

An ecological,
industrial and
human adventure



An ecological, industrial and human adventure

Thirty years ago, Paprec was born from a deep conviction: waste is the new resource of this century. The adventure began in 1994 in La Courneuve, a Paris suburb, when the Petithuguenin family took over a company with 40 employees.

Today, the company employs over 18,000 people and generates annual turnover of over €3.5 billion. The share capital still lies in the hands of the family. The Group is backed by strong financial partners with a long term vision. Nowadays, Paprec is the leading recycling firm in France and a major European player in waste management and green energy production.

Almost 70,000 industrial customers and 1,500 local authorities have put their trust in us. The Group's strong growth has confirmed the founding intuition that waste is the raw material of the 21st century. Recycling waste in the form of materials or converting it into green energy saves natural resources and limits CO₂ emissions, thereby contributing to the decarbonisation of industry and the development of regional energy independence.

To become France's leading circular economy company, we had to be involved in all three recovery loops. The material recycling loop is our core area of expertise, a field in which we are among the leaders in Europe. Then there is the production of green energy, in which we have become a go-to player. The third loop is organic recycling, i.e. returning waste to the earth. In this area, we run a pioneering agroforestry eco-farm in Saint-Paul-la-Roche (Dordogne) that has been rewarded by the European Commission. All over Europe, we are building plants that will transform biowaste into natural fertilisers and biogas.

Our growth model is based on the overriding objective of a greener planet, through a fundamental commitment to a more fraternal society. Equal opportunities, diversity and secularism feature among the Group's core values. We are proud of the fact that, working alongside our employees and customers, we have built a bold and innovative industrial group that is blazing a confident trail towards the future. The group operates in France and ten other countries.

AN ECOLOGICAL ADVENTURE

Within 30 years, the small business based in La Courneuve has become an international group and a champion of decarbonisation.

Boasting 18,000 employees, operations in a dozen countries and annual turnover of €3.5 billion, Paprec is now France's leading recycling firm and a major European player in waste management and green energy production. The Group's meteoric growth has been driven by the quest for industrial excellence in pursuit of a single goal: contributing to a greener planet.





“We were the first to realise that waste was going to be the new raw material of the 21st century.”

Producing the raw materials of the 21st century

And what a journey it has been since the beginning! Paprec is the story of a 40-strong Paris-based SME taken over by Jean-Luc Petithuguenin in 1994. Three decades down the line, the company has grown into an internationally renowned group employing over 18,000 people.

At the outset, the company specialised in paper recycling. Since then, it has expanded its sphere of operation to become, first, France’s leading recycling firm and then an expert in the entire waste value chain whose activities span waste collection, household and industrial waste sorting, plastic, metal, building site waste, hazardous product and scrap metal recycling, anaerobic digestion of biowaste and energy recovery.

Industrialising the profession

Paprec has developed its business in two ways: external growth through company takeovers and organic growth through the acquisition of new customers in the areas of waste collection and sorting. Meanwhile, the company’s management created its own materials sales office (FCR) in order to control the chain from end to end.

In this way, Paprec grew into a recycling champion then a major player in waste collection, largely thanks to the arrival of Coved in 2015. In 2018, Paprec started generating energy from waste. Then, in 2021, it created a special division for this purpose, named Paprec Energies. The division is staffed by the employees of CNIM and Tiru, two long-standing flagship French industrial companies boasting their own proprietary technologies.

The Group now operates around 30 plants producing green energy (heat and electricity). We are



currently the foremost European company capable of designing, producing and operating energy recovery plants of all sizes.

Meteoric growth

This epic industrial journey is illustrated by the exponential growth in Paprec’s turnover, from €3 million in 1994 to €3.5 billion in 2024! The workforce has grown accordingly, expanding from around 50 people in 1994 to 8,000 in 2017 and 18,000 in 2025.

The Group’s growth model soon turned the focus towards international expansion. First came Switzerland, where the Group set up operations in 2010 and now operates a total of 28 sites, followed by Spain, where the Group has rapidly expanded, with 3,000 employees in 2025.

