

Enhancing energies





Enhancing the entrepreneurial spirit.

We, as industrialists, use chemistry to transform materials.

Novacap Group, having its headquarters in France, acts at the beginning of this processing chain. We provide the industry worldwide leading companies with the mineral and organic materials they need.

Our group, which is constituted of 3 specialized companies – Novacarb, Novapex and Novacid – has been becoming over the years a key partner for the European chemical industry.

Novacap is based on a strong industrial culture, on key values and reference expertises for all its activities. Our employees are focused on satisfying our customers and meeting their expectations. They provide them with our products and services, our know-how and they ensure a unique operating flexibility to meet their requirements. These basic principles, which ensure durability, are reinforced by a real entrepreneurial spirit.

As industrialists in the chemical sector, Sustainable Development is one of our top priorities. We are willing to be strongly involved in Sustainable Development. We want to subscribe to this vision and in particular to our three goals: economic performance, social responsibility and environmental protection.

Pierre Luzeau
Chief Executive Officer

« Enhancing energies means to gather all our energies to achieve a reliable and sustainable chemistry, proud of its achievements. »

Pierre Luzeau





Strength, durability, local service
and shared ambitions.

History

2003

- January 1: Novacap group is created and its 3 subsidiaries are set up

2004

- The SAP system is implemented
- The cleavage technology is improved for the Phenol unit (Novapex)
- Start-up of a new sodium bicarbonate unit (Novacarb)
- Major investments are made to reduce gaseous effluents (VOC) (Novapex)

2005

- Successful bank debt refinancing
- Trade agreement regarding sodium sulphate (Novacarb)
- Investments in modulation ponds are completed (Novacarb)

2006

- The new Novacap headquarter is installed in Lyon
- The calcium chloride site is started in Pont-de-Claix (Novacid)

2007

- Direct take-over of operational activities in Pont-de-Claix (Novacid)
- Modernising plan of the control system is launched (Novapex)

2008

- A second sodium bicarbonate unit is created (Novacarb)
- Major investments are made to reduce gaseous effluents (EPS*) (Novacarb)

*electro-filters

Key figures

Novacap staff:

470 employees

38 persons hired in 2007

Training investment:

Higher than 5% of the total payroll every year

Turnover amounting to **520 million €**, including 60% export sales (outside France)

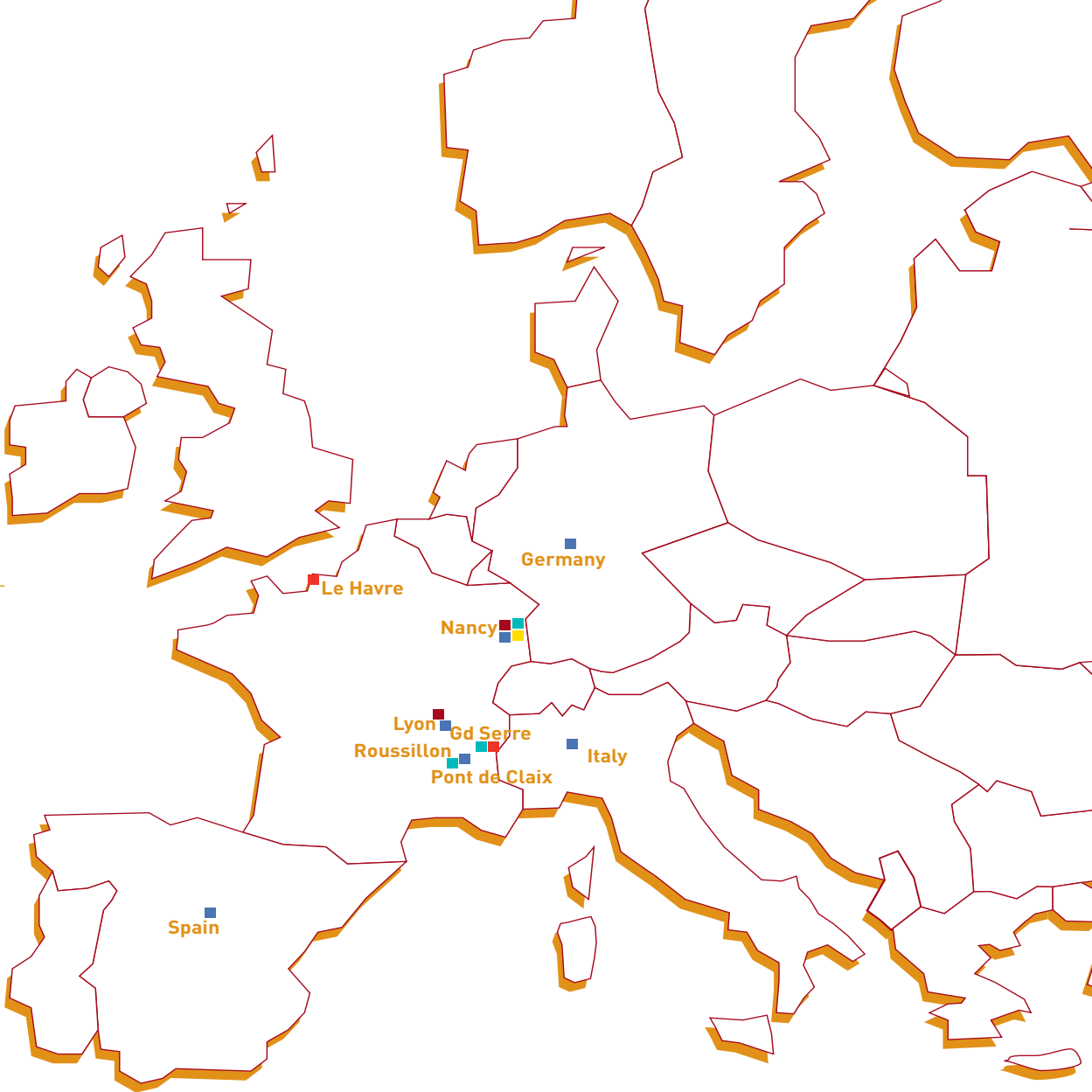
3.2 million tons transported (input/output)

