Belgian Steel Federation

Annual report

Belgian steel in 2023

Putting the 'Industrial Deal' at the heart of Europe's next policy agenda

A word from our Chairman

After the COVID-19 pandemic and the energy crisis, 2023 was dominated by a series of shockwaves for our industry in Belgium. The combination of weak demand, growing pressure from imports and a further deterioration in the level playing field put yet more pressure on our Belgian competitiveness. Not only do we have a clear disadvantage compared to non-European players in terms of energy, CO_2 and labour costs, but major differences are also beginning to emerge compared with our European neighbours. Here, the role of governments is becoming increasingly prominent, both in terms of support mechanisms and regulations.

Nevertheless, some news has been positive. In 2023, it became clear that the 'Green Deal' would have to be supplemented by an 'Industrial Deal'. If the transition to climate-neutral steel production is to succeed, an industrial plan with precise and predictable support instruments is essential. Momentum is building, both politicians and the public are beginning to realise that there can be no prosperity without a clear industrial policy and a long-term vision.

The weakness of the global economy is weighing on market demand and steel production

Last year, market demand for steel fell to its lowest level in a decade, comparable only to COVID-19-hit 2020.

Belgian crude steel production fell below 6 million tonnes for the first time. This fall can be explained, in part, by a number of investment projects, which temporarily suspended production, and by difficult market conditions. **Structurally, however, the factors that are increasingly undermining our competitiveness remain: high energy prices, uncertain CO_2 costs and considerable labour costs.**

An extension of the 'Steel Safeguards' is needed

Despite the fall in market demand, the proportion of steel imports from third countries – around 27% – remains particularly high. The European Commission has introduced the 'Steel Safeguards' system as a support measure. This system curbs larger-than-usual imports of non-EU steel, bringing stability to the market. It is a response to difficult market conditions where non-EU steel, with a higher average carbon footprint, threatens to flood the EU market, disrupting our climate transition.

The current implementation period for this system ends on 30 June 2024. **We, therefore, ask that the 'Steel Safeguards' be extended for a further 2 years.** This request remains pertinent because surplus production capacity outside the EU is not being gradually reduced – quite the contrary.

We continue to wait for an agreement between the EU and the US on the 'Global Arrangement on Sustainable Steel' to resolve the problem of overcapacity. Such an agreement, accompanied by effective and targeted measures, could provide a structural solution to combat excess capacity.

Competitive electricity prices remain key to a successful transition in Belgium

The impact of today's higher electricity costs is particularly damaging to Belgium's competitiveness. Particularly with regard to competition from Asia and the Middle East, but moreover, regrettably, it is now also true for our neighbouring countries.

Recent studies show that our businesses pay considerably more for electricity than the average in France, Germany and the Netherlands. Our sector is particularly energy-intensive, which translates into additional costs of several tens of millions of euros.

The higher cost of electricity means that the Belgian steel industry is at a fundamental disadvantage compared with neighbouring countries. If no action is taken, the reduction and disappearance of the Belgian steel industry in favour of neighbouring countries will be inevitable.

The launch of the CBAM on 1 October 2023

The EU steel industry has already been paying a carbon tax for several years, while steel imports from third countries, which on average have a higher carbon footprint, had been exempt, until now**.**

The launch of the 'Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism' (CBAM) transition period on 1 October 2023 was a milestone in the implementation of the EU's Green Deal. The first phase of the CBAM, with simplified monitoring and reporting, will be crucial in assessing how well it is preventing carbon leakage from European industrial sectors, such as steel, to other countries. **The aim, therefore, is to introduce and pay a real carbon tax at the EU border from 2026 in order to create a level playing field.**

Putting the 'Industrial Deal' at the heart of Europe's next policy agenda

I would like to reaffirm that the Belgian steel sector fully subscribes to the European Union's climate ambitions. To achieve this, however, we recommend that a fully-fledged 'Industrial Deal' be developed alongside the 'Green Deal'.

