

Bold new sustainability goals set by O-I GLASS

Identifying 2025 as a milestone year for O-I sustainability, Chief Administrative and Sustainability Officer Randy Burns told attendees at the company's Investor Day: "This year, we're going to hit many of the sustainability goals that were initially set for 2030. Today, a new set of even more ambitious sustainability goals will be unveiled." Using 2019 as its baseline year, O-I marks a pivotal change here as the company focuses on radically reducing enterprise costs while raising the bar with the following updated sustainability targets for 2030:

- 47 percent reduction in GHG emissions
 - 80 percent use of renewable electricity
 - 60 percent use of cullet (recycled glass) on average
- These elevated goals not only



place O-I on par with competitors' stated objectives but also align with a 1.5-degree Celsius pathway.

ACHIEVING THE GOALS

The updated goals represent a significant increase from previous targets. Specifically, the company is increasing its GHG

emissions reduction goal from 25 percent to 47 percent, its renewable electricity goal from 40 percent to 80 percent and its average cullet usage goal from 50 percent to 60 percent. To meet these ambitious targets, O-I will implement several key strategies:

- **Renewable Electricity:** A substantial portion of GHG reduction will come from increasing the use of renewable electricity. O-I primarily purchases Renewable Electricity Certificates (RECs) to green its electricity supply and is also developing several potential solar projects.
- **Recycled Content:** Increasing cullet use will play a crucial role in reducing GHG emissions. The company will continue to foster recycling ecosystems, particularly where infrastructure is weak or non-existent, such as in parts of its American footprint.



With glass being ranked among the most sustainable packaging materials out there, O-I GLASS recently announced its ambitious sustainability goals and bold new steps it plans to take to further enhance its circularity and decarbonization through an elevation of its 2030 targets.

- **Energy Management:** An energy strike team has been established to identify and eliminate energy waste across the network. This highly skilled, cross-functional group is already working directly with facilities to reduce energy consumption and improve energy efficiency, contributing to

GHG reduction efforts.

- **Technology Improvements:** O-I is continuing to implement advanced technologies such as GOAT furnaces, hybrid electric furnaces, and a DOE project in Ohio, USA. These innovations are expected to significantly advance the company's sustainability achievements.

- **Alignment with the Paris Agreement**

These elevated goals reflect O-I's decisive action to further solidify its position as a leader in sustainable glass manufacturing.

Said O-I Sustainability Director Sonya Pump: "The 47 percent GHG reduction aligns O-I with a 1.5-degree pathway. This aligns O-I with the target



NET ZERO

of the 2015 Paris Agreement to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. The idea is that keeping the temperature increase below 1.5 degrees should minimize extreme global warming effects.”

Increasing cullet usage to 60 percent supports the circular economy by advancing the reuse of materials. The benefits of increased recycled content include:

- Energy Savings: Recycled



glass melts at a lower temperature than raw materials, reducing the energy required in the manufacturing process and consequently lowering GHG emissions.

- **Reduced Raw Material Usage:** Using more recycled glass decreases the need for raw materials like sand, soda ash, and limestone, reducing GHG emissions related to batch materials while conserving natural resources and minimizing the environmental impact of mining and transportation.
- **Lower Carbon Footprint:** Incorporating recycled glass lowers the overall carbon footprint of glass production, as energy savings and reduced use of raw materials translate directly into fewer carbon emissions.
- **Waste Reduction:** Adding recycled glass into the manufacturing process helps divert glass waste from landfills, promoting a circular economy.
- **Operational Efficiency:** Utilizing recycled glass can enhance operational efficiency by reducing wear and tear on furnaces and related equipment.

This alignment ensures that O-I remains competitive while continuing to lead the industry in sustainability.



POSITIVE IMPACT ON CUSTOMERS

The updated goals will also positively impact customers. Here, by aligning ambitions with those of its partners, O-I demonstrates its commitment to supporting broader sustainability objectives.

“O-I is already leading the glass industry in delivering reductions of GHG emissions. Now, our more ambitious GHG, cullet and renewable electricity goals send a strong signal that there is no intention of slowing down,” says Pump.

Glass is 100 percent recyclable and endlessly recyclable. It does not cause end-of-life waste issues. Time and time again, glass proves it is the ideal packaging material

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RANDY BURNS

SVP, Chief Administrative & Sustainability Officer

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to support a circular economy and the health of Earth’s people. As a long-time leader in glass packaging, O-I sees it as a responsibility to innovate the manufacturing process to

support the circularity of this material. The ability to outpace and accomplish previous goals -and establish these updated ones- is a testament to the company’s mindset and sustainability vision. ■



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