Investments in Quality, Health, Safety and Environment over the last three years:

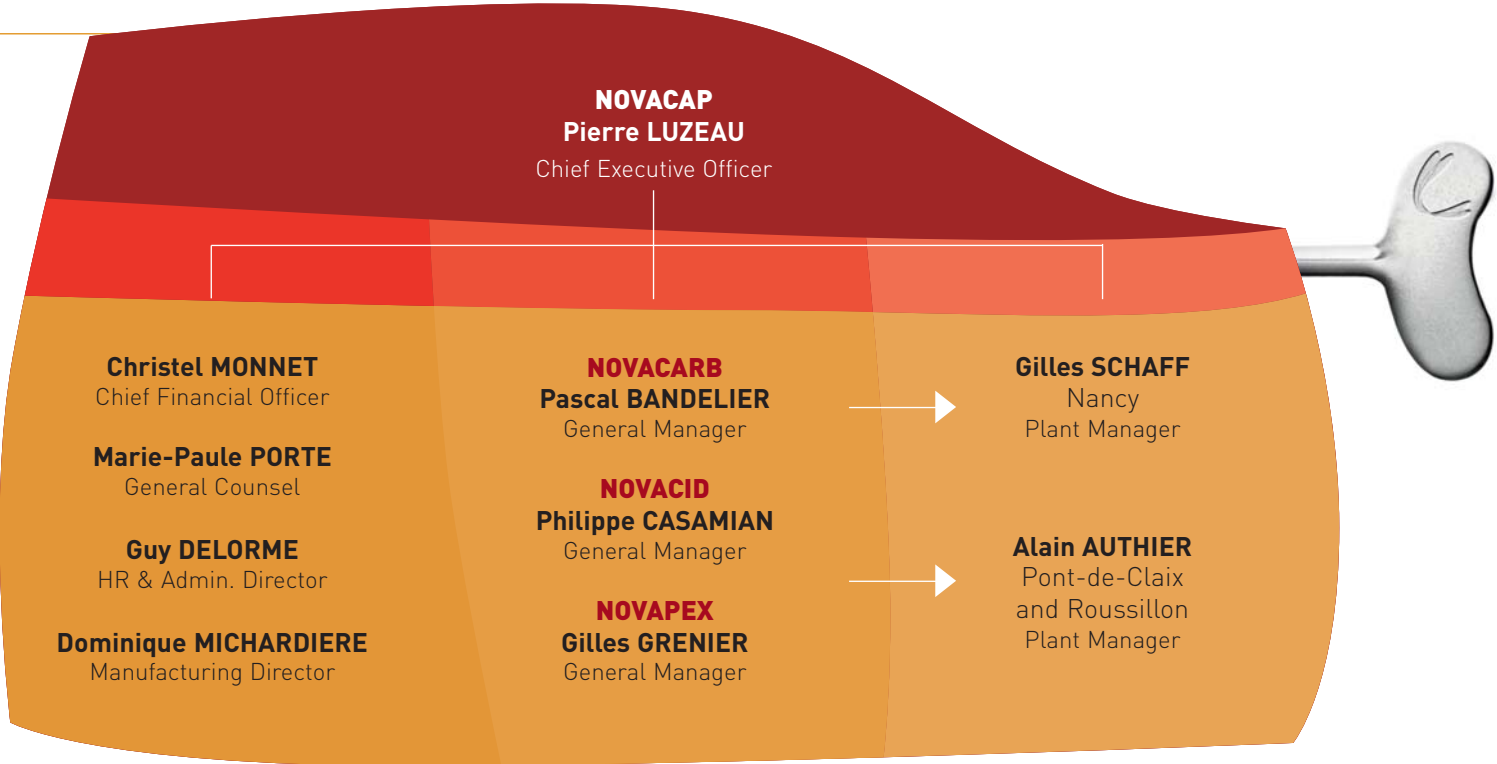
11 million €.

