

#### Contents



#### Overview

Our vision

Who we are, where we are going and how we're going to get there.

#### At a glance

A world-class business. Aperam's business divisions across three primary operating segments.

Message from the Chief Executive Officer



#### Strategy and performance

Focusing on what matters

How Aperam puts stakeholders at the heart of its strategy.

#### 2014 in numbers

How we performed for the Group and for the divisions.



#### People

Safety is always the top priority and we also help our people manage their general health and wellbeing. We offer training and development opportunities and look after our people.





#### **Environment**

Our new Environment Working Group helps keep us focused on where we can make the most difference on environmental issues. These include driving down our energy use and related carbon emissions, becoming a zero waste business, using water wisely and improving air quality.





#### **Stakeholders**

We encourage our senior management to lead by example, and to be highly visible with our team members. Engaging openly with our customers also helps us create more meaningful solutions for them. Getting closer to our stakeholders helps us build a better business.





**About this report** Assurance statement

GRI Index

#### **About Aperam**

# our vision

We are a leading global stainless and specialty steel producer but we are also a young company with a fresh approach. Our vision is to become sustainably profitable, and we are prepared to constantly challenge the status quo in order to achieve this. Our goals for sustainability are rooted in our business ambitions. The business we want to be, and the qualities we draw on to make this vision a reality, are fundamental to how we engage in the topic of corporate responsibility and sustainability.

#### **Living our values**

With leadership has always come responsibility and this has never been truer than it is today. We aim to do things the right way and we support the development of new standards in our industry. Our people are innovative and collaborative. Adapting to today's business and sustainability challenges demands quick thinking and flexibility. There is no time to waste.

#### The Aperam Way

While our three company values of leadership, ingenuity and agility ensure high performance and profitability, it is our behavioural values that help us become a responsible and sustainable leader in our industry.

The Aperam Way is the name we give to the behaviours we want to see from our people. These include teamwork, transparency and proximity. They capture the culture we want to build for our company; one that fosters the key qualities that guide the way that we do business.

It is through the expression of these behaviours that we can manage our impacts on society and become a more sustainable business.

#### **Our values**

Our three values are the means by which we will deliver our vision. They inform our every action:



#### Leadership

We seek to be bold and audacious in our approach, while remaining relevant to the marketplace, and to promote sustainable solutions.

#### Ingenuity

Our people are skillful, imaginative and innovative in their work, and passionate to share their skills. This may mean developing new ideas, or seeing things with new ideas to find an appropriate solution.

#### Agility

We recognise the need to move quickly and adapt to changing market conditions, as well as to be flexible enough to meet specific customer requirements.



For more information please visit our website: aperam.com/sustainability

#### At a glance

# a world-class company

#### Our main production sites

- on Genk, Belgium
- Châtelet, Belgium
- Gueugnon, France
- 04 Isbergues, France
- os Imphy, France
- of Timóteo, Brazil

#### **Global Performance**

US\$ Million	Global Aperam <sup>(1)</sup>
Revenues	5,485
Operating costs <sup>(2)</sup>	4,259
Employee wages and benefits	681
Payments to providers of capital	84
Payments to government	67
Community investments	1
EBITDA	547
Economic value retained	393
Direct economic value generated	5,485
Economic value distributed	5,092

#### G4-EC1

- (1) Differences between 'Global Aperam' and the sum of the different segments as shown on page 3 are due to all operations other than those that are part of the Stainless Steel & Electrical Steel, Services & Solutions and Alloys & Specialities operating segments, together with intersegments eliminations and/or non-operational items which are not segmented.
- non-operational items which are not segmented.
  (2) Operating costs include R&D fees of \$20m for Aperam Group.

1.81Mt





Through our Brazilian subsidiary, Aperam BioEnergia, we produce wood and charcoal (biomass) from cultivated eucalyptus forests.

We use the charcoal (biomass) produced by Aperam BioEnergia as a substitute for coke at our Timóteo production facility, which produces fewer carbon emissions. In 2014 we produced 433,000 tonnes of charcoal through Aperam BioEnergia, compared with 431,000 tonnes in 2013.

2.5<sub>mt</sub>

Flat stainless steel capacity in Europe and South America

9,424
employees of 47
nationalities

8,274

Total number of male employees

1,150

Total number of female employees, increased by 4% in one year

People

Environment

Stakeholders

About this report

# **Business divisions**We manage our business across three primary operating segments:



Stainless & Electrical Steel
We are one of the largest global producers of stainless steel by production capacity. We produce a wide range of stainless and electrical steels in Europe and South America, and continuously expand our product offerings by developing new grades and finishes.



**Services & Solutions**This division, which includes our tubes and precision businesses, performs three main activities:

- (i) the management of direct sales of stainless steel products from our production facilities:
- (ii) distribution of our products (and, to a less extent, those of our suppliers); and
- (iii) transformation services, which include the provision of value-added and customised steel solutions to meet specific customer requirements.



Alloys & Specialities
Believed to be the fourth
largest producer of nickel
alloys in the world, this
division specialises in the
design, production and
transformation of various
nickel alloys and certain
specific stainless steels.
Our products take the form
of bars, semis, cold-rolled
strips, plates, wire and wire
rods, and come in a range
of grades.

#### **Performance**

US\$ Million	Stainless & Electrical Steel	Services & Solutions	Alloys & Specialities	
Perimeter	Worldwide: - Belgium: Châtelet, Genk - Brazil: Timoteo, BioEnergia - France: Gueugnon, Isbergues	Worldwide: - 16 Steel Service Centres (SSCs) - 8 Transformation facilities - 19 Sales offices	Worldwide: - France: Amilly, Imphy, Rescal - PRC: Imhua	
Employees (FTE EOP)	6,256	1,998	1,114	
Revenues	4,427	2,389	628	
EBITDA	427	87	58	
Payment to Governments	35	20	8	
Economic value generated	4,427	2,389	628	
Economic value distributed	4,179	2,320	571	

G4-EC1

#### Transparency drives engagement and performance

We are committed to fair, accurate and honest disclosure of our progress to being a more sustainable and responsible business. We believe this builds trust with our stakeholders, and helps us improve our performance over time. Among the organisations Aperam supports are the UN Global Compact, the Carbon Disclosure Project, the Global Reporting Index and the Dow Jones Sustainability Index.









#### Message from our CEO



Timoteo Di Maulo CEO

"We have continued to focus on our nonnegotiable priority: the health and safety of our people." Welcome to our report, which covers our social and environmental performance during 2014. It details our progress in addressing our most material social and environmental issues as we aim to become a sustainable, profitable company and the leading industry catalyst in stainless steel and specialities. In producing this report, we have been guided by the Global Reporting Initiative G4 guidelines, which we are in accordance with at the core level. It also complies with the UN Global Compact, which we are proud to support.

At Aperam, we are proud of our ability to think differently and create change in our industry through focusing on quality and innovation. In 2014 we have once again managed to improve our operational efficiency and financial performance, as well as to reduce our net debt, despite challenging market conditions. Alongside this, we have continued to focus on our non-negotiable priority: the health and safety of our people.

Safety is our first duty to our employees. In 2014 we achieved a significant reduction in our lost time injury frequency rate, from 1.3 in 2013 to 1.1 in 2014, and improved our practice in other safety priority areas. I am also pleased to report that absenteeism was down from 2.1% in 2013 to 2% in 2014. It is a good measure of the overall health of our workforce, and represents an improvement in dealing with chronic health issues and work-related stress. We can always do better, however, and in 2015 we will concentrate on further embedding safety-conscious behaviours and strong managerial commitment.

We also want to enable our employees to thrive and to fulfil their potential. The Aperam Way defines our commitments to our people and the behaviours we expect from them; in short, the culture we want to develop that will help us become a more sustainable business.

Our customers are at the heart of what we do. We aim to be their preferred choice and to constantly exceed their expectations. In 2014, we have strived to partner with our customers and other external stakeholders – from suppliers to financial partners – to develop mutually profitable and sustainable products and solutions.

Mitigating our environmental impacts is crucial to achieving our vision of being a sustainable and profitable company. In 2014 we established an Environment Working Group – one of six new groups aimed at strengthening our governance of sustainability issues – and set stretching long-term targets to address energy consumption, waste, water use and other key areas.

Communicating openly with our stakeholders in order to understand the broader impacts of our business is part of what it means to act responsibly. A key achievement in 2014 was establishing a more open exchange with the communities we operate in. As a result, we have ended 2014 stronger and ready to start a new phase of our journey. In 2015, a new and dynamic leadership team with fresh ideas will take the Aperam Way to the next level.

I believe that not only are our products made for life, but they are also made with passion. I am proud of our workforce and of the way we do business according to our values of leadership, ingenuity and agility. I am confident that we can unlock Aperam's full potential and keep our promises for a sustainable common future.

Please do let us know what you think of this report and our progress towards becoming a more sustainable business.



Timoteo Di Maulo
Chief Executive Officer

Strategy and performance

People

Environment

Stakeholders

About this report



### Strategy

# ocusina C atmatters

#### **Employees & Management**

Educational Institutions & trainees

#### Our engagement is reflected in:

- Collective agreements including CSR based incentives
- Proximity meetings HR and Human Rights policies

- People development plans
- Training plans & catalogues Professional Committees
- Climate Surveys

#### **Authorities & regulators**

#### Our engagement is reflected in:

- Diligent responses to enquiries Support of global initiatives such as CDP, Global Compact

#### **Communities**

Neighbours & Communities NGOs & Local Associations Local Media Local economic players

#### Our engagement is reflected in:

- Stakeholder day or meetings
- Site visits or open days Specific newsletters ('Good neighbour' newsletter)
- Press releases and interviews
- Preference and support of
- Environmental & Human Rights policies
- Pollution prevention training exercises
- Local development and student fairs

## Our stakeholders

at the heart of our strategy

#### Customers

End Consumers

#### Our engagement is reflected in:

- Code of Business Conduct
- and technical customer trainings
- Product documentation
- Economic sanctions policy
- annual contract negotiations
- R&D partnerships

#### Financial partners

#### Our engagement is reflected in:

- meeting & IR days, interviews Shareholders meetings,

#### **Business partners**

Subcontractors Trade Associations Audit & Certification firms

#### Our engagement is reflected in:

- Code of Business Conduct
- General Purchase Conditions

- Associations, working groups and exchanges on H&S best practices
- Subcontractor Safety Charter
- Requests for quotations and
- Congresses and trade fairs
- R&D partnerships

Strategy and performance

People

Environment

Stakeholders

About this report

Our goal is to become a sustainable, profitable company through thinking differently and creating change in the stainless, electrical and speciality steels sector.

