

Mimizan, March 31, 2023

New Paper Machine: Gascogne chooses Andritz

The Gascogne Group has placed an order with the Andritz Group for a new paper machine, with a start-up in 2025.

The aim of this investment (€220m in total) is to replace the three oldest machines at the Mimizan site with a single machine.

"This is a logical and historic investment for our Group. Over the past eight years, we have already invested €230 million. This paper machine is therefore a logical continuation of our investment policy in our production equipment. Certainly for the Gascogne Group, but also for the industry, it is a significant event ! Utilizing the most advanced paper making technology, we look forward to operating a machine that will answer the demand of our customers and the new expectations for Sustainability of the community and consumers». Dominique Coutière, Chairman and CEO of the Group.

This project is creating a positive dynamic affecting all of the Group's employees, but also a number of service providers associated with the project.

The construction of a brand new building is due to start before the end of the first half of 2023. It will house the new production line and its modern packaging line, as well as a number of offices and a reception area to welcome our visitors.

With this investment, the Gascogne Group is committed to sustainable and innovative development in the Landes region in France for the next 50 years.

The new Machine in a few words:***Support to customers in their business developments***

- *Full use of the site's pulp production capacity (with ultimately an additional 50,000 tonnes of unbleached Machine Glazed kraft paper)*
- *Increased quality standards for unbleached kraft manufactured in Mimizan*
- *Improved response to packaging and speciality paper market demand*

Technical features for better energy, economic and environmental efficiency:

- *6.8 m working width*
- *1300 m/minute design speed*
- *26 ft (7.9 m) diameter of the Yankee*
- *25 to 120 gsm to meet new market trends*
- *Signifcant reduction of the water and energy consumption per ton of paper*

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About the Gascogne Group:

A major actor in the French wood industry, the Gascogne Group is present at all stages of the forest value chain. Anchored in the heart of the « Landes de Gascogne » forest in the South West of France, it is one of the main specialists in maritime pine processing, fully integrating the entire wood, paper and converting chain. The Gascogne Group relies on 4 complementary activities (Wood, Paper, Sacks and Flexible) to expand in markets where its know-how positions are set among the most recognised, such as unbleached Machine Glazed kraft paper, human and animal food sacks, laminate solutions for building insulation, technical wood for carpentry.