Implementation

- Headquarters
- Factories
- Business units
- Storage areas
- Pits



Organisation chart



Our values contribute to better work together



Entrepreneurial spirit

«The entrepreneurial skill is the ability to transform an idea into concrete achievements». We all subscribe to this definition because we enjoy our work and our activities and we are willing to be involved in developing a chemical industry, integrated into its territories.

Professionalism

Any professional company needs to fulfill its commitments, to be able to make proposals and to be customer-focused. To this end, we are focused on implementing a proactive collaboration: listening to the customers, being close to them, offering concrete solutions...

Performance

Learning, innovating, sharing, improving... We are willing to find the best performances everywhere, either at our suppliers or internally, to push ourselves always further. Our aim is to achieve sustainable activities.

Social responsibility

Within the framework of our activity in the chemical industry, we are responsible for the surrounding communities. We need to guarantee health and safety for all our employees and partners, establish a regular and high-quality social dialogue and harmoniously integrate our factories where they are located.

Environmental protection

As we are aware of the potential consequences of industrial activities on the environment, we are looking for solutions to reduce the impacts on water, air, earth, to protect the natural resources and achieve safe installations.

Leading industrial partners trust our commitments

Quality and continuous improvement

- All our industrial sites and business networks comply with the **ISO 9001** and **ISO 14001** certifications.

- We undertake to comply with continuous improvement programs aiming at achieving optimal performances, such as **Six Sigma method, OHSAS 18001 certification, GMP**

Responsiveness and local service



- Responsive and **multilingual** Customer Service (French, English, German, Italian, Spanish...).
- Any claim arising from one of our customers is handled within **20 days**.
- For any request made during any working day (by phone, mail or fax), we commit ourselves to contact the sender during **the same day**.

Product security all along the supply network



- Selection of a limited number of authorized transportation partners who have entered into a **joint charter regarding quality**.
- Implementation of complete **safety protocols** (documents handed over to the transportation partners informing them about safety instructions).



- **Support and advice** as far as safety and regulations are concerned, regarding any topic dealing with chemical product implementation and transportation.

Customized solutions

As we thoroughly know our products and our customers markets, we are able to help them **find new solutions**.



@ Quick access to any useful information

At any time and thanks to our group extranet, our customers can **quickly find** a product, manage their orders and purchase forecasts, place delivery requests, view their orders according to their criteria, follow-up the invoices, contact a service and find information...



NOVACARB

Satisfying the customer, the angular stone of Novacarb.

A strong know-how always searching for environmental innovating outlets.

Novacarb is specialized in producing and selling soda ash, sodium bicarbonate, as well as sodium sulphate and limestone.

Novacarb is especially dedicated to highly demanding markets such as health & care, food and feed and cosmetic industries throughout Europe. This implies an optimal product quality management, strict procedures and appropriate equipments. Our production facilities comply with the HACCP rules.