€3.5 bn

invested in industrial facilities since 1994

Paprec's development in France and abroad



9.8 million

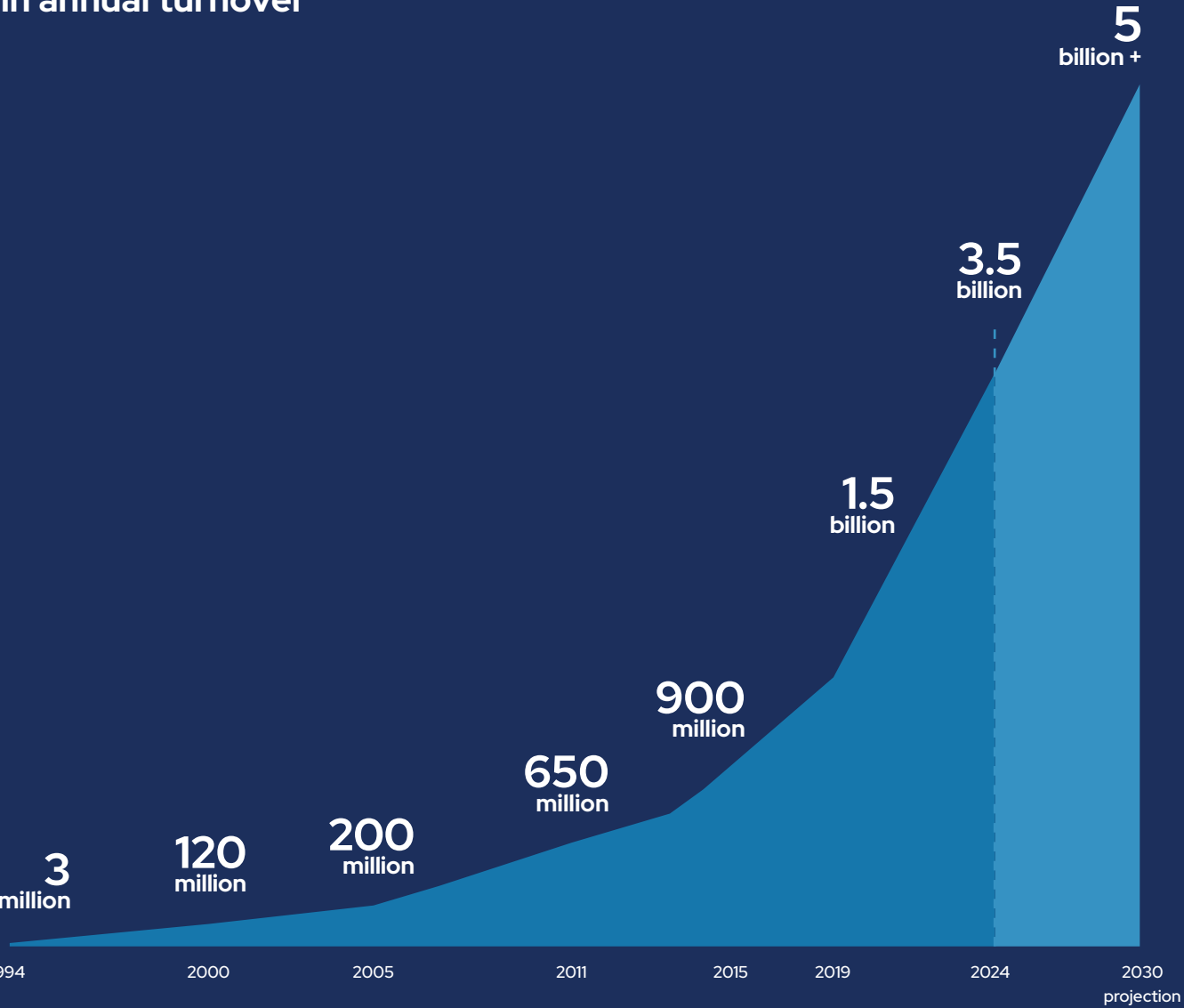
TONNES CO₂ EQUIVALENT AVOIDED