The EU urgently needs a practical, problem-solving approach that creates a framework conducive to investment, with affordable energy, the necessary funding instruments and a level playing field at its very heart. This 'Industrial Deal' is just as vital to preserving quality jobs for workers. The 'Antwerp Declaration for a European Industrial Deal' of 20 February 2024 is a call that is fully in line with this view.

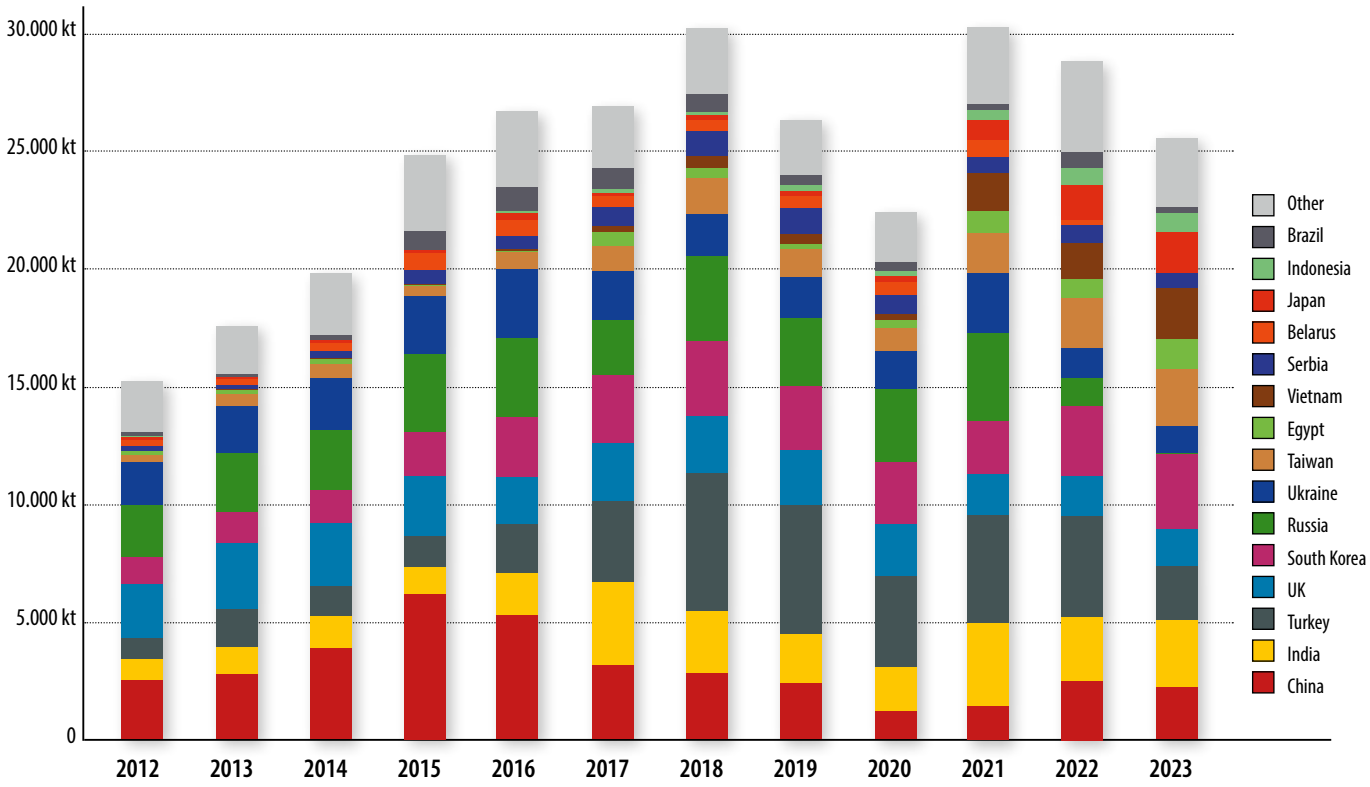
Last year, a sectoral agreement was once again concluded between social partners in our sector. This agreement follows on from previous agreements and reflects legislative changes. **I would like to thank all our employees and all those involved in our sector for their commitment and dedication. Thanks to our expertise and passion for our profession, and with the support of a strong and credible 'Industrial Deal', we can make a success of the 'Green Deal', with steel at the heart of a circular economy.**

