

# ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT 2024

LEOBENDORF PLANT



# KEEPING AN EYE ON THE BIGGER PICTURE

Climate change, water scarcity and biodiversity loss are presenting considerable challenges to the agricultural industry and the businesses operating within it. However, these same factors have an important role to play in creating a carbon-neutral global economy. It goes without saying that this calls for fundamental and long-lasting change. This is something that has already been acknowledged not just at the European level, but also across individual agricultural companies in individual countries, and they have begun the process of rethinking how they do things. Consumers, too, are demanding responses to the challenges that we are currently facing. We are aiming to find new ways of striking a sustainable balance between economic productivity and unspoilt habitats and keeping both intact for generations to come.

At Kwizda Agro, we believe that plant protection and pest control are prime examples of areas in which we regard it as essential to take responsibility for finding dependable solutions that will stand the test of time. We intend not merely to wait for government regulations but to deploy our capacity for innovation and advance cutting-edge technologies in systematically working to play our part in this process. Our Leobendorf plant is a crucial element of this work.

We are also expanding our range of plant protection products and biostimulants based on natural and nature-identical active substances. With the aim of playing a pioneering role in this segment, we tackle the challenges of developing and manufacturing new products – from process changes to new methods and investments.

We know full well that finding new solutions to problems calls for both thinking and practical action in equal measure. That is why we believe in "keeping an eye on the bigger picture."

# **ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT 2024**

in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 2009/1221 in the versions No 1505/2017 and No 2026/2018 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009 on the voluntary participation by organizations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS III).

#### Kwizda Agro GmbH

Leobendorf plant Laaer Bundesstraße / Kwizda Allee 1, 2100 Leobendorf

NACE Code: 20.20 Reporting period: 2023

Statement by Kwizda Agro GmbH on the entry of the Leobendorf plant into the EMAS Register in accordance with Section 15 of the Austrian Environmental Management Act (Umweltmanagementgesetz (UMG)):

The initial assessment of the environmental statement (2015) of the Leobendorf plant by the environmental assessment organization ETA Umweltmanagement GmbH took place in April 2015. A declaration of validity was issued. Kwizda Agro subsequently applied to the Environment Agency Austria for the Leobendorf site to be entered in the EMAS Register. However, the plant could not be entered because the environmental proceedings against Kwizda Agro GmbH (see Chapter 1 - Pollution of the groundwater body "Korneuburger Bucht" by the Leobendorf plant) had not yet been concluded at the time, meaning the formal prerequisites for registration in accordance with Section 15 of the Environmental Management Act were not met.

In the interests of transparency, we have since then published an environmental statement each year that has been validated by the environmental assessment organization ETA, including issuing of a declaration of validity.

Now that the environmental proceedings against Kwizda Agro have been discontinued in March of this year, Kwizda Agro will reapply for entry of the Leobendorf site in the EMAS register on the basis of the current environmental statement, which was audited and declared valid by the environmental assessment organization ETA Umweltmanagement GmbH in April 2024.

Executive Board of Kwizda Agro GmbH





# WORDS OF THE MANAGEMENT

#### THINK HOLISTICALLY, ACT SUSTAINABLY, AND COMMUNICATE OPENLY.

As a society, we are facing some enormous challenges. However, the way in which our economy works at the moment is no longer providing the answers that we need to take on those challenges. Consequently, what is needed is the courage to explore uncharted territory and devise innovative solutions. The goal needs to be to make sure that we leave behind a world that is fit for future generations to live in. At Kwizda Agro, we are mustering that courage and preparing ourselves for a future that will look very different from the present.

Side by side with our employees and supported by a strong network of partnerships, we intend to create a new and sustainable world of crop protection and pest control that exists in harmony with unspoilt and flourishing natural habitats. We are going to be very clearly aligning our business model with this vision and pursuing the following ambitious objectives in the process:

- 1. We see it as our challenge to find a biological answer for every crop and every harmful organism.
- 2. We will gradually reduce our company's carbon footprint.
- 3. We will deliver lasting profitability in line with our vision on our current and future international markets.
- 4. We will offer jobs and opportunities for development to more and more people.

**Dipl.-Ing. Ronald HAMEDL** Management

At Kwizda Agro, we are committed to safe, plentiful and sustainable crop cultivation in Austria and across Europe and North America, and we intend to continue using innovation to tackle the big challenges head on. Our plant in Leobendorf forms the backbone of our responsible production of plant protection products and biostimulants aimed at sustainable agriculture. Through this environmental statement, we are clearly communicating the current state of our sustainable development. We are working on the basis of certification in accordance with ISO 14001 and EMAS to assess and improve the environmental impact and performance of our plant. In doing so, we are laying the foundations for open and transparent dialog with our stake-holders.

We would like to invite you to join us on this journey and work together to create a sustainable future.

**Dkfm. Dr. Johann F. KWIZDA** Management

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# CORPORATE POLICY OF KWIZDA AGRO GMBH

The Executive Board of Kwizda Agro GmbH and the management team of the Operations business unit run the Leobendorf plant according to the principles of an integrated management system.

#### The Leobendorf plant is certified according to the following systems:

- § ISO 9001:2015 (Quality Management)
- § ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental management)
- § ISO 45001:2018 (Occupational Health & Safety)
- § EMAS (EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme)



#### THEREFORE WE SUBSCRIBE TO THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES FOR OUR CORPORATE POLICY:

Long-term, responsible corporate action represents a major part of our corporate philosophy, which is why we have set the following principles for our corporate policy:



The satisfaction of our customers is our highest priority: We produce high-quality products in accordance with the technical specifications and individual customer requirements. Our business planning is geared towards this objective.



We are committed to complying with all legal requirements and regulations, industry standards and binding obligations in the areas of quality, environmental protection and occupational safety. Monitoring compliance with the law is an integral part of our integrated management system.



Healthy and motivated employees are the basis for our company's success, and we are therefore committed to offering a workplace equipped with modern technology. The qualifications and continued training of our workforce help us keep pace with the ever-increasing demands on our products and services, which is why we also actively promote the development of our employees.



We employ our integrated management system to continuously improve our environmental and safety performance as well as the quality of our products and services.

A process-oriented opportunity and risk management system assists us in achieving or exceeding our corporate goals.



We take responsibility for the environment and society by minimizing our environmental impact on soil, air and water and reducing our carbon footprint through a procurement policy committed to sustainability.

Our emergency response and crisis management organization enables us to minimize the negative impacts of emergencies and disruptions.



We value open dialog and transparency with respect to interest groups such as employees, the works council, suppliers, authorities, non-governmental organizations and local residents. We strive to offer our employees stable, long-term jobs.

# THE COMPANY

RELIABILITY,
VARIETY,
INNOVATION
AND DECISION-MAKING POWER



### THE COMPANY

# KWIZDA AGRO IN TRANSITION

Kwizda Agro can look back on a unique success story: Since the business was established in Austria in 1926, the company has become an international player in plant protection and plant nutrition and made a name for itself as a dependable partner that excels at innovation and demonstrates dedication and in-depth expertise. Yet we would not be Kwizda Agro if we were content to keep looking back and simply rest on our laurels. Instead, we never cease to do everything we can to move forwards, aspire to constant evolution and improvement and take on the challenges of the present and the future.

Kwizda Agro is part of the Kwizda Group, which incorporates not only the agricultural business but also the production, wholesale and distribution of pharmaceuticals as well as pharmacy services, cosmetics and waterproofing systems. At Kwizda Agro, our main areas of business are Crop Solutions and Industrial Solutions. The way in which we do business is shaped by our core values of reliability, effectiveness, expertise, responsibility and results-driven action. To our national and international customers, we are the essential partner for innovative plant protection in fields, forests and domestic gardens.

As a family business, we place great importance on longterm customer relationships based on trust.

In response to the steadily increasing national and international demand for biological plant protection products and biostimulants as well as other innovative technologies,

we have entered into successful collaborations with various start-ups as well as established companies in recent years. These efforts bore fruit in 2023 when – after a corresponding adaptation of our production facilities – we successfully initiated industrial-scale production of several biological plant protection products for the first time.

Our innovative portfolio of proprietary biological products also continued to grow in 2023 with the successful market launch of two new products.

In the past year, we intensified our efforts in the areas of fermentation technology, packaging design and packaging sourcing by leveraging our own staff as well as strategic alliances.

In 2024, we will expand our physical capacities in the areas of microbiology, fermentation, biological formulations and bioanalytics by adding another 300 m² at our leased technology hub in Tulln. In this way, we will continue on our successful path of advancing and developing innovative and sustainable products.

We also take our responsibilities regarding the economical use of resources in production seriously and, step by step, are taking action to reduce our carbon footprint. As of 1 January 2023, the site in Leobendorf is now powered solely by green electricity supplied by W.E.B. Windenergie AG and certified in accordance with the Austrian UZ-46 standard. With the commissioning of the new raw materials and finished goods warehouse in September 2023, Kwizda Agro is once again demonstrating that sustainability, safety and

efficiency go hand in hand: The company's efforts to reduce  $CO_2$  emissions include the bundling of storage capacities at the Kwizda Agro site in Leobendorf as well as the installation of a photovoltaic system that supplies the plant with a peak output of 770 kWp, making operation of the new raw materials and finished goods warehouse practically  $CO_2$ -neutral.

Our new raw materials and finished goods warehouse represents an investment in state-of-the-art warehouse and safety technology, increased efficiency and protection of the environment, our employees and local residents. Since commissioning of the warehouse, electric trucks and electric forklifts have been used for all internal plant transports.

Sustainability is a central component of our "Strategy 2040," which was developed in 2023 to chart a strategic course for Kwizda Agro GmbH.

For Leobendorf, this strategy envisages introducing an energy monitoring system by the end of 2025, expanding the tracking of greenhouse gas emissions to carbon scope 3 and identifying further efficiencies in the areas of water, waste and materials management.

Building on these efforts, we will define further measures to gradually reduce our carbon footprint.

# DESCRIPTION OF THE LEOBENDORF SITE

The environmental management system covers Kwizda Agro GmbH's Leobendorf plant and all its employees. Our 184 employees produced and supplied around 10,600 tons of plant protection products in our 2023 business year, representing a turnover of some 72.7 million euros (with proprietary products accounting for 36.1 million euros of that total).

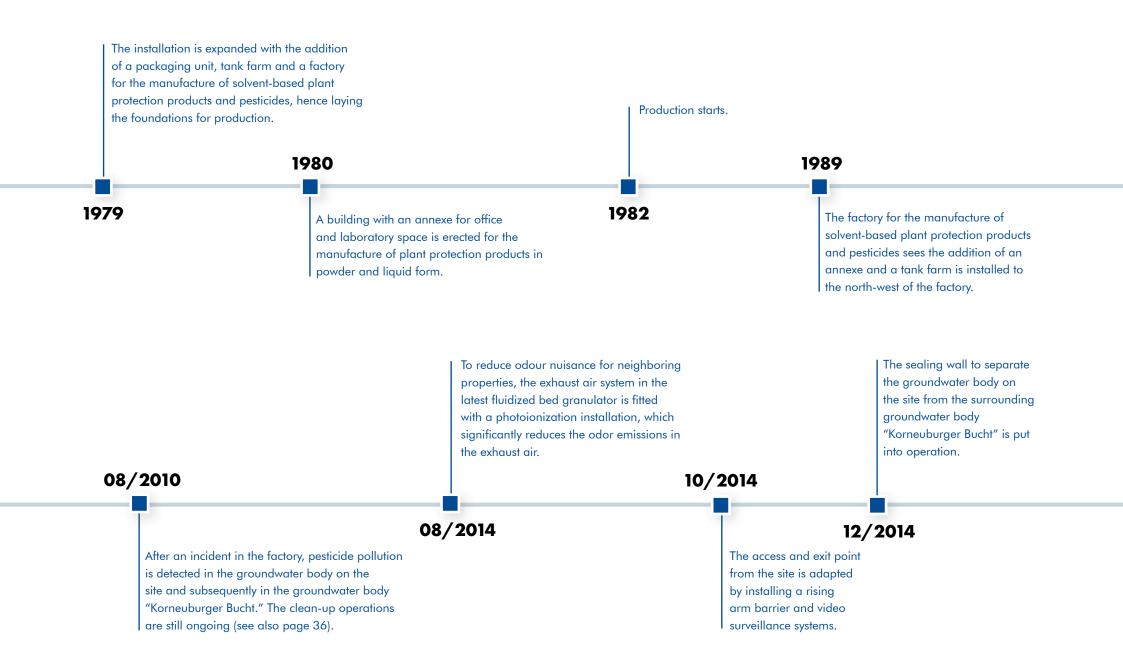
#### **GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION**

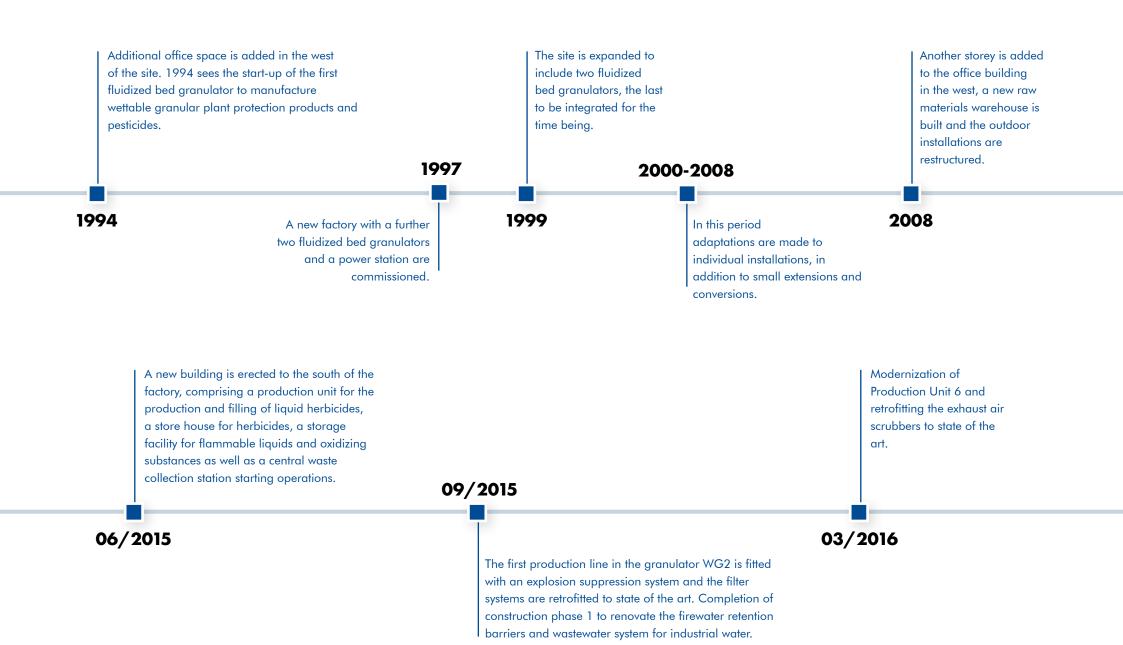
The operational facilities are on the industrial estate at Laaer Straße/Kwizda Allee 1 in Leobendorf, a market town to the north of Vienna. They can be reached from the west via the A22 motorway, exit Korneuburg West, and the S1 dual carriageway, exit Korneuburg Nord; from the south take B6. Access is from the Kwizda Allee.