10 countries

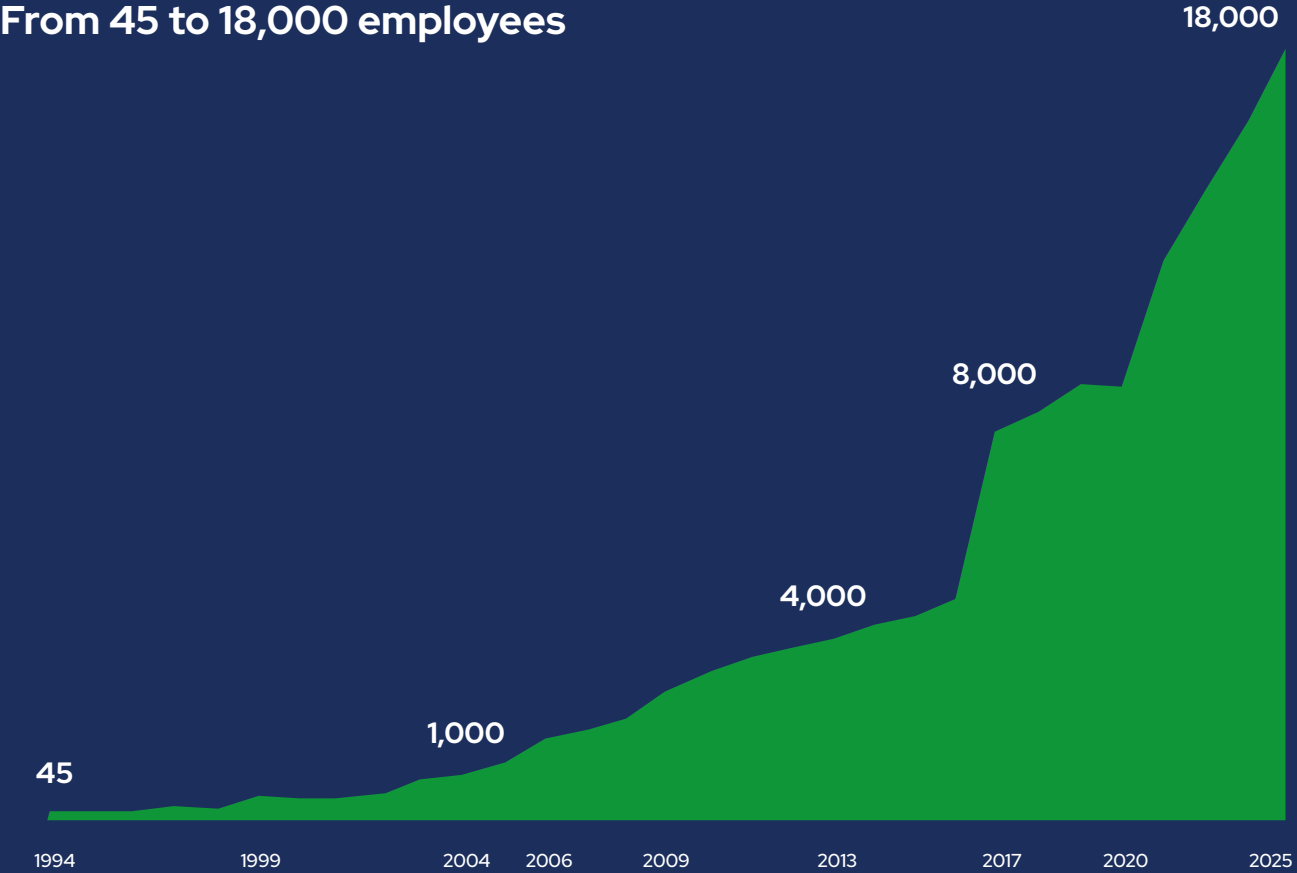
400

BRANCHES AND PLANTS

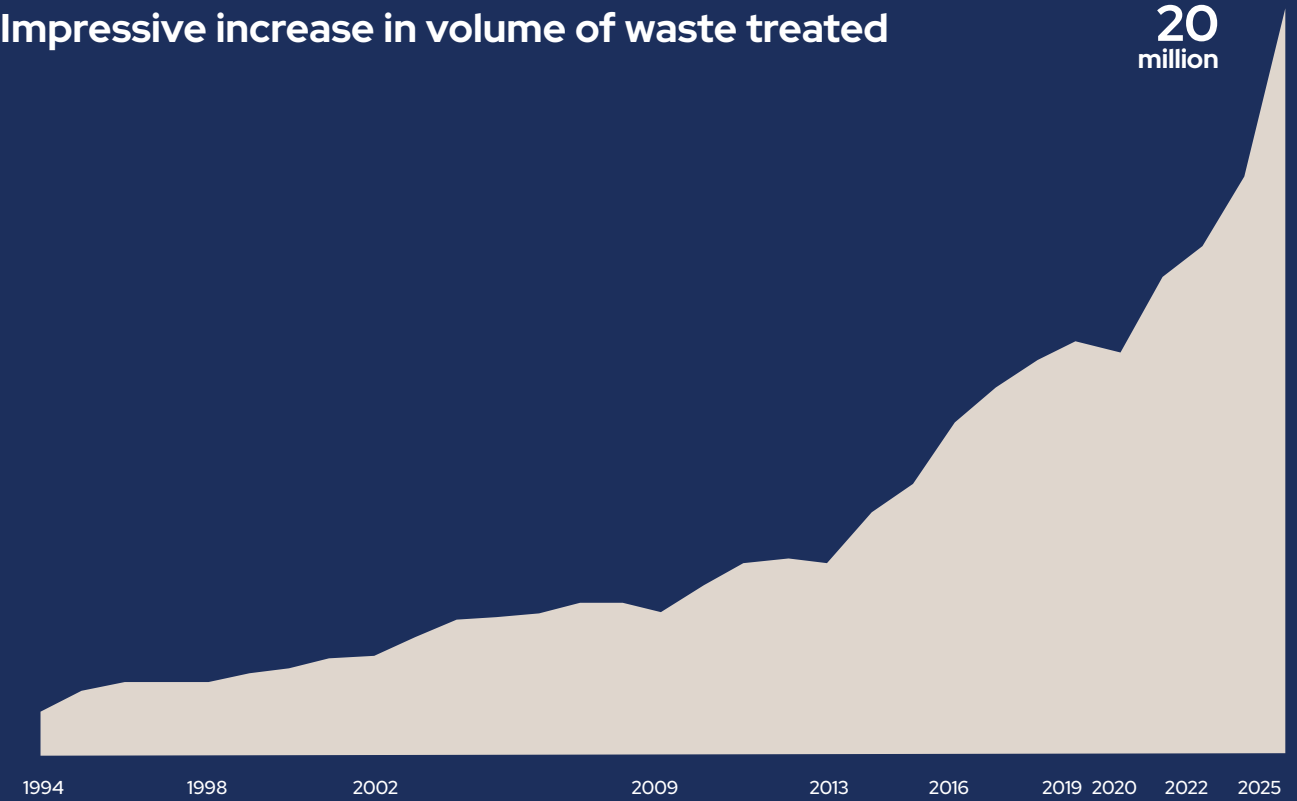
From €3 million to €3.5 billion
in annual turnover



