one of the most prominent centres in the world. We are among the drivers of the glass community with various undertakings in the management and technical committees of the ICG and hosting the annual meetings of the ICG as a member since 1984. We contribute to the development of the glass community by sharing our work in glass science and technology through various platforms such as conferences, meetings, committees. I receive this award with great honour for the care and long years of work we have put in the glass science and would like to thank the ICG."

22046/Press Release – 2019.07.09

Glass Technology Services (GTS): New Laser Glasses

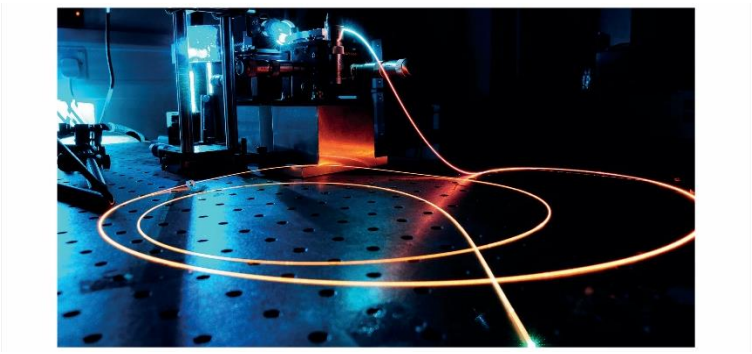
Photonics, the 21st century light technology, makes our world of mobile phones, computers, international flights and cataract surgery possible. It underpins revolutionary work developing innovative products in medicine, telecoms, manufacturing, and construction.
Ultra-fast lasers are needed now for cutting edge work in countless key areas such as microscopy, micro-machining and materials processing, and the Sheffield-based research and development organisation Glass Technology Services has a growing reputation in developing glass materials for use in this field.

Now with **sister company VitriTech**, it has developed two new types of laser glass which can bring significant cost benefits to the UK's £5.3bn photonics sector. The photonics sector in the UK is worth £5.3bn annually and employs 69,000 people in the UK at a productivity of £76,400 per employee.

The companies, in partnership with Leeds and St Andrews Universities and the photonics systems company M Squared Lasers, have built on earlier work by Glass Technology Services to produce two new laser glasses and are now at the point of developing a pre-prototype laser system using this material.

The new laser materials will be used for applications including secure communications ('quantum' or high-level encryption) and microscopy (fluorescence or higher intensity light microscopy). These laser materials, in tests at St. Andrew's University, have successfully produced ultra-fast laser pulses of 115 femtoseconds.

The research and development work on the two laser glasses at Glass Technology Services have been produced in a project called '**ULTRA-Glass'**, a large portfolio of work by Glass Technology Services which is able to develop bespoke photonic glasses for use in lasers, optics, wave guides, and related applications.



Examples of other glasses developed by GTS include:

- Laser glass for sensor applications – An eye-safe and temperature insensitive glass suitable for use in a range of sensor applications. Operates at 1530nm and is designed for use in diode-pumped solid-state laser systems (DPSS).
- Laser glass for ultra-fast laser applications (1530nm) – A temperature insensitive glass suitable for mode-locked ultra-fast operation. Operating at 1530nm this glass has been optimised for use in ultra-fast laser systems and could be used in applications as diverse as secure communications, microscopy and micro-machining.
- Laser glass for ultra-fast laser applications (1030nm) – A tuneable glass suitable for both continuous-wave and mode-locked ultra-fast operation. Operating at 1030nm this glass has been optimised for use in ultra-fast laser systems and could be used in applications including microscopy and micro-machining, as well as imaging techniques such as optical coherency tomography.
- Laser glass for flash-lamp pumped systems – A glass suitable for use in older flash lamp pumped solid state laser systems, as used in a range of sensor technologies. Operates at 1530nm.
- Glasses for use in wave-guides – A variety of glasses containing dopants such as Nd3+, Er3+, Yb3+ which have been optimised for use in waveguide applications. These can be paired with glasses with close refractive index matches and controlled values of dn/dT (thermal coefficient of refractive index).

Glass Technology Services possesses extensive experience in developing new glass compositions suitable for use in a variety of photonics and optics applications. Using Vitritech Ltd manufacturing facilities these glasses can be produced and supplied at a commercial quality and scale.

Applications include:
Internet: data transmission,
Aerospace: uses LiDAR (laser RADAR systems),
Agriculture: facilitates satellite remote sensing to detect large-scale crop effects, scanning technology and infrared imaging to monitor food production and quality, and sensor systems for planting and irrigation.
Biomedicine: surgery, photodynamic drug therapy, testing and analysis devices such as nano-invasive glucose monitors.
Constructions: scanning site topography, laser distance measuring and alignment, laser bar-code readers to inventory materials, 3D analysis to track the progress of construction.