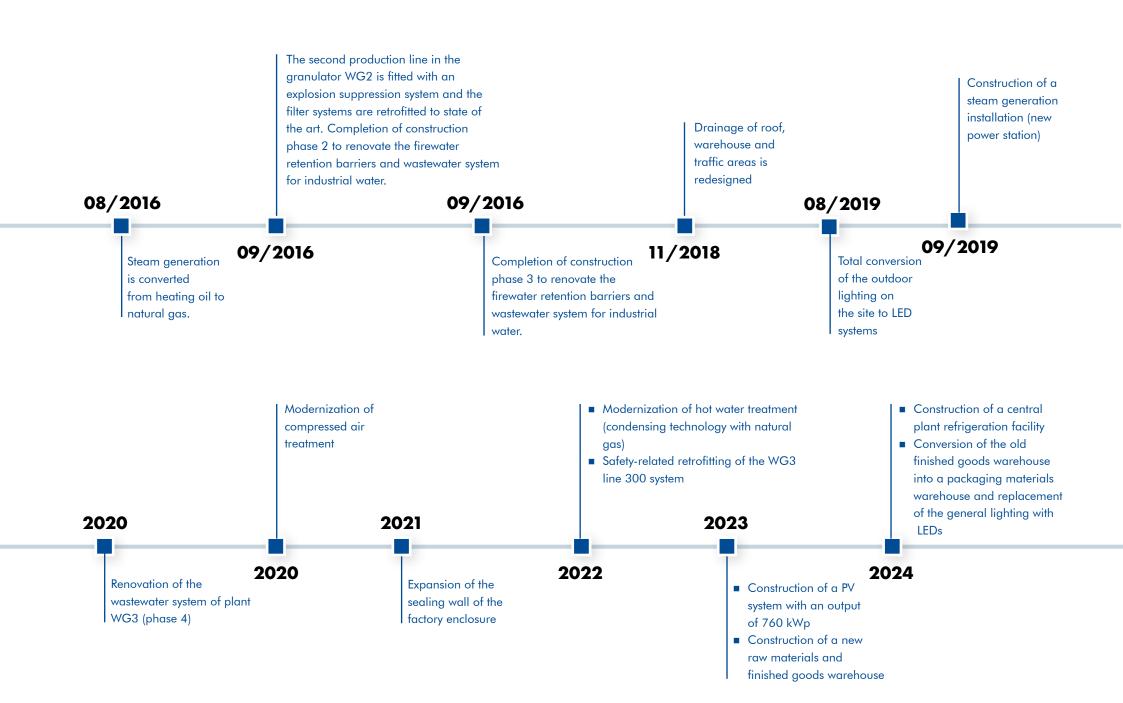
Harnessing the power of nature



#### HISTORY OF THE LEOBENDORF SITE







#### CONSTRUCTION PHASES

<b>1978</b>   Phase 1	Finished goods warehouse (formerly "Central warehouse"), East Offices
<b>1979</b>   Phase 2	Liquid herbicide factory (production, filling and packaging), tank farm and packaging storehouse
<b>1980</b>   Phase 3	Finished goods warehouse (formerly "Central warehouse"), East Offices  Liquid herbicide factory (production, filling and packaging), tank farm and packaging storehouse  "Production tower" factory building – liquid and powder insecticides, fungicides (production, filling and packaging); office and laboratory space  Annexe to liquid herbicide factory (production, filling and packaging); tank farm
<b>1989</b>   Phase 4	Annexe to liquid herbicide factory (production, filling and packaging); tank farm
<b>1992</b>   Phase 5	Expansion of warehouse "E"
<b>1994</b>   Phase 6	Annexe to West Offices, adaptation of the production tower, installation of the first fluidized bed granulator (WG1 – insecticides/fungicides; production, filling and packaging)
<b>1997</b>   Phase 7	Factory insecticides/fungicides or (separate) herbicides with 2 fluidized bed granulators, one each for insecticides/fungicides or herbicides (WG2; production, filling and packaging – only herbicides); power house
<b>1999</b>   Phase 8	Annexe to factory insecticides/fungicides with 2 fluidized bed granulators (WG3; production, filling and packaging)
<b>2008</b>   Phase 9	Storey added to "West Office Building"; annexe added to raw materials warehouse
<b>2012</b>   Phase 10	Various modifications (construction of workshop in Unit 7, adaptation of the preparation unit for liquid herbicides and production of liquid herbicides)
<b>2014</b>   Phase 11	Factory enclosure – construction of thin diaphragm wall and water treatment installation
<b>2015</b>   Phase 12	Expansion of the herbicide installation with a factory for production/bottling of liquid herbicides; annexe to storehouse for herbicides, flammable liquids and oxidizing substances; creation of the "waste island"
<b>2015</b>   Phase 13	Adaptation of wastewater disposal installations ("tank farm"), expansion of the firewater retention barriers and start of work to renovate wastewater pipes
<b>2016-17</b>   Phase 14	Modernization of Produktion Unit 6 Conversion of WG2
<b>2019</b>   Phase 15	Construction of a power station
<b>2021</b>   Phase 16	Expansion of the sealing wall of the factory enclosure
<b>2022</b>   Phase 17	Modernization of the hot water treatment system; safety-related retrofitting of WG3 line 300
<b>2023</b>   Phase 18	Construction of a raw materials and finished goods warehouse; installation of a ground-mounted photovoltaic system

#### KEY DATA ON THE PLANT



Emulsions, emulsion concentrates

1.118 t/a

Other formulations

 $2.870 \, t/a$ 

# FACILITIES 2023

Fluidized bed granulators
Stirrer and disperser as well as filling and storage containers
Bead mills
Bottling and filling installations (for powders, granulates and liquids)
Dry product blenders
Micro-capsule machines
Dry filter installations to clean exhaust air of volatile organic components and dust particles
Activated carbon filters

### **FACILITIES**

2	output 6,400 kg saturated steam/hour), fired by natural gas
2	Hot water boilers (output 536 resp. 586 kW), fired by natural gas
4	Water quenches to generate process cooling
4	Compressors to supply compressed air
1	Water treatment plant for treating process water
4	Transformer substations
6	Heat chambers for melting active substances
4+1	Duplex washing towers

Boilers to generate saturated steam (total

#### **ORGANIZATION**

The organization of Kwizda Agro was adapted again in 2023 to take account of the macroeconomic conditions and the realignment of the strategy towards in-house biological products, digital services and a more heavily organic contract manufacturing portfolio.

The sales activities were bundled into two sales organizations: a Crop Solutions sales unit for the distribution of plant protection products (licensed products and Kwizda's in-house products) and an Industrial Solutions sales unit for contract manufacturing and the Kwizda biocide portfolio. The development and registration activities and the newly established asset management organization were also combined into a new Product and Technology Development unit. In addition, the digitalization activities (development of digital services) and internal project management services were placed in two newly created organizational units.



#### Ludwig Karl Heinz

Operations



#### Salzl Thomas

Leobendorf Plant Operations Manager



#### Schuster Thomas

Engineering



#### Zielinski Rafal

Supply Chain Management



#### **Maringer Hermann**

Operational Controlling



#### **Muri Chris**

Quality Management & Compliance



#### Klein Walter

Production Planning Control & Logistics

#### **Rauter Florian**

Production & Packaging

#### Mach Maximilian

Engineering & Maintenance



#### **Bayer Andreas**

Team Head for Procurement

#### Kovac Adam

External Manufacturing Service Strategic

#### **Mayer Birgit**

Team Head for Customer Service



#### **Falkner Daniel**

**Quality Assurance** 

#### Hörmann Gerold

Expert Quality/Compliance/ Process Opt.

#### **Kacetl Regine**

Safety Office, Safety Specialist

#### Mödritscher Sonja

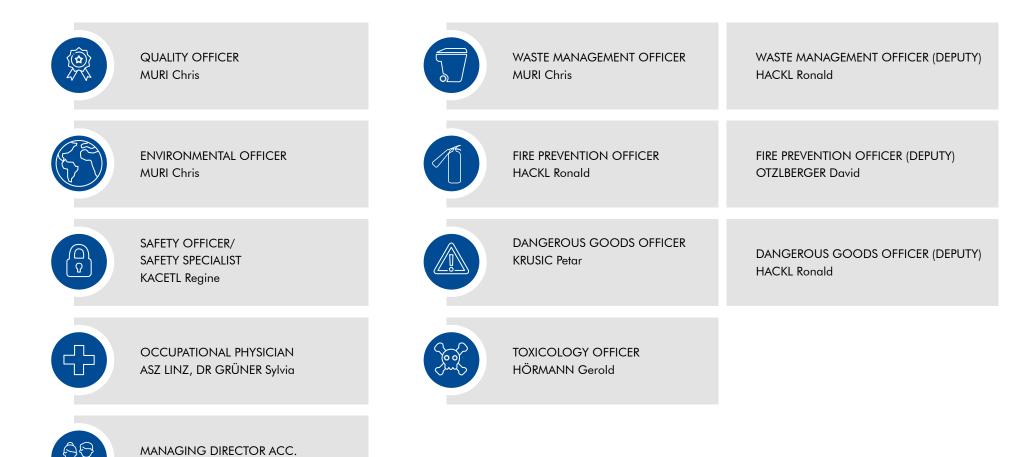
Compliance Management

#### Saravanja Anita

Team Head for Quality Assurance

#### SPECIALIST POSITIONS IN OPERATIONS (LEOBENDORF PLANT)

TO TRADE LAW SALZL Thomas



The Environmental Officer reports to Quality Management & Compliance. Production is based on a 3-shift operation and runs continuously.

#### **INVESTMENT PROGRAM**

Kwizda Agro is continuing its investment program at the Leobendorf plant and will steadfastly pursue its focus on safety and sustainable growth in the coming years.







A master plan was drawn up to ensure the mediumlong-term development of the Leobendorf site. The aim of this plan is to secure the growth of Kwizda Agro's future production volume by renewing or expanding production, bottling and storage capacities, particularly in the area of its alternative organic product portfolio.

One of the first steps was to build a new raw materials and finished goods warehouse. This more than doubled the storage capacity from around 4,600 to 9,600 pallet spaces. The best available safety technology for modern and efficient warehouse management was implemented in close cooperation with technical experts.

This includes, among other things, fully automatic retention extinguishing systems and systems liquids, the use of a fire-resistant and self-supporting reinforced concrete design for the entire building, and an extension of the barrier wall that has been in successful operation since 2014 (impermeable separation of the groundwater) to enclose the factory grounds. By eliminating transportation to and from several external warehouses, the new warehouse building contributes to a significant reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The relocation from the current finished goods warehouse was completed at the end of 2023.







In 2023, a PV system with peak output of 770 kWp and charging infrastructure for electric vehicles were installed and put into operation. Internal transport is handled entirely with electric forklifts and two newly purchased electric trucks. The energy requirements of the new warehouse and the electric trucks are covered on a net basis by the electricity generated with the PV system.

Also on the agenda for 2026 is the modification of the product formulation and discharging areas of a granulation line to create a combined synthetic/biological production line so as to accommodate the promising growth in volumes in our alternative biological product portfolio.

In 2024, the currently distributed refrigeration system for the production process will be brought up to the state of the art and centralized. The environmentally friendly refrigerant R290 (propane) will be used here.

# **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

HOW DO YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY THROUGH YOUR WORK?



## **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

#### ORGANIZATION OF OUR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Overall responsibility for the environmental management system lies with the Executive Board of Kwizda Agro GmbH, the Head of Industrial Solutions and the Head of Operations. Responsibility for and implementation of individual environment-related tasks lies with the operational area, i.e. with the plant manager or department heads.

Operations executives are given expert support by the Environmental Officer and his team in the discharge of their duties. In addition, the Environmental Officer is responsible for ensuring compliance with all relevant environmental regulations and requirements.

(See page 22, organizational chart of the Leobendorf plant)

I make sure that our new electric trucks are evenly loaded with goods to avoid empty runs.

Pongratz David - Truck fleet driver

#### For my work in production, I follow the operating instructions, utilize personal protective equipment, such as a mask, and make use of the safety equipment I have been trained in, like the extraction

system.

Bahram Ajezyar - Production employee

Even when the warehouse team is under time pressure, I still drive carefully and

Lukasz Srokowski - Logistics employee

plan my routes carefully in advance.

#### DOCUMENTATION OF THE SYSTEM

Documentation of the system is carried out as part of the integrated management system using a software system (ConSense) which can be accessed by all employees via the intranet (PCs or terminals in the production areas).

The environmental requirements are an integral part of the system documentation, which is divided according to processes, and in the individual process and work instructions as well as any further applicable documents, such as technical descriptions of processes, operating instructions, forms, checklists, etc.

Environmental data are not collected in the system documentation but in a clearly legible form in a digital storage system; they are evaluated annually when the environmental statement is updated. In the near future (as of 2025), the environmental data will be documented and evaluated in a computerized system.

The environmental statement can be accessed by all employees via the intranet, and by interested parties via the website of Kwizda Agro GmbH/Leobendorf plant. (www.werk-leobendorf.at)

#### GUARANTEEING COMPLIANCE WITH THE RELEVANT ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS AND LEGAL STANDARDS

internet-based legal management system is used at the Leobendorf site to keep track of the relevant legal provisions and their numerous amendments. The most important legal provisions can be found in the German Commercial Code (GewO), the Water Rights Act (WRG 1959), the Employee Protection Act (ASchG), the EU and German Chemicals Act (Chemikalienrecht), the Investment Company Ordinance (IUV), and the Best Available Technology guidelines. The system tracks legal amendments using a database of legal obligations that apply to the company, and it evaluates their relevance and the company's compliance. In addition, the system provides direct links to the underlying legal provisions. Thus, an amendment to a legal provision can be read and evaluated together with the resulting changed legal obligation. The register is updated monthly by the software owner. An updated assessment of the legal provisions is carried out no less than once per year by the Quality Management and Compliance department together with the relevant specialist departments.

All individually applicable legal acts (administrative acts, notices, submission documents, and plans), as well as other documents relevant to the authorities, are stored in a clear manner (categorized by project or system and labelled chronologically) in a central database (Saperion), where all involved employees can access them at any time. All original documents are also stored in paper form in the factory archive.

Tasks, such as special recurring inspection obligations or notification requirements, are assigned to the respective task managers by the Quality Management and Compliance department in the measures database of the ConSense IT system. These managers will be responsible for carrying out the tasks. General recurring inspection requirements are documented and processed by the Engineering and Maintenance department in the SAP system.

In 2021, the operating plant was inspected by an accredited auditing company (TüV AUSTRIA CERT GMBH) in accordance with Section 82b of the German Commercial Code (GewO). The inspection certificate was received in July 2021 and forwarded to the relevant government authority. The next inspection is therefore scheduled for 2026 and will be planned in a timely manner by the Quality Management and Compliance department. The combination of all these steps ensures that we comply with all relevant legal provisions.

Since 2018, Ecovadis has carried out a sustainability assessment on a regular basis.

Ecovadis is an independent international platform for sustainability ratings and analyzes and assesses the performance of companies in the key areas of sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Specifically, a list of questions is used to examine how responsibly companies act in the areas of the environment, labor and human rights, ethics and sustainable procurement.

The EcoVadis Scorecard is the final result of the assessment on a scale from 0 to 100.

Thanks to continuous improvements, we have managed to increase our overall assessment score from 52 in 2018 to 61 in 2024.

Kwizda supports the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). At the economic, social and ecological level, we are sure that these goals will help to implement the necessary actions and innovations for a better and sustainable future. We are coordinating with our customers to work on new, eco-friendly technologies and products. We understand that we can only achieve this goal if we work together.

I work according to working instructions and help to keep these documents up to date by providing active feedback.

Thomas Friedl – member of T&I staff

As a process technician, I am often out and about at the production facilities and as soon as I identify sources of danger together with the production staff members, I immediately raise them with our safety specialist.

David Otzlberger - member of staff Process Engineering staff

#### Our contribution



#### **END HUNGER**

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture We see improving sustainability in agriculture as one of our main aims.

This is why we are investing in agricultural research on natural and nature-identical active substances and products, in agricultural advisory services and in technological development, both in the formulation and application of plant protection products.



#### **GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all, at any age

The production and application of plant protection products harbors numerous risks caused by contact with dangerous substances. We protect our employees through technical, organizational and personal measures against the negative effects of these substances.

We share our findings from handling dangerous substances with our customers with the aim of generally improving safety at work in the agricultural sector.



#### AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Access to affordable, reliable, sustainable energy and modern energy for all

The production of plant protection products is energy-intensive. We are constantly working to make our energy consumption more efficient, to switch our energy supply to renewable energy sources, and to increase our own electricity generation.



### DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

As a company committed to sustainability, the creation of secure and long-term jobs is a key concern. We protect jobs, respect human rights and create a working environment that ensures the highest productivity of our employees in the long term. We have enshrined our principles in our Corporate Social Responsibility Company Policy.