By promoting teamwork and applying 'the Aperam Way', we can foster innovation. By building closer relationships with our stakeholders, we can address issues of concern, build trust and maintain and enhance our licence to operate. Through this joint focus on innovation and engagement we aim to become the leading sustainable stainless steel company.

Following the publication of our 2013 report, we conducted an extensive review of our current structures and the steps we need to take to achieve our sustainability ambitions.

# Developing our sustainability strategy and governance in 2014

Our governance structure comprises the Board of Directors who define business objectives advised by the Leadership Team, the Chairman, and the CEO who has ultimate accountability for sustainability performance and compliance. Our Leadership Team is entrusted with the day-to-day management of the Company.

Two senior committees govern our overall approach to sustainability:

- Our Sustainability, Performance and Strategy Committee, which comprises three Directors and is responsible for reviewing performance and strategy;
- A Sustainability Steering Committee, comprising nine senior managers, whose remit is to guide sustainability management, risk, stakeholder relationships, reporting and assurance activities.

During 2014 we strengthened our governance of sustainability-related issues by creating six working groups covering the key strategic areas in which we would like to improve our practice: environment, stakeholder engagement, supply chain management, social reporting, customer satisfaction and integrated reporting.

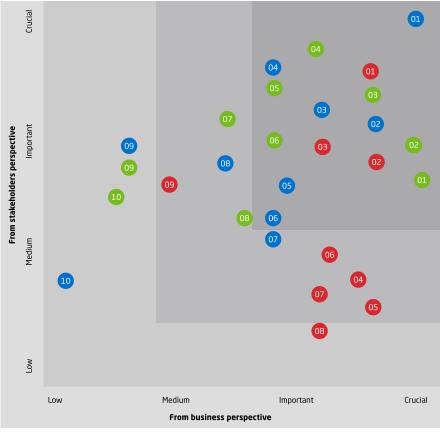
Each working group is tasked with creating a five-year strategy for the 2015-2020 period. This will bring clarity of purpose and a focus to our work that will drive us forward across these six sustainability areas.

# Our approach to define what is material has not changed

Just as in 2013, we undertook a structured exercise to identify the most material sustainability issues and their impacts, based on Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) principles. The materiality of an issue was determined via an assessment based on the potential impact on the Company and on our stakeholders.

Based on our ongoing engagement with stakeholders around each of our sites, our Sustainability Steering Committee considers that there has been no substantial change during 2014 to the materiality assessment and that we are continuing to focus our efforts on the most relevant areas.

#### **Materiality Matrix**



G4-19

#### People

01 Occupational Safety 02 Employee Engagement 03 Social Dialogue

04 Community

Engagement 05 Competencies & Employability

06 Occupational Health

07 Supplier Labour Practices

08 Diversity & Equal Opportunity

09 Philanthropy 10 Data Privacy

#### **Environment**

01 Raw Material Consumption 02 Energy Consumption 03 Waste/Recycling 04 Air & Dust Emissions 05 Pollution Prevention 06 Water Consumption 07 Climate Change 08 Product Innovation 09 Transport Emissions 10 Biodiversity

#### **Stakeholders**

01 Sustainably Profitable
02 Legal & Fiscal
Compliance
03 Customer Satisfaction
04 Anti-Dumping
05 Cash, Debt & Financing
06 Fair Business Practices
07 Economic Sanctions
08 Market Dynamics
09 Supplier Environmental
Practices

#### Performance

# 

For the Group			
Aspect	Indicator	2014	2013
Economic performance	Direct economic value generated and distributed	USD 5,485m	USD 5,190m
Procurement practices	Proportion of spending on local suppliers at significant locations of operation (%)	62% <sup>(1)</sup>	57%
Materials consumption	Percentage of materials used that are recycled input materials	28%	26.5%
Energy consumption	Energy intensity (GJ/t)	13.0*	13.6
Water consumption	Total water withdrawal by source (million m³)	22.3* (93% from local rivers)	22.5 (93% from local rivers)
Emissions	Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions intensity (tCO₂e/t)	0.48*	0.48
	Significant air emissions (tonnes of ducted dust)	441.8*	400
Occupational health and safety	Lost time injury frequency rate (LTIFR) (employees and contractors) - Severity rate - Absenteeism - Fatalities	1.12 0.11 2.03% 0	1.34 0.08 2.05% 0
Career development	Employees receiving regular performance reviews (%) (by employment category) Exempts (GEDP) Blue Collar and White Collar workers	95% <sup>(2)</sup> 87%	96% 86%
Supply chain labour practices	Percentage of suppliers having significant actual and potential negative impacts for labour practices (health & safety) for which improvements were agreed	15% (Raw material/Europe) Actions to be defined in 2015	16% (Raw material/Europe)
Impacts on local communities	Percentage of operations with implemented local community engagement, impact assessments, and development programmes	100%(1)	100%
Product stewardship, customer service	Results surveys measuring customer satisfaction (score)	7.8 (Brazil) <sup>(3)</sup> (Compared to 8.05 in 2012)	7.1 (Europe) <sup>(4)</sup> (Compared to 7.1 in 2011)

<sup>(1)</sup> Scope: Significant operating sites in Europe and South America (Genk, Châtelet, Gueugnon, Isbergues, Imphy, Timóteo) excluding Services & Solutions division. Non-raw materials only. (2) We do not break down this statistic by gender. The GEDP process is the same, regardless of gender.
(3) Scope: South America operations only. Collected every two years, the last available data for Europe was collected in 2013 (score 7.1).
(4) Scope: Europe operations only. Collected every two years, last collected in 2013.

Strategy and performance

People

Environment
Stakeholders

About this report

	Stainless & Electrical Stee		Services & Solutions	Alloys & Specialities
	Europe: Genk (BE), Châtelet (BE), Gueugnon (FR), Isbergues (FR)	South America: Timóteo (BR), BioEnergia (BR)	Worldwide: - 16 Steel Service Centres (SSCs) - 8 transformation facilities - 19 sales offices	Worldwide: Imphy (FR), Amilly (FR), Rescal (FR), Imhua (PRC)
Employees (FTE) <sup>(5)</sup>	3,040 (3,151 in 2013)	3,216 (3,233 in 2013)	1,998 (2,050 in 2013)	1,114 (1,046 in 2013)
Fatalities	0	0	0	0
Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR)	2.8 (2.6 in 2013)	O (0.4 in 2013)	0.4 (1.4 in 2013)	3.5 (3.2 in 2013)
Customer overall satisfaction score	71% (2013) (71% in 2011)	78% (2014) (83% in 2012)	71% (2013) (71% in 2011)	91% (2014)
Trend in energy intensity (GJ/t, 2014 vs. 2013)	4.7%	2.2%	11.1%	<b>3</b> .4%
Trend in carbon energy intensity (greenhouse gas emissions) (CO <sub>2</sub> et/t, 2014 vs. 2013)	4.3%	9.1%	8.4%	8.3%
Trend in local air emissions (dust) (t, 2014 vs. 2013)	5.6 %	6.9%	N/A	1.3%
Trend in water withdrawal (m³, 2014 vs. 2013)	9.5%	3.9%	10.3%	5.6%
% of procurement spend on local suppliers	65% (61% in 2013)	49% (47% in 2013)	N/A	71% (56% in 2013)
Site management system certification	100% of sites compliant with - ISO 14001 - OHSAS 18001	100% of sites compliant with - ISO 14001 - OHSAS 18001	90% of sites compliant with - ISO 9001 - OHSAS 18001	100% of sites compliant with - ISO 9001 - OHSAS 18001
	85% of sites compliant with – ISO 9001	50% of sites compliant with – ISO 9001	50% of sites compliant with - ISO 14001	80% of sites compliant with – ISO 14001
	One site compliant with – ISO 50001	-FSC		One site compliant with – ISO 26000



#### People

# looking after our employees

# Our people are not only our first asset but also colleagues with whom we share true values and a common future.

Safety is our non-negotiable priority and a collective responsibility, as the first duty to our people. We focus relentlessly on implementing rigorous standards and procedures in order to achieve our aims of zero fatalities, zero injuries, and minimising lost time injuries. Such is our commitment to the safety of our people that 10% of the performance bonus of the CEO and members of the Leadership Team is linked to our safety performance.

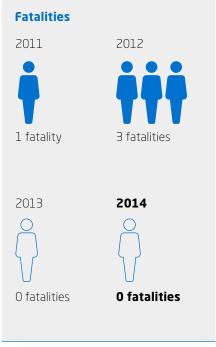
In addition, motivating, developing and engaging with our employees were among our highest priorities in 2014. This also applied when we had to implement difficult restructuring projects.

#### Health and safety

It is vital that safety is always the top priority. Accidents happen when we don't pay attention, so we all need to take care at every moment of every day. It is therefore important for us to continually improve our performance in order to achieve our aims of zero fatalities, zero injuries, and keeping lost time injuries low – and all employees have a part to play.

# Fatality Prevention: our non-negotiable priority

During the second half of 2014, we conducted Fatality Prevention Audits (FPA) to help sites understand which areas they need to improve. These were carried out by colleagues at other sites who know the processes better, and covered topics of relevance to our safety priority areas such as contractor safety management and the fair-play policy. At the end of each FPA, the relevant site received a report and was tasked to develop action plans to improve safety management in all sites.