The glass industry is the oldest and largest outlet for soda ash: flat glass for the building and car markets or container glass for bottles, food industry, manufacture of small bottles as well as glass fibre for insulation and lighting.

Novacarb also supplies the worldwide leading companies in the Detergent and Chemical Industries.

Sodium bicarbonate is significantly developing, especially in flue gas treatment for the incineration installations using technical and household wastes and in sludge from treatment plants or any other combustion unit. In this field, we offer an overall service including original products such as NOVABIS, together with technical solutions in order to achieve the required customer operating results.

**Key figures:****4th largest European producer**

of soda ash

Around **10 %** of market share

Turnover amounting to

115 million € in 2007

300 employees

Novacarb exports its products throughout Europe: Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Swiss, Italy, Poland, Spain, and U.K...

Specializations:

Production and sale

of soda ash, sodium bicarbonate, sodium sulphate and limestone.

Sites:

Laneuveville Devant Nancy (FR-54) and Pagny sur Meuse (FR-55).

Markets:**Building sector**

- Windows, mirrors
- Glass for lamps and fluorescent lamps
- Floor consolidation
- Wall cleaning
- Steel part cleaning
- Insulation (glass fibre)

Detergent and cosmetic industry

- Washing powders and tablets
- Detergent additives
- Toothpaste

Car industry

- Car glass
- Eco-friendly tires

Food industry

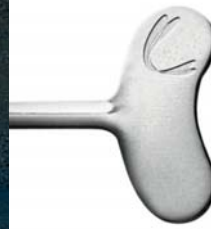
- Bottles, pots, jars
- Baking powders
- Chocolate production
- Glass for tableware

Health and nutrition

- Effervescent tablets
- Dialysis
- Animal food
- Swimming-pool water handling

Environment and safety

- Incineration installation smoke handling
- Acid and aqueous emission handling
- Extinguisher powder.

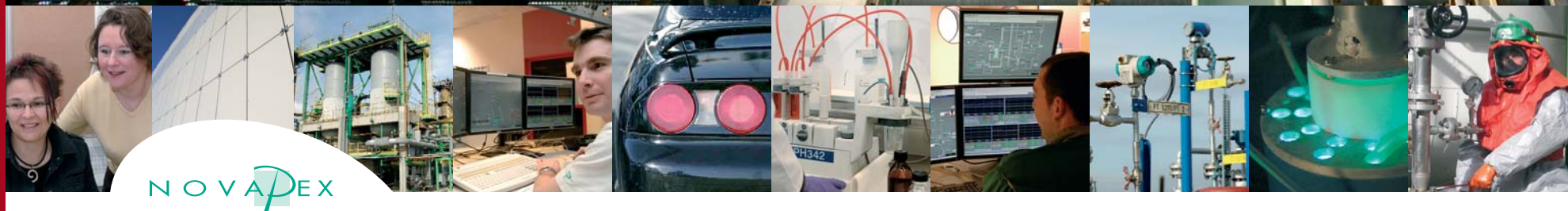
**Expert female and male team totally involved on site.**

We extract limestone and salt, which are the raw materials for soda ash and sodium bicarbonate. We produce the energy required to process these natural resources into products used for many applications and industries. In Nancy / La Madeleine factory and Pagny-sur-Meuse pit, more than 300 female and male employees are involved in operation, production, packaging and delivery, ensuring an optimal and constant quality of the delivered products.

Our supply network and our customers stakes are on the same level as far as quality, reliability, packaging and delivery fastness are concerned, meeting the requirements and protecting the environment.

Relevant answers and concrete solutions.

Our commitment is to satisfy our customers and thus the industry leading companies rely on us. Listening to our customers enable us to define and implement continuous innovations in the way we use and implement our products. Our Customer Service, which is located close to the production, packaging and loading site, provides relevant informations and ensures responsiveness.



Flexibility and performance on a European scale are Novapex stakes.

From Roussillon, our products spread out all over Europe.

From our factory located on Roussillon platform in Rhone valley (France), we supply our West European customers (Germany, Benelux, Italy, Swiss, France and Spain). Our customers can also be supplied from other European sites.

We have a one-hundred-year experience in cumene-phenol-acetone production technologies. Novapex aims at becoming the most flexible

supplier of this industry, quickly accessible from any location within its organisation. Our teams are highly motivated and permanently searching for solutions to fully satisfy our customers.

