

PRESS RELEASE: For immediate release

Ciner Glass to Open New Factory in Lommel: a Sustainability Revolution Begins

Brussels, 13 March 2025 – *InDUFed*, the Belgian paper and glass federation, welcomes *Ciner Glass*, international producer of container glass, as its newest member. *Ciner Glass* will open its brand new state of the art packaging glass factory situated in Lommel, Limburg, in the course of 2026, thus creating up to 1000 jobs (direct and indirect) in the region. The project, which marks the return to Belgium of the beer bottle industry, ensures that all aspects of manufacturing, from production to recycling, are sustainable.

Established in August 2020, *Ciner Glass Belgium* has chosen Lommel, Limburg, a region with a long-standing connection with the glass industry thanks to its many high-quality sand quarries, to open its new container glass factory. With economic regeneration and social development at the heart of its values, the company is investing in the site with the conviction that the 550 direct and 500 indirect jobs created will be an additional and lasting catalyst of prosperity for the region.

The company projects a yearly production of around 2 billion bottles, with sustainability at the cornerstone of its production process. *Ciner Glass* aims to significantly limit its energy consumption by using up to 75% recycled glass for every bottle instead of the industry standard of 50%. The use of recycled glass enables a lower production temperature: while standard glass is traditionally formed at 1,500 degrees, recycled glass melts at 1,200 degrees. Additionally, the 7,600 solar panels on and wind turbines around the plant, combined with heat capture systems, will help achieve the goal of sourcing 25% of the plant's energy needs from non-fossil, renewable sources. Excess energy will be supplied to neighboring areas.

The more than €600million investment in the new state of the art factory in Lommel, with modern machinery and automated processes, will be transformative for the European glass market. *Ciner Glass* is the first to lighten the weight of glass bottles by 10%. Thanks to this innovation, the manufacturer significantly decreases CO₂ emissions across the production process and supply chain procedures, thus shrinking both their own ecological footprint and that of their customers. In terms of transport, cullets and raw materials will be streamed in by waterway and a feasibility study is underway with the Belgian railway provider, SNCB-NMBS, for railway access. This will further decrease the site's overall carbon footprint.

Mr. Thomas Davreux, Managing Director of *inDUfed*, says: "It is always a delight to welcome a new member to our federation, as it highlights the strong health and positive prospects of our sectors. This is ever so the case with *Ciner Glass* and the specialised bottle production skills it will be bringing back to Belgium. With its sustainable production line and seamless insertion into surrounding ecosystems, we look forward to the positive results of the project."

Mr. Gokhan Sen, CEO of Ciner Glass, says: "Being part of the thriving local economy means working closely with strong industry partners. Our history, like that of Lommel, is evolving into a story of pioneering, innovation, and pride in glass production. *InDUfed* plays a key role in this, supporting international companies like ours that are committed to local anchoring and sustainable industry growth."

Ciner Glass has the ambition of becoming the global leader in glass technology by driving innovation, embracing state of the art technology and investing in the next generation of sustainable solutions. Since its creation, in 2013, the company sets new industry standards through responsible production, close collaboration with the local communities they operate in, and a relentless focus on delivering eco-friendly, high-quality solutions tailored to customers' needs. The plant in Lommel is projected to open in 2026, with full production starting immediately.

About InDUfed

Founded in 2018, *inDUfed* is the federation of Belgium's paper, cardboard and glass industries, bringing together companies committed to sustainability, innovation, and quality. InDUfed advocates for these sectors, supports their industrial initiatives, and drives advancements that benefit both the environment and the economy.

About Ciner Glass

Ciner Glass is a UK-headquartered company supplying high-quality sustainable container glass to global food and drink producers through engineering excellence in glass technology. *Ciner Glass* is part of the wider Ciner Group, a family-owned conglomerate which operates in four main sectors: Energy, Natural Soda Ash, Glass & Shipping.

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