G4-LA6

Indicator	We said	We did	We will
LTIFR (all regions) Employees and contractors	Achieve 1.3	1.1	1.0
Employees	Maintain at 1.0	1.2	1.0
Contractors	Achieve 1.9	0.8	Maintain below 1.0
Fair Play Policy	100% completed by 2015	100%	
Absenteeism	2.1% and improvement plan in sites where the average is higher	2.03	2.0

Strategy and performance

People

Environment

Stakeholders

About this report





#### People continued

#### **Health and safety**

Ilder Camargo Da Silva, Head of Health and Safety at Aperam, said of Aperam's 2014 safety performance: "2014 was our second best year overall for lost time, and our best year ever if we include restricted work. This was due in large part to highly visible and exemplary leadership, in particular the active participation of our CEO in our monthly safety conference call.

Strong managerial commitment and accountability was supported by a rigorous focus on the importance of all employees adopting a safety-conscious attitude and being aware of potential risks. This included sharing and embedding the Fair Play Policy – using the motto 'Fair play, for you and for me' – especially at the health and safety training event, as well as improving our practice in our other safety priority areas – fire protection, isolation and contractors"

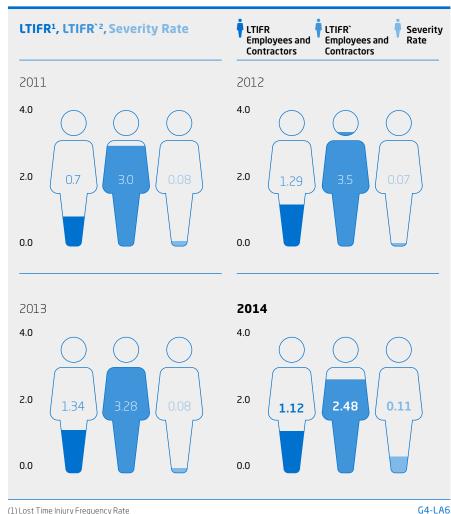


**Ilder Camargo**Head of Health and Safety

#### Our strategy and approach

Our 2014 strategy to achieve our safety goals focused primarily on:

- Sharing information: including both good practices and accident data, as well as the lessons we have learned when things have gone wrong;
- Involving our leaders: we recognise that they have a vital role in promoting and exemplifying our safety standards; and
- Establishing rituals: keeping people aware of safety issues, sharpening their perception of potential danger and developing behaviour that will minimise the risk of incidents.



(1) Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (2) Lost Time Injury + Restricted Work Frequency rate (Fr')

To facilitate the implementation of our strategy, our Safety Restricted Committee (comprising safety managers across all sites) holds a bi-monthly conference call to share information and best practice at each site and to evaluate results. Our Safety Monthly Committee, which comprises safety managers and site managers as well as the CEO, discusses performance and information on specific projects.

#### Our top safety priority areas:

#### Cont

#### Contractors

Unsatisfactory results on contractor safety (our LTIFR for contractors was 2.3 in 2013) led us to review our contractor safety procedures and launch a working group dedicated to improving contractor safety management and results in all sites.

In June 2014 this group, composed of Health & Safety site managers, purchasers and maintenance managers, presented

and proposed to all sites a pragmatic 'toolbox' with best practice examples to help them:

- Select and evaluate the contractors;
- Analyse the risks and define preventive measures;
- Manage the different types of contracts;
- Organise the maintenance stops;
- Communicate with contractors; and
- Implement the fair play policy for contractors.

Services & Solutions Centres have worked on simplifying procedures and introducing standard reference documents.

During the summer maintenance stops, some of the proposed tools were put in place (e.g. a double safety audit and daily meetings with all contractors involved in the work). During the second half of 2014, all sites (including the Services & Solutions Centres) implemented the toolbox and organised monthly follow-ups to monitor the results.

Overview
Strategy and performance

People

Stakeholders

Environment

About this report

In December 2014, a Fatality Prevention Audit was carried out at all main production sites to assess the implementation of the toolbox and measure the progress. The results were very satisfying as no accidents had occurred during the summer maintenance stops, and the LTIFR for contractors therefore dropped from 2.3 in 2013 to 0.8 in 2014.

One of the recommended best practices included in the toolbox were the boss-to-boss meetings between the site manager, the purchasing manager and the manager of the contractor company.



#### Voices

"We learnt that an open exchange and regular contact between the two has a big impact on the contractors' behaviour, as both parties understand the importance Aperam places on safety management and results – and that they can affect Aperam's commercial relationships."

**Philippe Riche,** Support Manager at Aperam and leader of the Contractor Working Group, said of this practice:

#### Fire protection

Following the fire at our Gueugnon site in 2012 – and the subsequent risk assessments and action plans completed by all sites in 2013 we established a working group at the end of 2013. Its remit was to roll out the main

actions proposed in the action plans, find pragmatic solutions to integrate into existing operational and safety organisation, and create a network of fire risk experts. The Group comprises operational site managers and fire prevention experts and meets quarterly.

During the year, the Group succeeded in helping all sites achieve full compliance, as well as working together to share best practices and identify gaps in our procedures. A key finding was that there is no common procedure for hot works permits, even though most fire incidents are a result of hot works. The Group is now working on a common procedure, with the objective of setting minimum standards that are applied throughout Aperam.

The overall goal for 2015 is to develop a common fire prevention vision for the entire Aperam Group, and to eliminate the

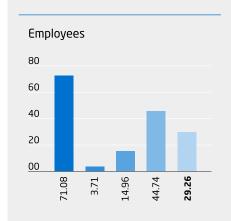
remaining differences between fire prevention measures in place at each site. Specific action points include evolving as many sites as possible past the next level of safety standards and finalising the common minimum procedures for hot works permits, as well as integrating fire prevention recommendations made by our insurance companies into our strategy and practice.

#### Isolation

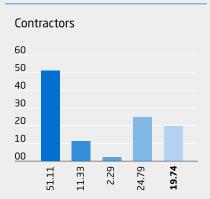
Our aim is to minimise the risk of harm by preventing people from touching equipment. To this end, in 2014 we identified two leaders – one in Europe and one in South America – and conducted audits of different sites to identify gaps in our preventive measures.

In addition, we launched a pilot project on each industrial site to add lock-outs during isolation phases of our equipment. This will improve safety during maintenance activities.

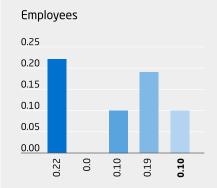
#### 2014 Injury rate performance(1)



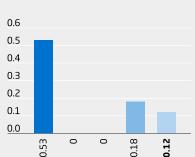
- Stainless EuropeStainless America
- s Europe Alloys & Specialities s America Total
- Services & Solutions



#### 2014 Severity rate performance(2)



### Contractors



(1) Total number of injuries/total hours worked  $\times$  1,000,000; injury rate calculation includes fatalities. (2) Total number of days lost for accidents/total hours worked  $\times$  1,000,000.



#### People continued

#### Fair play

The Fair Play Policy aims to encourage awareness of risk and adherence to procedures, and to recognise good behaviour. Our focus in 2014 was to share and embed the policy, to effect a change in the mind-set of the leaders and to work on our teams' behaviour.

During the year all sites put into practice the fatality prevention standards (Aperam's customised standards), based on the Fair Play Policy, and were working on achieving Level 3, which equates to compliance with local laws as well as the Fair Play Policy.

Self-assessments carried out during the year have led to an increased awareness of the importance of safety-conscious behaviour. In addition, senior managers have recognised the need to lead by example and, as a result, training on safety leadership has been provided to all managers.

Our goal for 2015 is to conduct external audits to ascertain how well the standards are understood and followed, and for all sites to reach the next level of our Aperam Standards. We will also focus on ensuring that the Fair Play Policy is correctly monitored across the Company.





# **Embedding responsible behaviour through training**

Our 2014 two-day training event was held at our Isbergues site, headed by the Isbergues plant manager and head of Health and Safety at Aperam. First-line supervisory staff from the operational management teams of our European plants attended, accompanied by each site's health and safety manager.

After a year focusing mainly on standards and procedures, we wanted to use the training day to emphasise practical behaviour and our collective responsibility to promote safety by implementing our policies accurately. The agenda therefore focused on understanding and improving safety and performance on the workfloor, and on developing leadership behaviour around safety issues.

A key aim was to present tools that can be built into daily routines that will have a positive impact on behaviour, and to increase understanding of possible human errors that can lead to accidents.

As a result, participants are now better able to anticipate accidents and implement suitable preventive measures. The training also emphasised a collaborative approach towards safety, including the importance of listening to colleagues but also having the courage to speak up and stop a machine or task if safety was thought to be at risk.

#### **Voices**

"Leaders who attended the training are now better equipped to improve the attitudes and behaviours of their team members to be more safety-conscious and to develop a culture of safety within their teams."

**Gerard Grimbert,** Isbergues Plant Manager commented after the training.

Participating leaders then faced the challenge of presenting a safety project to colleagues at their respective plants, to assist them in following through on the commitments they made at the end of the training.

In 2015 we intend to focus on further behaviour training at our top priority sites (Châtelet and Imphy).



#### Voices

"Our key challenges for 2015 are to maintain our achievement of zero fatalities and to make further progress in other areas. It is also vital that we continue to focus strongly on visible leadership and accountability, that both managers and employees continue to be driven by a safety mindset, and that all employees retain the conviction that injuries and occupational illnesses can be prevented."

Timoteo Di Maulo

Strategy and performance

People

Environment

Stakeholders

About this report

# Beyond safety: a healthy workforce for better business delivery

Health and safety go hand in hand. Only when you're healthy are you physically and mentally capable of identifying – and therefore avoiding – risks or accidents quickly. Health management is thus an integral part of our safety strategy.

We believe that absenteeism rates are a good indicator of the health of our workforce. In 2014, Aperam's global absenteeism rate was 2%, down from 2.1% in 2013, reflecting a continuous reduction in occupational disease, chronic health issues and work-related stress.