Our dedicated organisation enables us to answer quickly to any question or emergency situation. Our customer service is close to the daily production activities, implemented in Roussillon factory for the South European market and in Frankfurt for Northern Europe.

Permanent focus and continuous improvement regarding Health, Safety and Environment.

Novapex is willing to be best in class as far as HSE is concerned. We are looking for solutions that comply with our commitment in Sustainable Development. For instance, we have selected rail-road multimodal solutions for Italy and Northern France.

In total, 70% of Novapex input-output material flow is performed by barge, pipe or train transportation. We have made significant

improvements in reducing our aqueous wastes and continuously decreasing our VOC emissions.

Novapex also has a leading position as far as the compliance with the REACH regulation is concerned. A thorough work is performed on its products with a well-known ecotoxicologist in the industry.



Key figures:

4th largest European company in Phenol/Acetone industry
9% of market share
Turnover of **380 millions €** in 2007
125 employees

Specializations:

Production and supply of cumene, phenol, alphas-methylstyrene, acetophenone, cumeneHydroperoxyde, Di-isopropylbenzene, Allyl Alcohol.

Sites :

Roussillon (FR-38) and Le Grand Serre (FR-26)

Markets:

Transportation, car, air industry

- Engineered plastics (polycarbonate, polyamide 6 and 6.6)
- Acrylic glass, Insulating materials, Solvents

Building industry

- Insulating materials, Solvents
- Acrylic glass, Front architecture
- Carpet fibers
- Plywood, Laminates

Paints, adhesives and coatings

- Solvents, Abrasives
- Varnish, Epoxy resin
- Lake additives

Chemistry

- Antioxidants, Surfactants
- Catalysis, Adjuvants
- UV stabilizer
- Polymerization inhibitor
- Sulphonated intermediate

Pharmacy, medical sector

- Analgesics
- Solvents, Disinfectants
- Molecule extraction
- Vitamin intermediates

Aroma and perfumes

- Synthetic vanilla
- Synthetic musk
- Intermediates

Power, electronic industry

- CD, DVD, Data storage
- Computers, Mobile phones
- Electric household appliances
- TV monitors

Other industries

- Foundry
- Tanning
- Textile



Our investments in industrial performance.

Thanks to our expert teams and the support from our suppliers, we operate reliable industrial installations. We apply Six Sigma method in order to make continuous improvements as far as industrial performance is concerned. This method enables us to make each

process more reliable. We have implemented the latest process control software in one single control room. Finally, we have installed the ERP software for all the company functions to be able to respond better to all the processes throughout Europe.

Logistical efficiency, a daily requirement.

Logistical performance relies on long-term relationships with a limited number of reliable partners. We permanently control our partners

performances as far as service quality and compliance with the QHSE standards are concerned.



Novacid focuses on added value.

Novacid uses its best efforts to become the favourite partner of industrialists consuming hydrochloric acid and derivatives throughout Europe. We are willing to provide our customers with

concrete and customized solutions. More generally, our mission with respect to our suppliers and our employees is to create added value in a fair way.

Achieving performances and fulfilling our responsibilities.

We guarantee that we comply with the European standards for the quality of the hydrochloric acid and the derivatives we produce and supply, with a special care to food and pharmaceutical applications.

We have implemented a global management system covering all our responsibilities: safety at work, job satisfaction for our employees and Sustainable Development are examples.

Local and customized services to ensure responsiveness to our customers.

Thanks to its 11 storages for hydrochloric acid throughout Europe, with a capacity higher than 10,000 tons, Novacid has distinguishing and considerable means at its disposal to supply its customers within 48 hours at any time. Our sales team, which is based in Lyon, is

supported by professional collaborators in Italy, Spain and Germany. Therefore, we act locally, close to our customers in order to meet their current requirements and anticipate their future needs.



Key figures:

Leader in France
and **3rd largest company**
in Europe
Turnover amounting to
25 million € in 2007
20 employees

Specializations:

Supply of hydrochloric acid, bleach, nitric acid and methyl chloride. Production and supply of calcium chloride.

- From gas hydrochloric acid to 15% HCl, Novacid has a wide range meeting any requirement.
- Liquid calcium chloride is produced in the only production unit in France operated by Novacid in Pont de Claix. Novacid offers different concentrations (from 20% to 36%) in order to cover most needs.