#### **SDGs**

#### Our contribution



### RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Our strategy to avoid negative environmental effects consists of determining specific measures for improvement in those areas where our greatest potential for improvement lies: First of all, this applies to the use of raw materials and energy for the production of goods; and secondly to the generation of waste and wastewater as an undesirable side effect of our production processes. When working with our suppliers and logistics service providers we take care to ensure they share our standards. Clean drinking water and groundwater are also a fundamental concern to us: our manufacturing facilities are hermetically separated from the surrounding groundwater flow by a sealing wall.



#### **CLIMATE ACTION**

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

The effects of climate change are already clearly noticeable, particularly in the field of agriculture. We support our customers in adapting to changing environmental conditions through product innovations in the area of plant protection. By switching to renewable energies, continuously improving our efficiency in terms of energy and material consumption and investing in efficient machinery, we are minimizing our climate-relevant emissions and thus counteracting climate change.



#### LIFE ON LAND

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss

By focusing on the development and production of natural and nature-identical plant protection products of in-house products and increasing biologization in the area of contract manufacturing, we protect terrestrial ecosystems while ensuring productivity in the agricultural sector. We also support the forestry sector: TRICO®, our product manufactured in Leobendorf to prevent browsing by game, helps to make reforestation more efficient and thus also to create new CO<sub>2</sub> sinks. We use digital technologies in our advisory services to further optimize the use of plant protection and adapt them to local conditions.



#### PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Strengthen the means for implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

We place great importance on collaboration: We work with universities, technical colleges, non-university research facilities, authorities and municipalities in order to apply the broadest spectrum of knowledge and resources to tackle our future challenges with the aim of increasing resource efficiency.

#### TRAINING, AWARENESS AND **EXPERTISE**

Our complex production and logistics processes require competent employees. The key to ensuring this competence is our extensive qualification and training program, which all employees go through.

During Level 1, employees receive in-depth basic training with a focus on "Compliance with safety regulations," which enables them to carry out simple tasks. Level 2 is "on-the-job training," during which employees are trained to perform their work independently for a certain period of time.

Once this has been achieved – usually after one year – the employee can move up to Level 3 to become a qualified plant operator. A qualified plant operator is able to operate and monitor a production or packaging plant independently. At the highest level of training, Level 4, employees receive further in-depth training lasting several months on assigned plants, enabling them to train colleagues to become plant operators.

Continuous training of our employees is of the utmost importance to us. It allows us not only to maintain, but to also constantly further develop our quality and safety standards. Our dedicated training program creates a dynamic environment where team members can reach their full potential.

#### **EFFECTIVENESS OF THE** ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Internal audits, safety and environmental inspections, comprehensive key data monitoring and the obligatory reporting of safety and environmental incidents ensure that our environmental management system remains permanently effective.

If deficits (deviations, potential for improvement, etc.) are recognized, a detailed analysis of the causes is carried out and corrective measures are introduced.

These are assigned to the people responsible for implementation by the Quality Management & Compliance department in a special action database (in the softwarebased ConSense system). The status of actions taken can be retrieved at any time in the system and also dealt with four times a year at the meetings of the Quality Management & Compliance department.

Following the annual management review, which takes place at the beginning of the year, the effectiveness of the environmental management system and progress of action taken on the environmental program is assessed.

#### INVOLVEMENT OF ALL EMPLOYEES

In our company, protecting the environment is the responsibility of every single one of us, which is why works managers give their staff an opportunity to be actively involved in the continuous improvement of our green credentials by presenting their own ideas and suggestions for improvement.

To this end, a company suggestion scheme has been implemented at the plant.

#### **EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS**

External communication of environmental concerns is done via the plant's own website www.werkleobendorf.at as well as via various social media such as LinkedIn, Facebook and others.

Kwizda Agro promotes transparent dealings with interested parties and is listed in the register for factory tours for school classes (NFB Land NÖ Forschung & Bildung http://www.nfb.at).

By planning with larger container sizes from the outset, I keep the need for packaging material and delivery intervals to a minimum. I also make sure to buy from regional suppliers to save on travel.

Claus Sperling - Procurement Team

# INTERVIEW WITH MAXIMILIAN MACH (HEAD OF ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE) AND FLORIAN RAUTER (HEAD OF PRODUCTION AND PACKAGING) ON THE TOPICS OF SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

#### Mr. Mach, you have been Head of Engineering and Maintenance at Kwizda Agro since October 2022. How do you increase the level of safety?

As Head of Engineering and Maintenance at Kwizda Agro, an important part of my job is to ensure the safety of our employees and facilities. We do this by implementing strict safety policies and procedures, as well as technical solutions that are regularly reviewed and updated. We continuously invest in the further development of our facilities, as well as in training and further development, in order to raise awareness of safety risks and promote safe working practices. Regular risk assessments allow potential hazards to be identified at an early stage and preventive measures to be taken. We carry out regular inspections and maintenance work on our facilities and equipment to ensure that they meet high safety standards. And we minimize the risk of breakdowns and accidents considerably through continuous maintenance.

It is important to emphasize that security is not an inconvenience, but rather serves to protect people and ensure their well-being. In hectic everyday life and under stress, safety must never be neglected. On the contrary, especially in stressful situations, it is crucial to stay focused and implement safety measures consistently. After all, it is ultimately about protecting the lives and health of our employees, and that should always be our top priority.

### And how can you improve environmental protection at the company, Mr Mach?

As an operator of energy-intensive processes, we recognize our responsibility to the environment and are continually strive for improvements. The planned investments in sustainability and energy efficiency underline this fundamental point of our strategy, as we at Kwizda Agro are firmly convinced that the responsible use of resources and the protection of our environment are crucial to the long-term success of our company, particularly in our role as a producer of plant protection products.

# Mr. Rauter, what successes have you experienced so far as Head of Production and Packaging at the Leobendorf plant in terms of safety and environmental protection?

At the Leobendorf plant, we have made significant progress in the areas of safety and environmental protection. By introducing strict safety measures and environmentally friendly technologies, we have significantly improved the safety of our employees and reduced our ecological footprint. These efforts have been recognized by numerous certifications and awards, strengthening our position as a responsible and future-oriented production site.

# And how do you plan to improve and further develops afety and environmental protection measures in the future, Mr. Rauter?

Despite our successes, we continue to face challenges. Compliance with constantly changing legal regulations and the integration of new technologies require continuous attention and innovation. In addition, the motivation and training of our employees remains a central priority in order to ensure that safety and environmental protection measures are implemented sustainably and effectively.

Our commitment to safety and environmental protection is a central part of our everyday work and we will continue to take proactive steps to make our plant even safer and more environmentally friendly. In doing so we rely on the support and cooperation of our entire team to achieve our goals and master the challenges of the future.

# THE ENVIRONMENT: EFFECTS, ACHIEVEMENTS, OBJECTIVES

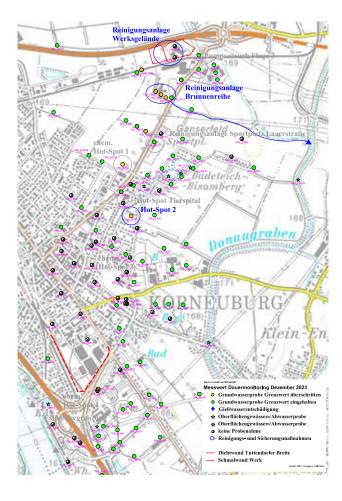
WE HAVE LEARNED FROM THE PAST AND ARE NOW INVESTING CONSISTENTLY IN PREVENTIVE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.



#### POLLUTION OF THE GROUNDWATER BODY "KORNEUBURGER BUCHT" BY THE LEOBENDORF PLANT AND REMEDIATION MEASURES TAKEN

After an incident concerning a wastewater collection pit in August 2010, pollution (traces of Thiamethoxam) of the groundwater was found on the factory site.

As an emergency measure the wastewater collection system and the wastewater collection pits were taken out of operation and subsequently thoroughly cleaned.



A series of remediation wells with activated carbon filters were installed on the site and in the downstream region of the site to prevent further spreading of the pollution or to eliminate pollutants. With these 14 wells, part of the polluted groundwater was removed from the groundwater body, cleaned using activated carbon and allowed to drain away in the downstream area of the facilities or channelled into the Danube via an outfall ditch ("Donaugraben").

In the course of 2011 additional pollution caused by decomposition products (metabolites) from Thiamethoxam was detected in the groundwater of the residential area of Korneuburg

in addition to the previously identified insecticide Thiamethoxam.

Consequently, in spring 2012, in addition to the two rows of remediation wells – at selected points in the contamination plume - several purification installations were erected (socalled hotspots) and brought into operation. The polluted groundwater around these hotspots was cleaned to drinking water quality using activated carbon and allowed to drain away in the downstream area of the facilities.

In autumn 2012 further pesticides (Clopyralid, Florasulam and Flumetsulam) were detected in the groundwater of the Korneuburg residential area; the regional administrative authority of Korneuburg then ordered a comprehensive remedial design by external experts.

The remediation measure proposed by the experts to prevent further spreading of pollution (limitation of the plume) was to erect an additional row of remediation wells, to feed the groundwater into the Danube and, as long-term protection for groundwater use by removing the contaminated groundwater, to adapt the existing activated carbon filter installations.

The proposals of the team of experts were implemented in the first half of 2013 with great success: 2020. clean-up December operations around 12,2 million m<sup>3</sup> groundwater removed 66.8 kg active ingredients in pesticides (almost 100% of the total pollutant load) from the groundwater (see diagram on page 38).

In criminal proceedings heard before the regional criminal court in Korneuburg in November 2014 Kwizda Agro accepted responsibility for polluting the groundwater. The proceedings ended with diversion ordered for all the accused. Employees of the company were fined between 3,000 and 38,000 euros. Kwizda Agro GmbH itself had to pay a fine of 250,000 euros and in addition to continue cleaning up the groundwater.

Between December 2015 and January 2017 the Agency for Health and Food Safety (Agentur für Gesundheit und Ernährungssicherheit - AGES) undertook irrigation water tests on tomato, lettuce, carrot and bush bean crops using contaminated groundwater (concentration 0.5 and  $1\mu g/I$ ) taken from the aroundwater body

"Korneuburger Bucht."

The results of the tests proved that no residues of the active ingredients in pesticides (Clopyralid, Thiamethoxam, their metabolites CGA 355190 and CGA 353968 as well as Florasulam and Flumetsulam) could be detected in the produce harvested from the above crops – with the exception of the tomatoes - irrigated with a pesticide load of up to  $0.5 \mu g/l$ . The residues detected in the tomatoes of 0.014 mg/kg were significantly below the legally prescribed maximum level of 0.5 mg/kg active substance/kg of produce harvested.

### POLLUTION OF THE GROUNDWATER BODY "KORNEUBURGER BUCHT"

There is no risk with regard to the ecotoxicological effects on pollinating insects, and any risk to arthropods, vertebrates, aquatic organisms and soil organisms is very unlikely. Correspondingly it is assumed that the irrigation water with a pesticide load of up to 0.5  $\mu$ g/l can be used without reservations for market gardening, according to the current state of knowledge.

In a letter dated June 8, 2023, Kwizda Agro GmbH submitted a declaration of commitment regarding groundwater remediation to the responsible water authority, the Korneuburg district authority.

As part of an on-site negotiation on 27 November 2023, the declaration of commitment was specified and the further remediation measures were discussed and written down.

Remediation measures include

- Operation of the Fetter remediation wells/groundwater treatment system Tresdorfer Graben
- Operation of the groundwater treatment system Hot Spot 2
- Groundwater monitoring program
- Purification installations, overall, monthly
- Fetter facility operation, twice a month
- Hot Spot 4, monthly
- Laaerstraße sports field area, monthly
- Probes in the contamination plume, monthly
- "Danube monitoring" only when the discharge is running
- Bisamberg bathing pond, quarterly
- Ground water monitoring approx. 77 measuring points, every six months

98/2010, as amended by BGBI II 248/2019, are reached in the affected groundwater.

Irrigation water monitoring 7 measuring points, annually

Against the background described above, Kwizda Agro GmbH now undertakes to the district authority of Korneuburg, as the authority responsible for the groundwater remediation process, to carry out the groundwater remediation and to complete the remediation of the groundwater until the threshold values specified in Annex 1 of the Chemical Groundwater Quality Objectives Ordinance (Qualitätszielverordnung Chemie Grundwasser ("QZV Chemie GW")), BGBI II

These are:

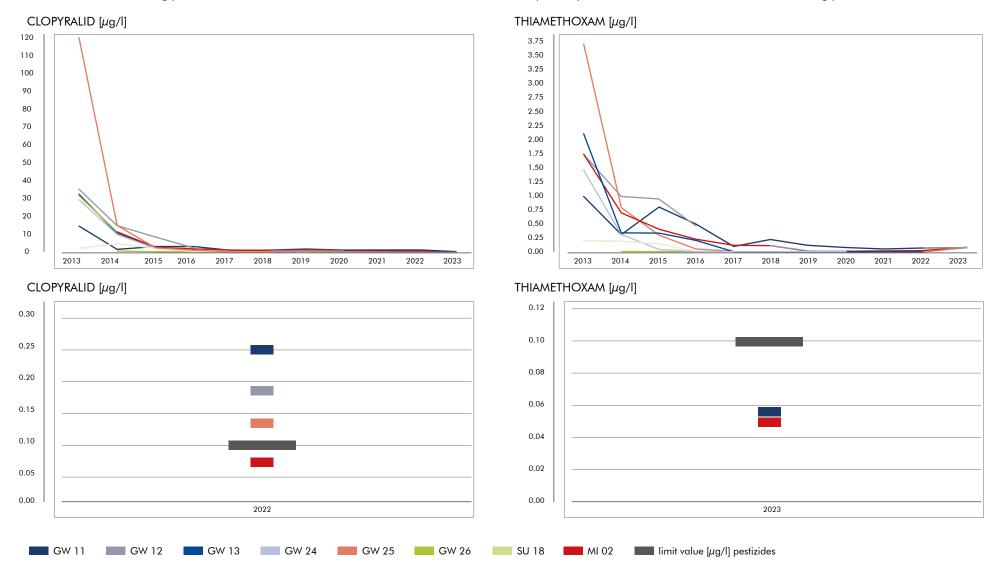
Pesticides (single)  $0.10 \,\mu\text{g/l}$ 

Pesticides (total)  $0.50 \,\mu g/l$ 

Once the above threshold values are reached, the respective purification measures can be reduced and only monitoring carried out, which can also be discontinued after three years if the above threshold values are not exceeded again. From this point in time, the affected groundwater is deemed to have been remediated and the declaration of commitment in question is deemed to have been fulfilled.

### POLLUTION OF THE GROUNDWATER BODY "KORNEUBURGER BUCHT"

Due to groundwater remediation, the concentrations of clopyralid and thiamethoxam fell sharply during the 2013–2022 measurement period. At many measuring points, the values are already below the detection limit of  $0.025 \,\mu\text{g/L}$ . In the case of thiamethoxam, all values obtained from the measuring points are already below the limit value of  $0.1 \,\mu\text{g/L}$  specified under the drinking water ordinance. Clopyralid values are slowly approaching this value. Samples were not taken from the GW12 measuring point in 2017 and 2021, and no samples were taken from the GW25 measuring point in 2018, so there are no measured values from these sites. Samples only started to be taken from the GW26 measuring point in 2014.

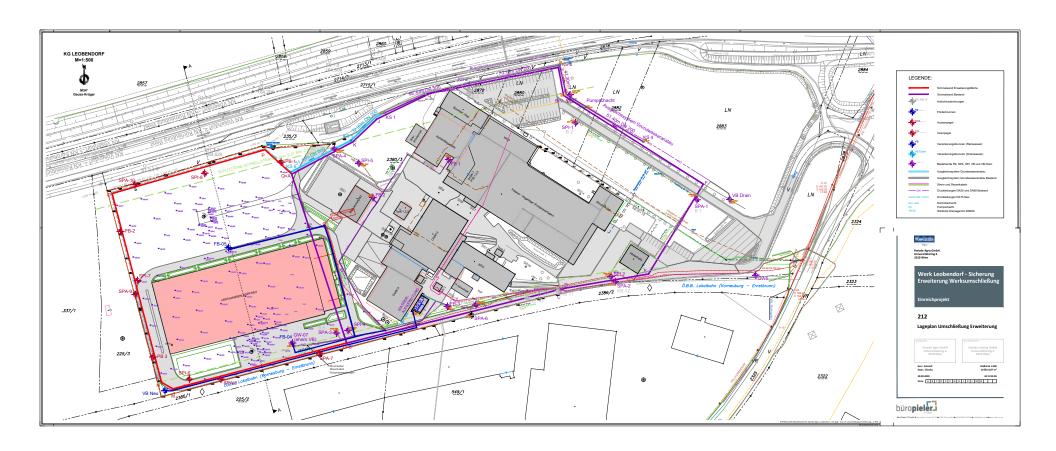


purified using activated carbon and allowed to drain away in the downstream area of the surrounding groundwater body.

