

the Paprec Group magazine for a greener planet

# paprec mag

no. 48

July 2022

## FEATURE

Enough with  
the Recycling-  
Bashing!

## REPORT

50% More  
Capacity for  
France Plastiques  
Recyclage

## SPONSORSHIP

Yoann Richomme,  
Paprec Arkéa's  
New Skipper

## STRATEGY

# Paprec, a Master of Major Projects



PAPREC





**Paprec IDF Nord La Courneuve**  
Our longstanding site operates the most impressive and modern baling press on the market. This behemoth built by Jovisa offers a capacity of 220 tonnes.



**STÉPHANE LETERRIER,**  
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER,  
PAPREC GROUP  
AND GENERAL MANAGER, COVED  
AND PAPREC ENERGIES

“Recycling and energy recovery have excellent benefits for France’s independence.”

## “A Client Focus”

The fact that we have been awarded the public service concession contract from the Cergy-Pontoise conurbation authority for 15 years is highly symbolic of the group’s ability to adapt to client needs and offer them tailored solutions.

The excellence of our services is recognised by our clients, local authorities and companies in France and abroad, when it comes to running very large waste-to-energy facilities or very large centres dealing with multiple waste streams. They recognise our responsiveness, our flexibility and our determination never to stop going further with the recycling or energy recovery of the waste they need to manage.

For each contract, we put together multidisciplinary teams which include the top experts in their fields. As Jean-Pierre Denis, our new Vice President, points out, this gives us a complete understanding of local considerations and allows us to offer clients the most appropriate solutions for each link in the waste management chain.

Recycling and energy recovery are vital components in the fight against climate chaos. Together, we can meet this century’s environmental challenges and help to reduce our carbon footprint and the impact of industry on natural resources.

We hope you enjoy reading this latest issue.

**paprec**  
mag no. 46

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## top stories

YOU SHOULD KNOW  
ABOUT THIS QUARTER

### INNOVATION

## Paprec Shifts to Solar Energy!



**Sébastien Petithuguenin**, General Manager of Paprec, and **Nicolas Roux**, Director of Purchasing, at the announcement of the contract signed with Voltaia in December 2021.

Paprec continues to be at the forefront of initiatives to speed up the energy transition and has made the decision to shift to renewable sources of energy for 10% of its annual energy needs.

To reach this objective, the group has teamed up with nine industrial companies (including our partners Gerflor and LSDH) to secure a long-term supply contract with renewable energy producer Voltaia. The project developed by the energy supplier in partnership with the bank LCL provides for a fixed price for the next twenty years, with the guarantee that the electricity will be produced in France. The electricity will be produced by the new solar power plant that Voltaia is going to build in south-west France, which will have a capacity of 56MWh. *"This innovative project is in line with our group's objectives and priorities,"* explained Sébastien Petithuguenin, General Manager. *"Limiting the use of fossil fuels and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by supplying raw materials produced from recycling is in our DNA. We also love tracking pioneering projects for decarbonising the economy, and this is a perfect example of one!"*

### BRAND

## New Visual Identity for Paprec



In 2021, France's leading recycling group took on a new dimension: it formed a division dedicated to waste to energy, called ePaprec Energies. This has resulted in the acquisition of new companies, taking the group's total number of employees to 12,500. Over the past few months, its international expansion has sped up, with plants now operating in eight countries. As for its annual turnover, it is now 2 billion euros.

New heights, new identity! To go with these developments, our logo, already familiar to many, has been modernised. The woman and child are still recognisable, but you can also see continents, to represent the international expansion. This new identity will be applied to all brands and business lines.

### WTE IMPROVEMENT

## A Series of Modernisation Projects at Paprec Energies Sites

Controlling environmental impact is a sizeable challenge for companies and local authorities. Public policies are setting increasingly ambitious targets in this area. This is the case, for example, of the EU's Industrial Emissions Directive (IED). It aims to save resources and reduce pollution from industrial sources and will apply to existing installations from 3 December 2023.

For this reason, a series of projects has been taking place over the last two years at the Paprec Energies WtE (waste to energy) units. This includes, for example, the renovation work carried out at Villefranche-sur-Saône to improve the energy and environmental performance of the plant. Major modernisation work was also carried out at the SYCTOM waste-to-energy centre in Gien, which is now equipped with a state-of-the-art oscillating kiln. It is not just in mainland France that it is taking place; in Saint Barts, the new line will be completed in early 2022. It will increase the site's capacity by 50%. The total cost of the improvement works was 66 million euros.



Since the start of the year, the Saint Barts waste-to-energy unit has been benefiting from a new furnace, which has enabled it to increase processing capacity by 50%.

