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RETAL LUXEMBOURG

# State of the art packaging

- ◆ Passion for excellence
- ◆ Care for environment and social responsibility
- ◆ Dynamic growth

Founded in 1994, Retal Group has been in the plastic packaging market already for 22 years. This multinational company produces PET preforms, HDPE closures, films, as well as PET resin and polyols. To give you a notion of the scale of this key player in the industry, the turnover of Retal Group and NEO Group for 2015 alone was around €700 million and €300 million respectively, and number of staff amounts to 2,500 employees worldwide.

PET, also known as polyethylene terephthalate, is the most ecological and popular raw material for the packages of drinks and other products and has unique physical and mechanical features: transparency, strength, lightweight, and is widely recycled. As a consequence, it's one of the most common consumer plastics used. NEO Group produces 330 thousand tonnes of PET resin per year. NEO Group capacity will be increased by 150 thousand tonnes by 2018 and will reach 480 thousand tonnes.

The production of beverage packaging includes innovative ways of developing preforms, closures and bottles, as well as prototyping, lab validation and industrial validation.

To illustrate the scale of their production: to date Retal delivers to the market 18 billion preforms and 11 billion closures, including the new Luxembourg plant.

"We traditionally start with the production of preforms and caps for the beverage, food, cosmetics and technical industries. There are plans to add new products and services in the near future,"

explains Valérie Mure, general manager of Retal Luxembourg.

Retal is one of the largest players in the world of plastic packaging manufacturing. Their rapid growth and high standard products have earned them major customers and dominance across key markets. Retal supplies all global leaders, trademark owners and local producers of beverages, food, oil and household products.

### Passion for excellence

Retal Group is full of talented people who provide exceptional service and high quality products for the plastic packaging industry. The means to success for any company includes high standard customer support. Retal is not only reliable and flexible in its approach, but also offers assistance in start-up, trouble shooting as well as capping, blowing and filling expertise to its customers.

Retal is committed to excellence and engages in best manufacturing practices. The group has quality assurance labs, in-line inspection, manages its own packaging warehouse and uses nothing but state of the art equipment.

### Care for environment and social responsibility

At Retal, care for the environment is of paramount importance. Technologies such as Husky RF are used to increase recycled resin content. Retal is constantly searching for and developing new ways to reduce container weight. Mrs Mure states: "In terms of green management, energy consumption reduction is a continuous process, and our goal is to be the best in the industry." In order to achieve this, Retal regularly upgrades its equipment.

Retal is likewise committed to social responsibility. It participates in a green office campaign and is involved



"The plant in Luxembourg is a state of the art plant with latest technologies and energy efficient equipment. Retal is one of the fastest growing companies in the global packaging industry."

Gerardo Chiaia, president Beverage Packaging at Husky



at a community level by providing sponsorship for local municipal programmes.

### Dynamic growth

Retal Luxembourg opened officially in May 2016 and occupies a 4,000m<sup>2</sup> production hall in Foetz.

"If we take the last three years, the annual growth of Retal Group has an average of more than 10%. Our strategy is to continue this trend further, to be closer to our partners, to offer new innovative products and to enter new markets. Strategically, we decided to strengthen our position in the markets of Benelux, Germany and France. We evaluated that Luxembourg is the optimal place. I would like to add, the products will also be sold in other EU countries and will be exported," reveals Mrs Mure. The Luxembourg plant has two preform and three closure systems.

"The plant is equipped with latest technology from Husky and Corvaglia. Our experience and energy-saving technologies make the plant well-organised, highly efficient and environmentally

**10%**

Retal annual growth has an average of 10% over the last three years

**25**

The multinational company operates 25 production sites in 14 countries, including 5 partner sites and NEO Group.

NEO Group (Lithuania), a member of the Group, is one of the biggest manufacturers of PET resin and polyols in Europe.

friendly," confirms Mrs Mure.

Retal Luxembourg is going to fulfil its role as a Centre of excellence for R&D (Research and Development) and implement advanced manufacturing and energy saving technologies in its production processes. These include dryers with heat pumps, an advanced chilling system and machines with electric clamps.

"To go from the idea to realisation of the project only took us a year. We are grateful to the Luxembourg government organisations that supported us, issued the necessary permits without delay and contributed to the rapid and prompt company opening." The official opening ceremony took place on 20 May followed by presentations and a gala dinner at the Mondorf Domaine Thermal.

As for Retal's future plans and expectations, Mrs Mure states: "We focus on dynamic growth. At the end of 2016, we will launch our first plant in the United States. With regard to Luxembourg, this is only the first phase. We are confident that we will expand our production very soon." ◆

### COMPANY HISTORY/GROWTH

Retal Group has developed fast since its inception in 1994. Preform production started in 1997, closure production in 1998, PET resin and film production in 2004. From 2005 to 2015, the company expanded from Europe, opening plants in Czech Republic, Italy, Spain, France, the Balkans, Germany and Cyprus, and to Caucasus and Central Asia. 2016 alone sees the launch of Retal in Luxembourg and the entry to the markets of USA and Canada. Headquarter of RETAL Industries LTD is located in Limassol, Cyprus.