Manfred VAN VLIERBERGHE
Chairman

Trade

1. Steel import in EU27

(carbon steel + stainless steel in kt - excluding semi-finished products)



2. Steel production in Belgium

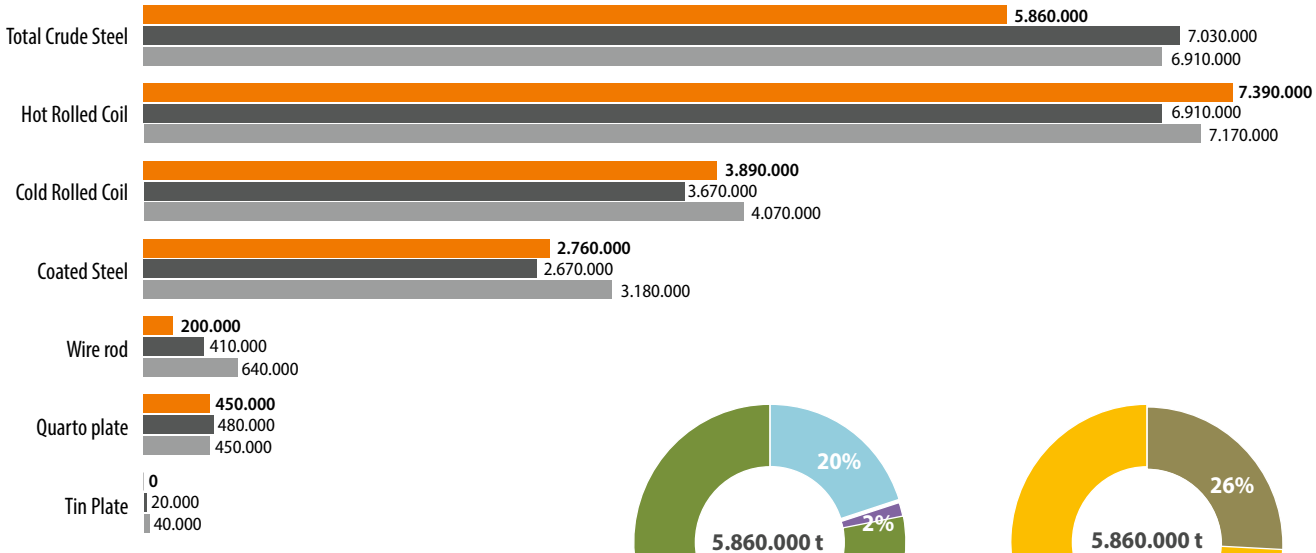


Fig.1a - Steel production in Belgium (tonne)

2023 2022 2021

Fig.1b Carbon steel
Stainless steel
Other alloy steels

Fig.1c Via blast furnace
Via electric furnace

Climate and Energy

When it comes to climate and energy, 2023 saw a much more **strategic transition towards climate neutrality** than previous years. The European Union has a strong ambition to reduce its dependence on third parties for energy, critical raw materials and net-zero technologies. European policy is developing objectives to obtain diversification of partnerships and strengthen projects at national level.

In February 2023, the European Commission proposed a **'Green Deal Industrial Plan'**. This plan intends to create a more supportive environment for the expansion of EU production capacity for the technologies and products needed to meet Europe's ambitious climate targets.

Fortunately, 2023 is more focused on the resilience of European industry. The 'Green Deal' should go hand in hand with an 'Industrial Deal', the two reinforcing each other to create a holistic approach that pursues both economic ambitions and climate objectives. This is a positive development, fully supported by GSV.

In 2023, the CCUS was recognised as an important factor in the climate transition

To meet EU's climate objectives and boost the competitiveness of European industry, the 'Carbon Capture, Usage and Storage' technologies (CCUS) play a more fundamental role in 2023. **The EU sets a target of 50 million tonnes of annual CO_2 storage capacity as from 2030** to facilitate carbon capture and storage projects and expand CO_2 storage sites.