### INTERNATIONAL

## Paprec Goes Spanish

Paprec is making strides towards getting set up in Spain! As of the end of November, the group now owns a site right in Madrid city centre. *"We are currently fitting out the two floors of the building that we will be using,"* said Alicia Gil, Paprec's Project Manager for the launch in Spain. As for the team, it will be formed gradually, around Mathieu Petithuguenin, Deputy General Manager. To establish roots for Grupo Paprec across Spain, three offices have been opened across the country with regional General Managers heading them up: in Bilbao, Valencia and Huelva for the southern zone. They are all already hard at work responding to calls for tenders for waste collection and cleaning. They are also working on acquisition opportunities.

In Madrid two Project Leaders are handling the set-up of Grupo Paprec's activity in Spain and its structuring. They have recently recruited several engineers to the design office to design and write our tenders. A specialist in public procurement law and environmental law will also support the team.

By the start of the summer, there should be a total of twenty or so employees across the whole of the Spanish team.



### DEVELOPMENT

## 2021, a Great Year for Paprec Switzerland!

The Lottner group, now Paprec Switzerland, has been firmly rooted in north-west Switzerland for many years. Thanks to its growth in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and company takeovers in the last few years, Paprec Switzerland is made up of nine companies in all. Alongside Lottner S.A. in Basel-City, Paprec Switzerland incorporates eight other enterprises specialising in recycling and confidential data destruction, in Basel, Lucerne, Zurich, Aargau, and Geneva.

The Lottner group, which celebrated its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2021, can be proud to have had an excellent year in 2021, with for example the contract it won with the government of the canton of Basel-City for 10,000 tonnes of paper and cardboard per year. *"I am happy to see how the original Lottner enterprise, based in Basel, has transformed from a vendor of recycled materials (metals, paper, cardboard and clothing) into an innovative business present throughout the country. Its efforts have made the group the leader in recycling in north-west Switzerland. We are also the country's leading provider of confidential document shredding and digital media destruction,"* said Christophe Gence, Managing Director of Paprec Switzerland.





## top stories

YOU SHOULD KNOW  
ABOUT THIS QUARTER

# Paprec, France's Leading Recycler

### KEY FIGURES

**16 million**  
tonnes of waste  
collected  
and treated

**2.2 billion**  
euro  
turnover  
in 2021

**12,500**  
employees

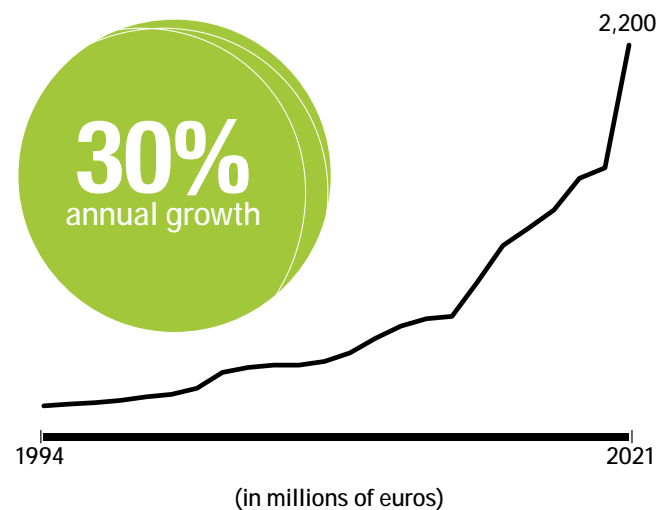
**280**  
industrial  
sites

The group sells recycled  
materials in  
**65**  
countries and has plants  
in 8 countries

**2.5 billion**  
euros  
invested  
in our plants

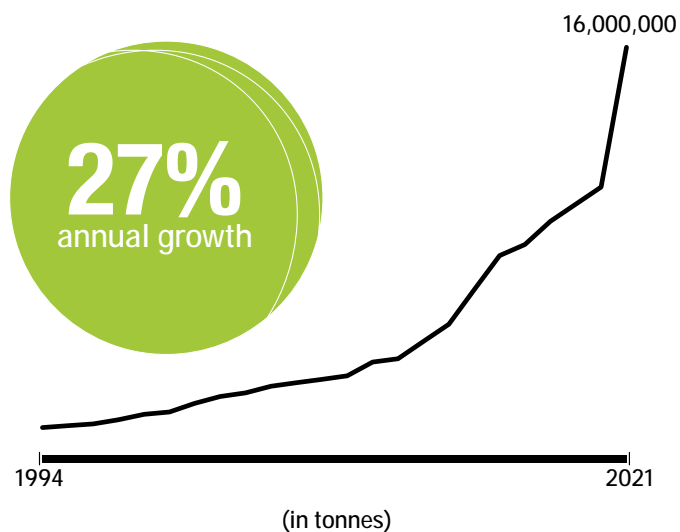
### TURNOVER

**30%**  
annual growth



### VOLUME OF WASTE TREATED

**27%**  
annual growth



## Paprec recycles and recovers all major types of waste

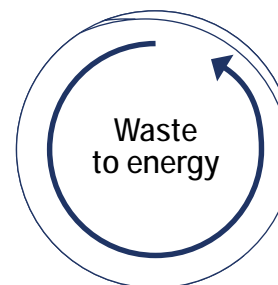
**8 million**  
tonnes

- Paper
- Cardboard
- Plastic
- Ferrous metals
- Other metals
- Wood



**4 million**  
tonnes

- Non-hazardous industrial waste
- Bulky waste
- Pre-sorted recyclable waste
- WEEE
- Construction waste
- Scrapped vehicles