22047/Press Release – 2019.08.20

Glass Technology Services (GTS): Project UltraWELD

Work conducted by Glass Technology Services, Heriot-Watt University and a consortium of industry partners could lead to a huge breakthrough for the manufacturing sector.
Glass Technology Services researchers are taking part in a **major project to weld glass to metal and flexible glass to glass – which could revolutionise manufacturing industries such as aerospace, defence, optics, optoelectronics and healthcare**.
The scientists in Sheffield are working with Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh and a consortium of leading industry partners to fuse glass to metal, and to seal flexible glass using an ultra-fast laser system so it is airtight.
Because of the difference in thermal properties glass could shatter if conventional heat bonding techniques were used, so adhesives are used instead. However, this can be messy and unreliable as the glues can degrade.
Now, by using a laser system, the need for adhesive is eliminated, vastly increasing durability and design possibilities.

Glass Technology Services has worked on the project, dubbed internally 'Project UltraWELD', to commercialise the idea. Rob Ireson, of the Glass Technology Services Research and Development team which included Dr Owen McGann and David Eustice, said, "We have been very excited by this project. It has massive potential in many industries which need to attach metal to glass.

Dr Owen McGann

"Our part in the project has built on the Glass Technology Services expertise in OLED lighting (organic light-emitting diode devices). Our in-depth knowledge of glass science and materials processing will help maximise the robustness of the final bonded components.

"Glass Technology Services will also be exploiting its extensive networks within the glass industry and related sectors to identify new applications which might benefit from the UtraWELD technology."

The consortium working on the project includes lasers specialists Oxford Lasers and Coherent Scotland, the high-tech defence company Leonardo; photonics technology firm Gooch & Housego, and the CPI.

22048/Press Release – 2019.08.23

UK Glass Futures Unveils St Helens Glassmaking Facility Details

Glass Futures Ltd. unveiled details of a new hot end glassmaking research facility in St Helens, UK during a conference last week.

More than 100 attendees from throughout the glass industry were in attendance at the day-long Glass - The Future and £60 million Funding conference by mid-July.

Pictured: Dave Dalton, British Glass CEO, addresses the Glass Futures conference

They heard from a varity of glassmakers, local councils and suporters of the Glass Futures project about why the plan will bring benefits to the industry as a whole.

The event outlined plans to create two Centres of Glass Excellence, hot glass at St Helens and cold end research at the University of Leeds.
These two multi-million-pound international research and testing facilities, are planned to shape the way forward for the glass sector.
The hot glass facility is aiming to eliminate CO2 from the manufacturing process.
Glass Futures is currently pursuing UK government funding streams of approximately £60 million from BEIS and Innovate UK, part of UK Research and Innovation.
Cllr David Baines, Leader of St Helens Council, said the council was committed to providing the design and planning work needed to launch Glass Futures.
Cabinet member Cllr Richard McCauley, who worked in the glass industry for 45 years, added: "We want St Helens to be at the heart of global innovation.
"There's nowhere else like St Helens. It's a glass town and we want it to stay that way. That's why we as a council are committed to ensuring that Glass Futures happens here."
Adrian Curry, managing director of UK glass manufacturer Encirc, saw Glass Futures as a huge and necessary investment in looking at the problem of future proofing, which manufacturers could not solve on their own.
He believed the St Helens site could be a global exemplar.
Brian Holliday, Managing Director of Siemens Digital Industries, said that connectivity was vital in the manufacturing of the future and Glass Futures was 'tremendously important' in providing support not only for the glass sector but for wider industry needs.

22049/Press Release – 2019.07.30

British Glass: Glass Focus Awards 2019

Shaping our landscapes – exciting new Glass Focus Award
The flat glass sector shapes our landscapes and shapes the way we interact with spaces on a daily basis.
Now, innovative and creative flat glass designers, manufacturers, and architects are invited to compete for a prestigious new award recognising the importance of their work at the glass sector's showcase of the year, Glass Focus.

'Design of the Year - Flat Glass', has been added to the highly popular annual 'Glass Focus Awards' organised by British Glass. The Awards are the showcase for the £1.6bn UK glass industry, and the new category will celebrate the very best in design throughout the flat glass sector and its supply chain.
Dave Dalton, Chief Executive of British Glass, said: "From architects, engineers and tradesmen, a huge supply chain helps keep the UK demand of over 700,000 tonnes of flat glass every year in supply.
"The flat glass sector shapes our landscapes and shapes the way we interact with spaces on a daily basis. Its versatility of use, from city skyscrapers through solar panels and automotive applications, is immense and has a clear but not always obvious impact on all our lives. It's time to celebrate and highlight achievements in this area, and I am looking forward to some impressive entries."