Sites:

Pont de Claix (FR-38), Le Havre (FR-76), Roussillon (FR-38) and European network

Markets:

Starch industry

Food industry

- Gelatin
- Caseinate
- Aspartamine
- Cheese production

Animal food industry

- Amino acids (lysine, cystine and derivatives)
- A and E vitamin

Siderurgy

Galvanization and surface treatment

Water treatment

- Aluminum salts and iron
- Fluorinated effluent treatment

Chemistry (in particular)

- Methyl chloride (silicones intermediates)
- Ethylene dichloride (PVC intermediate)
- Dibasic calcium phosphate
- Tartaric acid
- Refrigeration brine

Electronics

Pharmacy

- Production of some pharmaceutical active principles
- Preparation of pharmaceutical products

Bio fuel

- Purification of glycerol, co-produced in diester production (bio diesel)

Construction (concreting)



Associated services offering new prospects to our customers.

We analyze the problems and requirements for each customer in order to offer each one of them the best solution as well as additional services:

- Stock management using a remote measuring system

- Customized dilutions
- Waste hydrochloric acid collection for some applications
- Extranet with a wide number of options.

Sustainable Development commitment.

Novacid carries 100,000 tons of hydrochloric acid per year by train transportation (Train highway to Italy; isolated trains and/or cars

for France). Thanks to this transportation means, we avoid using 4,000 trucks!

Enhancing a method to achieve

In our company, our employees believe in and work for a sustainable chemistry, a chemistry of tomorrow as part of Sustainable Development. We are willing to be involved in Sustainable Development. We want to subscribe to this vision and in particular to our three goals: economic performance, social responsibility and environmental protection.

Economic performance.

This is a central and essential topic and it is our priority. It is aimed at extracting an added value from our activities continuously trying to meet our customers needs and informing them better on our products.

1 - Searching for a sustainable customers satisfaction.

- Earning the best certification levels.
- Focusing on the customers requirements, service, relationships and mutual trust in order to meet their expectations.
- Optimizing, planning the quality method and measuring the efficiency of the processes and our performances.
- Permanently improving the quality of our products and services.
- Implementing measures to ensure food security for our products.
- Developing products contributing to improve the environment.

- We are permanently trying to improve our customers satisfaction. Our factories, which all comply with the ISO 9001 et ISO 14001 certifications, actively define quality methods.

- As far food security is concerned, the products coming out from our specialized facilities comply with the HACCP certification.

- On the short run, we plan to earn a first OHSAS 18001 certification and we will make a complete carbon footprint balance.



- HCl for water treatment

- Sodium bicarbonate for sludge incineration and treatment (household waste, technical waste): apart from the product, we offer technical solutions as well a check of the results.

2 - Informing our customers on our products.

- Giving them information regarding REACH and its enforcement, providing them quickly with SDS and technical datas...
- Providing our customers with innovating and sustainable solutions.



REACH is a new step in giving our partners and employees informations regarding our products and highlighting those which better contribute to the environment.

For all its activities, Novacap lists the chemical products the company produces or supplies, assesses existing datas and prepares registration files to be handed over to the European Agency for chemical products.

REACH for Novacap:

11 products requiring a registration file, an authorization and to be registered during the first three years.

3 - Achieving sustainable activities.

- Making our facilities more reliable according to our budgets.
- Improving our outputs and production costs.
- Optimizing co-products.

Six Sigma process:

Continuous efforts to achieve stable and predictable process results are of vital importance satisfy our customers and improve our business profitability. Hence, Novacap is increasingly using Six Sigma method to identify and remove the causes of defects and errors in its manufacturing and business processes.

sustainable chemistry.

« Contributing to Sustainable Development means implementing concrete actions: assessing our processes and our operations, defining ambitious projects to be followed-up on a daily basis, committing ourselves with respect to the local communities. An organized ambition followed by actions »

Pierre Luzeau

Social responsibility.

It is highly important to guarantee health and safety to our employees and also to our partners carrying or processing our products. Furthermore, we need to establish a high-quality social dialogue as well as integrate better our factories where they are located jointly with the local authorities, the residents and the associations.

1 - Ensuring health and safety to our employees.

- Preventing work-related accidents, training, promoting safe behaviours and compliance with the instructions.
- Preventing problems assessing the potential risks before any operation
- Efficiently analyzing our accidents and incidents so that they do not occur again.
- Controlling, checking the compliance via safety inspections.