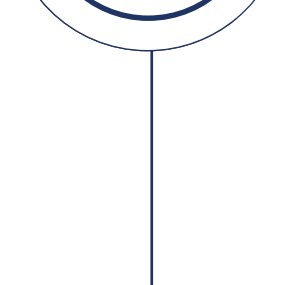
**2 million**  
tonnes

- Waste to energy
- SRF
- Anaerobic digestion



**2 million**  
tonnes

- Composting
- Garden waste
- Soil enrichment
- Landfill for hazardous waste
- Anaerobic digestion
- Methane capture
- Landfill for non-hazardous waste



hear it  
first-hand

JEAN-PIERRE DENIS,  
VICE PRESIDENT OF PAPREC

# “Paprec is Addressing the Environmental Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.”

Having been a finance inspector, Deputy General Secretary of the Presidency of the French Republic and CEO of Dalkia, Jean-Pierre Denis has invaluable financial and political experience. A longstanding director of Paprec, the former chairman of Crédit Mutuel Arkéa joined the French recycling leader as Vice President in 2021.

## SHORT BIO

Jean-Pierre is Breton, a finance inspector by trade, and served as deputy director of Jacques Chirac's cabinet then as Deputy General Secretary of the Presidency.

A graduate of HEC business school, Jean-Pierre brings extensive business acumen spanning industrial and financial sectors.

Following a post of advisor to the Chair of the Compagnie Générale des Eaux group on external growth operations, he then went on to chair Dalkia and joined the board of Vivendi Environnement, which later became Veolia.

In 2003, he was elected Chairman of the Executive Board of the Bank for the Development of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (BDPME). Appointed to lead the national agency for supporting research (ANVAR), he assisted in creating then chaired Oséo, the public body for financing innovative SMEs and precursor of the current public investment body BPI.

In 2007, Jean-Pierre Denis became Executive Vice President of Arkéa, before becoming its chair in 2008, remaining until May 2021.

**Jean-Pierre, you joined Paprec as Vice President last October. You have been one of our financial and strategic partners for two decades. What is your view on the group today?**

**Jean-Pierre Denis:** Behind the creation of the company in 1994 was the incredible hunch Jean-Luc Petithuguenin had: that waste was going to become the raw material of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It was completely visionary at the time. Less than thirty years later, the group is offering its clients - businesses and local authorities - the best possible treatment and recovery solutions. The raw materials from recycling sold by the group help to limit the consumption of natural resources and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. ...



... With the creation of Paprec Energies, barely six months ago, the group is already establishing itself as an important producer of green energy, at a time when the pressure on fossil fuels is making it vital to diversify the energy mix. Finally, Paprec is a technological leader in organic recycling and returning waste to the earth and is set to play a crucial role in the recovery of bio-waste, which is shaping up to be an important issue for the future.

**In continuing to pursue its environmental purpose, Paprec has been able to ensure excellent growth. What do you think are the main factors behind this success?**

**J.-P. D.:** Paprec's development has been due in equal parts to internal growth and acquisitions. The ability to integrate companies and welcome site teams to its ranks is one of its great strengths. The group does not merely add in new skills alongside existing ones and assimilate the new arrivals. It absorbs their strengths, specificities and history and improves itself in the process. That is how the group has been able to expand its areas of expertise and become a success in all the sectors it covers. And it is clear that the company still has great potential for development; with a very solid financial foundation, a diverse business model and talented staff, Paprec is now establishing itself as the natural leader in the consolidation of the industry in France. In Europe, it already has a significant presence in fast-growing markets such as waste to energy and SRF production. Paprec intends

to be one of the top companies at a European scale and one of the most innovative players in these areas.

**We talk about major projects in this edition, like managing the household waste of the 200,000 inhabitants of the conurbation of Cergy-Pontoise. What was unusual about the way it was organised?**

**J.-P. D.:** This contract is symbolic of what Paprec is today: a 'multi-specialist' in waste management. It is able to provide its clients with the most high-performing and advanced solutions. The group also knows how to combine its expertise in different areas in an agile way, by creating a multidisciplinary team for each project. A team which contains specialists both in the sector in question and in support functions. It's a way of organising things focused on achieving maximum efficiency, quite different from what can be observed in certain large groups with vertical organisational structures and limited interactions between different teams.