Between June and December 2014 the factory was enclosed with a sealing wall approximately 815m long as a measure to ensure the long-term protection of the groundwater body "Korneuburger Bucht." This construction reaches down to the groundwater aquifuge at a depth of around 15m and separates the groundwater around the factory from the surrounding groundwater body. It is, therefore, an effective way of preventing potential pollutants from leaching from the site into the groundwater body "Korneuburger Bucht."

Constant pumping keeps the water level on the factory site about 50cm below the level of the surrounding waterbody. The groundwater that is pumped off is removed on the factory site,

In 2021, the sealing wall was built around the now finished raw materials and finished goods warehouse in the western section of the factory grounds.



### **OUR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

### DIRECT ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS

We have identified and assessed the following environmental aspects of our activities, facilities and products and used them as the foundation for environmental protection at the factory:

- Air: the emissions of total organic carbon (TOC) and dust produced by the production facilities as well as the exhaust air emissions from the steam generators and heating installations and – generally speaking – the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions caused by activities on the site are of importance for the "air" aspect. Through dispersion calculations, we demonstrate that there are no negative effects from pollutant emissions on soil and groundwater.
- Water: the impact of the manipulation of hazardous substances and waste on groundwater has been explored in relation to the "water" aspect. The legally compliant recording and disposal of industrial wastewater and the careful, compliant handling of raw materials, products and waste ensure that there is no groundwater contamination.
- Waste: the generation of hazardous and non-hazardous waste on the site and the collection, separation and disposal of that waste falls under the "waste" aspect. Hazardous liquid waste includes industrial wastewater in particular, which is produced in significant quantities owing to the need to clean the facilities at each campaign changeover. Waste is sent for thermal or material recycling by authorized disposal companies in accordance with the state of the art. Industrial wastewater is chemically and physically cleaned in a CPO facility and discharged into a wastewater treatment plant. Based on the waste treatment technologies used , we assume that the environmental impact is minimized.

- Soil: the "soil" aspect includes the potential for pollutants to enter the soil. The way in which hazardous substances and hazardous waste are handled on the factory site prevents soil contamination.
- Resources: the consumption of utilities such as electricity, heating oil, natural gas and water has been assessed for the "resources" aspect.
- Use of materials: the consumption of raw materials, auxiliary products and operating supplies is assessed for "use of materials."
- Local impact: only noise and odor would be considered part of "local impact." However, the noise generated by our facilities is drowned out by the motorway running right past our factory grounds. In addition, there are now very few particularly odorous products in our portfolio, which means that this aspect is of minimal importance.
- Traffic: the "traffic" aspect relates primarily to inbound deliveries of raw materials and outbound deliveries of our finished products on heavy goods vehicles. Roughly 90% of hauliers for deliveries to the factory are chosen by the suppliers themselves. Most (around 65%) of the carriers collecting finished goods are contracted by our customers. The impact of our few company vehicles and business trips is negligible.

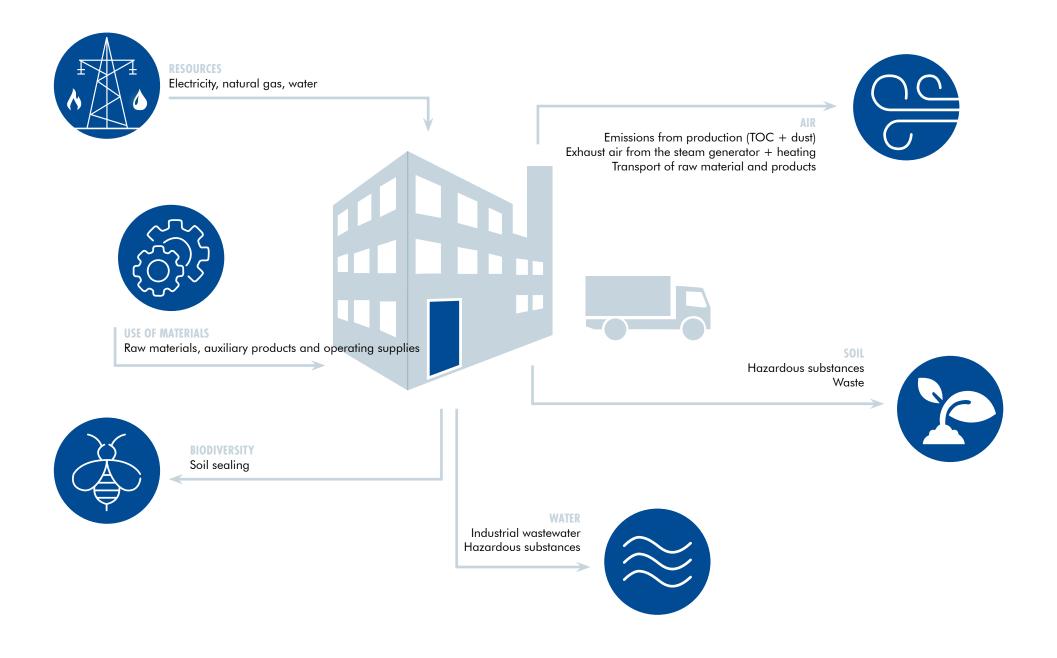
- Accident risk: the "accident risk" aspect covers the risk of environmental accidents and the actual or possible impact of incidents, accidents and potential emergencies. This aspect is important particularly in production but also in the new raw materials and finished goods warehouse, which also includes the transportation of hazardous materials across the yard.
- Biological diversity: the direct environmental aspect of "biological diversity" is influenced not only by land use, but also by how undeveloped and built-up areas are designed.

Detailed information on the individual environmental aspects and environmental impacts can be found in the chapter on "Figures, Data, Facts." Every (relevant) company process has been evaluated with regard to its environmental impact.

A quantitative assessment of environmental aspects is carried out in the plant-related risk analyses, which are compiled as part of the safety report in accordance with the Industrial Accident Act (Industrieunfallverordnung) and are updated annually.

For all aspects with a high impact on the environment or safety the corresponding measures or instructions on how to behave are set out in operative work instructions in order to control the potential risks inherent in these aspects.

### **ENVIRONMENT-RELATED INPUTS AND OUTPUTS**



### **EVALUATION OF INDIRECT ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS**

**ECO-FRIENDLY PROCUREMENT:** Many of the raw materials used in the factory (in particular active substances) are provided by our customers. Regarding the raw materials we procure ourselves, we are committed to ensuring the procurement process and the raw materials we procure have the lowest possible environmental impact by preferring local suppliers (wherever possible, allowing for customers' requirements). We can do this in particular with packaging (primary packaging, secondary packaging - cardboard packaging, tertiary packaging and labels). For in-house Kwizda products, we strive to keep the environmental footprint as low as possible by reducing packaging weight and secondary packaging, using recycled materials and sourcing locally where possible.

As far as we can justify it in technical and economic terms, we prefer to use eco-friendly materials and construction materials, e.g. biodegradable cleaning materials, PVC-free cables, non-synthetic insulation materials, etc. For example, the construction of the new raw materials and finished goods warehouse was tendered and implemented taking ecological criteria into account.

By the beginning of 2025, a Supplier Code of Conduct, a Procurement Policy and procurement criteria will be defined across the Group, which will take the sustainability aspect into account. In addition, the methodology for Carbon Scope 3 recording is currently being developed and will be integrated into the procurement criteria in future.

We already regularly review our key suppliers in accordance with clearly defined, specific and

environmental criteria in the course of supplier audits and the annual supplier assessment. In 2023, we also launched an initiative to recycle IBCs (Intermediate Bulk Containers) – by reconditioning 922 IBCs in an environmentally friendly way, we were able to save 35.5 tons of steel and 14 tons of plastic in 2023, saving 98.7 ton of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. As part of the reorganization of internal logistics, diesel trucks

and gas-powered forklifts were replaced by electric trucks and electric forklifts - resulting in a CO<sub>2</sub> reduction of 85t in 2023.

Finally, the new tender for electricity procurement / switch to electricity from exclusively renewable sources in 2023 saved over 2,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> compared to 2022.

**ECO-FRIENDLY BEHAVIOR OF CONTRACTORS:** We endeavor to specify our exact requirements regarding an eco-friendly approach at the outset in the tender documents for our capital investment projects (contract terms, schedule of services). Contracts are awarded on the principle of the best, not the cheapest, bidder. Contractors are monitored to ensure they comply with our environmental requirements when they provide their services.

#### PRODUCT LIFE CYCLE, NEW MARKETS AND PRODUCT

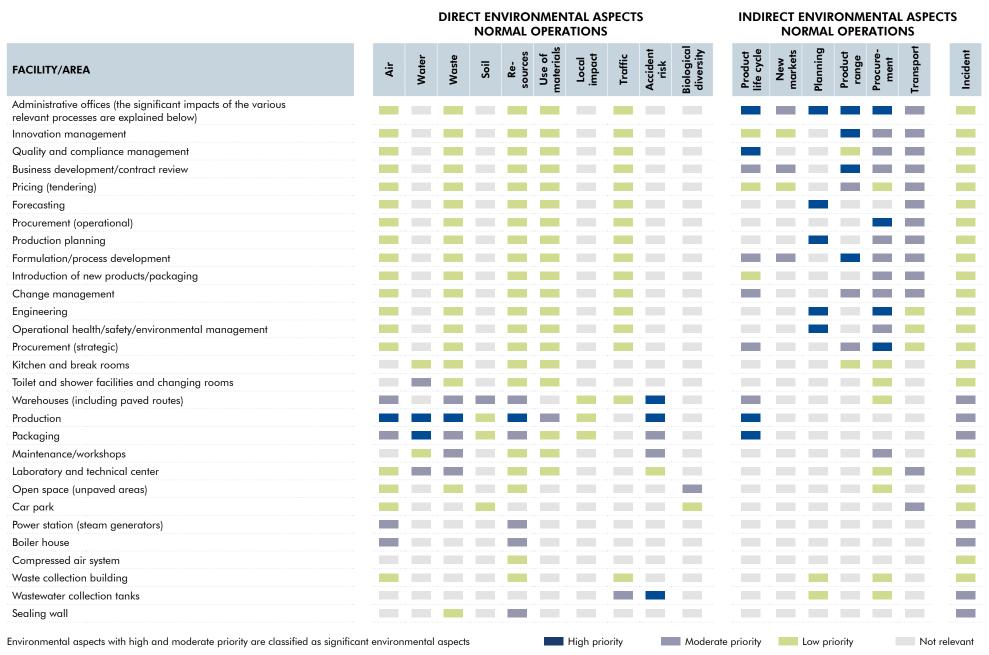
RANGE: As with procurement, our influence on the product life cycle is limited given how much of our work we carry out as a toller. Ensuring product integrity by means of ongoing employee training and maintaining strict separation between all mobile system parts and materials for the herbicide and insecticide/fungicide systems help to prevent the use of our products from having unintended consequences. While most of the products that we produce in our capacity as a toller can be used only in conventional plant protection applications, our proprietary products are also licensed for organic agriculture. As we implement our vision, open up new markets and re-align our portfolio, we will bring about a considerable reduction in our environmental impact in relation to these aspects in the future. By switching to biological plant protection products in both the in-house and toll production portfolios, the ecotoxicological effects are minimized or reduced.

PLANNING: Many of our business processes have an effect on our significant environmental aspects. We can use optimized planning to avoid complex and waterintensive cleaning operations, while keeping a close eye on environmental impact allows us to take swift action to deal with it.

TRANSPORT: Our site is not easily accessible by public transport. With 190 or so employees working at the site, this aspect is of moderate importance.



### ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS AND IMPACT



### **ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENTS 2023**

NO.	ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVE	AREA	MEASURES TAKEN	SAVINGS IN MWH/YEAR OR TONS CO <sub>2</sub> /YEAR
1	Reduction in air/greenhouse gas emissions	Car park	Switch to electric vehicles for company cars and guests: Installation of 5 x 2 e-charging stations, min. 11 kW charging power each	N/K
2	Increase in the generation of renewable energy	Leobendorf site	Installation and commissioning 760 kWp PV system in "green field"	700 MWH/192 t CO <sub>2</sub> /year
3	Increase energy efficiency and decarbonization	Leobendorf site	Continue the "KWIGGE" energy efficiency initiative of the Kwizda Group (managed by the Agro Holding and Agro division) incorporated into the newly established Sustainability Group (various actions from the energy audit and energy usage management)	N/K
4	Reduce air/greenhouse gas emissions	Leobendorf site	Conversion of purchased electricity to fully renewable sources as of 1 January 2023 (awarded the Austrian Ecolabel)	approx. 2,000 tons of CO <sub>2</sub> /year
5	Reduce air/greenhouse gas emissions	Leobendorf site	Kwizda Agro – conversion of plant traffic to 100% e-mobility (2 trucks and 8 fork- lifts), 20% e-mobility for company cars	85 † CO <sub>2</sub> /year
6	Reduce waste	Leobendorf site	Recycle and repair of 7,000 pallets per year	approx. 30 t CO <sub>2</sub> / year

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM 2024

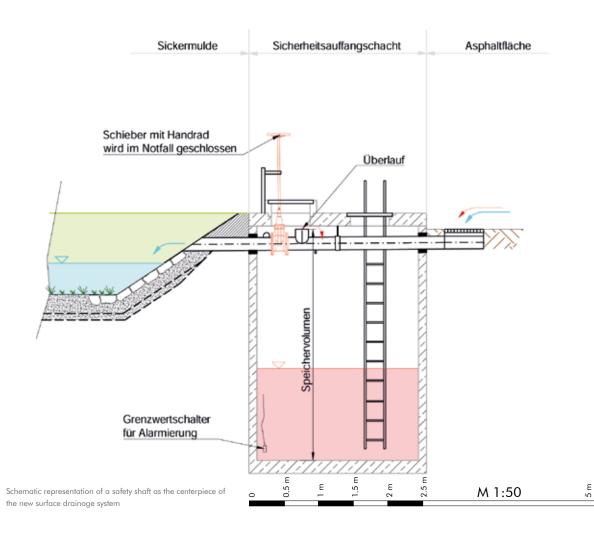
NO.	ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVE	AREA	MEASURES TAKEN	SAVINGS IN MWH/YEAR OR TONS CO <sub>2</sub> /YEAR
1	Increase in the energy efficiency and level of decarbonization	Leobendorf site	Development of a comprehensive energy monitoring concept (monitoring / evaluation / reporting) with planned implementation period 2025	N/K
2	Increasing energy efficiency and decar- bonization	Leobendorf site	Development of an energy efficiency roadmap for the main consumers by Q4/24	N/K
3	Increase energy efficiency and decarbonization	Leobendorf site	Implementation of an energy audit as part of the "KWIGGE" energy efficiency initiative in the Kwizda Group by Q3/24	N/K
4	Reduction use of materials	Leobendorf site	Installation of an IBC purification installation for the reuse of 1,000 IBCs/p.a.	approx. 100 t CO <sub>2</sub> /year
5	Cutting down on wastewater	Production	Implementation of a pilot plant for the purification of industrial wastewater	no direct savings; energy/CO <sub>2</sub> is indirectly saved at the treatment company by reducing the disposal quantity
6	Reduction energy consumption	Packaging materials hall	Conversion of lighting to LED in the packaging materials hall by H2/2025	no CO <sub>2</sub> savings (electricity comes from renewable sources)
7	Decarbonization	Kwizda Agro	Development of a decarbonization strat- egy with short, medium and long-term reduction targets by H1 2025	N/K
8	Reduction of waste	Leobendorf site and Val d'Izé	Development of a packaging roadmap by mid-2024 with initial implementation of packaging optimizations in terms of weight, recyclability and recycled content in 2024	N/K

## **SECURITY SYSTEMS**

WE SPARE NO COSTS OR EFFORTS TO SECURE OUR PLANT USING STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY.