Novacarb: Internal Operation Plan (POI) practice in 2008, emergency evacuation practice, preparation for OHSAS18001 certification.

Novapex: assessment of our SEVESO risk analysis, preparation for OHSAS18001 certification. Assessment of the transportation partners.



2 - Establishing a high-quality social dialogue.

- Planning employment and skills.
- Training the staff and informing them on Sustainable Development.
- Guaranteeing the social rights of our employees.

- An agreement regarding planning employment and skills was entered into with the partners in Nancy.

- The complexity of the production positions in Roussillon was reviewed.

3 - Integrating better our factories into their territories.

- Establishing a deeper constructive dialogue with the local stakeholders (open days, partnerships with schools...)
- Contributing to local economy

Our production units based in France directly contribute to local life creating direct or indirect jobs, contributing to business and local taxes for more than

9,6 million € per year.



Environmental protection.

We commit ourselves to protect the environment when performing all our tasks, keep on reducing the impact of our activities on the air, water, earth, guarantee safe industrial installations and protect the natural resources.

Our group has invested around 11 million euros in QHSE (Quality, Health, Safety and Environment) over the last three years.



1 - Managing better our impact on the environment.

- Exploiting the natural resources in compliance with good engineering practices, contributing to landscape rehabilitation
- Implementing the environmental management system ISO 14001.
- Protecting biodiversity and learning about the ecosystems on our sites and nearby.

Partnership with the French League for the Protection of Birds (LPO) and the Lorraine Ornithological Centre (COL).

As it had to create an industrial area to improve flood and water discharge management in the Meurthe region, Novacarb has defined an ornithological plan on a water surface for different bird species: black-headed gulls, common terns, plovers...

Natural clearing

On Lenoncourt salt site, 14 secured hectares need to remain cleared to be exploited and for collapse management. In order not to use chemical herbicides spread by air, the site hosts a Highlands Cattle purebred cows livestock.

- Developing a supply network contributing to environment protection (train, river, pipe transportation...).
- Choosing partners sharing our vision of Sustainable Development.

We give priority to transportation means with lower environmental impact than road transportation:

More than 3.2 million tons of raw materials and finished products were carried in 2007 for the needs of our activities. Around one fourth of this figure uses road transportation. Novacap focuses on river, train transportation but also on an appropriate pipeline network.



2 - Reducing our ecological footprint.

- Diversifying our energy resources reducing greenhouse gases.

Total energy efficiency
higher than
85 %

Biomass grows well at Novacarb

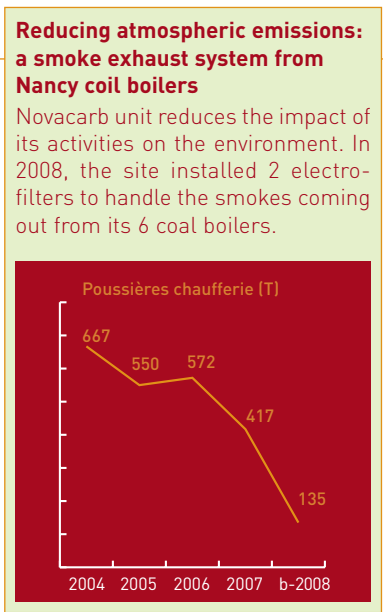
Novacarb jointly works with its partner Poweo on a cogeneration plant project based on a 16 MWe biomass. This process allows to use the energy from the biomass with a total energy efficiency higher than 85%. The biomass plant will provide Novacarb site with steam instead of coal boilers and will allow to reduce significantly carbon dioxide emissions.

It will also produce electricity, which can be supplied to the national network. The plant will use a mixed clean biomass supply: cereal straw, energy farming such as miscanthus as well as products and wastes from forestry. Therefore, this project will contribute to achieve a diversified farm income and structure the wood industry.

