

# Leadership in sustainability: **STOELZLE** glass packaging for pharma

Achieving EcoVadis gold status for three consecutive years now, STOELZLE is a leader in sustainable pharmaceutical glass packaging. Committed to decarbonisation, the group aims to cut CO2 emissions by 50 percent by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050. Innovations include EcoSecur Type 2 glass and the PharmaCos range – emphasising both recycled content and energy efficiency.

**S**toelzle Glass Group stands as a premier manufacturer of high-quality primary packaging glass, catering to a diverse array of sectors including pharmaceuticals, healthcare, spirits, perfumery, cosmetics and food & beverages. Made entirely from natural raw materials, glass is ideal for pharmaceutical and healthcare packaging. Recognising it as one of the most sustainable packaging materials, Stoelzle's commitment to environmental responsibility



## HEALTHCARE



is evident in their gold status in the EcoVadis sustainability rating, which has been awarded for the third consecutive year. This prestigious recognition places Stoelzle in the top five percent of evaluated companies, underscoring the group's dedication to decarbonisation, continuous innovation and environmental protection - also

highlighting the significant strides it has made over the years.

#### **AMBITIOUS TO REACH CLIMATE TARGETS**

As an energy-intensive industry, Stoelzle has set scientifically based decarbonisation targets validated by

the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi). The company's ambitious goals include a 50 percent reduction in CO2 emissions (Scope 1 and 2) by 2030, aiming for net zero by 2050. Stoelzle is one of the few European glass manufacturers with climate targets recognised by SBTi. The company's comprehensive sustainability strategy focuses not only on environmental goals but also includes social aspects and the supply chain. Energy savings, the transition to renewable ener-





gy and decarbonisation are central concerns. Over the years, the group has implemented substantial projects at their Pharma production site in Köflach, Austria. An example here is its process and energy management system, which significantly improves energy efficiency and achieves energy savings. Municipal water consumption was reduced by around 50 percent through targeted measures during the refurbishment of the furnace. Since 2020, Stoelzle has installed large rooftop photovoltaic systems on warehouses and office buildings - producing approximately 3,610 MWh of green electricity per year. The inclusion of cullet, or recycled glass, helps minimise the use of primary raw materials and reduce the carbon footprint through energy savings. In April 2023, another milestone was achieved with the installation of batch preheating at the Köflach site. This innovation reduces energy consumption for melting raw materials by more than eight percent, allowing for annual energy savings of 4000 MWh. Looking to the future, Stoelzle plans substantial investments to significantly enhance the electrification of their glass production processes and maximise the efficient utilisation of waste heat. As a member of the International Partners in Glass

Research (IPGR), the company is working on an energy-efficient furnace.

### **INNOVATION IN REDUCING CHEMICAL USE WITH TYPE 2 PHARMA GLASS**

A key pillar of its sustainability roadmap is eco-friendly innovation. Stoelzle has pioneered EcoSecur, an exciting reinvention of Type 2 glass injection and infusion vials for both human and veterinary medicine. This groundbreaking technique employs a liquid treatment process that allows for precise dosing customised to each bottle's size. The manufacturing process for Type 2 glass surpasses existing technologies in terms of quality, process stability and reliability - ensuring exceptional performance. Through the innovative EcoSecur process, Stoelzle has successfully reduced the use of chemical components by up to 50 percent while decreasing CO2 emissions by up to 80 percent.

### **NEW WELLBEING PACKAGING RANGE WITH INCREASED RECYCLED CONTENT**

Stoelzle's new PharmaCos line is a comprehensive packaging solution for the wellbeing and health-

care industries. This line features an extensive range of glass jars and flat-shoulder bottles. The PharmaCos range is designed with sustainability at its core. The amber glass contains an impressive 73 percent recycled content, while the flint glass includes 38 percent recycled material. Combined with the lightweight design of the bottles, this line offers a highly sustainable option for healthcare packaging. All products are manufactured in a pharmaceutical-grade environment, ensuring adherence to the highest standards of quality and safety. With its unwavering commitment to innovation and sustainability, Stoelzle Glass Group continues to set the standard for environmentally responsible glass packaging solutions across a wide range of industries. ■



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