**You often say that the family aspect of the company makes its relationships with partners and clients quite unique. Can you tell us why that is?**

**J.-P. D.:** While it has experienced exceptional growth, Paprec has also managed to remain a true family business, with a very strong identity. It's quite unique in France in that respect! The family is not limited to controlling the group through their shares; they set its strategic direction

and handle operational management through Jean-Luc and his sons. That gives the whole company some huge advantages, for example a sense of time that you don't find in the majority of large companies. Jean-Luc created the company to pass it on to his children and grandchildren, and all of the stakeholders - employees, clients, partners and shareholders - know that. The family are greatly respected within the company and play a unifying role for the staff. They embody values and principles that inspire at every level of the group: personal engagement, a sense of commitment, attention to detail, the love of a job well done, responsiveness to the expectations of clients both big and small, a local perspective and dedication to your region.

**You have been a strategic and financial partner to the group. How are its relationships with its investors and financial partners unusual?**

**J.-P. D.:** Here again, it is fundamental for the group to take a very long-term outlook. This requires investors that are in it for the long haul, true partners that they can count on, even at difficult times. Paprec directly associates its shareholders and funders with the value creation that results from the regular improvement of its operational performance. The funds raised, through equity and debt financing, guarantee the group an excellent cash reserve that enables them to continue their growth, develop their plants and invest in new technological solutions. Paprec has played a large part in transforming the waste



**"While it has experienced exceptional growth, Paprec has also managed to remain a true family business, with a very strong identity."**

treatment sector into a high-tech industry, firmly rooted in its time - with more respect for natural resources and less carbon emissions. Paprec's financial partners have completely understood this and place great importance on it.

**What kind of Vice President do you want to be for this group?**

**J.-P. D.:** I'm lucky enough to have known Jean-Luc for around twenty years and to have been following the development of his group as a director and a financial partner. Coming from this perspective, I saw my appointment as a kind of continuation. I have always been convinced that France has fantastic companies, and not just its large groups, and I've had the privilege of joining one of the very best. I am deeply happy about it. As for my role within the management team, it will take shape naturally and be worked out over time, with respect for the current set-up and management staff. My goal is not to occupy a specific place in the hierarchy but to be useful to the development of the Paprec group in a period of fast growth. I am entering this new stage in my career with humility. Every day I see a little more of the group's potential, as I now see things closer up and work with talented people who are a pleasure to be around. That's no doubt why I feel more than ever like a travelling companion on the Paprec group's journey. I am proud to do my bit for the development of this wonderful company which will continue to impress - I am sure of it. •

# Paprec, a Master of Major Projects

Now regularly involved in large cross-disciplinary projects combining different types of waste treatment on multi-purpose sites, Paprec relies on a carefully thought-out organisational structure and teams as enthusiastic as they are competent to offer clients services that address the environmental challenges of this century. Read on to find out more.

**A** major project is something like a football team. It's not enough just to have the best players in the world. They also need to be able to play together." In just a few words, Stéphane Leterrier said it all, or almost. Paprec's Assistant General Manager knows how vital a synergy between different talents is when designing, building and operating sites combining multiple

areas of expertise and processes. As was the case with SYPROVAL, waste management association Syndicat des Portes de Provence's centre for waste-to-material and waste-to-energy recovery (through the production of solid recovered fuel) of waste that previously went to landfill. Taking waste recovery ever further is the idea that drives this French waste management specialist.

*"Each project is unique. The key, therefore, is to succeed, every time, in opening up dialogue between people and departments who don't usually interact, and to unite them around a common goal: giving the client a tailored offering that addresses this century's environmental challenges, and providing the best possible recovery of their waste,"* said Design Engineer Audrey Veyssiere-Pomot, who

**"Everyone plays  
their individual  
parts with skill and  
rigour to form  
a successful whole!"**

supervised the development of the proposal for the renovation and operation of the Cergy-Pontoise multi-purpose site for the CACP (the Cergy-Pontoise conurbation authority), in the Val-d'Oise region. This plant includes a WtE (waste-to-energy) unit, a sorting centre for recyclable waste, a sorting unit for bulky waste and non-hazardous industrial waste, a composting platform and five civic amenity

sites. Altogether, this should make it possible to recover 220,000 tonnes of waste each year. Every one of these major projects is unique and Paprec's solutions are customised. But the method used is the same for all of these projects: at the initial call for tenders phase, it forms a special unit dedicated to designing a solution adapted to the needs of Paprec's future partners. ...





The future Syproval site  
in Drôme.

...

#### From design...

*“The main starting point now is the Major Projects design office,” explained Stéphane Leterrier, the group’s Assistant General Manager responsible for public contracts and major projects and director of the Paprec Energies division. Created several years ago to meet the requirements of these projects at a new scale, the office first of all names the project manager who will be “the focal point of the project. They are in charge of the proposal. It’s around them that everything is centred and that a specially-chosen team is assembled.”*

Among the members of these teams are multiple specialists with different backgrounds: *“For Cergy, we had four engineers from Paprec Energies, Paprec Agro, the private contract design office and the public contract design*