From 45 to 18,000 employees



Impressive increase in volume of waste treated



20 million

TONNES OF WASTE TREATED IN 2025

€3.5 bn

TURNOVER IN 2024

18,000

EMPLOYEES

€3.5 bn

IN INVESTMENT SINCE 1994

AN INDUSTRIAL ADVENTURE

Since its inception in 1994, Paprec has largely contributed to transforming the waste sector into an innovative, high-performance industry working for a greener planet. As the pioneering standard-bearer of France's recycling industry, our Group offers global, innovative solutions tailored to the specific requirements of our customers. Our operations span the entire waste recovery chain.





Pursuing industrial excellence

Since its inception, Paprec has chosen to invest in the best technologies available. Driven by the Group's unflagging commitment, the waste treatment sector has grown from its humble origins into a fully-fledged industry harnessing the very latest in technology. Our Group leverages this transformation to help all its customers – communities and businesses alike – achieve maximum recovery of their waste, thereby contributing towards decarbonising the economy alongside them.

€3.5 billion invested in industrial equipment performance

Paprec has always made investment a central feature of its strategy, reinjecting a significant proportion of turnover into its plants and equipment each year. Within 30 years, we have spent over €3 billion on industrial equipment in order to improve our waste collection, sorting and recovery processes. Thanks to this commitment, Paprec has risen through the ranks to become France's leading recycling company and a major European player in waste recovery.

400

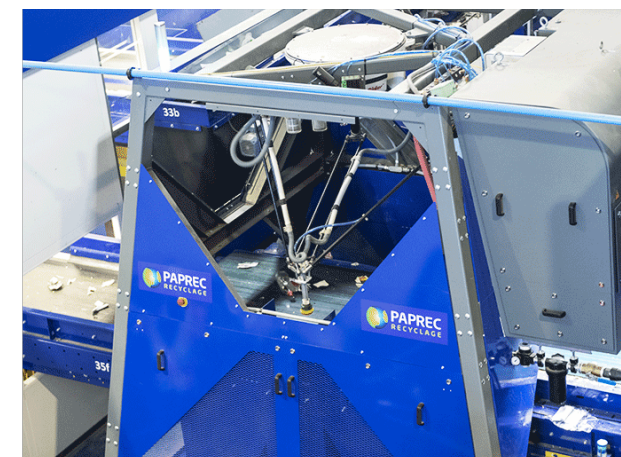
industrial facilities in 10 countries

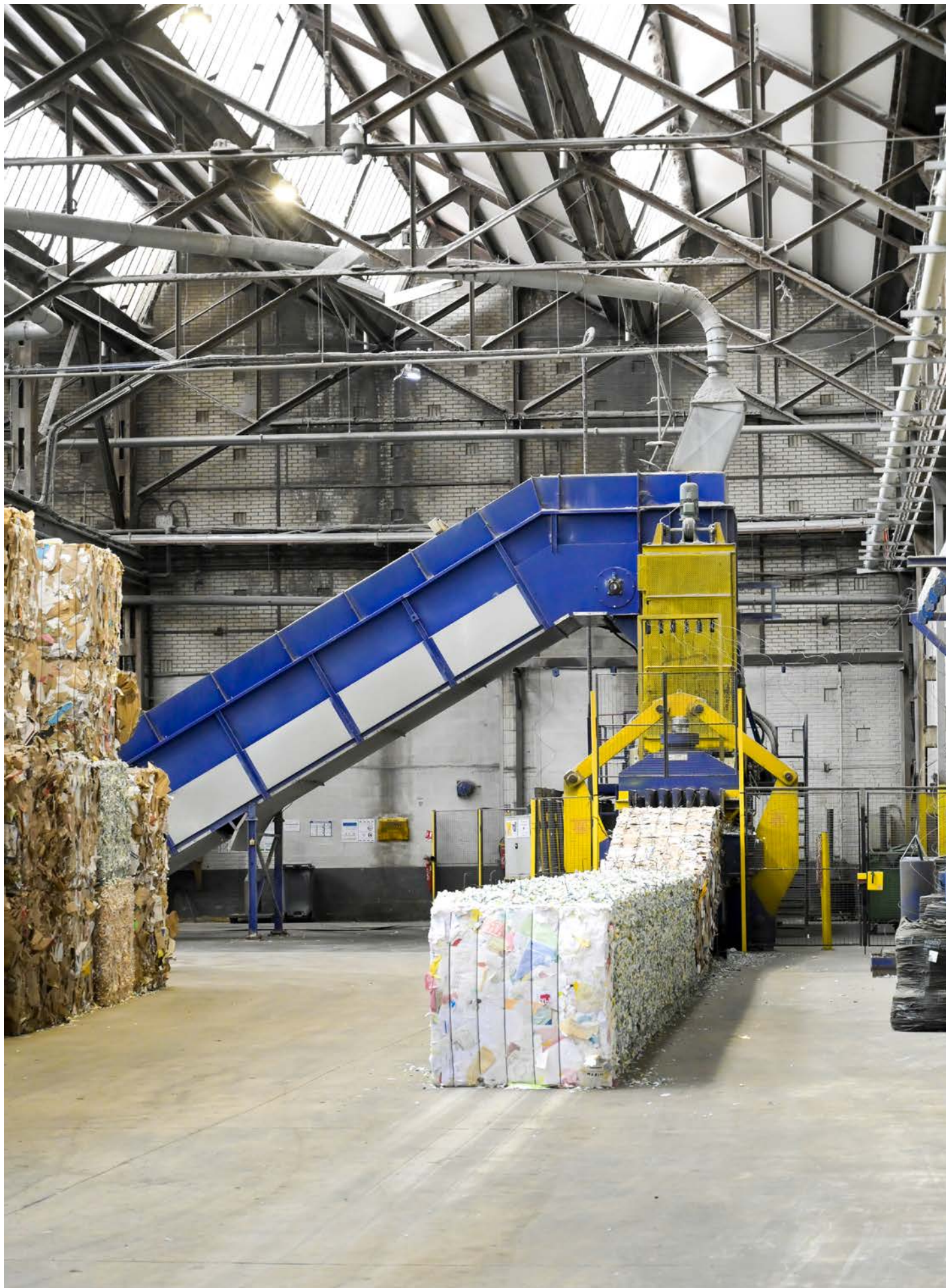
The Group's plants now comply with the most stringent European standards and are certified ISO 9001-Quality, ISO 14001-Environment, ISO 45001-OH&S and ISO 50001-Energy.

