

Maltha Yearly Newsletter

2024 has begun! We would like to look ahead to developments in the market, our products and services, and other relevant news and activities that may be of interest to your organization. We also share our highlights of 2023, as Maltha continued to perform well thanks to operational improvements and strategic investments that will continue to benefit us both in 2024.

About us

Maltha is a leading recycler of hollow and flat glass waste in Europe. We are supplier of clean glass cullet as a high-quality raw material for the glass packaging, flat glass and insulation industries. Maltha has over 100 years of experience in glass, glass recycling and glass reuse. We process more than one million tonnes of glass from companies and municipalities every year. To collect the glass, we cooperate with collection companies and recycling organisations throughout Europe. The collected glass is reprocessed using advanced technology into various types and qualities of cullet. No other waste stream is as recyclable as glass, and it is a great example of a circular economy.

Ambition

Our ambition is to recycle all collected glass into 100% new glass materials and to be a major chain partner in supporting producer responsibility.

Locations

In the Benelux, we are located in The Netherlands and Belgium. Maltha also has branches in France and Portugal. The head office is located in Heijningen (The Netherlands).



**Visit our website
for more information**

General

Closing the loop: our journey to a circular economy

As part of the European initiative, there's a target to increase glass recycling collection rates from 80% in 2021 to an ambitious 90% by 2030. Within this 90% collection target, a minimum of 70% should be dedicated to cullet remelting for the creation of new glass products. The recycling process involves transforming flat and container glass into cullet and glass powder, which can be reused in both the glass and construction industries. Managing Director Maltha, Kevin Bell, talks us through Maltha's focus on optimizing container glass recycling, opportunities in the flat glass sector, collaborations with customers and explains how Maltha is capitalizing on the opportunities brought about by the fact that glass is endlessly recyclable. [Watch here!](#)

Operations

Maximising capacity of our locations

In 2023, there was some pressure on volumes due to customer behaviour and increased sustainability programs among glass producers. To ensure process and product quality, Maltha initiated several investments at our sites.

Heijningen (NL)

Maltha Heijningen has significantly increased its efficiency. The current sorting system at the Heijningen plant didn't recognize dark bottle bottoms as glass because they are not translucent enough. A new detection system has been implemented that can recognize this. With this system, Maltha Heijningen can recover 85% of all the glass that is currently shot out.

Maltha always strives to return as much collected glass as possible to the glass industry to create a fully circular product and cycle. This improvement provides almost 10% additional material to the glass bottle industry. We were also able to improve safety on site for our employees and visitors by placing clear road and walkway markings.

Emmen (NL)

The site modernized its optical sorters and increased the capacity of the production line. Through these investments we increased our volumes and product quality.

Lommel (BE)

We completed an investment application to process PVB material on Maltha Lommel site. PVB material is released during the processing of laminated glass such as car windows. It is a valuable raw material that can be reused for instance in construction as a roofing material. This opens opportunities for new customers and it will increase Maltha Lommel's recycling rate by 4%. We expect the process line to be completed the second part of 2024.

Beziers (FR)

Here we are preparing for the coming year with several projects to support the growth and improvement of the entire site.

Lavilledieux & Izon (FR)

The Maltha sites in France in Lavilledieux and Izon recycle large volumes of glass. In Lavilledieux, an investment will replace two optical sorters with three new ones plus the installation of a roof over an uncovered area to keep the material dry. These two key improvements will enhance production quality and consequently increase overall output. The anticipated timeline for completion is March 2024.

An investment in Izon will also lead to the installation of a three-step optical sorting process. This will ensure that leading quality is achieved and we can better meet our customers demand. The initial phase is projected to go live mid 2024.

In addition to the enhanced quality and greater production volume, these investments will result for our customer in a remarkable 30% reduction in energy costs, resulting primarily from the melting process, which constitutes a significant portion of the carbon footprint.

Figuera da Foz (PT)

We are investing in a new processing line that is already up and running. This new line will allow the site to process CSP (ceramics, stone, porcelain) raw, which will be a great source of glass and revenue for the company. It represents a huge step for circular economy and sustainability!

So, as well as the glass, we put the removed contamination to new use. We generate sustainable energy from the residual waste released when we purify the collected glass. Other waste flows, such as metals, CSP and plastics, return to the material chain to serve as new raw materials. This is how we give all waste a new life, preferably in endless cycles.

We will continue to make the necessary changes and investments in 2024 to ensure we are the most sustainable glass recycling company and supplier of choice in Europe.



Activities

Campaign: Together, we make the glass clear

In June, Maltha launched a national campaign in the Netherlands called 'Together we make the glass clear'. The campaign consists of a communication kit and a lecture kit on glass recycling, especially for primary or secondary school students and municipalities. The campaign aims to reduce contamination in the bottle bank and thus improve the quality of the glass within it. In 2024, we plan to launch the campaign in other countries as well.

Curious? [Visit the campaign page](#) (in Dutch)



A glimpse into Maltha's glass recycling in Iberia



Read all about it
(In Portuguese)

Mais Magazine sat down with Catia Martins, Area Manager Iberia, to discuss Maltha's activities in Portugal. This gave an excellent opportunity to dive deeper into the opportunities, challenges and benefits of glass recycling.

Photorama Project

In the coming years, a huge volume of solar panels will be taken down from our roofs. A recycling method for these solar panels is required. Maltha is one of the main partners in this project which aims to improve and sustain the recycling of photovoltaic panels. The Photorama project is monitored by the European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA) - established by the European Commission. A delegation recently visited our Maltha site in Lommel to see glass recycling in practice.



Want to know more? [Then don't miss this interview.](#)

Visitors at our Béziers site

Konbini media and chef Julien Duboué visited the Maltha site in Béziers. It was the perfect opportunity to highlight the work of the Maltha teams in the field, who contribute to a more circular world every day.



Dive into the exciting realm of
making bottles from recycled
glass!

Thank you for your confidence in 2023. Together, we have made a difference for a more sustainable planet. We look forward to continuing our partnership to give used materials a new life. We hope you enjoyed reading our highlights, and if you have any questions, feel free to [contact us!](#)