*office,”* said Audrey Veyssiere-Pomot. Everyone works on their own part of the project, whether that’s sorting, waste to energy or organic recycling, designing solutions with the client in mind, calculating costs and drawing up their recommendation. All under the umbrella of the Major Projects design office, which coordinates and amalgamates these proposals. These multiple sources of advanced technical expertise collaborate just as closely with the group’s support functions, such as the QSE, Legal and Insurance department, Human Resources, the Fire Safety division and, of course, the Financial Department for the financial aspects of tenders. Thus, many different people - sometimes in association with external partners - contribute to ensuring the coherence and feasibility of the project. Not forgetting, of course, *“the whole client-facing side,”* as Stéphane Leterrier told us. *“We have to listen to the client to understand their needs - that’s central to our service.”* And put together, within the time they have allowed, a proposal aligned with their environmental goals. Or even one that goes beyond their initial goals; the group will always propose the best technology available to push recovery potential to the maximum, which means that Paprec’s team sometimes offer their clients proposals that go beyond their requirements.

This makes each proposal a team race against time. A trial of speed and endurance at the same time, in which the group triumphs *“with a positive attitude. Another strength of Paprec’s employees is their drive to win,”* said Stéphane Leterrier. But, once the contract has been won, it’s time to execute it. A new chapter begins.

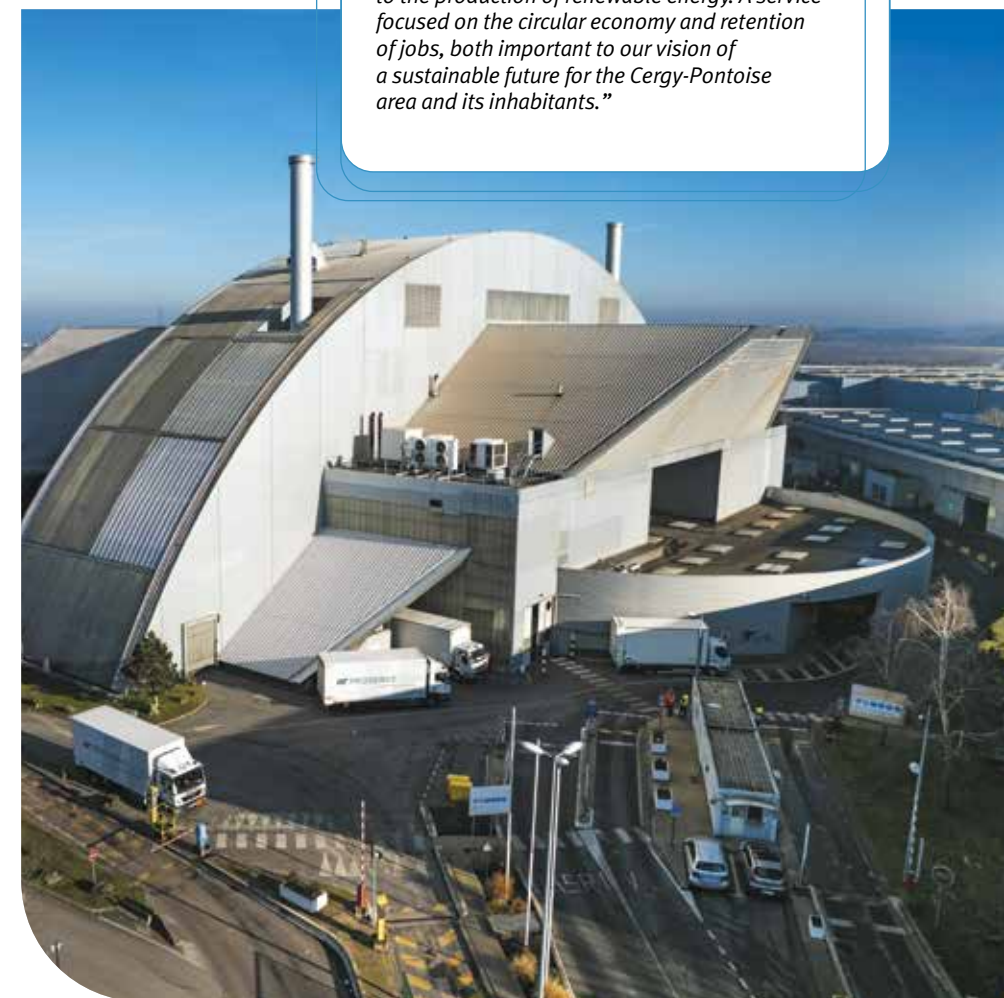
...



