

PROTECTING NATURE
SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING

Goal

In 2019, Spadel listed ten sustainable packaging commitments to be fulfilled by 2025. The aim is to design packaging that is good for both man and the environment, adopting a circular approach. The strategy devised by Spadel revolves around four pillars (Reinvent, Reduce, Recycle, Restore), and focuses on innovation, reflected in the packaging and the sales models, on reducing the use of resources (materials, etc.), on the priority given to the use of recycled materials and to limiting and collecting waste.

Actions in 2020

- 2020 saw the first results of the strategy put in place the previous year
- In the 'Reduce' pillar, the significant progress made in reducing Spadel's plastic footprint is impressive. All the Group's brands are now close to achieving the goal set for 2022 and are well on the way to reaching the 2025 targets.
- In the 'Recycle' pillar, the Group has built a solid base enabling to reinforce the integration of recycled materials. Starting 2021, the percentage of recycled products in pacakgings will steadily increase. The intermediate objective announced for 2022 to reach an average of about 30% recycled products is on the right track.
- As part of the 'Restore' pillar, major partnerships were formed:
 - the collaborations and the action taken together with The SeaCleaners, the communes of Spa and Stoumont



and the Community of Communes (ComCom) of the Ribeuuvillé region are all tokens of Spadel's determination to prevent and reduce litter;

- besides Bru, which has already taken action in this respect by placing the 'Recycle Together' logo on its bottles and packaging in 2019, the other brands are also putting out a 'zero waste' message;
- initiatives such as the New Plastic Global Economy Commitment and the Plastic Pact NL not only serve as incentives to take up the challenge of reducing the use of plastic, but also convey support for fulfilling the commitments made by Spadel for 2025. While there is no miracle solution to eradicate plastic, the Group is slowly but surely making progress. All the while adopting an attitude of total transparency and openness to the questions and challenges it

encounters along the way to a zero-emission economy, as enshrined in its CSR strategy.

Status of the 2020 performance indicators

All the initiatives and the progress made in the context of the commitments made by Spadel can be consulted throughout the year on the website sourceofchange.spadel.com. Its advances and achievements are also compiled in the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment and the Plastic Pact NL.



GOLD “EUROPEAN WATER STEWARDSHIP” (EWS)

Goal

The protection and sustainable management of water resources has always been part of Spadel’s DNA. Water is a precious public commodity that must be protected in order to guarantee its quality and purity for future generations.

Further to the merger in 2019 between the European Water Stewardship (EWS) and the Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS), reference is now made to the AWS.

Actions 2020

- In 2020, the Spa Monopole site received Platinum certification from the Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS). This is the highest level of the world’s most reputed label for sustainable water management and therefore the most important international recognition

in the minerals sector. The AWS Gold and Platinum statuses should be seen as a mark of acknowledgement of sites whose water management performances place them among the elite.

- Spa Monopole is the first mineral water producer in Europe and the second in the world to receive this outstanding certification in acknowledgement of over 130 years of protection of the water and the environment of Spa.
- The AWS certification procedure is particularly stringent and checks, among other things, that the site takes sufficient account of all the risks linked to water, that an action plan is implemented to counter these risks, that collaboration takes place between all those involved for the management and protection of water and that the water on the production site is sustainably managed.



- Sustainable water management has been Spadel’s main objective since the company first began to extract Spa Monopole natural mineral water. The group takes care never to draw more water than is provided by natural rainfall and continues to work to further reduce its water consumption ration.
- “The goal is very clear: we want all the mineral and spring waters sold by the Spadel group to be sustainably managed and bottled, that is without over-exploitation, in total transparency and with the trust of all the other local players who use this water,” says Spadel CEO Marc du Bois.
- In practical terms, when assessing the Spa Monopole site, the AWS took the following factors into consideration:
 - 1 The impact of previous actions having improved protection of the local environment local. The most important of these were: in 1889, the creation of the first protected zone in Spa; in 1967, the signing of the Modus Vivendi, a public-private partnership intended to manage the spa town’s natural resources concluded between Spadel, the town of Spa, the DNF (Walloon Department of Nature and the Forest) and the Berinzenne Estate to further increase the protection of the catchment area and improve local biodiversity; and, in 2017, the co-creation of the Parc Naturel des Sources nature reserve





- 2 The many protection programmes focusing on water and the environment implemented by Spadel. Such as the 15-year programme to remove fuel tanks and ensure compliance; the co-funding of the restoration of the landscapes and natural wetlands around Spa as part of the Ardenne liègeoise LIFE programme; the preparation of an emergency plan for the springs; and the implementation of an environmental surveillance project that targets bees and their pollen to better analyse the local biodiversity and prove the absence of pesticides in the protected zone.
- 3 The multipartite approach. The Spadel group has put in place excellent collaborations and entered into an open dialogue with a wide variety of stakeholders. The joint programmes range from protecting and restoring the environment to protecting the biodiversity and the groundwater table of our planet. Spa Monopole is seen as an outstanding water manager by over 80% of the 28 stakeholders consulted during the assessment carried out in 2020.

- 4 Spadel's expertise in the field of industrial discussions and good water management practices. The automatic surveillance tool perfected by the group for collecting, sending, treating and discharging water is based on advanced technology. It gathers all sorts of information about water levels, flow rates and other data that help ensure the sustainable extraction of water and prevent leaks and water loss.

Performance indicators of the situation in 2020

- Five sites certified EWS Gold

In view of the merger between the EWS and the AWS, this goal has been abandoned. However, the platinum award for the Spa Monopole site is fine recognition of Spadel's years of commitment to sustainable water management and really serves as an example. The group would like to attain the same AWS Platinum Certification level for its other sites. This goal is included in the new 2025 CSR strategy.