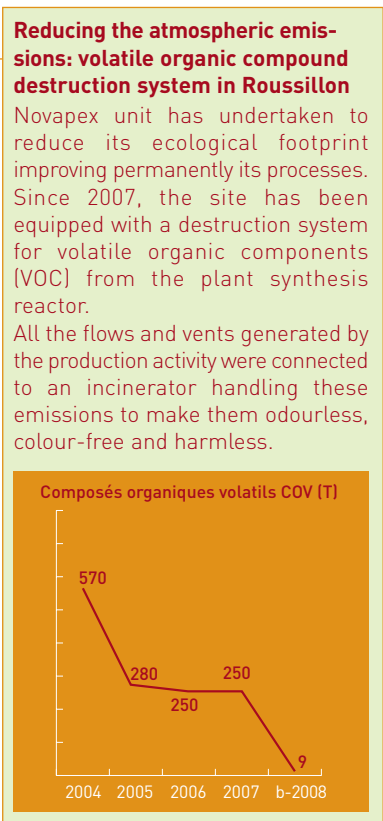




- Reducing air and water emissions.
- Source prevention, improving processes, optimizing effluent treatment, implementing continuous advanced assessment methods.



As a result, the site **divides** its dust emissions by **7**.



The expected VOC destruction rate is **98%**.



Unintentional aqueous emissions have been **divided by ten** over a **5-year period**.

A responsible and structured program.

In order to meet our goals, we have defined some performance indicators for each improvement opportunity. Our former and future achievements rely on professional and ambitious teams: focusing on Sustainable Development means committing ourselves to follow a continuous improvement plan.

Key performance indicators and targets defined for each site.

The Sustainable Development Program is followed-up according to 50 indicators. The improvements are assessed every year.

50 improvement indicators.

We use different indicators in order to get an overall vision of our improvements: regulation follow-up, water consumption measurement, number of contacts with the local authorities...

« Global Compact » and « Responsible Care » commitments

In January 2008, Novacap signed the United Nations Global Compact declaration and committed itself to support the fundamental principles in connection with the Human Rights, work standards, environment and fight against corruption. Entering into this Compact involves an annual assessment of the best practices. Novacap is a member of the French chemical industry association (IUC) and has also signed the "Responsible Care" Charter for all its activities.



Novacap is a member of Axelera, the Chemistry and Environment Competitiveness Cluster in Rhone-Alpes region.





Targets	Performance indicator
Reducing emissions	Atmospheric emissions Volatile organic compound – VOC (T) Substances generating acidification (T. eq. SO ₂) Steam production (T/year) Greenhouse gas (T eq. CO ₂ , non renewable) Sulfur oxides Nitrogen oxides Dusts (T) Metals Zn +Cu +Ni (T) Metals As +Cd +Cr +Hg +Pb +Sb (T) Water emissions COD (T of O ₂) on 42S Suspended particles (T)
Promoting co-products, producing less waste	Solid and liquid waste Non hazardous wastes (T/year) Co-product sales (T/year) Hazardous wastes, material recovery not included (T/year)
Reducing consumptions, increasing outputs	Consumptions and outputs Water consumption (m ³ /T produced per year) Ammonia consumption (m ³ /T produced per year) Power consumption (kWh/T produced per year) Lime-burning kiln outputs (therm/T produced per year) Main products outputs (%) Packaging consumption (unit/T produced per year) Output (%)
Improving industrial installation safety	Industrial safety IOP practices QHSE investments and costs (M€) Environment Provisions (M€)
Reducing road transportation and increasing train, rive and pipeline transportation	Transportation Road (kT carried/year) Road (%) River (kT carried/year) Train (kT carried/year) Pipe (kT/year)
Improving safety	Safety Internal TF1 Sub-contractors TF1 Internal TF2 Sub-contractors TF2 - of VSH (Safety inspection) - of collective safety practices (number per year) OHSAS 18001 Certification
Informing the staff on Sustainable Development	Training, information regarding Sustainable Development % of the staff involved in a training/information session regarding sustainable development Number of hours dedicated to QHSE training % of 5S improvements
Satisfying and informing our customers	Customers and Products Certifications ISO 9001, ISO 14001 (% renewed) Number of customer claims Number of quality and supply malfunctions Customer survey Reach registration Safety data sheet/Technical data CMR substances
Integrating better our factories into their territories	Authorities & Environment taxes Number of contacts with the local authorities Number of local external environmental claims Environment Taxes TGAP, VNF, AERM (M€)



Le Carré Joannès
29, av. Joannès Masset
CS 10619
69258 Lyon Cedex 09

Novacap, a simplified joint stock
company with a registered capital
of 2,416,200.55 € and registered
under Lyon Trade Register under
the number 444 465 736.

Tél : +33 (0)4 26 99 18 00
Fax : +33 (0)4 26 99 18 38
www.novacap.eu