Technological solutions for decarbonisation

High-tech equipment has totally transformed the waste industry. The transformation has enhanced performance, increasing our material recovery capabilities in our efforts to decarbonise the economy. From collection and production of recycled materials to sorting and production of green energy, technological innovations are everywhere!

We aim to continuously improve recycling and recovery rates in order to continue increasing the value of the waste entrusted to our services. Today we approach our customer relations, not as a mere service provider, but as a genuine partner working alongside the customer to help decarbonise the economy. Our efforts are underpinned by a key commitment: to improve the performance of our processes – from collection through sorting to material processing – in order to deliver ever higher recovery rates and quality materials destined for the best possible second life, while ensuring cost control and regulatory compliance for our customers.





Paprec, the leader in material recycling

Having initially specialised in **waste paper**, Paprec has established itself as France's leading material recycling firm. Paper processing laid the foundations for our know-how, subsequently reinforced by Paprec Techniques, our division specialising in automated continuous waste collection. This custom equipment developed in-house allows manufacturers to manage waste without interrupting production.

Building on its core business as a paper recycler processing 2.5 million tonnes of paper each year, the Group has extended its sphere of operation to include other strategic materials. Processing 300,000 tonnes per year in 12 specialised plants, Paprec is the leading French **plastic** recycler offering plastics manufacturers high-quality recycled materials. Our processes involve closed-loop recycling of PET, PVC, plastic film and HDPE.

In the **metals** market, Paprec Métal has doubled its turnover in three years through targeted acquisitions and new contracts. In 2023, the Group launched a **deconstruction** division that specialises in dismantling complex assemblies such as trains, submarines and aircraft.

Paprec is also a leading player in the treatment of **waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)**. Through 10 plants meeting the highest standards and around 30 specialised units, the Group processes over one million tonnes of WEEE per year, rising to the rank of number two in France.

All of Paprec's operations across all of its divisions involve transforming waste into new resources. The quality of our recycled raw materials is recognised in 65 countries.

65 countries

endorse our raw materials



Paprec, the leader in selective collection sorting

Paprec has made a key contribution to modernising France's waste sorting industry. Our plants now comply with the highest standards on the market. Harnessing cutting-edge AI-powered technology, we constantly strive to achieve greater precision in our waste sorting processes. As such, we are constantly working on improving our recycling rates across an ever-expanding range of materials. The 40-odd sorting centres we operate feature sorting robots able to separate the materials delivered from selective collection more finely, guaranteeing both speed and efficiency.