# DESCRIPTION OF THE SAFETY ARRANGEMENTS



### SURFACE DRAINAGE

The whole surface drainage at the Leobendorf site was reviewed and adjusted to state of the art. The precipitation falling on traffic areas passes through a humus filter layer into filtration basins on site for infiltration into the ground. Based on a risk assessment, five new safety shafts were installed in the areas with the most-used loading ramps. As shown in the diagram, precipitation normally passes through the shaft and infiltrates the ground. If contamination occurs on the asphalted area, the feeder gate in the safety shaft is closed manually and the contamination stored in the safety shaft. A water level measurement triggers an automatic alarm. Simultaneous rain was also taken into account when calculating the storage volume.

### INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER SYSTEM



Three new underground wastewater collection tanks with 30m<sup>3</sup> capacity each

The new industrial wastewater system is intended to ensure the environmentally sound collection and disposal of the industrial wastewater generated. In order to prevent contaminants from leaching into the wastewater system, the wastewater system was constructed with a double wall and permanent leak monitoring. The diagram shows the three new central wastewater collection tanks.

## SEALING WALL AND GROUNDWATER PURIFICATION EXPANSION OF WESTERN FACTORY GROUNDS – ACTIVATED CARBON FILTERS

In order to prevent contaminants from the site leaching into the groundwater body "Korneuburger Bucht," a sealing wall was erected around the site; this reaches down to the aquifuge and separates the groundwater body below the factory site from the surrounding groundwater body. The groundwater body within the sealing wall is lowered artificially by approximately 50 cm through constant pumping. The used pump water is purified via activated carbon filters.

In 2021, the sealing wall in the western area of the factory grounds was extended to also secure the area of the new raw materials and finished goods warehouse to be built. The raw materials and finished goods warehouse was built in 2022/2023 to the highest safety standards and has been in full operation since September 2023. The construction of the sealing wall extension is not a restrictive measure, as in the first part, but a precautionary measure. Due to the way the new warehouse is operated, it can also be assumed that a precautionary measure will be taken in the future.





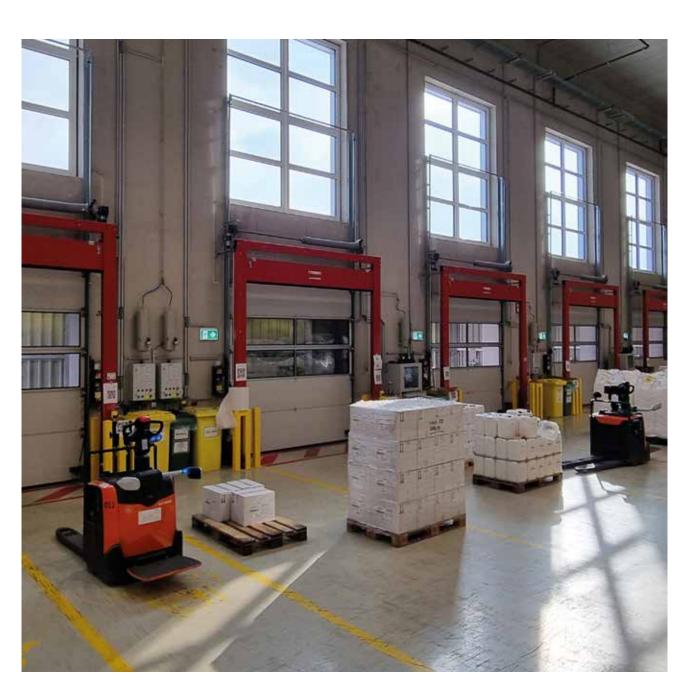


### FIREFIGHTING WATER RETENTION BARRIERS

In case of fire, foam dispensers are located at strategic points for the fire department to douse the flames quickly. In order to prevent firefighting water, foam and contaminants from escaping in the case of accidents, stationary firefighting water retention barriers have been installed at all door/ gate openings of the herbicide warehouse, the separate fire compartments of the herbicide production and the new raw materials and finished goods warehouse. These close automatically, or can be closed manually, when a fire breaks out or a liquid leak is detected. In the new raw materials and finished goods warehouse, all firewater retention barriers are also equipped with a sensor system for the early detection of liquid leaks. The image here shows the firefighting water retention barrier on the ramps in the new raw materials and finished goods warehouse:

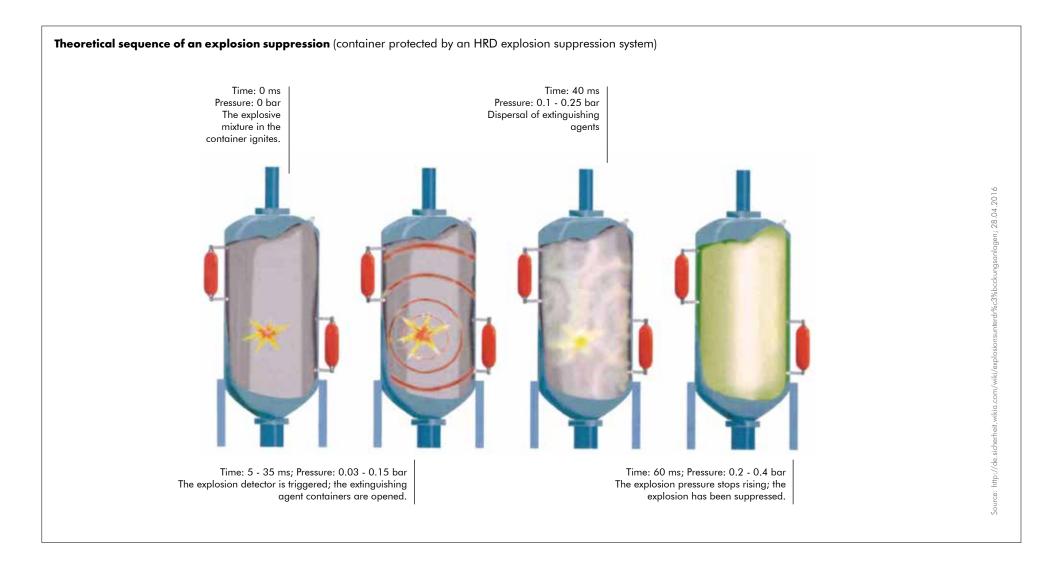


Firewater retention barriers at all exits



### **EXPLOSION SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS**

Under certain conditions the substances processed in the fluidized bed granulators can generate explosive dust/air mixtures. In order to exclude dust explosions, the granulators were fitted with explosion suppression systems; if a dust explosion should occur, the increase in pressure is reduced by extinguishing agents to the point that no blow-out discs are needed to lower the pressure in the containers and thus prevent contaminants from escaping. The following figures illustrate the principle of an explosion suppression system.



# MEASURES TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS

WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING REGULAR TRAINING.
BECAUSE WE CAN ONLY AVOID INCIDENTS WHEN WE UNDERSTAND THE DANGERS.



## MEASURES TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS **AND INCIDENTS**

### ORGANIZATIONAL PRECAUTIONS

In order to avoid accidents and incidents a safety management system in accordance with ISO 45001 was implemented, amongst other measures, and integrated into the on-site management system. Existing organizational structures, processes and documents are used to manage and operate the safety management system and are supplemented where necessary with the corresponding specific processes.

The organization and responsibilities of operating personnel are documented at each site in an up-to-date organizational chart which is supplemented with the corresponding job descriptions. Detailed responsibilities and tasks within processes are defined in the relevant process descriptions. Training courses and sessions are carried out and documented in accordance with legal regulations and operational needs. Maintaining a high level of knowledge and awareness of safety though training on health, safety and the environment (HSE) are in any case an integral part of our safety objectives.

All production facilities are documented in up-to-date descriptions. They contain the technical installations, the processes used and the safety precautions applied. A risk analysis is compiled based on these descriptions of facilities and an on-site inspection; possible sources of risk are identified and their impact assessed. If changes occur within the facilities or new processes are introduced, the production area as a whole is subject to a new risk analysis.

New facilities are evaluated before normal commissioning. Safe operation is ensured firstly by regular maintenance and careful handling of installations and equipment and, secondly, the corresponding training courses enable employees to work with the installations according to their proper use and in a responsible manner. This applies both to production and to storage in the plants or for outgoing shipments.

An internal emergency planning for each site aims to limit damage to people, environment and facilities should an incident occur. To this end emergency scenarios were devised and emergency plans developed for typical incidents which are intended to enable the site to deal with the incident efficiently and limit its impact for operations and surroundings as far as possible. Regular safety audits are carried out by the Safety Office or Safety Supervisors as part of the audit process; they monitor the validity of the risk analyses and search for possible deviations from the current safety regulations or potential to improve safety.

### INDUSTRIAL SAFETY COMMITTEE

The mandatory industrial safety committee (ISC) meets four times a year.

The task of the ISC is to ensure a two-way information flow, exchange of views and ideas and coordination of operational safety installations and work towards improving health & safety and working conditions. The ISC discusses in particular the reports and suggestions of safety supervisors, the safety officer and the works doctor. The ISC plays an extremely important role in promoting in-house cooperation in all questions of health & safety.

The person responsible for the safety report, the production manager, the production manager, the head of formulation and process development, the fire officers and the safety supervisors are responsible for issuing safety instructions and determining training needs of individual employees as well as carrying out the training courses and sessions. Where necessary they are supported by specialists at Kwizda Holding GmbH or by external experts. Everyone entrusted with special safety-related tasks (safety supervisors, boiler and elevator maintenance personnel, etc.) receives appropriate training.



### **2023 SAFETY DAY**

A day devoted to safety took place at the Leobendorf plant once again on 6 September 2023, offering further training and practical exercises relating to various important issues. Employees participating in groups corresponding to their departments completed exercises at a number of stations. As well as the annual fire-fighting drill, there was a forklift obstacle course, a station providing training in correct handling of accidents involving corrosive substances and several stations focused on mastering critical situations involving granulators or spills both indoors and outdoors. In addition to another station dealing with how to enter a tank safely, this year's event made room for the all-important issue of waste sorting.

### QUALIFICATION OF EMPLOYEES THROUGH THE "TRAIN THE TRAINER" PROGRAM

One of the aims of our corporate policy is to ensure our staff are well trained and act responsibly. Targeted training courses on the machines at the production factilities are intended to give employees confidence to carry out their work safely. Both the appropriate behavior in emergencies and an awareness of eco-friendly behavior at work are promoted explicitly by training. Independent trainers receive extensive training on certain installations by senior management as part of their own training program. After a written and oral test the trainers undergo a practice test and then receive the "Train the Trainer" certificate and are qualified to train employees on the respective installations.

The program started in 2016 when the first trainer received training. By 2019 three additional employees had been trained. Another five trainer courses are planned for 2023/24 in order to ensure the ever-increasing safety standards at the facilities in terms of health and employee protection. This comprehensive training program therefore also focuses on the safe and productive use of the facilities.

### **INTRODUCTION OF 5S**

In 2023, it was decided to introduce 5S in the Production and Packaging departments. The 5S method is a proven system for improving productivity, efficiency and safety in the workplace. It is based on five steps named after the Japanese terms:

**Seiri (sort):** Check and sort out unnecessary items in the workplace.

**Seiton (systematize):** Put everything neatly and systematically in its place.

**Seiso (sanitize):** Regular cleaning of the workplace to ensure quality and remove dirt.

**Seiketsu** (standardize): Defining standards so that everyone knows where everything belongs.

**Shitsuke (self-discipline):** Continuous improvement and maintenance of order.

The introduction will be gradual, with maximum involvement of employees at the installations to ensure a high level of buyin and good communication of objectives and procedures. Daily tours by the heads of Production and Packaging and the safety specialist and discussions with employees have already resulted in continuous improvements.

### **ADVANTAGES OF THE 5S METHOD**

- Increased efficiency: Optimum organization of the workplace minimizes search times and increases productivity.
- Improving quality and safety: Clean and organized work areas contribute to better quality and occupational safety.
- Cost reduction: Less waste and more efficient processes lead to lower costs.
- Employee commitment: Involving staff in the implementation of 5S promotes commitment and identification with the company.

Plant-specific risk analyses, according to the HAZAN system, prove that the sources or risk in the area under review can be managed securely by the type of technical installation and organization of operations. Potential risks are evaluated according to their probability and possible extent of damage regarding injury to persons, environmental damage and economic parameters. This applies in particular to the storage of raw materials in the raw materials warehouse as well as the storage of half-finished and finished goods in the finished goods warehouse.

The **raw materials warehouse** is used to store raw materials, half-finished goods, auxiliary products and operating supplies as well as packaging after delivery.

The following groups of risks or individual risks have been identified as relevant for the raw materials warehouse:

- Risks related to leaching of liquids hazardous to water due to mechanical damage to containers
- Risks related to firefighting with foam and firefighting with foam.

All risks or the effects of risks that occur can be reduced to an acceptable level, i.e. within the risk acceptance range, by appropriate measures (e.g. provision of emergency sets, maintenance and inspection of warning installations in accordance with generally accepted codes of practice or legal/administrative requirements, employee training).

This area is currently undergoing official proceedings for the modification of the operating facilities. It is planned to use this area in the future as a production preparation area (set-up for production <24h) as well as the for re-labeling of semi-finished and finished products. Following the official notice of approval, its risk profile will be adapted to reflect the new requirements. The lower volume structure is expected to reduce the associated risks. The following quantities may still be stored until the final change of notice, taking into account the amended legal regulations of the VbF (Flammable Liquids Ordinance):

Storage class – SC 4.1/6.1/9 or storage classes with a low potential risk	600 t
of which max. SC 4.1/6.1	200 t
In addition to 600t SC 4.1/6.1 / 9: SC 3.3 (Flammable Liquids Ordinance III)	50 t
Total raw materials warehouse	700 t





The new **raw materials and finished goods warehouse** was opened on 7 September 2023. It has a capacity of more than 8,000 pallet spaces and is used to store raw, auxiliary and operating materials, half-finished and finished goods and hazardous production waste. The new warehouse is divided into 11 storage sections and equipped with corresponding extinguishing systems. Operation via ERP software with a defined storage strategy ensures compliance with the various regulatory storage bans. This means that the following storage classes can be stored safely:

3.III, 4.1 (B), 6.1 A/B/C/D, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, packaging materials

As part of the construction of the raw materials and finished goods warehouse, the existing plant enclosure was also extended to include this new part of the plant. The existing herbicide warehouse will continue to be operated almost unchanged, merely adapted to the requirements of the new VhF

PERMITTED STORAGE QUANTITIES OF THE RAW MATERIALS AND FINISHED GOODS WAREHOUSE:			
Substances and mixtures of category H2 (according to Seveso III – RL)	8,540 t		

Substances and mixtures of category H1 (according to Seveso III – RL) 1,000 t

The **herbicide warehouse** is used to store raw, auxiliary and operating materials, half-finished goods, packaging and finished goods.

# Storage class – SC 4.1/6.1/9 or storage classes with a low potential risk In addition to 700 t SC 4.1 / 6.1 / 9: (Flammable Liquids Ordinance) SC 3.2 / 3.3 In addition to 700 t SC 4.1 / 6.1 / 9: Oxidizable substances SC 5.1 Total for herbicide warehouse 830 t

# PRODUCTS, PRODUCTION METHODS AND FACILITIES, PRODUCT RANGE

OUR INNOVATIVE PRODUCTS ENSURE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY AGRICULTURE



# PRODUCTS, PRODUCTION METHODS AND INSTALLATIONS



The Leobendorf plant of Kwizda Agro GmbH produces and stores plant protection products, such as insecticides (plant protection products to control pests at all stages of development), fungicides (plant protection products to control fungal infections), herbicides (plant protection products to control weeds in agricultural crops) and repellents (products that have a deterrent effect), primarily for use in agriculture, as well as biocides (insecticidal pest control products), both as in-house developments and as contract manufacturing. Plant protection products contain active substances of synthetic, mineral or biogenic (spores, extracts, fermentation products) origin. No syntheses are carried out at the Leobendorf plant, but mixtures (so-called formulations) are produced and packaged in solid and liquid, water- and solvent-based form using combinations of melting, dilution, mixing, dispersion, emulsifying, wet milling and fluid bed spray granulation processes. The substances required for formulation are procured by Kwizda Agro or provided by the customer (purchasers).