**JEAN-PAUL JEANDON,**  
CHAIR OF THE CERGY-PONTOISE  
CONURBATION AUTHORITY

*“We are happy that Paprec is taking on the environmental challenge of waste treatment and recovery with us. This new contract should enable us to develop a more eco-friendly public service and one that performs better with regard to the production of renewable energy. A service focused on the circular economy and retention of jobs, both important to our vision of a sustainable future for the Cergy-Pontoise area and its inhabitants.”*

**Aerial view of the  
Cergy-Pontoise site,**  
for which Paprec’s  
contract began on  
1 February 2022.



### Cergy-Pontoise: the Main Legs in a Marathon

- **Early 2020**  
specifications for the tender process launched by the CACP received
- **October 2020**  
submission of the initial proposal
- **January to June 2021**  
phase of negotiations with the CACP and modification of the proposal
- **June 2021**  
submission of the final proposal
- **September 2021**  
final adjustments to the contract
- **November 2021**  
CACP elected members vote in favour of Paprec Group
- **December 2021 – February 2022**  
handover period with the previous operator, Veolia
- **1 February 2022**  
Paprec Group takes over operation
- **2022 – 2025**  
renovation and modernisation work
- **2037**  
end of the public service concession contract

**“Technical skills  
are important,  
but so are interpersonal  
skills. Seeing these  
projects through takes  
a bit of heart.”**



## Cross-Disciplinary Projects with a Social Purpose!

Hevea for the operation of civic amenity sites, IMAJ for the management of reuse streams and Véloservices in connection with bicycle reuse; Paprec is working with a number of organisations within the social economy of the Cergy-Pontoise area. Why? To support users when they drop off their waste at civic amenity sites, to better recover or recondition wherever possible and, most of all, to spread the good word about the environment... but also social causes. The site's future TESST (regional social economy sorting) unit will therefore join a reconditioning workshop onto the civic amenity site as well as a shop where people employed within a programme to help disadvantaged people into the world of work will sell products that have been restored to a good condition.

Architect's illustrations of the future sites and buildings to be built by Paprec.  
From left to right: the Syproval site.  
Bottom: the reconditioning centre and shop on the Cergy-Pontoise site.



...

### ... To implementation

A new phase means a new team. Whether it involves constructing new buildings or modernising existing facilities, a task force assigned with carrying out the project takes over from the design team. It is built on the same model - a project manager supported by a number of specialists - and, naturally, involves more external partners. So begins a complex ballet of architects, plant construction contractors and/or civil engineering companies gravitating around - and collaborating with - Paprec's in-house staff, including the Maintenance, Fire Safety and Accounting & Management departments.

A process which, here again, demands skilled coordination: *"It is necessary to draw up a joint schedule with everyone involved and to*

*divide up the work, being sure to lay out the working zones on the site and the periods when each team will be working,"* explained Brigitte Rognant. She is in charge of the overhaul of the waste-to-energy unit on the Cergy-Pontoise site, which will include a move from a wet flue gas treatment system to dry treatment. All this is often done without halting operation. *"We had to go very fast to ensure continuity of the public service,"* added Marc-Henri Thimonier, Site Operations Manager. *"Fortunately, I received help from branches across the Île-de-France region. The regional links and mutual support between branches really make up one of Paprec's biggest strong points."*

And what is the group's key word when the site is not yet in operation? Forward-planning.

*"With SYPROVAL, we decided to employ the future operator of the site, which will be completed in the summer of 2023, now,"* said Olivier Bérard. *"And he is also the project leader, because for a manager, there's nothing like building the plant that you will go on to use! Recruiting the right people and getting them involved as fast as possible is one of the group's strengths."*

As is the capacity to learn and adapt, enabling it to invent new ways of working, but also apply them to other projects: *"In the Major Projects department, all the processes put in place for our project are refined and rolled out for other calls for tenders,"* Audrey Veyssiere-Pomot said on the subject. •





# Enough with the Recycling-Bashing!

**There has been some noise against recycling in the French media over the last few months, particularly on TV. These misleading programmes could considerably slow down progress on environmental issues. We set things straight.**

If you like watching investigative documentaries or are simply interested in environmental topics, you might have seen similar programmes to the ones broadcast in France over the last few months, pouring scorn on all waste management streams. If these shows are to be believed, recyclable household waste is collected all mixed together, recycling is a hazy concept, incineration harmful, anaerobic digestion dangerous and landfill used excessively. This whole industry is made out to be dangerous, dirty, polluting and ineffective. Among the recurring claims made by these programmes is that sorting household waste is pointless since waste put out for recycling is actually incinerated or even put in landfill. This is based on biased reporting and even downright falsehoods. Programmes like this bolster conspiracy theories and aim to discourage the public from sorting their waste. Sorting is however an essential action that helps France to achieve the environmental targets that have been set.

## A high-performing industry

But we want to make it quite clear: recycling is not part of the waste problem. On the contrary, it's a vital part of the solution. It

is fundamental to the decarbonisation of the economy.

Thanks to recycling companies, the French waste management industry has made considerable progress in the last thirty years, both in terms of waste management itself and the working conditions for workers in this sector. Collection, capture, recycling and recovery rates have improved in leaps and bounds and illegal landfilling has been reduced drastically. The waste-to-energy sector complies with strict standards with regard to emissions (with limits reduced by 800 times in some cases!) And, finally, the proportion of residual waste being sent to landfill is getting smaller and smaller.