1 in 3 French households

benefit from Paprec's expertise

Paprec, a champion of innovative carbon-free collection

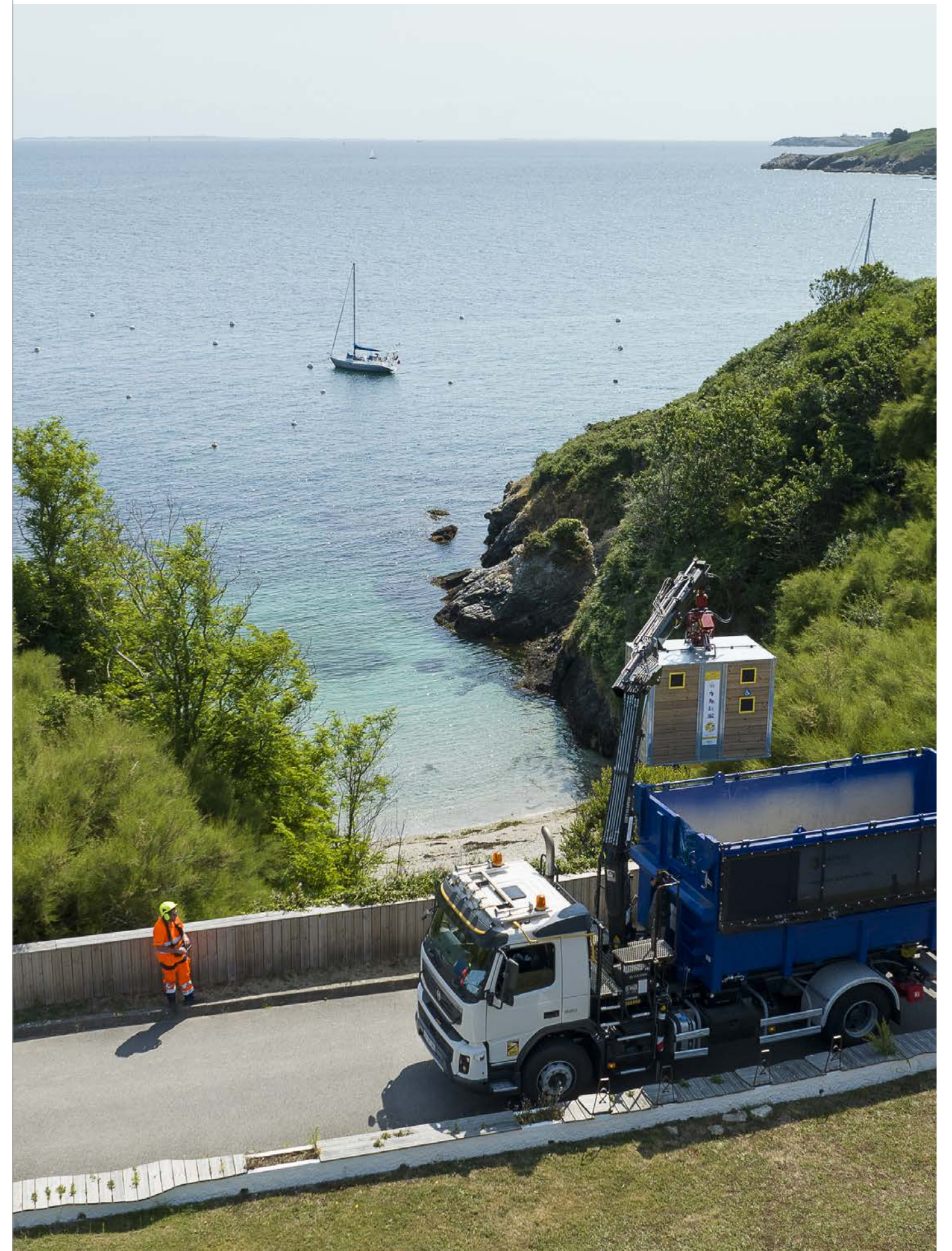
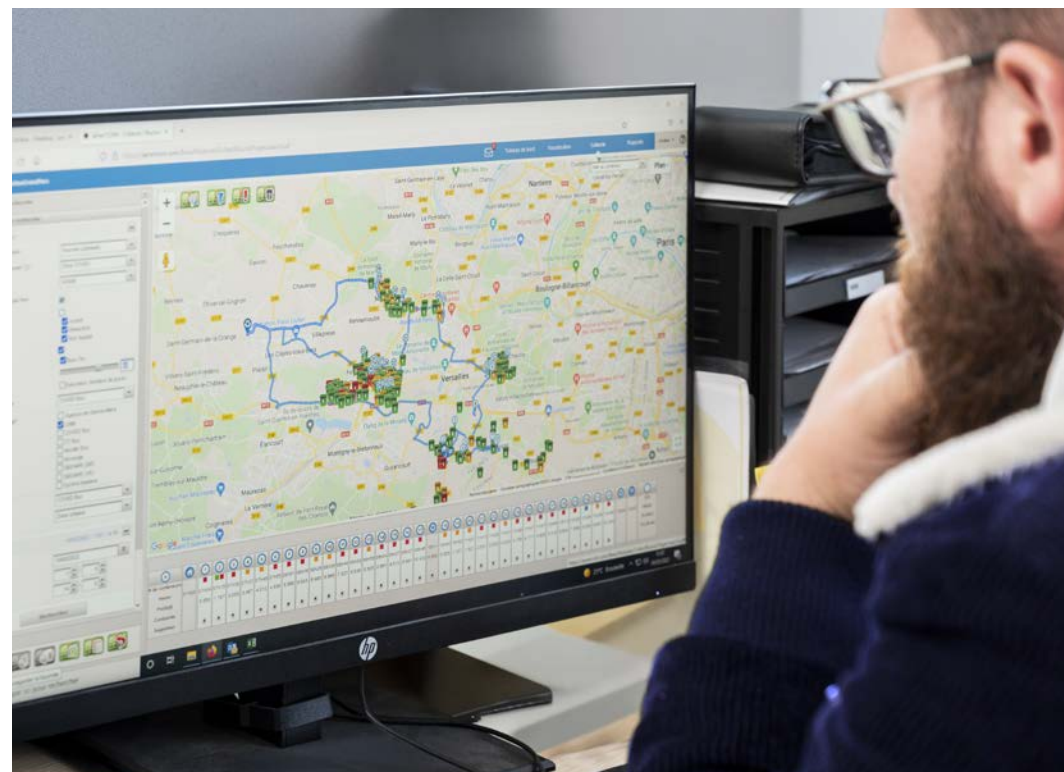
As France's leading recycling firm, Paprec sorts the yellow recycling bins for a third of the French population. The Group is also the leader in incentive-based pricing schemes, helping many local authorities to implement this tax option designed to optimise waste sorting practices.