In January 2023, GSV co-organised a conference on the decarbonisation of Walloon industry, with a specific focus on CO_2 transport in Wallonia. The event aimed at gaining political support for the (rapid) deployment of a carbon network. Industeel presented its roadmap towards climate neutrality. Meanwhile, Flanders is among the first EU regions to develop legislation regarding the transportation of carbon dioxide via pipelines, a process in which GSV and its members have contributed. **A concrete CCS project is already under development.** The European Commission has granted Fluxys Belgium, North Sea Port and ArcelorMittal Belgium 9,6 million euros to study the 'Ghent Carbon Hub' project.

The steel industry welcomes the fact that both Wallonia and Flanders prioritize CCUS and related infrastructure. GSV continues to press for the affordability of these services and calls for transparent agreements on technical specifications and for strong interconnection between the different regions and EU member states.

Access to steel scrap is essential for decarbonising the steel industry

Steel scrap is extensively utilized in the Belgian steel sector, with its usage in electric furnaces reaching 100% when availability permits. This approach aligns with our commitment to fully embrace the principles of the circular economy. However, **securing an adequate supply of steel scrap presents a challenge**. Steel scrap is EU's most exported 'waste', underscoring its value. It serves as a vital resource for producing new steel products with no loss in quality and minimal greenhouse gas emissions.

GSV has been closely monitoring the revision of the 'Waste Shipment Regulation' (WSR) in 2023. This revision sets out measures for the treatment of waste in third countries, focusing on environmentally friendly practices and the well-being of workers. However, we remain concerned about the massive exports of steel scrap, even after this revision. The classification of steel scrap as 'End of Waste' offers the possibility of circumventing the regulation.

The 'Critical Raw Materials Act' (CRMA) offers another avenue to keep steel scrap within the EU. This legislation outlines a list of critical raw materials and establishes specific targets and measures to reduce the EU's strategic reliance on imports for these materials.

The steel sector advocated the inclusion of ferrous scrap in the CRMA. Since this is a secondary raw material, we recommended an additional list. Although this proposal initially received support, it was ultimately omitted from the final agreement between the Council and the Parliament. This outcome is disappointing, considering the significant role steel scrap can play in reducing imports of critical raw materials, supporting the circular economy, and helping our sector decarbonise efficiently. GSV therefore continues to support expanding the CRMA list and optimising access to steel scrap in Europe.

High energy costs weigh on the competitiveness of the Belgian steel sector

In 2023, the high cost of energy, especially for electricity, remained a concern. With the RePowerEU initiative, Europe is making a firm commitment to renewable energy. Nevertheless, the accelerated implementation of large-scale production on an intermittent basis will not be enough for energy-intensive sectors, not without additional initiatives to compensate for the intermittent nature of these sources. It is crucial to always have access to affordable, low-carbon energy. GSV continues to raise this issue.

Unfortunately, the revision of the 'Electricity Market Design' (EMD) did not result in a new pricing policy linking electricity costs more closely to actual production costs. This remains a concern, both in terms of competition with third countries and within Europe, where divergent support measures at member state level create inter-competitiveness.

In December, a final agreement on EMD was reached between the Council of the EU and the European Parliament. The adoption procedure will be completed in 2024 during the Belgian Presidency of the Council. GSV continues to call for a review of electricity pricing policy and asks this to be included in the next Commission's strategic agenda.

The CBAM transitional phase started in October 2023

At the end of 2023, the transitional phase of the 'Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism' (CBAM) entered into force. We welcome the implementation of this mechanism, which should help to prevent carbon leakage and create a fairer playing field on the European market between products with a high carbon intensity manufactured in Europe and in third countries.

The transitional phase started in October 2023 and CBAM will take full effect in 2026, with effective levies based on the carbon intensity of imported CBAM goods. The carbon tax reflects the ETS price paid by European companies, creating a level playing field within the European market. However, this important initiative will only be successful if it is properly implemented, i.e. if actual product emissions are accurately reported and if a sufficiently broad scope of steel products is covered by CBAM.

GSV remains committed to seeking a resolution regarding the export of European CBAM products. The accelerated phase-out of emission allowance allocations for CBAM sectors will lead to increased carbon costs for exported products. This poses challenges to competitiveness in non-European markets.