Absenteeism rate	(%)	í

Stainless Europe	3.12
Stainless America	0.72
Services & Solutions	2.57
Alloys & Specialities	2.99
Luxembourg HQ	1.26
Total	2.03

G4-LA6

To achieve such good results, we offer a range of preventive measures such as free flu vaccinations and subsidisation of sports activities. In 2014, a full medical check-up was organised at our sites in Brazil. A multi-disciplinary team composed of a physician, nutritionist, psychologist and fitness trainer offered an all-encompassing health check, taking into account factors such as individual lifestyles or hereditary preconditions. The objective was to provide each employee with a personal risk map.

By undergoing these comprehensive check-ups, 57% of employees have gained greater awareness about their potential health risks and taken preventive measures to reduce their risk of cardiovascular diseases. Since a healthy mind is as important as a healthy body, many of our sites focused strongly on stress management in 2014. A good example of this is the 'Charge your batteries' programme initiated by our team in Duisburg, Germany. The programme consisted of a seminar entitled 'Finding relaxation in everyday life' led by an external expert, as well as four different workshops on stress management.

In addition, two workshops have been offered specifically for managers, focusing on the early detection of burn-out risks.

#### **Developing our Employees**

Our first commitment to our employees is to provide them with a safe work environment and train and prepare them well for the challenging tasks they are hired for. In addition, we seek to provide our people with the opportunity to develop new skills and move ahead on their career development path.

#### Competencies and Employability

In 2014, we have put in place a number of professional committees for each transversal function (for example, purchasing and commercial) with the aim of gaining greater understanding of the resources we have or need, to develop our teams to their full potential. We aim to facilitate the learning and development of our workforce and, to this end; all our different sites have defined and deployed training programmes or even adapted their organisational structure for greater learning opportunities.

In Châtelet, for example, our human resources teams have put together an extensive management training package, teaching team leaders or aspiring managers what it takes to successfully lead and develop a team, manage a budget and carry out a project from beginning to end. This training will be offered to all managers during 2015 and 2016.



With the ambition of creating a collective knowledge pool and ensuring greater transfer of skills, representatives of the different entities of our Isbergues site (sheet metal shop, Services & Solutions Centre, recycling centre (Recyco) and Research & Development institute) have collaborated and organised themselves around functional knowledge platforms rather than separate entities. As well as

fostering an open exchange and greater sharing of knowledge, this structure allows employees greater mobility between platforms and the opportunity to develop a broader set of skills.

At Aperam Alloys Imphy, developing competencies and transferring knowledge has been tackled in the true 'Aperam Way', promoting teamwork and proximity.

Among all senior workers, 75 have been identified as mentors, capable of training and passing on their experience and skills to co-workers, recent hires or young talents. These 75 mentors have first been trained themselves on how to guide another person for professional development.



#### **Recognition for our efforts**

For the fifth consecutive year, Aperam South America was selected as one of the best companies to work for by Guia Você S/A, in recognition of our work on employee health and wellbeing.

The ranking appears in the Guia Você S/A – Exame, edited by Editora Abril and the Foundation Institute of Administration (FIA).



#### People continued



**Socially Responsible Reorganisation** 

As a key player in a sector impacted by worldwide over-capacity, the ability to survive additional hardships such as economic crises or critical operational changes sometimes necessitates difficult decisions. While we make every effort to resolve problems at our plants in a way that minimises the need for major restructuring or closure, sometimes these outcomes prove to be the most appropriate way to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Company,

In such situations our priority is to manage restructurings and closures in a responsible manner – in line with our values – and to ensure that affected employees are treated with respect and kept fully informed at all times.

#### Taking the personal touch with our people at Firminy

In 2013 we had to take the difficult decision to close the Firminy plant, and the beginning of 2014 saw the plant carry out its final weeks of operation.

Recognising the impact this would have on its 71 employees, our priority was to manage the closure in the most responsible way and to offer assistance and support to those affected. With this in mind, we began providing assistance to employees even in early 2013, before the closure of the site was confirmed.

In addition, once the plan was finalised, we set up specific voluntary redundancy agreements in order to settle as many individual cases as possible before the closure.

To help each employee achieve a positive outcome, depending on their own circumstances and preferences, we offered a variety of options from the more common to the innovative. Our support ranged from CV reviews, training or early retirement to investigating employment options at other Aperam locations or even other local industrial companies.

In this case we encouraged people to enrol for a trial period at another company, without ending the work contract with Aperam prematurely.

The result was that, by the time of the closure, 90% of Firminy employees had achieved a positive outcome, and the local authorities praised the Company for our responsible and exemplary conduct throughout the process.

Responsibility

Aperam managed to find a suitable solution for 90% of the Firming

#### Ensuring a sustainable future for Gueugnon

After a difficult few years the Gueugnon plant needed substantial transformation to ensure a return to profitability. Given the severe economic difficulties of the area and Gueugnon's status as the principal employer, substantial effort was devoted to explaining the need for urgent commercial re-positioning and swift cost reduction, in parallel with ongoing dialogue with staff and local authorities.

Indicator	We said	We did	We will
% of employees receiving regular performance and career development reviews.	GEDP¹ for 100% of managers and 97% of exempts, plus improve annual interviews for workers in the main sites.	95% exempts of which 100% are managers. 87% workers.	GEDP for 97% of exempts of which 100% are managers.
Succession plans in place for management.	Succession plan review to fully cover Aperam management.	100% complete.	

Strategy and performance

People

Environment

Stakeholders

About this report

The result was an enhanced commercial strategy targeting new market segments, with lower complexity, leaner structures and more efficient processes. To implement these changes, a robust capacity-building policy was put in place, with strong investment in training and the enrolment of apprentices.

We achieved a high level of buy-in for these actions, and by the end of the year the site had demonstrated clearly improved efficiency, profitability and a more sustainable positioning.

#### Revitalising Isbergues

Having already suffered the closure of its melting shop in 2006, our Isbergues site was further impacted by the long-term suspension of the traditional rolling tool in 2011 and consequent effects on employment at the plant.

Beyond redundancy measures for the staff – which often necessitated relocations – Aperam implemented a revitalisation agreement aimed at compensating each job lost on the site (223 in 2011) with a new job within a 30 km radius.

We decided to implement this €1.2m agreement with local authorities (a higher investment than legally required) using a special revitalisation agency to achieve the best long-term efficiency.

However, due in part to the economic crisis, the results were regrettably insufficient.

Nonetheless, the extension of the agreement in 2014 – together with a more favourable economic climate – enabled the creation of 173 jobs during the year (203 since the launch of the plan). This has brought more life and activity to the area as well as providing renewed opportunities and services to the population, including one kindergarten and a brand new stainless-steel wrapped cultural centre.







#### Our commitments for 2015

In line with our duties and values, in 2015 we will continue our actions until we reach our targets. The Isbergues revitalisation agreement will again be extended to allow the remaining 30 jobs to be created, in order to fully compensate for the 2011 suspension of Isbergues' traditional rolling mill.

Everywhere else in the Group, we will continue to fulfil our responsibilities and ensure we continue to optimise performance so we can achieve sustainable profitability.



#### **Environment**

# thinking more, using less

Our vision is to become an increasingly sustainable and profitable company. Taking steps to reduce our environmental impact is essential to achieving this goal, as well as to promoting the sustainability of the communities we operate in and reducing our costs through greater efficiency.

In Europe there is also a regulatory imperative to act responsibly towards the environment, with each plant receiving a permit to operate and an annual emissions quota.

Strengthening our sustainability and mitigating our environmental impacts are long-term goals that require both time and good management. For this reason, our priority during 2014 has been to apply a more structured approach to our efforts, to strengthen our governance of sustainability issues and to establish a series of stretching 2020 targets across our key environmental impact areas.

What has been crucial in making this a reality is to increase the individual and collective consideration we give to environmental issues and to drive home the links with our business goals. This leads us to innovating solutions that make more efficient use of resources and so are good for the business as well as the planet.

## A new structure to drive improvement

In 2014 we established a new Environment Working Group which has defined the following long-term objectives for minimising our environmental impact – targeted for achievement by 2020. The remainder of the chapter explains the steps we are taking towards achieving these goals:

- Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> intensity by 35% (compared with 2007);
- Reduce energy intensity by 5% (compared with 2012);
- Be a zero waste (for disposal) company;
- Reduce the absolute value of fresh water extracted; and
- Reduce dust emission.

Indicator	We said	We did	We will
Energy consumption	We will drive improvements through monitoring, energy action plans and compliance actions. We will improve our data collection and reporting through a sound environmental data collection system.  Review the use of interim targets to monitor our performance improvements.	Monitoring: In Imphy, we installed a software to collect data on our consumption. The system triggers a real time alarm as it detects any deviation from standard norms.  In 2015, the same system will be implemented in Timóteo, Brazil.	We will continue to reduce energy consumption through monitoring, audits, process optimisation, thorough analysis communication and training.
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions	We will continue to invest in clean technology and performance improvements as required.	We recently invested in a modern annealing and pickling (RD79) with lower CO₂ emissions which started its first year of full production in 2014.	We will continue to invest in clean technology and performance improvements as required.
Waste			Prepare an action plan to reach the 2020 goal of zero residue (for disposal).

Strategy and performance

People

nvironment

Stakeholders

About this report





#### **Environment** continued



#### **Driving down energy use**

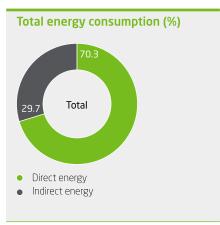
Carbon dioxide intensity

We are delighted that we have already achieved our 2020 commitment to reduce our  $\rm CO_2$  intensity by 35% against the 2007 baseline – principally through replacing coke with charcoal.