The 2019 event, which takes place on **21 November at the St Paul's Mercure Hotel in Sheffield**, also includes awards for glass-related work in the following areas:

- **Design of the year – Container**
- **Innovative solution**
- **Health and safety action**
- **Sustainable practice**
- **Apprentice of the year**
- **Strengthening business through people**

The contest is open to members and non-members while companies can enter multiple categories and submit more than one entry to the same or different categories.
British Glass members who enter any category will also automatically qualify for the British Glass Company of the Year award, which was won by Nippon Electric Glass Fibre in 2018.

Entries for all seven categories are now open and those who would like to enter should submit their entry form to glassfocus@britglass.co.uk and start the subject line with 2019 Awards entry.
The closing date for entries is noon on Wednesday 25 September.
For more information visit the Glass Focus page on the British Glass website.

22050/Press Release – 2019.07.10

Sibelco Buys Italian Glass Recycler

The Belgian mineral giant Sibelco has taken over the Italian glass recycler **Macoglass**. The price of the transaction is unknown. Macoglass processes around 210,000 tons of broken glass on an area of 50,000 m² annually. The company has been in the hands of the Coti Zelati family for three generations.

Sibelco said the acquisition of would complement its presence in the Venice area and improve its ability to partner with domestic customers to support future growth.
Pieterjan Goedertier, Vice President of Recycling at Sibelco, said: "Our customers face substantial challenges to secure secondary raw materials in the Italian market.
The acquisition of Macoglass will allow us to address these challenges and to become a partner in our customers' growth journey."
Sibelco is a Belgian-based sand and minerals specialist. The Antwerp group has a turnover of €3.5 billion with a gross operating profit (EBITDA) of €651 million.
In addition to fractionating sand for the extraction of oil and gas, Sibelco supplies sand and all kinds of minerals for the production of solar panels, glass from smartphones, ceramic tiles, paint, glue, toothpaste and plasma TVs.

22051/Press Release – 2019.07.23

SEMINARS / CONFERENCES / WORKSHOPS

Glass Technology Services (GTS) Training Programme 2019

GTS announced an extended training programme for 2019 due to increasing demand from across the glass industry and wider supply chain.
The 2019 programme features not only an increased number of introductory and technical events, but wholly new courses and workshops developed following feedback and requests from our client-base.
Please find herewith the list of the remaining courses for 2019:

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

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

22052/Glass Technology Services Press Release – 2018.12.13

Society of Glass Technology

SGT special conference on raw materials for glass making
The Society of Glass Technology is holding a special conference on Raw Materials for Glass Making in **Cambridge, UK 1–4 September 2019**.
The conference will feature dedicated sessions on particular glass ingredients as well as the batch as a whole.
The first speakers have been recently announced.

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

Further contributions can be expected from British Glass (on cullet), Glass Technology Services, Ardagh, St. Gobain and FIC (electric melting) on '*is this the future and what are its implications for raw material quality and specifications*.'
The raw materials conference will run in parallel with other sessions on glass science and technology and heritage and history as part of the SGT Annual Meeting.

22053/Press Release – 2019.02.20

Şişecam International Glass Conference

Şişecam announced that the "Şişecam International Glass Conference combined with the 34th Şişecam Glass Symposium" with the main theme of "Glass in the Sustainable Future: Achieving What is Possible", will be held at the Crowne Plaza Istanbul Asia Hotel & Convention Center in Istanbul, Turkey **on November 21-22, 2019.**

Being the premier glass science and technology platform in Turkey, Şişecam Glass Symposiums have been growing steadily and strongly for the last 33 years and three times in the past had the pleasure of hosting joint meetings with the International Commission on Glass (ICG). From this year on, the company decided to transform Şişecam Glass Symposium into a two-day biennial "International Conference" that will attract researchers and industry professionals from all around the world.

This year, the Conference will feature select sub-sessions and expert training offered by leading technology companies in the glass industry such as CelSian, Glass Service, Eurotherm, AMETEK Land, RHI-Magnesita and SEFPRO.

Registration and Abstract Submission for the Conference is now available at the conference web site: www.glassconference-sisecam.com.

22054/Press Release – 2019.07.10

80th Annual Conference on Glass Problems

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

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

Full four-day programme at:
http://glassproblemsconference.org/80th-conference-on-glass-problems-schedule-of-events/

22055/Press Release – 2019.01.08