Opportunities for acceleration

The Belgian steel sector is fully committed to climate neutrality. GSV draws attention to the 'enabling conditions' required to succeed. We need a clear policy with consistent principles, expedient authorization procedures, and sufficient supporting measures to promote the investment climate. We must act now in order to be climate neutral by 2050.

Access to additional funding for decarbonisation and reskilling of workers is essential to ensure a future for local steel production. We provide support to our members in their engagements with local authorities and the EU, aiming to bolster the success of their projects. Additionally, we advocate for increased financial resources for mature technologies, not just for innovation. To advance, full implementation is essential, and this can be achieved through projects with a high 'Technology Readiness Level' (TRL).

'Contracts for Difference' in Flanders

As part of the *'Klimaatsprong'* initiative in Flanders, dialogue between authorities and industry is continuing. Working groups on transition, innovation and infrastructure have been set up, and an energy study will determine future energy needs in Flanders.

The steel sector is strongly involved, both with GSV as a member of the permanent consultative body and with experts from our companies active in the working groups.

In 2023, the 'Transition' working group developed a pilot project on 'Contracts for Difference' to facilitate the industrial transition towards low-carbon processes in Flemish industry. The approval by the Flemish government will follow in early 2024 and **for 10 years, an annual budget of 7 million euros** will be available. This budget is intended for 'two-way contracts for difference' to support the greening of heat demand.

'Just Transition Fund' in the Hainaut region

During the period of 2021-2027, European member states can identify regions expected to be most impacted by the transition to climate neutrality. The 'Just Transition Fund' (JTF) was set up to contribute to the climate ambitions of Europe, with the main aim of supporting regions heavily dependent on fossil fuel revenues and employment in their energy transition.

At the end of 2022, the European Commission approved the 'Territorial Just Transition Plan' for Belgium, releasing **182,6 million euros from the 'Just Transition Fund'** to invest in a low carbon, circular and energy-efficient economy. The regions around Tournai, Mons and Charleroi will receive support from the JTF. In 2023, the steel-making sites located in the above-mentioned areas have developed proposals to receive funding from the JTF.

A sustainable future for steel in Europe and Belgium

Despite the numerous challenges confronting the Belgian steel sector, locally produced steel in Belgium remains a pivotal asset.

Belgian facilities are already leading in producing steel with an exceptionally low carbon footprint. Moreover, our sector offers high-quality employment opportunities, both directly and indirectly, encompassing a diverse range of profiles. Furthermore, steel will continue to serve as a fundamental material for the net-zero technologies needed to transition to a climate neutral Europe.

Investing in a domestically rooted steel industry means investing in a future that is both resilient and sustainable.

Aperam Châtelet: focus on energy saving projects

In 2023, Aperam Châtelet was involved in several investments aimed at improving energy efficiency of the plant's installations.

Among these projects, the Walking Beam Furnace n°1 in the Hot Rolling Mill has been adapted to reduce its gas consumption. This major project was made possible through the collaboration of both internal staff and external partners.

Also at the Hot Rolling Mill, a new heat exchanger has recently been installed. This solution significantly reduces energy consumption by simultaneously covering the heating needs of the offices, changing rooms, and workers' showers using internal waste heat.

Finally, the revamping of the first of seven burners in the Meltshop will be applied to several others, resulting in a significant decrease in gas consumption for the entire fleet of burners located in Châtelet's Meltshop.

NLMK La Louvière completes hot strip mill modernisation

In 2023, NLMK La Louvière completed the modernization of its Hot Strip Mill. The investment aimed to expand product capabilities by producing thin gauge hot rolled coil and high strength steel with benchmark dimensional tolerances.

The first phase of the project was executed in 2021 and confirmed to meet strategic targets. The last two steps were completed during the summer stop.

The project scope includes replacing the first three rolling stands, installing a new run-out table and strip cooling system, and implementing a new hydraulic and automation system. This investment will enhance NLMK La Louvière's position as a leading supplier of thin hot-rolled material.