In terms of emissions, we emitted 1m tonnes of  $CO_2$  equivalent ( $tCO_2$ e) in 2014, which was made up of 0.685m  $tCO_2$ e direct emissions and 0.306m  $tCO_2$ e indirect emissions. This is unchanged from 2012, and a 41.1% reduction from our 2007 baseline. As a relative measure, our emissions per tonne of crude steel were 0.48  $tCO_2$ e/t\* in 2014. G4-EN18

#### **Energy intensity**

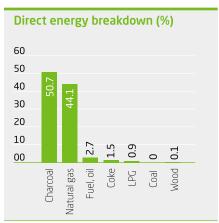
Our 2020 goal is to reduce our energy intensity by 5% compared to the 2012

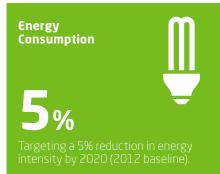


baseline. Our total energy consumption in 2014 was 18.9m GJ of direct energy and 8.0m GJ of indirect energy, a change in total energy consumption of 3.3% from our 2012 baseline. Nevertheless, our energy use per tonne of crude steel was 13.0 GJ\*, a decrease of 4.7% from the previous year. G4-EN5

#### **Targeting zero waste**

Our aim is to contribute towards the circular economy by becoming a zero residue (for disposal) company by 2020. At present, our production processes still result in some waste for disposal – 110.3k tonnes in 2014, of which 54.2k tonnes was hazardous. However, because stainless steel can be repeatedly recycled, our waste output is already relatively low, and this year 88.6% of our waste was recycled or reused and already 28% of





our total manufacturing input is recycled materials. G4-EN2

This achievement was mainly due to investments made in the treatment of slag and the reuse of metal scrap. In addition, Recyco, an Aperam-subsidiary that recycles dust and sludge from our French and Belgian melt shops, also helps us reduce waste. The dust waste is melted in an electrical oven, enabling nickel – an expensive raw material – and chromium to be recovered. These are then used to create cast ingots that can be returned to the production cycle as raw material for Electric Arc Furnaces (EAF). The process produces dust containing zinc oxide and slag, both of which are sold to external companies and reused.

#### **Using water wisely**

In 2014, we consumed 22.3m cubic metres\* of water in our manufacturing processes, which equates to 10.7 cubic metres per tonne of crude steel, a change of -7% from the previous year. 93%\* of our water comes from rivers and canals, while the remaining 7% comes from a combination of groundwater (4%\*), rainwater (2%\*) and municipal sources (1%\*). Across the Group we recycle 95.5% of our water. G4-EN8



Strategy and performance

People

nvironment

Stakeholders

About this report



#### Improving air quality

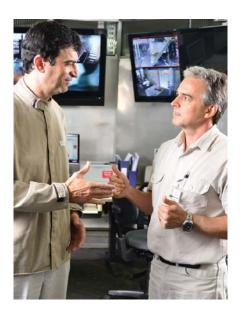
During 2014 we emitted 441.8 tonnes\* of ducted dust from our operation. This represented an increase of 6.4% from the baseline/previous year. This change in increase is due partly to the increase in production (+5.6%) in 2014 and to improved and more precise measurements. We are strongly committed to continuous improvement in this area, as we are aware that dust is a visible pollutant and is unpleasant for residents in our communities of operation.

In particular, we focus on improving the monitoring of air quality from chimneys, setting lower intervention thresholds and installing alarms to alert us when these are breached.

All of this leads to more action sooner. We are committed to refining and improving this approach and sharing it as best practice across the Group. G4-EN21

# Embedding a culture of best practice at Timóteo

Improving energy efficiency has also been a strong area of focus at the Timóteo plant in Brazil in recent years, with initiatives including improvements to the thermal efficiency of furnaces, better use of steel gas and technological upgrading of equipment. Timóteo is now developing an Energy Integrated Management System, in which a fundamental pillar is promoting a culture of best practice in energy use and involving the entire plant in implementing the energy policy.



#### Voices

"Energy use should be a shared concern for all employees, both inside and outside the plant. By implementing the Energy Management Integrated System we aim to effect more consistent and longstanding results. In addition, the speed and robustness of our actions are fundamental to the competitiveness and sustainability of the Company."

#### Luciano Lellis Miranda,

Technical Assistant in the Operational Excellence Team at Aperam Timóteo.

Our 2015-2020 strategy is to decrease our water intake (from river, canal and groundwater), through a number of methods: consuming less water in our processes, reducing water loss due to leakage and evaporation, and increasing our recycling. As well as protecting the environment, this will also reduce our own costs.

In Isbergues for example, we undertook works to stop significant water leakage in the underground pipes. Through this we avoided leaks of around 73,000 cubic metres of water a year.

We improved our rainwater management to avoid overflows during heavy rains, which also helps save water. By improving processes at our water treatment plant we were also able to return more clean water back to the fresh water sources.

In addition, we see this strategy as an important facet of our risk management as we need to be prepared for the likelihood that, at some point, our water extraction allowance will be reduced. Preparing for this in advance will protect us against the difficulty of our industrial process having to adapt quickly to a sudden reduction in our extraction allowance.



#### **Environment** continued



# Sustainable packaging and transportation at Amilly<sup>(1)</sup>

Aperam Alloys Amilly generates around 100 million pieces each year, weighing between two and 20 grams. For the last ten years we have worked alongside clients and delivery sites across Europe to reduce both waste and cost through a number of measures – improving the design of our pallets, developing recyclable packaging and optimising our transportation requirements.

Our dual economic and environmental goals compelled us to think outside the box and to come up with innovative ways to adapt and reuse our packaging and minimise human handling, as well as to adapt transportation timings and routes between sub-contractors and clients. As a result, we have now used the same packaging boxes for more than ten years, saving around 30 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> and 6 tonnes of waste per year.

(1) Subsidiary of the Aperam Group, Aperam Alloys Amilly transforms parts made of bonded material and magnetic alloys through precision stamping and core manufacturing.

#### **Voices**

"Thanks to our production department's commitment to continuous improvement we have not only improved our competitiveness but also, by reducing consumables, created a cleaner and more environmentally friendly production process."

#### Lukas Terc,

Supervisor Cutting Production



#### Increasing efficiency and cutting waste at Ústí nad Labem

The drive for ongoing improvement in our waste management led the production team at Ústí nad Labem in the Czech Republic to take an innovative approach to improving the efficiency and longevity of its core equipment.

The production process – which consists mainly of cutting stainless welded tubes for the automobile market – uses large quantities of consumables such as blades and cutting fluids. Using Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) and Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) methodologies, our team of 60 operators, team leaders and managers – in discussion with our suppliers – conducted over 600 trials aimed at improving the lifetime of the consumables while reducing the waste production.

The result was a reduction in waste metal of over two tonnes, and in waste oil and emulsion of 60m³, at no cost to the product's quality. The project also yielded a cost saving of €118,000 in 2013, and an increase in productivity of 13%.



# Innovation and teamwork yield results at Genk

Energy consumption is an essential area of focus in our quest to be a sustainable steelmaker. In particular, we know that the Electric Arc Furnaces (EAFs) used in our melt shops are substantial consumers of electricity; the annual consumption of just one of the two EAFs at the Genk steel plant, for example, is twice the annual consumption of all the inhabitants of the city.

In the spirit of driving continuous improvement, in 2013 one of the teams at Genk developed an innovative idea to reduce the energy consumption of the EAFs by adapting the energy consumption model. As a result the team wrote a new simulation model for the operation of the furnace, as an extension of the existing programme, and explained it to other teams in the EAF control room. Seeing the positive results, the other teams quickly adopted the tool and gave feedback, enabling it to be further developed.

Electricity consumption decreased immediately and, in 2014, all Genk teams together consumed 5 GWh less than the previous year, while maintaining the same steel production. The project has saved 1,100 tonnes of  $\rm CO_2$  – the annual consumption of 1,000 families – exemplifying our goal of being a sustainably profitable company.

#### **Voices**

"We knew that changing the furnace model would have an influence on energy consumption, but this has exceeded all our expectations. As a team we're very proud of what we've achieved. The result is sustainable for the environment, sustainable for the quality of the steel production and sustainable for the economy."

**Benny Brebels,**Coordinator EAF at Aperam Genk





## Recognition for our efforts

In 2014, Aperam South America was again listed as one of the most sustainable companies in Brazil, according to the 2014 Sustainability Guide promoted by Exame magazine, due to our ambitious environmental goals and performance. The 2014 Guide comprises 61 companies from 19 sectors.

Strategy and performance

People

Environment

Stakeholders

About this report

# Reducing dust emissions at Genk

The location of our plant in Genk – situated between a residential area and an industrial zone – necessitates a particularly strong focus on driving down dust emissions for the benefit of our neighbours. It also presents opportunities to lead the way within our industry and to build dialogue with local residents and authorities.

Discussions with our stakeholders helped us to establish an extensive action plan to achieve the desired improvement. Advice from engineers and environmental specialists led to a number of operational actions, including increasing continuous monitoring of the most sensitive chimneys, decreasing internal intervention thresholds, and new encapsulation of the oxy-cutting area. Managers and workers were incentivised to meet objectives through a specific KPI and, in addition, we initiated a dynamic and open dialogue with relevant stakeholders.

As a result, we achieved a 72% reduction in guided air emissions in 2014 compared with 2006, to a total value of 13g per ton of steel produced. The process has also allowed us to gain expert knowledge on the topic of air emissions, and to share best practice with other Aperam plants. The fact that the plant has received just two complaints in the last four years also demonstrates both strong improvement and effective relationships.



Making a positive impact

In a high impact industry, acting responsibly goes beyond reducing emissions and preventing pollution. We aim to compensate for our environmental impacts and take steps to protect and nurture biodiversity.

# Our eucalyptus forests: carbon sinks and water regulators

Aperam BioEnergia is a forestry subsidy in Brazil, nearly a quarter of whose surface is used as a nature reserve while the remainder is planted with eucalyptus trees. We use these trees to produce charcoal – considered a clean and renewable energy source due to its sustainable production process. But as well as being an attractive energy provider, forestry is also a carbon sink, absorbing a large quantity of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere and thus mitigating against greenhouse gas effects and global warming. Furthermore, eucalyptus trees source their water needs from the superficial layers of the soil, protecting long-term water resources.

Every seven years, we renew our plantations in order to sustain the forest and offset the cuts.

#### Wildlife protection

In addition to the Oíkos project reported on last year, Aperam BioEnergia also operates an extensive programme to nurture biodiversity.

A key project focuses on monitoring and protecting Brazil's wildlife, particularly birds and large mammals. Studying these species enables us to assess the quality and condition of Aperam's natural areas.