Legislation is pushing businesses and local authorities in this direction. The priorities of local authorities - which hold responsibility for managing household waste in France - and of companies in the waste treatment industry are in line with the European regulations. They recycle waste when at all possible. It is transformed into secondary raw materials and used to manufacture new products, avoiding the use of new natural resources! This process also enables us to significantly reduce CO<sub>2</sub>

emissions, due to the low carbon footprint of recycled materials compared to extracting new materials. Then, what cannot be recycled must be used to generate energy, providing heat and electricity without the need to use fossil fuels. Finally, and only as a last resort, they send the remaining waste to landfill.

## Progress relies on sorting

This progress with household waste relies above all on the public sorting their waste at home. It's precisely to encourage this that more and more local authorities in France have been adopting a simplified sorting system where all plastic packaging can be placed in the yellow recycling bin along with paper, cardboard, metal and plastic bottles. This industry's progress depends on collection and hence on this sorting.

The impact these programmes have is therefore entirely counter-productive for the whole of a waste management industry among the highest-performing in the world. We can never say it enough; at home, at the factory, at the office, or on holiday, sort your waste and it will serve a useful purpose! •



# Waste: Fact or Fiction?



**There's no point in sorting packaging as the contents of the recycling bin are mixed with the general waste by the bin workers anyway.**

## FICTION

If you see bin workers emptying your recycling and general waste bins into the same lorry, it's probably because your waste hasn't been sorted correctly. When refuse collectors see too many sorting errors, they might put the recycling bin in with the general waste so as not to harm the overall quality of the recyclable waste collected. Aside from that, 5 to 10% of local authorities in France have lorries with two compartments, so the two bins are lifted at the same time by a single lorry. The cost of landfill or incineration is greater than the cost of recycling, so it is not in the local authority's interest to act in this way. When it comes to our plants, we guarantee local authorities in our contracts that 95% of recyclable waste thrown in recycling bins will be recycled!

**Complex plastics are difficult, even impossible, to recycle.**

## FACT

Plastic recycling technology does not make it possible to separate layers of different plastics. In this case, progress must come from upstream in the process, with more eco-friendly packaging design. Will the future of recycling these complex products involve chemical recycling?



**Plastic recycling degrades the quality of the plastic.**

## FICTION

Plastics can be recycled more times (20-30) than paper (6-9)! Plastics are extremely durable and allow products to be made lighter, which can result in massive reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions during transport.



## Why recycle?

The recycling of packaging prevents 1.6 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. For example, for each tonne of recycled aluminium, 95% of the energy needed to produce this material has been saved, and for each tonne of recycled steel, up to 70% of the energy needed for steel production has been saved.

**A large proportion of plastic packaging is incinerated.**

## FICTION

Overall, when placed in the recycling bin in France:

- over 80% of plastic bottles are recycled into secondary raw materials;
- 50% of plastic film collected is recycled;
- 80% of PP and HDPE containers are recycled.

Contrary to the ideas being circulated by these reports, the bulk of the improvement that needs to be made is to sorting. 65% of plastic bottles are sorted into the recycling by the public in France on average, with low rates in dense urban areas. There is therefore significant room for improvement! For other plastics (containers and film), in areas where all plastic packaging is accepted in the recycling bin, around 30% is being sorted into the recycling, so half as much. The misleading information being spread by these programmes is playing a part in muddling the public's understanding and hindering progress with sorting. According to the French Ministry for the Environment, in 2019, 70% of household packaging waste was recycled. The national target is to reach 75% by 2025. That leaves a significant proportion still to go.

**It is more financially attractive for sorting centres to send packaging to landfill than to recycle it.**

## FICTION

Incinerating or landfilling a tonne of residual household waste costs a local authority an average of 150 euros, while collecting, sorting and selling a tonne of sorted material can bring in 800 euros, thanks to funding from environmental organisations and the sale of recycled materials.



**"Recycling is not part of the waste problem in France. On the contrary, it's a part of the solution."**





## report

AN IN-DEPTH LOOK AT  
THE HEART OF OUR BUSINESSES



Within the context of major investment, FPR is receiving new storage silos.

# 50% More Capacity for France Plastiques Recyclage

The France Plastiques Recyclage (FPR) plant has just commissioned its fourth extrusion line following work that began last spring. An investment that will allow this ultra-modern plant to greatly increase its waste recovery capacity.

An important asset for the French plastic recycling industry, the France Plastiques Recyclage (FPR) plant, based in Limay, currently processes 45,000 tonnes of plastic bottles per year. This plastic is obtained from household recycling collections in the Paris region and north-west France. With the three existing extrusion lines, the site produces ...



With its three existing extrusion lines, the site produces around 33,000 tonnes of recycled PET granules.



●●● approximately 33,000 tonnes of recycled PET granules, with the same properties as the virgin raw material and approved for food contact.

### Regulatory targets

In 2019, the European Union adopted a directive on the reduction the impact of certain plastic products on the environment. This legislation bans certain single-use plastics from being placed on the market as of 3 July 2021. Bottles sold in the EU must contain at least 25% recycled plastic by 2025, and 30% by 2030.

