

Press Release

Vetropack builds new plant in Italy: state-of-the-art equipment and more sustainability

Bülach, November 21, 2022 – The [Vetropack Group](#), one of Europe's leading glass manufacturers, is investing over CHF 400 million in a new plant for the traditionally important Italian market. Production is expected to start in Boffalora sopra Ticino near Milan in the second quarter of 2023. The new high-tech site offers more flexibility in production with higher capacities and a focus on sustainable processes.

The Italian subsidiary Vetropack Italia S.r.l. has been part of the Vetropack Group since 2015. Its history in glass manufacturing, however, dates back to 1960. As the previous site in Trezzano sul Naviglio will not meet Vetropack's ambitious goals in terms of quality and sustainability in the long term, the Group decided to build a new production facility in Boffalora sopra Ticino, about 25 kilometers away. "The Italian market is of great importance to us and, with its many global brands, plays a central role in our strategy," explains Johann Reiter, CEO of Vetropack Holding Ltd.

The [new, state-of-the-art production plant](#) is being built on the site of the former Reno di Medici paper mill and covers an area of 347,000 m², 170,000 m² of which will be used for the actual production facilities. Like in the old plant, two furnaces will be put into operation at first. Compared to the previous site, however, the manufacturer expects an increase in production capacity of around 70 per cent. The infrastructure is geared towards capacity expansion, as Vetropack anticipates positive market development in Italy and beyond in the medium term. All 301 employees of the previous site have been offered a transfer. Despite a significant increase in production volume per employee, the workforce will even continue to grow. New and existing employees have already been trained for the new production equipment since 2020.

Individual small batches and sustainability

In Boffalora, Vetropack is investing in high-performance and smart technologies which facilitate more flexible, customized, and resource-efficient operations. "Thanks to modern equipment and processes, we can produce more flexibly and better meet the increasing demand for high-quality packaging, even in smaller volumes – so-called semi-specials," says Christoph Burgermeister, project manager at Vetropack. At the same time, the site is geared towards significantly more sustainable production.

A series of measures reduces potential environmental pollution considerably. The demolition material from a former paper mill on the same site is being repurposed in the construction of the new plant. Water used for production and exhaust heat from the blast furnaces is reused as much as possible thanks to recirculation systems, and emissions are greatly reduced with the help of the

latest filter systems. Project manager Burgermeister looks ahead optimistically: "We are looking forward to the start of a new era for our customers and are confident that Boffalora will have a positive impact on the entire Vetropack Group."



Picture 1:
Glass factory of the future: Vetropack is building a state-of-the-art plant in Boffalora sopra Ticino near Milan, where smart technology will support employees in production and logistics.



Picture 2:
The glass factory of the future is visibly taking shape: Construction work in Boffalora sopra Ticino is progressing.



Picture 3:
The advantages and features of the new plant in Boffalora sopra Ticino at a glance.

About Vetropack Group

At Vetropack, we enable people to enjoy food and beverages as safely as possible by providing solutions that combine optimum elegance with maximum responsibility. We view glass as the most sustainable packaging solution – and the perfect material to ensure that food is packaged safely. Our holistic Service plus+ approach helps our customers to optimise their value chains and guarantee consumers' safety. Close, long-lasting relationships are the hallmarks of our collaboration with partners. Guided by our understanding of environmental responsibility and cost efficiency, we aim to minimise our carbon footprint throughout the supply chain, and we are committed to recycling as the key to optimising product life-cycles.

Vetropack Group is one of Europe's leading manufacturers of glass packaging for the food and beverage industry with around 4,000 employees and net revenues of CHF 816.5 million in 2021. Vetropack has state-of-the-art production facilities as well as sales and distribution offices in Switzerland, Austria, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Slovakia, Ukraine, Italy, the Republic of Moldova and Romania.

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