Our main objective is to identify rare, endangered and endemic species, to identify areas conducive to wildlife and to devise protection strategies.

Nine years into the project, we have identified over 230 bird species and 30 mammals, and preserved and improved the quality of the natural resources – particularly the flora and fauna – surrounding our production facilities.

In addition, we conduct regular fauna and flora assessments in all our forests to ensure harmonious cohabitation between eucalyptus plantations and insects such as ants, caterpillars, beetles and termites, all detrimental to forestry. To achieve this, we use biodegradable FSC-allowed products only.





Forest renewal

7

Every seven years, we renew our plantations in order to sustain the forest and offset the cuts.



#### Stakeholders

# engaging with our stakeholders

At Aperam, acting responsibly begins with increasing proximity and fostering open dialogue with our stakeholders. This approach helps us gain greater awareness on how our business impacts our stakeholders and how we can improve our operations to lower these impacts.

#### **Employees**

Our people are our most important stakeholder and it is important for our business success that we motivate our employees to embody our values and perform at their best. This is what the Aperam Way is all about: promoting a positive workplace environment that supports and inspires our people to live out the behaviours we want to be known for.

#### Proximity and exemplarity

Interaction between employees at different levels is vital and, in 2014, our sites have implemented a number of straightforward rules that foster proximity between leaders and teams. In Isbergues, for example, every production manager spends one and a half hours on the shop floor every morning and two night shifts per week.

In 2015, we are committed to undertaking more of these initiatives as we remain focused on increasing proximity between and within all of our worldwide locations.

#### Constant dialogue with our employee representatives

One of our Aperam Commitments explicitly affirms our desire that all employees should be able to share their ideas through open communication channels. One of the ways we seek to achieve this is through regular dialogue with employee representatives in each jurisdiction where we operate.

Our employees in various parts of the world are represented by trade unions, and in certain locations collective labour agreements are in place with employee organisations. Our low level of absenteeism and low attrition rate demonstrate the positive dialogue we enjoy with our trade unions and our close working relationships with our employees.

In 2014, our European Work Council met regularly and initiated a working group dedicated to Health and Safety topics, illustrating the quality of the dialogue we maintain with our workers.

Promoting inclusiveness and respect

Since 2008, Aperam Alloys Amilly has collaborated with a local institution that specialises in providing care through employment (ESAT – établissement spécialisé d'aide par le travail), through which disabled people are integrated into our local workforce. In 2014, Aperam Alloys Amilly extended the collaboration to about 20 disabled men and women, who work side-by-side with our workers, either in production or in work-area maintenance.

To fully integrate the external workers into our teams, we have adapted our working conditions to respond to their needs and trained them on the job, on safety and the Aperam Way of working. Before they collaborated on the floor, we brought together our local workers with their disabled counterparts encouraging them to get to know each other and learn how to communicate with each other.

This project helps Aperam create a respectful and non-discriminatory working environment, while giving disabled people an opportunity to develop their skills in a job.



Strategy and performance

People

Environment

Stakeholders

About this report





#### Stakeholders continued

#### **Customers**

Our customers, their needs and challenges are at the heart of our business. We aim at improving our customer service by listening to our customers' demands and working on tailor-made solutions that will help them achieve their goals.

We aim to develop high quality, innovative products that do not only meet, but anticipate our customers' needs. Our products are fuelled by ingenuity and based on active research and development. We aim at building long-lasting partnerships with our subcontractors and suppliers and support our customers in everything they do, from technical assistance to product co-development.

#### Greening the automotive industry

As a response to the trend of more stringent U.S. and European fuel-efficiency regulations and the need of our customers to become more eco-efficient, our R&D team has invested heavily in research on the substitution and replacement of heavier or harmful material used in the automotive sector.

In 2014, Aperam entered the development and pre-commercialisation stage of a new stainless steel grade: the martensitic stainless steel MaX. By doing so, we help our customers from the automotive sector overcome one of their biggest current challenges, which is the reduction of weight and thus reduction of harmful emissions and  $\mathrm{CO}_2$ .

In order to meet new environmental regulations (i.e. mass of  $CO_2$  emitted into the atmosphere per km driven), car manufacturers are focusing on vehicle weight reduction through product redesign and the extensive use of advanced lightweight materials including high-strength stainless steels. In short, car manufacturers are looking for new solutions to lighten chassis and structural parts in cars. For every 100 kg of weight reduced, 10 g of  $CO_2$  emissions are saved.

High strength steels formed by hot stamping have proved to be good candidates for achieving better in-use performance together with a lighter structure. In particular, our martensitic stainless steel MaX fulfils the industrial targets for chassis parts in terms of mechanical and fatigue properties. It could potentially lead to a 15-50% weight saving for our customers.





#### Lower emissions and fuel evaporation - the fuel filler neck

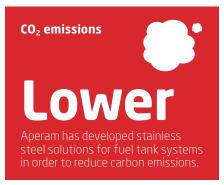
The range of products Aperam has developed for the automotive industry includes new stainless steel solutions for fuel filler neck. In addition to being resistant to corrosion and friction, stainless steel ensures a better seal than other materials, which reduces emissions and fuel evaporation. It is also shear-tolerant and cut-resistant.



In addition to the challenge of significant weight reduction, hybrid car manufacturers face the need for a more resistant substitute to the commonly used plastic tanks.

With an increase in temperature and internal pressure, hybrid car fuel tanks need to be more resistant and better insulated than regular car tanks. In addition, tanks will become smaller because of additional space taken by hybridisation and lower fuel consumption. Plastic, because of its thickness, limited insulation and recyclability is thus a non-viable or sustainable solution.

Together with fuel tank suppliers, Aperam has worked on a thin stainless steel tank that resists heat and pressure, ensures perfect insulation while keeping its anti-corrosion, formability and long-term recyclability properties. In 2014, Aperam and fuel tank suppliers have exhaustively tested the stainless steel tank with the objective to present the products to car manufacturers by end of 2015.





BMW i3 Fuel Tank © Magna Steyr Fuel Systems



Strategy and performance

People

Environment

Stakeholders

About this report



# PHYTHERM® - innovating for sustainability

Aperam Alloys' Research
Centre in Imphy has teamed up with
European cookware manufacturers
to create a new innovative cooking
technology that brings key
sustainability, health and safety
advantages to the fast-growing
induction cookware market.

PHYTHERM® is a soft magnetic alloy that automatically regulates temperature in induction systems for all methods of cooking. Kitchen utensil manufacturers can apply a layer of the PHYTHERM® alloy to the underneath of the pan, which stabilises the heat and offers unparalleled cooking performance.

By limiting the maximum temperature reached by the cookware, PHYTHERM® is safe because it prevents the cookware from overheating, as well as ensuring that the food inside doesn't burn. Uniform heat distribution enables consistent, perfectly controlled cooking, which preserves the flavour and nutritional qualities of the food.

Furthermore, data gathered from several years of specific testing confirms significant energy savings by comparison to standard cookware. By preventing temperature peaks, the PHYTHERM® technology further supports Aperam's sustainability principles by preventing deterioration of non-stick coating, thus enhancing the cookware's durability.

Thanks to both teams' expertise and dedication to collaborating during the development process, PHYTHERM® successfully meets the demands



of contemporary induction cooking, offering the ideal combination of pleasure, health and sustainability.

PHYTHERM® is a brand of Aperam Alloys Imphy.



#### The Sermeta Group

The Sermeta Group is a world leader in the design and manufacture of stainless steel

heat exchangers for gas condensing boilers. With 1.7 million heat exchangers produced each year, we take great care when selecting our suppliers. We expect them to provide a service designed to match our requirements in terms of both products and logistics whilst at the same time maintaining impeccable standards of quality and offering permanent, ongoing technical support and involvement.

Aperam Stainless Europe has been meeting these requirements for several years now, to the point where they have become our principal stainless steel supplier. This relationship of trust, founded on their in-depth knowledge of our requirements and their proactive approach, has contributed to the growth and development of our business.

And further to this, stainless steel is the ideal material for our applications because it contributes to reduced energy consumption and environmental protection. Did you know that a boiler equipped with a Sermeta stainless steel heat exchanger enables CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to be reduced by 30% compared to a traditional boiler? We certainly intend to continue working with Aperam and, in particular, researching products that are even more innovative and offer even higher performance with them.





#### **Customer Voice**

"Aperam Stainless Europe has been a favoured partner, proving able to meet our expectations, for a number of years now"



## Groupe SEB - small domestic equipment

For Groupe SEB, stainless steel constitutes a key raw material in the manufacture of numerous types of small domestic equipment.

Aperam Stainless Europe has been a favoured partner, proving able to meet our expectations, for a number of years now.

What we essentially look for are suppliers who are reliable in terms of quality and service and who offer a product range and logistics capacity that can meet our evolving

requirements. The ability to create added value and to develop innovative solutions alongside our project teams, from the applied research phase through to mass production, is also an important criteria for selection, and Aperam Stainless Europe meets this requirement completely.

Groupe SEB attaches great importance to environmental protection and social responsibility and applies a policy of responsible purchasing in order to ensure that its ethical, social and environmental standards are respected by its suppliers. This has notably involved the implementation of supplier testing and information systems.



#### Stakeholders continued

#### Market authorities and suppliers

Our commitment to all our stakeholders is to conduct our business in an ethical manner. To maintain this commitment, our managers lead by example and convey a strong message regarding our compliance commitment.

#### Creating a compliance-focused workforce

To achieve our goal of zero tolerance for non-compliant behaviour, in 2014 we developed and launched an all-encompassing corporate governance and compliance programme.

Headed by a Chief Compliance Officer, we have formed a Company-wide compliance network to assist with implementing the compliance framework. This network provides training on the Aperam Code of Business Conduct and other business specific policies in the local languages of all Aperam sites.

The Chief Compliance Officer co-chairs – with the CFO – the Compliance Management Committee that has been established to assess and review Aperam's compliance risk profile, framework performance and effectiveness.

In order to achieve a compliance-focused workforce, we have collaborated with an external consultant who trained our network of compliance officers.