Optimised service

Household waste collection has moved into the digital age. Our innovative "Nodus" range of solutions offers customers efficient and quality services, including a geolocation system for real-time tracking of waste collection rounds, an AI-powered sensor at

the back of the truck (or on the hopper) capable of detecting sorting errors and an on-board camera, as well as collection bins fitted with the RFID chips required for the incentive-based pricing scheme. Technology is also used to improve safety, for example trucks fitted with reversing cameras, blind spot monitors, robotic side-loaders, and so on.

Our local authority customers are increasingly adopting carbon-free fleet solutions, including electric and hybrid trucks and vehicles running on alternative fuels such as municipal natural gas and vegetable oils, thereby reducing both CO₂ emissions and noise pollution.



Returning waste to the earth

All types of organic waste, including green waste, food waste and organic waste of agricultural or industrial origin, can be collected and transformed into green gas or organic soil improvers used by farmers. This “return to the earth” avoids the use of chemical inputs.

For example, since 2010 Paprec has been developing organic soil improvers at the Capik anaerobic digestion plant in Fresnoy-Folny (North France), the first plant in France to produce a standard-compliant organic fertiliser from biowaste.

Award-winning compost

Ten years ago, we pioneered another project with Paprec Agro in the Dordogne region. The eco-farm was rewarded by the European Commission for its experimental work on agroforestry and market gardening using our standard-compliant composts.

Working with its specialist in-house engineers, Paprec can design, build and manage anaerobic digestion plants. For example, we are building a new anaerobic digestion plant in Geneva. In the Paris suburb of Gennevilliers, Paprec is building and will operate a plant for recycling locally generated biowaste into green gas and fertilisers. Due to start operating this year, the facility will be the largest of its kind in France.



“Our technologies allow biowaste to be returned to the earth in the form of organic fertilisers.”



Energy recovery driving regional independence

Energy recovery involves transforming non-recyclable waste into green energy. The heat and/or electricity produced from this waste is fed back into the grid in order to supply the entire local ecosystem, including households, public utilities (district heating systems, public swimming pools, hospitals, etc.) and manufacturers and businesses of all kinds.

Furthermore, in keeping with our efforts to continuously improve recovery rates, we have developed a refuse-derived fuel (RDF) process that transforms non-recyclable waste into a high calorific value solid waste fuel that can replace the coal used by manufacturers and district heating providers in their processes.

Bespoke solutions

These solutions are an alternative to landfill that can also help regions become more energy self-sufficient. We leverage our expertise and technological patents to offer turnkey bespoke solutions to our customers. Paprec is currently the leading European company able to design, build and operate energy recovery plants of all sizes.

443 GWh
of electricity generated per year



Forward-looking storage centres

A solution is needed for waste that is unsuitable for recycling or recovery. For this reason, Paprec has developed a business in the management of non-hazardous waste storage facilities. At the highest environmental level, these facilities are now intended to become genuine “eco-hubs” hosting biowaste depackaging, anaerobic digestion and RDF production units. Indeed, sorting rejects emanating from recycling operations, which were previously sent to landfill, can now replace fossil fuels in industrial processes or for district heating. The Group currently operates a dozen such plants in France.

100 million m³

of waste converted into biogas



140,000 MWh

of electricity generated, i.e. the annual consumption of a city with 150,000 residents

A HUMAN ADVENTURE

Resolutely humanistic, Paprec's management is family-oriented and deeply committed. Its values encompass respect for secularism, diversity and equal opportunities. Its motto is: "For a greener planet and a more fraternal society."



Building a more fraternal society

Fraternity is a fundamental part of Paprec's DNA. For 30 years, our Group has striven to promote diversity, equal opportunities and secularism and eliminate all forms of discrimination. The Group is also an active contributor to the social economy.