### **PRODUCTS**

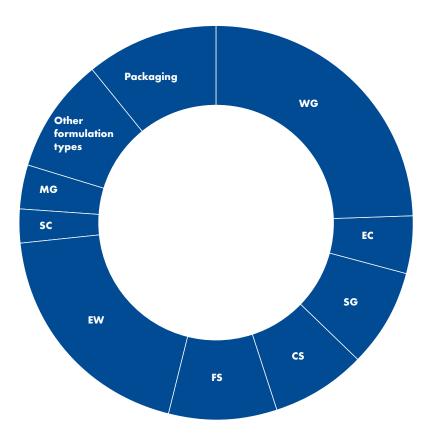
Products are divided into 4 (main) products types according to application, namely:

- Wettable granules: "WG formulation" type: granular products composed of active substances and adjuvant(s); the granulate material is dispersed in water to create a suspension that is then applied.
- Suspension concentrates: "SC formulation" type: water-based liquid products the active substance is suspended in water; the suspension is thinned with water before application.
- Emulsion concentrates: "EC formulation" type: solvent-based liquid products the active substance is dissolved in an organic solvent; the product is mixed with water for application the emulsifiers contained as additives create a sprayable emulsion.
- Micro capsule suspensions: "CS formulation" type: water-based liquid products the active substance is encased in a thin, water-soluble polymer layer or "micro capsule"; the suspension is diluted with water before application.

### PRODUCTION METHODS

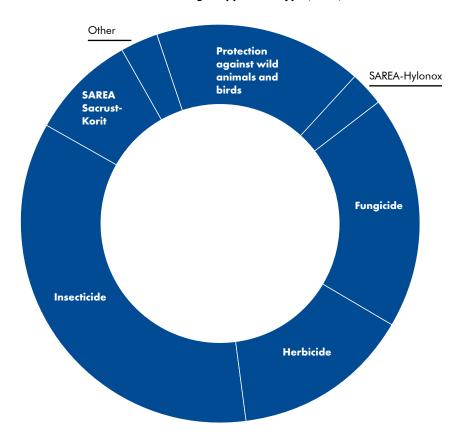
- Production of liquid formulations through dilution, dissolving, mixing, dispersing emulsifying and wet grinding processes
  or through micro encapsulation.
- Production of dispersible and soluble granules from suspensions or highly concentrated solutions using the spray granulation process.

### Products made according to formulation type (2023)



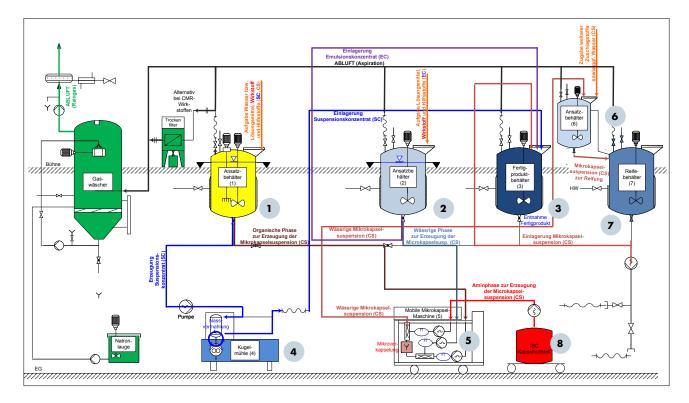
25%	WG	Wettable granules
5%	EC	Emulsion concentrates
8%	SG	Water-soluble granules
8%	CS	Micro capsule suspensions
9%	FS	Suspension concentrates for seed treatment
20%	EW	Emulsion in water
3%	sc	Suspension concentrates
4%	MG	Microgranules
9%	Other	formulation types
11%	Packa	ging

### Products made according to application type (2023)



2.8%	SAREA-Hylonox
19%	Fungicide
15%	Herbicide
35%	Insecticide
9%	SAREA Sacrust-Korit
3%	Other
16%	Protection against wild animals

### PRODUCTION OF LIQUID FORMULATIONS



### PRODUCTION OF SUSPENSION CONCENTRATES (SC)

To produce a ground suspension (1), water is first added. In a second step, adjuvants such as dispersants, wetting additives and other additives are dosed and stirred in. The active substance is then weighed in, in liquid or solid form, from large containers such as FIBCs (Big Bags), IBCs (bulk containers), barrels, drums or as bagged goods. The ground suspension is then pre-dispersed and wet-ground to the required final fineness using a bead mill (4). The ground suspension is transferred to a finished product container (3), where the remaining small ingredients are added and the batch is finished.

### PRODUCTION OF MICRO CAPSULE SUSPENSIONS (CS)

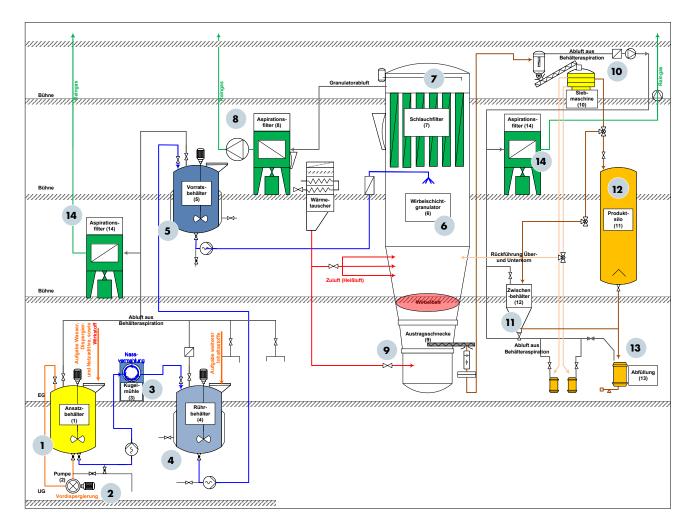
The organic phase (1), which contains the active substance and a prepolymer in dissolved form, is first emulsified in the aqueous phase (2) in a micro-capsule machine (5) and then continuously mixed with a cross-linker (8).

Each drop of emulsion is coated with a polymer shell. The polymer shell is solidified in a maturing container (7) and finally transferred to the finished product container (3).

## PRODUCTION OF EMULSION CONCENTRATES (EC)

Solvent, active substance and adjuvants (in liquid form, as a powder or as a melt) are mixed in the preparation container (3, 7) to form a finished concentrate and the finished product is pumped into the finished product container (3).

### PRODUCTION OF WATER DISPERSIBLE GRANULES

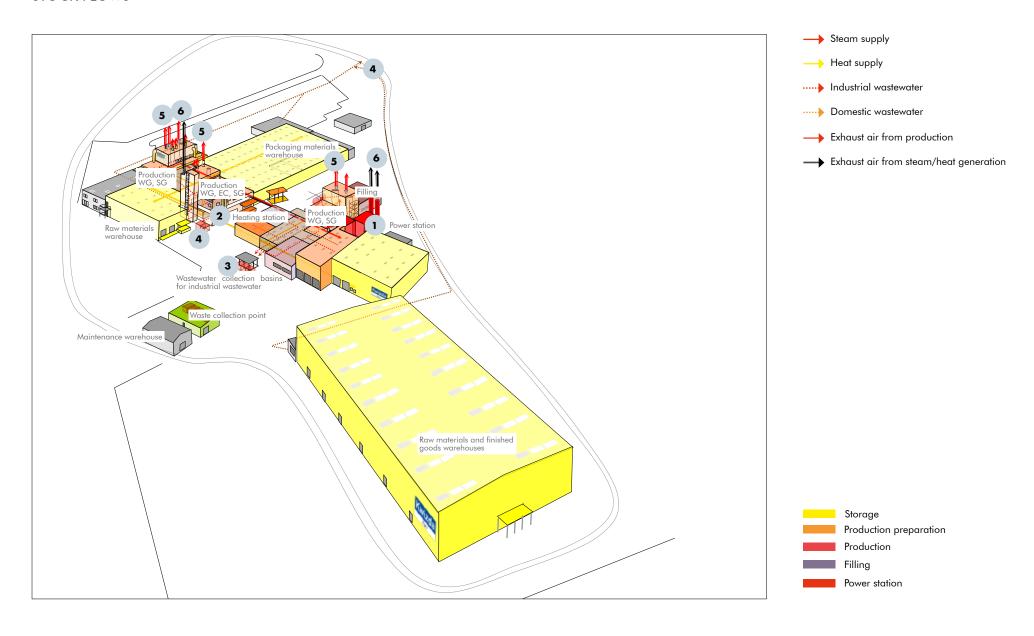


Water is first introduced into a stirring tank (1) and then adjuvants such as dispersing and wetting additives are added. The active substance is then added and pre-dispersed using an inline homogenizer. The ground suspension is wetground to the required final fineness using a bead mill (3). The spray feed suspension is prepared in another stirring tank by adding further ingredients (4). From there, the spray feed suspension is fed into a spray feed container (5).

The spray feed suspension is sprayed continuously into a fluidized bed granulator (6) by means of a spray pump via a two-substance nozzle system with compressed air atomization and granulated in the process. The exhaust air from the granulator is passed through a set of bag filters (7) for dust separation and then through a process filter (8) for residual dust removal. The granulate is removed using a conveying screw (9) and separated into finished product, oversize and undersize particles on a 2-stage sieving machine (10). The undersize particles are fed directly back into the granulator, while the oversize particles are resuspended in the next spray feed suspension batch and thus recycled.

The finished product is stored temporarily in the finished product container (12) and filled into large containers (13) such as Big Bags or drums. The exhaust air from all stirring tanks and the product containers is dedusted via an aspiration filter system (14).

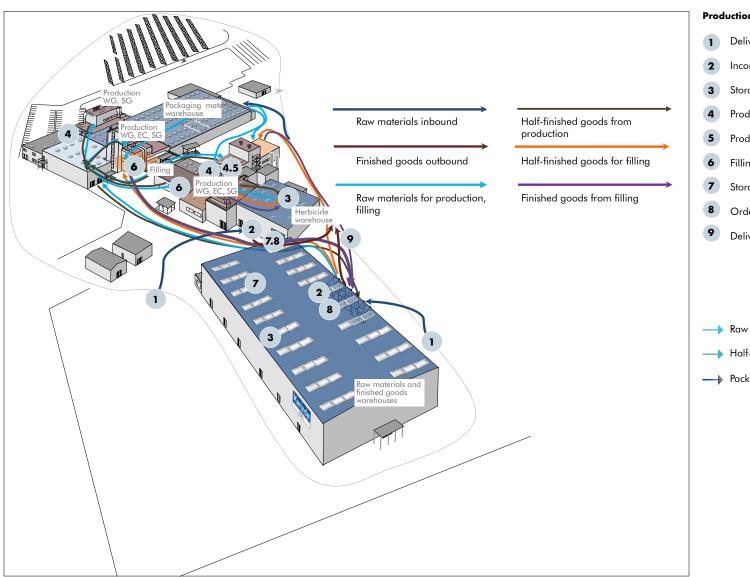
### STOCK FLOWS



### DESCRIPTION OF MEDIA SUPPLY AND EMISSIONS

- A power station with 2 steam generators supplies the factory (in particular the production facilities) with saturated steam and process heat.
- **2** A heating station with 2 boilers supplies the factory with space heating.
- The production wastewater collection system comprises run-in points (floor drains, sinks) in production and laboratory areas, the piping within the building, the piping outside the building and the wastewater collection basins or tanks. It is used to collect wastewater contaminated with chemicals which normally occurs in water-based cleaning processes in the production units.
- The collection system for domestic wastewater (toilet waste collection system) is fed into a collection basin for domestic wastewater or into the public sewerage network.
- Exhaust air is generated in the production facilities, firstly during the granulation processes in the fluidized bed granulators, and secondly when pumping out the various preparation, mixing, storage and finished product containers. The exhaust air is contaminated with organic carbon components and dust and is purified to comply with the prescribed thresholds using various purification methods (bag filters, scrubbing towers, aspiration filters).
- The steam and heating installations run on natural gas; all limit values of the relevant legal regulations are checked regularly to ensure compliance.

### MATERIAL FLOWS



### **Production stages:**

- Delivery
- Incoming goods (inspection)
- Storage
- Production preparation
- Production
- Filling, packaging
- Storage
- Order picking
- Delivery
- Raw materials (active substances, adjuvants)
- → Half-finished products (Big Bag, IBC)
- Packaged finished goods

### DESCRIPTION OF MATERIAL FLOWS

- Raw materials are delivered directly to the herbicide or raw materials and finished goods warehouse (separated into herbicides and insecticides or fungicides). After the trucks are unloaded, the goods are inspected before being stored. During the incoming goods inspection the raw materials are inspected to ensure the delivery is complete and correct and to identify any damage. Any claims are reported to the supervisor, and to the Customer Service, Procurement and Quality Management & Compliance departments.
  - The supplied materials are stored in the raw materials warehouses in accordance with the storage strategy recorded in SAP. The warehouse management system is used for end-to-end documentation of the flow of raw and other materials and can be traced at any time. Handheld scanners are used by the members of staff to scan the materials every time they are moved so they can always be located in the system.
  - Once the production order is created by the planning department, the members of staff in the warehouse receive a transport order. They remove the required raw materials and adjuvants from the raw materials warehouse and send them to the production preparation areas of the relevant production line so that the raw materials only have to be transported short distances during production. The production preparation areas are located immediately before the relevant production facilities.
- During production, the members of staff remove the necessary raw materials from the production supply areas. The amount used is documented precisely. If raw materials are not used, a campaign inventory is carried out after production, which involves booking the returned raw materials back into the warehouse for further storage. If finished goods are produced that do not have to be filled into small containers or packaged, these products are stored directly in the relevant finished goods warehouse. Half-finished goods are normally stored temporarily in the finished goods warehouse before filling and packaging.
  - Storage or temporary storage of finished or half-finished goods follows the storage strategy recorded in SAP and supported by the warehouse management system in the finished goods warehouse, separated according to insecticides, fungicides and herbicides.
- For delivery of the finished goods, they are picked by the warehouse employees in the delivery zone of the raw materials and finished goods warehouse in accordance with the internal transport order and prepared for dispatch/loading. The trucks can be loaded directly from the ramps.

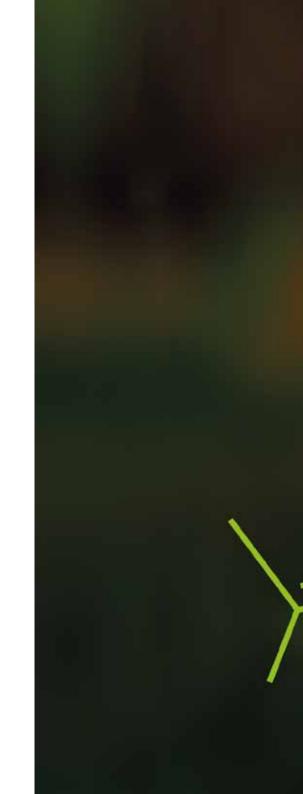
### **PRODUCT RANGE**

All active substances and in-house products registered by Kwizda Agro undergo extensive testing to ensure that they are safe to use. In addition, all products are thoroughly tested by the regulatory authorities for toxicology, environmental behavior, ecotoxicology, efficacy, compatibility, physical-chemical properties, and residue behavior.

Kwizda Agro has made a conscious decision to focus on sustainable research and development. Kwizda Agro's product range focuses on biocide and plant protection products whose active substances come from natural or nature-identical sources or contain low-risk active substances. Kwizda Agro is also working on optimizing its production technologies. Innovative formulations play a major role with this. The plan is for new output systems that can promote product, water, labor and fuel efficiency also to be included in product concepts in future.

The EU has set out new legal requirements for the use of certain co-formulants and formulation additives such as microplastics for protection of the environment and people. Kwizda Agro is on course to implement these within the specified timeframe.