The compliance officers have then started to train Aperam employees on the Code of Business Conduct in their local language. In addition, in-depth training on business specific policies such as anti-corruption, anti-trust, economic sanctions, insider dealing, human rights and data privacy has been provided to managers and customer- or supplier-facing departments.

Also, an internal Corporate Governance and Compliance website has been made available to all employees.

# Promoting high standards of business practices

Aperam is a strong defender of the free market and is in favour of fair business competition.

In our purchases, we ensure that we negotiate fairly and conduct annual contracts reviews, often complemented with site visits. As well as quality and cost factors, we also take criteria such as environmental and social performance and local footprint into account in our selection processes.

Standards are even higher for the subcontractors operating on our sites. In addition to the Code for Sustainable Sourcing and Purchasing that we include in our agreements, they are required to sign a specific charter in which they commit to high standards of health and safety practice, as well as recycling or training.

At all times we aim to comply fully with local and international regulations, to adhere to economic sanctions policies and to behave in a responsible manner in all our markets.

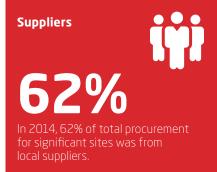
#### Suppliers as partners

In 2014, we assessed 61 raw material suppliers for significant negative socio-economic impacts and risks. We recorded that 15% of our raw material suppliers had potential negative impacts on labour practices (specifically health & safety); a watching brief and dialogue are in place as a result.

No contracts were terminated in 2014 as a result of the findings. We have no reason to believe there is any significant risk of negative impacts on the community we or our suppliers operate in. G4-LA15

In 2014, 62% of total procurement for significant sites was from local suppliers (i.e. those located in the site's host country or nearby cities). G4-EC9







About this report

#### **Communities**

Acting responsibly means facing up to the social and environmental impacts of our activities. Some of our plants are located in the near vicinity of cities or residential areas and often, we are amongst the main employers in the regions. These two facts make it of paramount importance that we take the time to get to know the people living in the communities surrounding our plants and to understand their views.

Regular and frequent stakeholder engagement at site level has continued to be a high priority in 2014. In addition to monitoring complaints from residents or authorities, we have adopted a more proactive approach this year, by reaching out to our stakeholders, seeking open dialogues and inviting them into our facilities. For us, 2014 was a year of greater transparency and a more open exchange with our stakeholders.

# Becoming a better neighbour - measuring how we do

In 2014 we have sought to measure our relationships with those in our communities by monitoring complaints from residents, as well as legal claims from authorities as in previous years. Our Leadership Team includes this feedback into its decision-making, and uses it to engage with the communities in order to become a better neighbour.

In 2014, we received 76 complaints from neighbours and one claim from regulators, 53% of the complaints were related to noise and 37% to our dust emissions. We act upon each complaint by conducting an immediate analysis of the situation and exchanging openly with the effected stakeholder. In our main plants we track noise 24/7 which helps us gain greater awareness of our noise levels.

#### Fostering open dialogue in Imphy

Continuous sustainable development requires big picture thinking, the ambition to improve and the ability to define clear action plans. While Aperam Alloys Imphy has a long history of good practices to lower environmental impacts, we have identified the need to better communicate with our local stakeholders and include their feedback into our decision-making.

On 11 June 2014, we therefore organised the first Aperam Stakeholder Day in Imphy. The event attracted a diverse range of attendees, including representatives from government, NGOs, local industry and the community, as well as from a range of Aperam departments such as Services, Production, Maintenance and Environment.

The Stakeholder Day allowed us to explain our approach to sustainable development and detailed our progress on reducing our environmental impact. Keen to promote a spirit of engagement and active participation, we also ran a 'question and answer' session, and encouraged attendees to voice their ideas and concerns. The afternoon was devoted to a tour of the plant so that they could see for themselves what noise or emission reducing investments we have made over recent years.

On 8 July 2014, in collaboration with students enrolled in a Master's programme on sustainable development of the AFPI Loire, we organised a conference on sustainable development at our site. The objective of this conference, which mainly attracted representatives of other local industries, was to exchange practical information about the compliance with ISO standards, especially ISO 26000 on corporate social responsibility. We also exchanged the principal challenges we all face and approaches to better manage the environmental and social impacts of our activities.





#### Voices

"We received very positive feedback about these events; Imphy employees recognised the plant's progress and local stakeholders appreciated the open initiative. Now we have to continue along that path, carry out projects and maintain relationships with our stakeholders. I hope this project will inspire other Aperam plants."

#### Amélie Hachani,

Organiser of the Aperam Stakeholder Day and Sustainable Development Conference in Imphy





#### Stakeholders continued





Permit renewal for Genk: an opportunity to engage in stakeholder dialogue

With its environmental permit due for renewal in mid-2015 - and anticipating that it could be a lengthy process - Aperam Genk decided to get a head start by starting its preparations in 2013.

The process typically necessitates extended safety and environmental examinations, with the findings written up in thorough reports, and involves both Flemish and regional administrations as well as representatives from local communities.

Aperam Genk was able to draw on its strong relationships with local stakeholders along with its improved environmental performance in recent years to have constructive discussions. Organising an Environment Day and creating a Best Neighbours newsletter reinforced the open dialogue between the site and the community and meant that discussions were constructive and respectful, with agreement quickly reached. In fact the process served to build closer ties between Aperam Genk, its neighbours and the local authorities.



As a result, a renewed 20-year permit was delivered in September 2014, several months ahead of the deadline – a clear example of where taking the time to develop good relationships with local communities is not just the right thing to do, but also makes good business sense.



Strategy and performance

People

Environment

Stakeholders

About this report

# (النبازة

# More than an employer - the Aperam Acesita Foundation

In Brazil, Aperam continuously invests in social development programmes, helping the communities we operate in to become safer with more opportunities for local people. Via the Aperam Acesita Foundation, we developed in 2014 a number of projects and actions in the region of Vale do Aço and Vale Do Jequitinhonha.

Founded in 1994, the Foundation develops projects and actions with focus on four distinct areas: Education, Culture, Environment and Social Promotion.

In 2014 alone, R\$ 4.1 million (US\$ 1.4 million) were invested in various projects and activities, which directly benefited more than 90,000 people.

#### Improving the quality of education

Giving children and young adults the opportunity to learn and develop new skills is at the heart of the Aperam Acesita Foundation's programmes on education. In 2014, in collaboration with the 'Pacto Nacional de Alfabetização' (National Pact for Literacy), Aperam focused on improving the quality of school-teaching by training and updating the qualifications of teachers. More than 500 teachers from 18 schools were trained in Timóteo alone, benefiting more than 1,500 students.

# Health and Safety, a priority also outside the Company

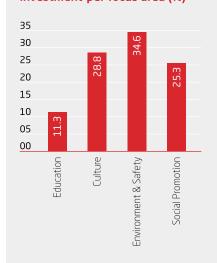
Health and Safety is our non-negotiable priority at work and so it is outside Aperam too. We therefore invested in the 'Transitolândia – Educação para o Trânsito' (Transitland – Traffic Education) programme, working with the Military Police of Minas Gerais to bring safe driving lessons to more than 900 students from 14 schools in Timóteo.

#### Providing a future in stainless steel

Via the 'Instituto do Inox' (Stainless Steel Institute), which we maintain in partnership with the 'Associação de Aposentados e pensionistas de Timóteo – AAPT' (Association of Timóteo's Retirees and Pensioners – AAPT), we promote training and qualifications to disadvantaged people who are looking for their first job, or a next opportunity in the stainless steel industry. In 2014, 9,000 hours of training were provided in the towns of Timóteo, Capelinha and Turmalina. Today, 65% of students from the 'Instituto do Inox' have a job.



# Acesita Foundation split of investment per focus area (%)



#### Strengthening local art and culture

We believe that the culture of a community significantly shapes the nature of its development and presents unique opportunities for local economies. We therefore promote local cultural heritage through support for local artists and organisations. In 2014, we helped fund 192 cultural events (including theatre, music and dance) enriching the lives of over 50,000 people.

## Supporting those who help our communities

We supported 9 social impact organisations from our own resources and funds collected from partners such as RedEAmerica, IAF (Inter-American Foundation) and BID (Inter-American Development Bank). The R\$100,000 (US\$35,000) helped more than 3,000 people in Vale do Aço and in the Vale Do Jequitinhonha gain access to services such as daycare facilities, schools and child foster homes.



#### About this report

We declare this report as in accordance with GRI G4 core level. Material aspects and indicators are shown on p7 and p32 of this report; detailed Disclosures on Management Approach (DMA) are in online supplement 'C

The scope of the information and data in this report covers operations in Europe and South America, from January to December 2014:

- Aperam's production capacity is concentrated in six Aperain's production (apactry) is contentrated in Six production facilities located in Brazil, Belgium and France: Genk, Gueugnon, Isbergues, Timóteo, Châtelet, Imphy 16 Steel Service Centres (SSC) 8 transformation facilities (1) 19 sales offices

Independent assurance statement

Registered office: 12C, rue Guillaume J. Kroll, L-1882 Luxembourg

Safety data cover Services & Solutions and Alloys & Specialities, as well as contractors on site. Human resources data exclude contractors.

Subject to the exclusions indicated below, environmental data cover all main industrial sites. SSCs and corporate offices To represent the standards of ISO14404-1 and ISO14404-2, which state that biomass is considered to be carbon neutral. The CO<sub>2</sub> emissions data relate to Scopes 1 and 2.

Deloitte Audit Société à Responsabilité issued an unmodified Deloitte Audit Société à Responsabilité issued an unmodified opinion using ISAE 3000 limited level assurance with respect to the Report on the following subject matters: adherence to the Global Reporting Initiative G4 guidelines (the 'GRI' or 'GRI Guidelines') with respect to the Principles of Materiality, Stakeholder Inclusiveness, Sustainability Context and Completeness adherence of the disclosures in the Report to the GRI 'In Accordance Core' criteria and the appropriateness of the GRI Index on pages 32-33 of the Report and; fair presentation in all material aspects in accordance with GRI Guidelines, of selected performance data, marked in the Report with a '\*\*: The following exclusions apply to the environmental data: (1) Raw material data exclude packaging and

- miscellaneous parts:
- Scope 3 indirect emissions

CO<sub>2</sub> and absenteeism data are restated following improvements in data systems, with no material effect on comparability or timeliness. The report represents our Communication on Progress relating to UNGC membership (see Online Supplement 'A').