Diversity

We respect people in all their diversity, including their views, origin, culture, religious beliefs, educational background and age. We fight against all forms of discrimination and support equal opportunities. We hire an extremely diverse range of profiles in terms of age, gender, education, origin, etc.

Excellence

Another strong value is excellence. Whatever their position, every employee is committed to doing their very best to optimise the processes of collecting, recycling and recovering the waste generated by our industrial and local authority customers. Through our engagement and professionalism, each one of us contributes to customer satisfaction.

Friendliness

Friendliness plays a vital role in the Group's collective performance.

Team spirit

Team spirit and solidarity are essential values for our success.

"The backbone of the company is the men and women who make it work. The diversity of profiles is a source of enrichment and strength that contributes to our success."



Rewarding excellence



As a group committed to excellence and team spirit, each year we reward our most deserving employees in around 30 professional categories. The virtues of the candidates chosen for their commitment, involvement and human qualities are extolled by their line managers during a meeting involving all branch, subsidiary and regional managers, who then present the awards to the winners at our annual convention with 2,000 Group executives.





Paprec, a committed group

Since its inception, Paprec has contributed to social progress in many different ways, by supporting environmental protection organisations, helping to combat insecurity, promoting social inclusion and medical research, as well as through artistic patronage.

Helping the most vulnerable people

The Group sponsors a number of charitable organisations that help vulnerable people and those in difficulty:

> **Ma chance Moi Aussi** supports vulnerable children in disadvantaged neighbourhoods;

> **ASMAE-Sœur Emmanuelle** runs a project in the Philippines preparing children with disabilities to start school;

> **AMALV Paris Île-de-France** supports people in the final stages of their life, together with their families;

> **Aide au Vietnam et à l'Enfance** is a charity that helps underprivileged children in Vietnam. Paprec also supports local initiatives such as the Grimsby community recycling centre in the United Kingdom. The facility was recognised as the best

recycling site in 2021 due to the commitment of its employees in running the site and organising charity fundraisers.

Support for medical research

Paprec supports cutting-edge French medical research, including the work of the Paris Brain Institute and the Gustave Roussy cancer research hospital.

Promoting French culture

Artistic and cultural patronage is a major commitment for Paprec in keeping with the Group's history and values, involving support for both national and local projects.

Paprec and the Paris Opera share the same values of excellence, rigour and self-improvement. Both organisations are showcases of French expertise and excellence. Since 2007 and the production of the ballet "La fille mal gardée", Paprec has supported the opera house's activities through the AROP community of opera and ballet enthusiasts. The Group has been the main sponsor of the Paris Opera Ballet since 2010.

Since 2018, Paprec has also provided skills-based sponsorship to the opera house by helping it manage the waste generated by its activities, thereby demonstrating its commitment to helping cultural institutions achieve their ecological transition.

The Group also encourages and promotes artists and performers through a range of initiatives to back artistic endeavours, implemented directly by the company (purchase of works of art, production subsidies, residencies, etc.) or by third parties to whom the Group provides financial, in-kind or skills-based support.

In 2022, Paprec created an exhibition area on the ground floor of its Paris headquarters on Boulevard Haussman: a human-scale space intended to present works from the collection or thematic exhibitions associating the world of industrial work with art and the creative imagination with a view to fostering sharing and cohesion between employees.



Competitive spirit

Paprec is heavily involved in the world of sport in general and competition sailing in particular. The Group shares the values of excellence, effort and teamwork with the sailing community.

Boasting eight major IMOCA series wins and six Vendée Globe entries, the Paprec Group has been one of the major sponsors of sailing for 20 years. Since 2021, the company has continued its adventure with skipper Yoann Richomme, who came second in the 2024-2025 Vendée Globe. The Group has committed to working alongside Yoann for the 2028 edition of this "Everest of the Seas".

The Group has also been involved in amateur competitions for the last 25 years. The Group currently races on the TP52 Super Series circuit and the Paprec Saint-Tropez 600.

Paprec is also a title sponsor of the Solitaire du Figaro Paprec and the Transat Paprec race from Concarneau in Brittany to the Caribbean island of Saint-Barthélemy. There will be a major first in this ocean race, which will feature compulsory mixed pairs.

80 clubs supported

Paprec has also made a specific commitment to rugby by becoming a major partner of ASM Clermont Auvergne. The Group also partners around 20 clubs in France as well as Servette Rugby Club in Geneva.

For nearly 25 years, Paprec has supported Flash de La Courneuve, the most successful American football team in France and 2021 world champions. All in all, over 80 teams, both amateur and professional, wear Paprec's colours.





Photos: Paprec Communications Department
@polaRYSE - Eloi Stichelbaut

James Bort /ASM Rugby - Vincent Duvivier/Loïc Baratoux/P.-E. Rastoin

Editorial team: Paprec Communications Department

Design and production: Allégories Créations - allegoriescreations.com
September 2025