### A ten-million-euro investment

To meet these targets, a major new investment was made in FPR, to a total of over ten million euros: additional storage silos, a hydrocyclone system and the brand-new extrusion line - its fourth one. This is in addition to the initial investment (to the tune of 80 million euros). Work began in the spring of 2021 and assembly of the line began last September, allowing commissioning to begin in January. *“Following the commissioning phase, which enabled us to check that the equipment was working consistently in line with the specifications, the new extrusion line has been operational since late February,”* explained Damien Vincent, Deputy Director of FPR. The new line alone represents an investment of five million euros. It will be capable of handling 2.4 tonnes per hour, which is 50% more than the capacity of the existing lines. ●

**The fourth extrusion line will increase the rPET production capacity by around 50%, taking it from 33,000 to 51,000 tonnes per year.**



**The FPR plant, located by the river Seine, in Limay, specialises in recycling plastic bottles.**

the site  
produces around  
**33,000**  
tonnes of  
recycled PET

**With the help of a mobile crane, the equipment, weighing tens of tonnes, is lowered through the only possible way in: the roof. The installation of a silo is a painstaking operation.**





# Yoann Richomme, Paprec Arkéa's New Skipper

The rumour had already spread by word of mouth along the docksides of Brittany, and a few weeks ago, it was made official. Yoann Richomme is the new skipper of the offshore sea racing team created by Paprec and Arkéa. At 38, this naval engineer by training has already racked up some great victories in various solo and crewed offshore races.

Amongst his feats are two wins in the challenging La Solitaire du Figaro (in 2016 and 2019) and one in the Class 40 Route du Rhum race in 2018. "Yoann is a brilliant sailor who is also blessed with an entrepreneurial spirit. Besides his list of achievements, it's his personality that won us over. We have a strong belief in his ability to unite, lead, perform, share, and represent," said Cédric Malengreau, Head of Arkéa's Corporate Secretariat. "We are very happy that he will skipper the new Imoca boat that we are building," said Sébastien Petithuguenin, General Manager of Paprec Group. The events of the last Vendée Globe race have not put our duo with Arkéa off sailing; in fact it's exactly the opposite!"

## Paprec creates its own team

In line with its pioneering past, the Paprec group has also innovated on the pierside by opting to create its own ocean racing team. Traditionally, skippers are responsible for creating projects, building teams, and seeking sponsors. In this case, the opposite choice has been made: "Paprec has been involved in the world of sailing and offshore racing for over twenty years. These seafaring adventures reflect the group's DNA; they reflect how we push ourselves and raise the bar with individual and collective commitment. We are focused on the long term, like we are with Group development. For this reason, we made the choice to create our own racing team with Arkéa, a partner who shares our vision of excellence. Together, we aim to build a project

that reflects our vision, that is ambitious and high-performance, based around people," explained Sébastien Petithuguenin. The team will be based in Lorient in the heart of sailing country and headed by Romain Ménard, who is already a favourite of the Paprec family, as he was closely involved in the team created around Jean-Pierre Dick.



## 3 Questions to...

**YOANN RICHOMME,**  
PAPREC-ARKÉA'S NEW SKIPPER



**Yoann, for all the newbies, what is an Imoca?**

It's the Formula 1 of the seas! An Imoca is a monohull, fully composite sailing yacht with a regulated length of 60 feet, or a little over 18 metres. It's the only class of yacht allowed to race in the Vendée Globe.

**Why build a new boat?**

Foils - the fins installed along the boat hull - enable a boat to lift out of the water and reach incredible speeds. That is why they are often called flying yachts! But the boat also falls back on the water quickly, splashing plenty of water onto the deck. This is hard for the sailor and limits sports performance. The ideal is to build a boat that operates at 100% of its potential as often as possible, not just from time to time. We selected Antoine Koch and the Finot-Conq group, amongst the best in the field.

And we intend to use simulation extensively to ensure the best design calculations.

**When will the boat be ready?**

Following the arrival of the moulds for the new Imoca, we started construction in January at Multiplast in Vannes. The boat should take a year to build. Then I should have plenty of time to test its capacities and get it shipshape for the Vendée Globe 2024!





# IN FRANCE, TODAY'S WASTE CREATES TOMORROW'S ENERGY.

Recycling and energy recovery are relevant solutions to meet the environmental challenges of the twenty-first century. And France is one of the world's best-performing countries in this area. Efficient waste management requires significant investments in high-tech industrial facilities.

With 12,500 employees working on 280 sites in nine countries, Paprec has played a central role in the circular economy for 25 years. As a leader in recycling in France and a champion of energy recovery, it is helping drive progress at national level. Paprec has developed expertise in all areas of the sector, from waste collection to energy recovery.

Over the past three years, the Group has created 2000 qualified jobs.



Photo credits: Arthur Joncour / Benjamin Seller / Getty / images



*Jean-Luc Petithuguenin,  
Paprec Group Chairman-Founder,  
named French industrialist of the year 2020.*



For a greener planet and a more fraternal society