The Report does not cover any joint venture operations or activities of partner organisations.

(1) Including: Pont de Roide, lequitinhonha

- EN5: Energy intensity (p8, p20) EN8: Water withdrawal by source (p8, p20) EN18: CO₂ intensity (p8, p20) EN21: N0x, SOx and other air emissions
- (only dust) (p5, p21)



# The 'made for life' report is a component (the 'summary') of our complete sustainability reporting (the 'Report') for the year ended 31 December 2014. The Report is composed of the year ended 25 December 2014. The Report is composed on 5 items: the 'made for life report' and four Online Supplements -A,B,C and D. Our 2014 Report can be found on our website on www.aperam.com/sustainability, accompanied by the four online supplements. The summary report provides part of the information required to satisfy GRI G4 'In Accordance Core'. Therefore, the summary should be read with its accompanying Online Supplements to constitute the complete Report.

**GRI Index** Disclosure References: this report, Annual Report and Online Supplements **Economic** G4-DMA Disclosure on Management Approach Online Supplement C-pl Economic performance G4-EC1 Direct economic value generated and distributed p2-3, p8, Annual Report 2014 p34 G4-DMA Online Supplement C-p1 Procurement Disclosure on Management Approach Practices p8-9, p28 G4-EC9 Proportion of spending on local suppliers at significant locations of operation Environmental Online Supplement C - p3 Material G4-DMA Disclosure on Management Approach G4-EN2 Percentage of materials used that are recycled input material G4-DMA Online Supplement C - p2 Energy Disclosure on Management Approach G4-EN5 Energy intensity p8-9, p20 Water Consumption G4-DMA Disclosure on Management Approach Online Supplement C - p3 G4-EN8 Total water withdrawal by source **Emissions** G4-DMA Disclosure on Management Approach Online Supplement C - p2-3 G4-EN15 Direct greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (Scope 1) Energy indirect greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (Scope 2) G4-FN16 p8-9, p20 G4-EN18 Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions intensity G4-EN21 NOx, SOx and other air emissions p8-9.p21 G4-EN23 p20 (Not entirely reported) Waste Weight of waste by disposal method Labour Occupational Health and Safety G4-DMA Disclosure on Management Approach Online Supplement C - p3 Type of injury and rates of injury, occupational diseases, lost days, and absenteeism, total number of work related fatalities, by region and by gender G4-LA6 p8-9, p12, p13, p14, p15. Gender reference: Online Supplement C - p3 Training and G4-DMA Online Supplement C - p3 Disclosure on Management Approach Education Percentage of employees receiving regular performance and career development reviews, by gender and by employee category G4-LA11 Supplier Assessment G4-DMA Disclosure on Management Approach Online Supplement C - p4 for Labour Practices Significant actual and potential negative impacts for labour practices in the supply chain and actions taken G4-LA15 p8-9, p28 Society G4-DMA **Local Communities** Disclosure on Management Approach Online Supplement C - p4 G4-S01 Percentage of operations with implemented local community р9 engagement, impact assessments, and development programmes Product and Service Labelling Results of surveys G4-DMA Disclosure on Management Approach Online Supplement C - p4 measuring customer satisfaction Results of surveys measuring customer satisfaction

#### **GRI Index note**

To facilitate stakeholders' understanding of our corporate responsibility performance, our reporting follows the Global Reporting Initiative G4 framework, an internationally recognised set of principles and indicators for economic

environmental and social aspects of business performance. The GRI framework helps companies select material content and key performance indicators.

See www.globalreporting.org. We have duly accounted for the GRI mining & metals sector supplement (MMSS) in our Report preparation; we refer to it in this Index (p20) as well as in the Online Supplement B.

Genera	l Standard Disclosure	Location Page refe	rence mad	e for life	Report, Annı	ıal Report, Online Supplen	nents	
Strateg	y and Analysis							
G4-1	CEO Statement	р4						
Organis	ational Profile							
G4-3	Name of organisation	Back cover						
G4-4	Primary brands, products, and services	Annual Report p7 and	aperam.com					
G4-5	Location of headquarters	12c rue Guillaume J. Kr	oll, L-1882 L	uxembour	3			
G4-6	Countries of operation	Significant sites: Brazi	il, Belgium, Fi	rance				
G4-7	Ownership and legal form	Public limited company	y in Luxembo	ourg				
G4-8	Markets served	Annual Report p14						
G4-9	Scale of organisation		ed in six pro	duction fa	cilities located	el capacity, 9,424 employees. In Brazil, Belgium and France, 1 3.		
G4-10	Employees and workforce. Total number of employees by employment contract, including permanent employees and gender, total workforce by employees and supervised workers and by gender, total workforce by region and gender. Self-employed workforce; variations in employment numbers.	Female workers: 12.29 47 different nationalit	% of the Ape lies. Part of A FTE in 2014	ram overa Aperam's w 4. The sma	l; 5% of blue co ork is done by Il workforce at	from December 2014, includir illar workers. Aperam is compo- contractors, e.g. maintenance, BioEnergia in Brazil is subject t ). Supervised workers	sed of emp site utilitie o variation	loyees from s, security;
		Total FTE	Worker G	ender	Total	Total FTE	Total	payroll (excluding temporaries,
		Total TC	Female	Male	Total	Europe	427	sub-contractors) Including only permanent and
		Europe	641	4.464	5.105	South America	54	classical-fixed-term contracts (excluding for
		South America	296	3,647	3,943	Rest of the World	11	example trainees, internships, apprentices),
		Rest of the World	213	163	376	Total	492	available personnel (but excluding long-term illness)
		Total	1,150	8,274	9,424	FTE, average of period		and people working for external entities.
		FTE, end of period				. rejaverage or period		external critices.
G4-11	Collective bargaining agreements	100% of the Aperam e	emplovees a	re covered	by collective b	argaining agreements		
G4-12	Description of supply chain	Online Supplement C -						
G4-13	Changes to organisational profile	Changes between 203	13 and 2014					into Aperam Alloys Imphy
G4-14	Precautionary approach	Committee members f	process anti feed into suc	cipates the	impacts on st	akeholders and the environme ucts provide an opportunity fo	nt. The Sus r customer	s to apply a precautionary
G4-15	External initiatives			-		ight-weighting, durability, hygi ship with various organisations		
G4-16	Associations and advocacy organisations	The International Stair	nless Steel F	orum (ISSf	), World Steel /	Association, Brazil Steel Institu	te	
Identifie	ed Material Aspects and Boundaries							
G4-17	Entities included in consolidated financial statements	Annual Report p163						
G4-18	Process for defining report content	p6-7, Online Suppleme	ent B – pl					
G4-19	List of material aspects	p7, Online Supplement	B-p2					
G4-20	Aspect boundaries within the organisation	Online Supplement B -	-p1-2					
G4-21	Aspect boundaries outside the organisation	Online Supplement B -	-p1-2					
G4-22	Restatements	Restatements may res Nature of business. Me	sult from: Me easurement	ergers or ac methods	quisitions. Cha	inge of base years or periods.		
Stakeho	lder Engagement							
G4-23	Changes in scope and boundaries	No significant change	s on scope a	nd bounda	ries			
G4-24	Stakeholder groups	p6, Online Supplement	t B-p4					
G4-25	Basis for identification and selection of stakeholders	Online Supplement B -	-р4					
G4-26	Approach to stakeholder engagement	p6-7, Online Suppleme	ent B – p3-4					
G4-27	Key topics and concerns	P7, Online Supplement	t B-p3-4					
Report I	Profile							
G4-28	Reporting period	Calendar year 2014						
G4-29	Previous report	Made for life Report 2013. Calendar year 2013						
G4-30	Reporting cycle	Annual						
G4-31	Contact point	sustainability@aperam.com						
G4-32	Content Index	p32-33, reporting to 0	iRI G4 in acco	ordance at	Core level.			
G4-33	External assurance	Main report p32, and c	nline supple	ment bund	lle.			
Governa	nnce							
G4-34	Governance structure	p7, Supplement D - p1,	Annual Rep	ort, p48				
Ethics a	nd Integrity							
G4-56	Values, principles, standards, and norms	Codes of conduct – av. A full 4-steps compliar 1. Review of the exist relevant policies as we	nce program ing and form	me has be alisation o	f additional	<ol><li>Training for complian</li></ol>	ce network nce networ	ς,
					00	G . 2 . 2	-	



#### Aperam

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For more information please visit ou website; aperam com/sustainability

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#### Disclaimer - Forward Looking Statements

In this Sustainability Report, Aperam has made certain forward-looking statements with respect to, among other topics, its financial position, business strategy, projected costs, projected savings, and the plans and objectives of our management. Such statements are identified by the use of forward-looking verbs such as 'anticipate', 'intend', 'expect', 'plan', 'believe', or 'estimate', or words or phrases with similar meanings. Aperam's actual results may differ materially from those implied by such forward-looking statements due to the known and unknown risks and uncertainties to which it is exposed, including, without limitation, the risks described in the Annual Report. Aperam does not make any representation, warranty or prediction that the results anticipated by such forward-looking statements will be achieved. Please refer to the 'Summary of risks and uncertainties' section of the 2014 Annual Report page 47 as well as 'Risks related to the Company and the stainless and specialty steel industry' page 195. Such forward-looking statements represent, in each case, only one of many possible scenarios and should not necessarily be viewed as the most likely to occur or standard scenario. Aperam undertakes no obligation to publicly update its forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Unless indicated otherwise or the context otherwise requires, references in this Sustainabilit Report to 'Aperam', the 'Group' and the 'Company' or similar terms refer to Aperam, 'société anonyme', having its registered office at 12C, Rue Guillaume J. Kroll, L-1882 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, and to its consolidated subsidiaries.

