



TIRU, THE ENERGY RECOVERY EXPERT, CELEBRATES ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

TIRU was created in 1922 to manage and develop Paris's four incineration plants. After joining the EDF group as a subsidiary, the company grew in France and then internationally, becoming a world-renowned specialist in energy recovery. It stands out for its capacity for innovation – with its ROCK kiln, for example – and its research work that has contributed to the development of environmental standards. This expertise now contributes to the success of Paprec, number three in France for energy recovery.

In 1890, Paris still dumped most of its household waste in the countryside of Île-de-France. This meant that the 2200 tons of waste produced each day had to be sent further and further away, by horse-drawn carts, as urbanization advanced. In 1897, a commission set up by the City of Paris ordered the construction of waste treatment plants. The first was built in Saint-Ouen in 1899, soon followed by Romainville, Issy-les-Moulineaux and Ivry-sur-Seine in 1912.

TIRU'S PURSUIT OF INNOVATION

In 1922, TIRU (which stands for '*Traitement Industriel des Résidus Urbains*' – industrial treatment of urban waste) was created by the City of Paris to effectively manage and, above all, expand its four plants. The aims were to adapt facilities to actual tonnages produced, retrieve and reuse heat, improve safety and hygiene for workers, and reduce emissions to protect the environment. The Citroën factory of St-Ouen was the first to receive energy generated by the incineration plant.

“From the outset, integrating innovation and technical improvements in both new and existing installations was a core concern for TIRU's teams. Their impact studies made a significant contribution to the formulation of standards governing incineration. Their research efforts led to the development and patenting of a grate and kiln (the ROCK kiln), which are now used throughout the world to optimise the environmental and energy performance of waste processing,” emphasizes Sébastien Petithuguenin, Chairman of Paprec Energies. 33 combustion lines have been built using this technology, in six countries, while four are currently under construction and nearly ten contracts are being negotiated. Providing high energy performance, it is particularly effective for the management of heterogeneous waste flows for recovery and can be used in facilities of all sizes.

INTERNATIONAL GROWTH

In 1946, within the framework of the French law on nationalisation, Tiru joined EDF. EDF became a majority shareholder in 1991, with the remainder being held by La Lyonnaise des Eaux (25%) and La Générale des Eaux (24%). These years also marked the beginning of the company's internationalisation. A plant was built in Spain, while the teams operated a facility in Quebec. In 2014, TIRU established a presence in the United Kingdom. Still today, it operates two plants in England (Grimsby and Exeter). In 2018, the city of Gdansk in Poland called on TIRU's expertise for the design and operation of its plant. This was the year when TIRU joined Dalkia, also a subsidiary of EDF, and adopted the temporary name 'Dalkia Wastenergy'.

TIRU'S ACQUISITION BY PAPREC ENERGIES

In summer 2021, the Paprec Group acquired TIRU, which was put up for sale by EDF. France's recycling leader, and third biggest waste management player, also took over a large part of the teams of CNIM, another jewel in the French industrial crown. These two entities have helped consolidate Paprec Energies and hoist Paprec into third position in France's energy recovery sector.

"We have renewed several of TIRU's contracts, including one for the management of the WtE plant in Dunkerque. After winning contracts for household waste management and the WtE plant in Cergy-Pontoise, as well as the waste-to-energy plant in Sète, we will be continuing to make announcements in the coming weeks: this one-hundred-year-old is in great shape!" explained Stéphane Leterrier, General Manager of Paprec Energies.

"Since 1994, Paprec has had a vision for the coming century: waste will be the raw materials of the twenty-first century. This is now the case, as recycling makes it possible to generate new materials and avoid the use of fossil fuels. Energy recovery, on the other hand, can be used to generate gas and electricity from non-recyclable waste. This means that it can help reduce the use of oil, coal and gas, and therefore plays a major role in achieving national energy sovereignty," pointed out Sébastien Petithuguenin, Chairman of Paprec Energies.

About the Paprec Group:

The group was founded by Jean-Luc Petithuguenin and has been managed by him since its creation. Paprec is the French leader in the recycling field and now becomes the third ranking French operator for waste energy recovery and the treatment of waste (anaerobic digestion, composting, management of non-hazardous waste storage sites). In 25 years, the group has grown from 45 employees to 12,500, spread over more than 280 sites in eight countries. In 2021, the group managed 16 million tonnes of waste and sales totalled 2.2 billion euros. Since its creation, the Paprec Group has been known and acknowledged for its commitment to diversity, secularism and the fight against all forms of discrimination within the group. Furthermore, Jean-Luc Petithuguenin has twice been selected for the Businessman of the year award, by Ernst and Young and by BFM Business. The journalists of L'Usine Nouvelle voted him Industry Manager of the year in 2020.

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