Biological plant protection products are currently being added to the contract manufacturing product range at the Leobendorf plant. The plan is for these formulations to gradually replace conventional products based on chemical-synthetic active substances.





# PROMOTION OF BIODIVERSITY AT THE LEOBENDORF SITE EVERY CONTRIBUTION COUNTS

Landscape architecture planning was commissioned for the design of representative outdoor facilities at the Leobendorf plant in 2023, taking into account the promotion of biodiversity and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The project took into account the measures already implemented and the modular system for more biodiversity with its eight modules, and combined these with further measures to be developed at the Leobendorf plant. These measures were divided into 8 spaces, which can now be implemented independently of each other over the medium and long term and are presented below. The images and visual representations were provided to us by the landscaping consulting architects.



### SPACE 1 ENTRANCE / NEUE ALLEE

Kwizda Allee should once again live up to its name with new trees planted to the left and right of the entrance road. To this end, columnar trees flanked by vines will run from the main road to the Büro West parking lot.

The entrance aims to show respect and responsibility for the cultural landscape of the Weinviertel that has evolved over time, and provide an inviting, calming situation for both employees and visitors to the plant. The vines represent Kwizda Agro's commitment to plant protection in viticulture.

The Allee is brought forward so far that only the general outline of the PV elements behind the alley are visible.

The anti-glare fence of the photovoltaic facility runs along the entire length of the area to the east. The plan is to "blend" and integrate this into the concept.

The anti-glare fence will be screened by planting a hedge of evergreen privet below the embankment directly in front of this.

### SPACE 2 WINE TERRACES

The plan is to build a wine terrace at the northern edge of the area with the PV facilities. Fruit trees will be planted at the foot of the wine terraces. The classic historical varieties from the Weinviertel can be grown. The setting is intended to represent the application of Kwizda products for plant protection in fruit cultivation. A seating area will be constructed at the western end in the direction of Kwizda Allee which will be shaded by trees. This area will provide a good view over the wine terrace.



### SPACE 3 ALTE ALLEE "TEMPOFORM"

This area can only be used temporarily as the technology center will be built on this site. This gives it its tagline "TEMPOFORM" from the terms "temporary and formal."

**Rubble stones/lentil vetch:** These are suitable for reptiles and thermophilic species, and provide cover and shelter in the terrain. The elements will be spread along the Alte Allee in order to preserve the formal character and elongated structure of the facilities.

**Bio-diverse meadow:** Most of the area will be a bio-diverse meadow. The composition of the different species will be determined after reviewing the site characteristics.

### SPACE 4 CELL 12 "GREEN COOLING SQUARE"

Packaging cell 12 heats up very quickly in summer which results in heat stress for members of staff. One solution here would be a greened façade with a cooling effect.

Greened façades also create an insulating effect and can also have a positive impact on energy costs.

They promote species and structural richness and create living spaces and refuges, in particular breeding niches for songbirds.

### SPACE 5 "VERTICAL BIODIVERSITY"

The plan is to construct a "green wall" to separate the ÖBB railroad track from the asphalted areas of the company located on the other side of the railroad line.

This measure acts as a visual and acoustic point of separation and allows biodiversity also to be encouraged "vertically" in accordance with the species selected.

The visual impression of the green wall is intended to lead the eye away from the unattractive warehouse behind it.

### Effects from the green wall:

- Dust filtering
- Noise insulation
- Improved micro-climate
- CO<sub>2</sub> capture
- Cover
- Opportunities for nesting
- Plant cultivation (ivy, wild vine, honeysuckle, knotweed, etc.)
- Structuring







#### SPACE 6 FINISHED GOODS WAREHOUSE

The plan is to introduce vertical elements in the form of columnar shrubs (tree pits). The trees and shrubs will give the new finished goods warehouse a more lively character.

**Drainage:** The plant site contains numerous grassed seepage troughs and basins. Elongated greened seepage troughs should also be installed along the car park spaces. All suitable seepage basins should be designed as reed-lined infiltration basins as an alternative that makes environmental and economic sense.

#### SPACE 7 VIBRANT TRAFFIC AREAS

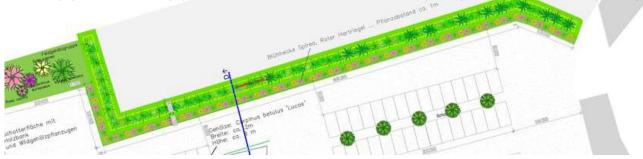
The traffic areas within the factory premises will be sealed as little as possible. Soil coverings that allow seepage, such as grass pavers and seepage troughs, will be installed in the new parking lot near the finished goods warehouse. However, leaving the current surface of hardened gravel in place is also an option.

This option is preferred as this is a temporary parking lot.

The opportunities for open seepage at the parking spaces also improve the micro-climate and thus the quality of stay for employees and visitors. The less the ground is sealed, the less the natural water cycle is disturbed.

Planting trees and shrubs will provide shade and structure to the parking lot.

**Field copses and wild shrub hedges:** The plan is to plant different varieties of wild shrubs along the northern edge of the parking lot. These need to have numerous habitat niches, especially for insects, small mammals, and birds, and also provide food, living space, and breeding spaces. The warehouse area to the north of the parking lot will be screened off by a hedge.



### SPACE 8 ACCOMPANYING WOODEN WALKWAY

A wooden "bridge" will be built on both sides of Neue Allee, providing a pleasant, "grounded" path through the cooling atmosphere of the avenue.

The wooden walkway also has the benefit that it allows people to move through the factory premises safely on foot, as the pathway is easy to identify due to the material.





# FIGURES, DATA, FACTS WE CONTINUE TO PURSUE AN OPEN AND TRANSPARENT COMMUNICATION STRATEGY



# FIGURES, DATA, FACTS

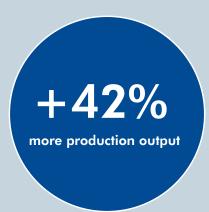
# INPUT-OUTPUT ANALYSIS (2023)

RAW MATERIALS			PRODUCTS	
Active substances	2,540 t		Granulates	4,319†
Other raw materials	4,782 t	252	Emulsions, emulsion concentrates	2,870 t
Finished products	239 t	{0}	Suspensions, suspension concentrates	2,301 t
Packaging	1,269 t		Other formulations	1,118†

ADJUVANTS AND OPERATING SUPPLIE	S		EXHAUST AIR	
Lubricants, cleaning materials	1.055 l / 16 kg		Dust (production facilities)	19 kg
Laboratory chemicals	1,643 l / 33 kg	2003	Dust (utilities)	58 kg
Refrigerants (refilled)	22 kg	(0)	TOC	534 kg
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0			СО	169 kg
			NOx	2,104 kg
0 0 0			CO <sub>2</sub>	2,917 t

CONSUMPTION OF UTILITIES			WASTE, WASTEWATER	
Electricity	5,231 MWh		Hazardous waste	3,038 t
Natural gas	10,870 MWh	2	Non-hazardous waste	294 t
Heating oil, light (consumption of remaining inventory)	11 MWh	£03/5	Industrial wastewater	2,781 t
Fresh water	13,690 m³	Car .		





-55%

CO<sub>2</sub> from electricity / gas / oil for production

**-24**%

waste / kg production output



water / kg

**Production output** 

-19%

packaging / kg

Production output

-100%

CO<sub>2</sub> from internal company transport (770 MWh of our own electricity production per year)

# INPUT - RAW MATERIALS (material efficiency)

A large percentage of raw materials (approx. 40%) is provided by customers. The raw materials are delivered to the two raw materials warehouses by trucks.

2021 amount (kg)	2022 amount (kg)	2023 amount (kg)
3,395,144	3,242,470	2,540,078
5,599,657	6,499,915	4,782,329
1,209,256	794,379	239,076
1,498,024	1,702,789	1,268,555
11,702,081	12,239,552	8,830,038
1.02	0.94	0.83
	3,395,144 5,599,657 1,209,256 1,498,024 11,702,081	3,395,144 3,242,470 5,599,657 6,499,915 1,209,256 794,379 1,498,024 1,702,789 11,702,081 12,239,552

# INPUT - OPERATING MATERIALS (material efficiency)

The bulk of operating materials comprise materials used in plant operation and maintenance of the production and utility supply systems as well as in the laboratory or technical center. Owing to the relatively small volumes, we have not specified the figures per kg of production output. Forklifts powered by liquefied petroleum gas are no longer in use as of 2023, therefore there is also no more consumption of liquefied petroleum gas.

INPUT - LIQUID OPERATING MATERIALS	2021 amount (l)	2022 amount (I)	2023 amount (I)
Lubricants	36	39	42
Cleaning agents	82	104	1,013
Laboratory chemicals	1,594	1,486	1,643
Total amount	1,712	1,628	2,698

INPUT - SOLID OPERATING MATERIALS	2021 amount (kg)	2022 amount (kg)	2023 amount (kg)
Lubricants	18	18	16
Liquefied gas	1,680	1,960	0
Laboratory chemicals	31	39	33
Total amount	1,729	2,017	49

<sup>\*</sup>Approximately 50 active substances with properties harmful to the environment and health are processed; of these, 20 pose an elevated risk (suspicion of carcinogenicity or reproductive toxicity). Particularly strict exhaust air thresholds apply to the latter substances.

# INPUT – CONSUMPTION OF UTILITIES AND ENERGY SOURCES (energy efficiency)

100% of energy sources (electricity, light heating oil, natural gas) are supplied by external suppliers. The factors that determine consumption of utilities are production output, product mix (ratio of granules to other types of formulation) and the number of employees. In order to ensure a transparent representation of the energy consumption per production unit, the detailed production-related structure of meters (sub-meters) is being expanded continuously. Production output fell by 18% year on year. Total energy consumption fell by almost the same amount at 15%, although 4% more energy was consumed in relation to production output than in the previous year.

TYPE OF UTILITY	2021 absolute	2022 absolute	2023 absolute	2021 per kg product output	2022 per kg product output	2023 per kg product output
Electricity consumption (kWh)	5,147,430	5,764,123	5,230,646	0.45	0.44	0.49
Consumption of heating oil (kWh)	3,016,613	2,508,771	11,258	0.26	0.19	0.001
Consumption of natural gas (kWh)	9,402,117	10,660,540	10,870,387	0.82	0.82	1.02
Total energy consumption (kWh	17,566,160	18,933,434	16,112,291	1.53	1.45	1.511

## INPUT - TOTAL CONSUMPTION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY (energy efficiency)

The input of renewable energy is largely determined by electricity consumption. The total amount of renewable energy generated corresponds to the electricity produced by our photovoltaic system. This amounted to 37,355 kWh. No annual figure is available yet as it was only commissioned in October 2023. The total consumption of renewable energy corresponds to the electricity consumption as we have switched fully to 100% renewable energy.

#### INPUT - FRESH WATER CONSUMPTION

Fresh water is supplied by the Leobendorf authorities. The factors that determine consumption of fresh water are production output, product mix (ratio of granules to other types of formulation), the number of product changes (cleaning production equipment following a change of product) and the number of employees. Fresh water consumption fell to the same extent as production output in 2023.

TYPE OF UTILITY	2021 absolute	2022 absolute	2023 absolute	2021 per kg product output	2022 per kg product output	2023 per kg product output
Fresh water consumption (m³)	13,622	16,768	13,690	1.19	1.29	1.29

#### INDICATOR: "BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY"

SURFACE AREA USED	2021	2022	2023
Area of the factory site (m²)	92,000	92,000	92,000
Semi-natural space on the factory site (m²)	0	78	78
Built-up area (m²)	13,425	13,425	20,805
Percentage of built-up area (%)	14.59	14.59	22.61

# OUTPUT – PRODUCTS

PRODUCTION OUTPUT ACCORDING TO FORMULATION TYPES	2021 amount (kg)	2022 amount (kg)	2023 amount (kg)
WG - Wettable granules	3,309,993	3,526,947	2,911,701
EC - Emulsion concentrates	1,362,373	1,250,768	554,349
SG - Water-soluble granules	758,158	1,129,471	977,597
CS - Micro capsule suspensions	964,626	1,746,901	901,442
FS – Suspension concentrates for seed treatment	720,621	1,099,317	1,074,059
EW – Emulsions in water	1,513,420	1,758,802	2,316,025
SC – Suspension concentrates	989,686	523,790	325,203
MG – Microgranules	661,595	673,269	429,910
Other formulation types	1,200,886	1,249,292	1,118,001
Total production output	11,481,359	12,958,557	10,608,288
Packaging	1,498,024	1,702,789	1,258,555
Total output	12,979,382	14,661,346	11,876,843

# (LICENSED) PACKAGES PUT ON THE DOMESTIC MARKET

PACKAGING TYPE	2021 amount (kg)	2022 amount (kg)	2023 amount (kg)
Paper/cardboard (sales and transport packaging)	57,627	55,029	66,476
Metal packaging (ferrous metals, aluminum)	9,363	10,313	8,181
Hollow containers made of PE and PP	78,860	85,721	58,949
EPS	1,665	1,084	714
Composite materials	1,268	1,169	2,990
Secondary packaging (films)	26,740	21,471	11,213
Glass packaging	182	17	-3
Total	175,705	174,804	148,519

# **EMISSIONS**

A significant proportion of air pollutants are emitted as exhaust air from the production facilities in the form of dust and solvent emissions (organic carbon compounds) and as exhaust gases from the stream generators in the form of carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide and dust. With the use of modern exhaust gas purification methods, the official thresholds (based on the Clean Air Guidelines (TA Luft¹) or the relevant legal regulations) are complied with or even operate below those thresholds. Solvents are separated by absorption in wet or inverse wet scrubbers and activated carbon filters, while dust particles are separated by surface filters (dry air filters, aspiration filters). Emission measurements are repeated in accordance with the Combustion Plant Ordinance (Feuerungsanlagen-Verordnung) at the intervals prescribed officially (1 to 5 years).

EMISSIONS	2021	2022	2023
Total emissions in kg	7,531	5,612	2,884
Total emissions per kg of product (in g)	0.66	0.43	0.27



<sup>1)</sup> Technical Instructions on Air Quality Control (administrative regulation to the German Federal Immission Control Act (Bundes-Immissionsschutzgesetz)); as there is no corresponding administrative regulation in Austria, the Technical Instructions on Air Quality Control are generally used as an aid to interpretation by experts, administrative authorities, and the courts

# **PRODUCTION FACILITIES** - Officially prescribed emission thresholds and measured values 2023

TYPE OF PLANT	PARAMETERS	UNIT	THRESHOLD	MEASURED VALUES 2)
Wet scrubbers of the fluidized bed	Dust	mg/m³	1.00	0.07 – 0.20
granulation facilities and production facilities for liquid products	TOC 3)	mg/m³	20.00	2.00 – 2.80
Dry air filters in the fluidized bed	Dust	mg/m³	1.00 (0.05)4)	<0.001 – 0.029
granulation facilities	TOC	mg/m³	20.00	0.7 – 2.00
Aspiration filters in the preparation	Dust	mg/m³	1.00 (0.05)4)	<0.001 – 0.64
containers and the sieving machines and filling facilities	TOC	mg/m³	20.00	0.30 – 4.0

# **BOILER FACILITIES** - Officially prescribed emission thresholds and measurements

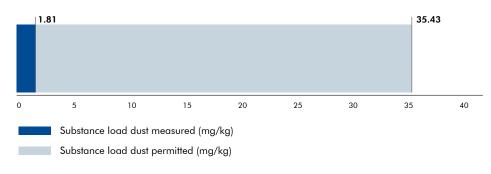
TYPE OF PLANT	PARAMETERS	UNIT	THRESHOLD	MEASURED VALUES
Steam generators <sup>5)</sup>	СО	mg/m³	80	4.1 – 8
(Natural gas)	NO <sub>x</sub>	mg/m³	100	59.8 – 91
Measurements 2023	Dust	mg/m³	5	<3
Boiler systems for heat generation <sup>6)</sup>	СО	mg/m³	80	7 – 9
(natural gas) Measurements 2023	NO <sub>x</sub>	mg/m³	120	not measured

<sup>2)</sup> The range of values varies due to the variability of the substances processed and also due to the varying efficiency of the filters 3) Total carbon 4) Substances with reprotoxic effects 5) Emission thresholds based on the Emission Control Act for Boiler Plants (Emissionsschutzgesetz für Kesselanlagen) 6) Emission thresholds based on the Combustion Plant Ordinance (Feuerungsanlagenverordnung)

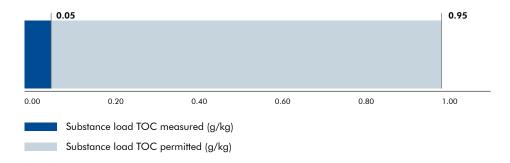
#### EMISSIONS OF DUST UND ORGANIC CARBON FROM PRODUCTION FACILITIES

The following diagrams show the loads of emissions of dust and organic carbon in relation to production output. Our state-of-the-art facilities fall below the emission limits required by the authorities.

# **RELATIVE DUST LOAD** (production)



# **RELATIVE CARBON LOAD** (production)



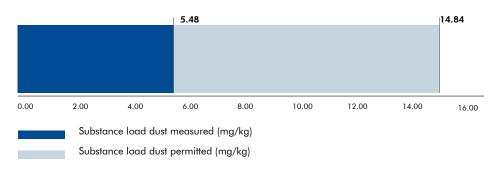




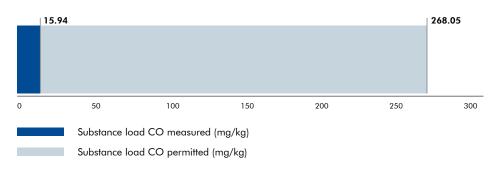
# EMISSIONS OF CO, NOX, DUST FROM THE BOILER PLANTS (STEAM AND HEAT GENERATION)

The following diagrams show the loads of pollutant emissions from the boiler facilities used for steam and heat generation in relation to production output.

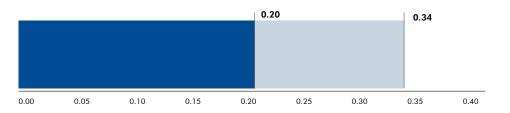
# **RELATIVE DUST LOAD** from the supply of utilities



# **RELATIVE CARBON MONOXIDE LOADS** from the supply of utilities



# **RELATIVE NO<sub>x</sub> LOADS** from the supply of utilities



Substance load NO<sub>x</sub> measured (g/kg)
Substance load NO<sub>x</sub> permitted (g/kg)

#### **GREENHOUSE GASES**

#### CO, - EMISSIONS FROM ELECTRICITY AS AN ENERGY SOURCE

Our electricity consumption of 5231 MWh in 2023 did not cause any  $CO_2$  emissions, as our electricity comes from 100% renewable energy sources.

#### CO<sub>2</sub> - EMISSIONS FROM THE SUPPLY OF UTILITIES (SCOPE 1 AND 2)

The supply of utilities (provision of room heating, process heat, and process steam) in the heating and steam boiler facilities fired with light heating oil and gas generates around 2,188 t  $CO_2$  (equating to 0.27 kg of  $CO_2$  per kg of production output). The intention is to reduce the relative  $CO_2$  emissions by increasing the efficiency of energy conversion and of production processes.

#### REFRIGERANTS

The following refrigerants (HFCs), which are stable in air, are used at the Leobendorf plant: R407c, R410a, R32. Our latest refrigeration facility uses the refrigerant R290 (propane), which does not deplete the ozone layer and is not stable in air. All refrigerants are used in closed systems.

R410A	2021	2022	2023
As part of maintenance and/or repair work	0 kg	8 kg	22 kg

# ACOUSTIC (NOISE) EMISSIONS

The local level of noise is determined by the traffic on the dual carriageway \$1 and the Laaer Straße. Acoustic emissions from the operating facilities do not exacerbate local noise levels since the roads mentioned above largely determine the noise level in the surrounding neighborhood.

#### INDUSTRIAL AND DOMESTIC WASTEWATER

The following table shows the use of fresh water. A percentage of fresh water (approx. 40%) is processed in the products (in particular in liquid products) or is emitted again as steam during the production process or during purification of exhaust gases. A further percentage (approx. 21%) is used to clean the facilities and ends up in the industrial wastewater system. Approx. 12% of fresh water is used in shared areas (kitchens, toilets, showers).

Together with the wastewater generated by steam generation and water purification, it is fed via the public sewerage system into the sewage plant of the Korneuburg sewage treatment company.

		CO <sub>2</sub>	Reduction in %
Camating a company and a compa	2022	2023	2023 vs. 2022
Stationary combustion	0.140.0	0.104.0	0.00/
Natural gas	2,142.8	2,184.9	2.0%
Heating oil	679.9	3.1	-99.5%
Propane (liquid gas)	0.5	0.0	-100.0%
Mobile combustion			
Gasoline	7.1	7.1	0.0%
Diesel	10.2	10.2	0.0%
Liquid gases / refrigerants			
R407-c	0.0	0.0	
R410a	15.4	42.3	174.7%
R32	0.0	0.0	
R290	0.0	0.0	
Total Scope 1	2,855.9	2,247.6	-21.3%
Procured energy			
Electricity consumption location based	1,049.1	952.0	-9.3%
Electricity consumption market based	2,058.6	0.0	-100.0%
Electricity consumption e-vehicles location based	0.0	1.4	
Electricity consumption e-vehicles market based	0.0	0.0	
Total Scope 2 location based	1,049.1	953.4	-9.1%
Total Scope 2 market based	2,058.6	0.0	-100.0%
Total 1+2 location based	3,904.9	3,200.9	-18.0%
Total 1+2 market based	4,914.4	2,247.6	-54.3%
Fotal Scope 1+2 intensity-based market based (CO <sub>2</sub> / kg)	0.38	0.21	-44.5%

WATER CONSUMPTION	2021 (m³)	2022 (m³)	2023 (m³)
Fresh water consumption	13,622	16,768	13,690
Construction water	550	700	623
Net consumption less Construction water	13,072 (-7.2%) 16,068 (+22.		13,067 (–18.7%)
Utilization in production	4,659	5,466	5,173
Washing water	3,535	3,562	2,781
Steam generation	430	430	430
Additional dosage for scrubbing towers	2,284	3,622	3,117
Water supply to staff facilities	2,165	2,988	1,566
Disposal of industrial wastewater	3,535	3,562	2,781
Feed-in to public channel	5,054	6,555	6,935
Feed-in to sewage pit	124	209	192

# **INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER FED INTO THE PUBLIC SEWERAGE NETWORK** Officially prescribed wastewater thresholds and measurements 2023

TYPE OF INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER	PARAMETERS	UNIT	THRESHOLD	MEASURED VALUES
	Substances that can be filtered out	mg/l	150.00	<10.00
	pH-value	-	6.50 – 9.50	7.70
	Total chromium (as Cr)	mg/l	0.50	<0.002
Steam generators	Copper (as Cu)	mg/l	0.50	0.0042
(Mixer cooler)	Hydrazine (as N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> )	mg/l	2.00	< 0.02
	Sulfite (as SO <sub>3</sub> )	mg/l	10.00	<0.05
	Adsorbable organic halides AOX (as CI)	mg/l	0.50	<0.01
	Total hydrocarbons	mg/l	15.00	< 0.05
	Substances that can be filtered out	mg/l	150.00	<10.00
Water purification	pH-value	-	6.50 – 9.50	7.5 – 7.7
(ion exchanger, reverse osmosis facility)	Adsorbable organic halides AOX (as CI)	mg/l	1.00	<0.01
	Free chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )	mg/l	0.20	<0.05

# WASTE, INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER

In addition to production output, the key factors for the generation of waste are the product mix, the number and scope of unplanned maintenance activities (repairs), the number and scope of conversion or construction projects and the number of employees.

The key factors for the generation of industrial wastewater is the number of product changes.

At roughly 90%, the majority of waste is made up of liquid industrial wastewater. This is washing water that occurs when cleaning production equipment as a result of product changes.

This water is contaminated with active substances and is collected in a separate wastewater collection system and fed into wastewater collection basins. Waste is disposed of by a certified specialist company which treats the wastewater in a physiochemical plant with subsequent thermal utilization. The relative amount of waste based on production output fell slightly from 0.32 kg/kg to 0.31 kg/kg.

The amount of liquid production waste fell by 22% in 2023 due to the fall of approximately 18% in production output.

The following tables and diagrams detail the amount of waste generated from 2021 to 2023.

# **HAZARDOUS WASTE** (in relation to production)

TYPE OF WASTE	wc	AMOUN (†) 2021	AMOUN (t) 2022	AMOUN (t) 2023
Liquid production waste from plant protection/pest control products	53104	3,557.67	3,549.74	2,780.76
Old stock of plant protection and pest control products	53103	230.91	280.76	130.37
Plastic packaging and containers with hazardous residues	57127	1.33	0.94	0.37
Packaging material contaminated by impurities or residues	18715	100.43	152.55	116.13
Used filters and suction pads with hazardous impurities	31435	4.60	0.00	5.68
Ferrous metal packaging and containers with hazardous residues	35106	2.06	1.50	2.32
Total		3,897.00	3,985.48	3,036.21
Total waste per kg of product (in kg)		0.34	0.31	0.29

# **AMOUNT OF HAZARDOUS WASTE GENERATED 2021 2022 2023**

Metal containers with hazardous residues (WC 35106)	Amount (t) 2021 Amount (t) 2022	Amount (t) 2023
		2.06
		1.50
		2.32
Used filters and suction pads (WC 31435)		
		4.60
		0.00
		5.68
Contaminated packaging material (WC 18715)		
		100.43
		152.55
		116.13
Containers with hazardous Residues (WC 57127)		
		1.33
		0.94
		0.37
Old stock of plant protection and pest control products (WC 53103)		
		230.91
		280.76
		130.37
Liquid production waste from plant protection/pest control products (WC 53104)		
		3,557.67
		3,549.74
		2,781.34

# **NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE** (in relation to production)

TYPE OF WASTE	AMOUNT (t) 2021	AMOUNT (t) 2022	AMOUNT (t) 2023
Light fraction from the collection of packaging waste not licensed, IBC containers, etc.	3.12	6.18	5.24
Municipal waste and similar commercial waste	34.48	26.47	23.36
Cardboard packaging, not licensed	49.24	75.09	57.56
Waste paper (paper and pasteboard/cardboard) not coated	1.19	1.37	0.84
Construction and demolition wood, treated with substances	0.00	35.8	192.96
Total	88.03	144.20	281.09

# **AMOUNT OF NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE GENERATED** 2021/2022/2023

Light fraction/col	lection of packaging waste			Amou	unt (t) 2021	Amount (t) 2022	Amount (t) 2023
							3.12
							6.18
							5.24
Municipal waste/	commercial waste						
							34.48
							26.47
							23.36
Cardboard pack	aging, not licensed						
							49.24
							60.23
							55.64
Waste paper (pa	per and pasteboard, cardboard)						
							1.19
							1.37
							0.84
Construction and	demolition wood, treated with su	ubstances					
							1.19
							1.37
							0.84
0.0	500	1,000	1,500	2,000	2,500	3,	000

# **HAZARDOUS WASTE** (not in relation to production)

TYPE OF WASTE	WC	AMOUNT (t) 2021	AMOUNT (†) 2022	AMOUNT (t) 2023
Solvent mixtures without halogenated organic compounds	55370	0.08	0.11	0.00
Waste oil	54102	2.21	0.20	0.00
Iron and steel waste, contaminated	35103	0.87	0.00	0.70
Solid grease and oil contaminated operating supplies (workshops, industrial and petrol filling station waste)	54930	0.05	0.59	0.60
Unsorted or hazardous laboratory waste and chemical residues	59305	0.00	0.05	0.11
Gas discharge lamps – fluorescent tubes	35339	0.15	0.00	0.08
Total		3.36	0.95	1.49

# NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE (not in relation to production)

TYPE OF WASTE	WC	AMOUNT (†) 2021	AMOUNT (†) 2022	AMOUNT (t) 2023
Bulky waste	91401	19.53	18.06	14.06
Electrical and electronic appliances – large appliances with length > 50cm	35221	0.15	0.00	0.00
Electrical and electronic appliances – large appliances with length <50cm	35231	0.11	0.00	0.00
Clear glass/colored glass	31468	0.50	0.61	0.73
Total		20.29	18.67	14.79

#### **TOTAL WASTE GENERATED**

TYPE OF WASTE	wc	AMOUNT (†) 2021	AMOUNT (†) 2022	AMOUNT (†) 2023
Liquid production waste from plant protection/pest control products	53104	3,557.67	3,549.74	2,781.34
Old stock of plant protection and pest control products	53103	230.91	280.76	130.37
Plastic packaging and containers with hazardous residues	57127	1.33	0.94	0.37
Packaging material contaminated by impurities or residues	18715	100.43	152.55	116.13
Used filters and suction pads with hazardous impurities	31435	4.60	0.00	5.68
Iron and steel waste, contaminated	35103	38.79	101.29	73.24
Ferrous metal packaging and containers with hazardous residues	35106	2.06	1.50	2.32
Solid grease and oil contaminated operating supplies (workshops, industrial and petrol filling station waste)	54930	0.05	0.59	0.60
Unsorted or hazardous laboratory waste and chemical residues	59305	0.00	0.05	0.11
Gas discharge lamps – fluorescent tubes	35339	0.15	0.00	0.08
Solvent mixtures without halogenated organic compounds	55370	0.08	0.11	0.00
Waste oil	54102	2.21	0.20	0.00
Total hazardous waste in t		3,900.36	3,986.43	3,037.71
Total hazardous waste per kg of product (in kg)		0.34	0.31	0.29
Light fraction from the collection of packaging waste not licensed, IBC containers, etc.	91207	3.12	6.18	5.24
Municipal waste and similar commercial waste	91101	34.48	26.47	23.36
Cardboard packaging, not licensed	91201	49.24	75.09	57.56
Other cured plastic waste	57129	0.00	0.00	1.13
Waste paper (paper and pasteboard/cardboard) not coated	18718	1.19	1.37	0.84
Bulky waste	91401	19.53	18.06	14.06
Electrical and electronic appliances – large appliances with length >50 cm	35221	0.15	0.00	0.00
Electrical and electronic appliances – small appliances with length <50 cm	35231	0.11	0.00	0.00
Clear glass/colored glass	31468	0.50	0.61	0.73
Construction and demolition wood, treated with substances		0.00	35.80	192.96
Total non-hazardous waste in t		108.32	162.86	295.88
Total non-hazardous waste per kg of product		0.01	0.01	0.03
Total waste in t		4,008.68	4,149.29	3,333.59
Total waste per kg of product and absolute (in kg)		0.35	0.32	0.31

#### DECLARATION OF VALIDITY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT



ETA Umweltmanagement GmbH, as an accredited environmental verification organization in accordance with the Austrian Environmental Management Act, Federal Gazette I 99/2004 registration no. AT-V-0001, attests that

#### Kwizda Agro GmbH, Leobendorf plant

Lager Bundesstraße / Kwizda Allee 1, A-2100 Leobendorf

meets all the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of November 25, 2009 on the voluntary participation by organizations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS), as amended by Regulation (EU) No. 1505/2017 and No. 2026/2018, as illustrated in this Environmental Statement 2024.

#### We attest that

- the assessment and validation were carried out fully compliant with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009, in the version of Regulation (EU) No 1505/2017 and No 2026/2018,
- there is no evidence of non-compliance with applicable legal requirements relating to the environment. As environmental experts we have also ascertained the progress made with the remediation measures. These are complied with as prescribed with the remedial plan of the authorities.
- the data and information given in the Environmental Statement reflect a reliable, credible and correct image of all the activities of the organization within the scope stated.

The next comprehensive Environmental Statement will be published in 2027. Updated and validated Environmental Statements will be published each year.

Vienna, July 18, 2024

Manfred Mühlberger Senior Environmental Expert Dr. Stefan Gara Environmental Expert

#### PRESENTATION OF THE NEXT ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

The date for presentation of the next environmental statement is 8 April 2025.

#### INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT:

Regine Kacetl, Quality Management & Compliance Karl-Heinz Ludwig, Head of Operations Chris Muri, Head of Quality Management & Compliance Thomas Salzl, Leobendorf Plant Operations Manager

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#### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

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