ArcelorMittal Ghent starts first industrial production of ethanol

On 7 November 2023, ArcelorMittal Ghent started its first industrial production of ethanol at its Steelanol plant, Europe's first carbon capture and utilisation (CCU) project. The first industrial-scale production is a significant step in the journey to the full commissioning of the Steelanol plant. Throughout the project, ArcelorMittal has worked with its partners LanzaTech, Primetals Technologies and E4tech (now ERM).

The Steelanol plant captures carbon-rich industrial gases from steel production at ArcelorMittal Ghent, and biologically converts them into ethanol using LanzaTech's carbon biorecycling process. LanzaTech's technology works like a brewery, but instead of yeast consuming sugar, proprietary bacteria known as a biocatalyst consume carbon gas and convert it into essential chemical building blocks such as ethanol.

A further ramp-up of production is expected in the near future. The plant has the capacity to produce 80 million litres of ethanol. It has the potential to reduce annual carbon emissions from the Ghent plant by 125,000 tonnes.

Aperam Genk invests in biodiversity

In 2023, Aperam Genk entered a partnership with *'Natuurpunt'* to increase biodiversity. As part of this initiative, around 50 nesting boxes were installed throughout the site. Additionally, it was decided to transform the grassland along the offices cold rolling mill into a landscaped area with natural elements.

At the start of the project, some old and worn-out trees and non-native shrubs were removed to make way for new planting. By planting approximately 4.000 indigenous trees and shrubs, Aperam Genk aims to have a positive impact on biodiversity, thus creating a more vibrant local ecosystem. Various species of oak, ash and fruit-bearing trees were planted.

Moreover, two rough areas (dunes) were created in the flat grassland. These sand hills and pits provide support and housing for bees and other essential pollinators. It was also decided to plant some berry bushes that can serve as a source of food for local wildlife.

Social affairs

Interprofessional dynamics

After the Central Economic Council (CCE) concluded that there was no scope for wage cost increases for the period 2023-2024, the 'Group des Dix' quickly reached an impasse. The national social partners were also unable to conclude an agreement for this negotiation period and the wage standard was, therefore, imposed by the government (Royal Decree 13 May 2023, Belgian Official Journal 26 May 2023). At the same time, the lack of room for manoeuvre was, however, weakened by the (para)fiscally advantageous purchasing power bonus.

The repeated failure of interprofessional dialogue is obviously not a good sign. The classic bonus formula to 'compensate' for wage margins of (approximately) 0%, which are nevertheless the result of the real wage handicap faced by employers in Belgium, is a worrying development. GSV continues to express its concerns with regard this situation.

Sectoral agreement

The adoption of the interprofessional agreement at the beginning of April was followed by a difficult but necessary balancing act at sectoral level. Through identifying points of common interest, social partners in the steel industry have, once again, succeeded in concluding well-considered agreements, for both blue-collar and white-collar workers. As always, these set the outlines and formulate recommendations. By building on existing agreements, these frameworks help to consolidate a solid sectoral social culture. In so doing, they respect the character of our sector, with the company level always having priority when it comes to social dialogue.

Despite a partial interprofessional agreement, sectoral collective bargaining has also been strongly regulated for 2023-2024 by a series of collective labour agreements issued by the National Labour Council (CNT). The steel industry was no different. As is common, several previous agreements have been renewed, while, of course, ensuring compliance with legal provisions on the subject, which may have evolved.

The sector has thus, once again, taken the opportunity, provided by the relevant interprofessional agreements, to extend the *'Régimes de Chômage avec Complément d'entreprise'* – RCC (unemployment benefits with a supplementary company contribution) until 30 June 2025. For 2023-2024, the sector also maintained its end-of-career positions for older workers, demonstrating its continued conviction for end-of-career matters.

Legal and regulatory framework

Given the large number of labour law measures that were enacted, announced or came into force in 2023, GSV fulfilled its duty to provide information and assistance in this area.

Apart from the fact that their objectives are not always well-founded, the new social law measures often come with economic and administrative burdens and, ultimately, hinder much-needed flexibility. GSV continues to highlight this problem through the appropriate channels.

The 'Federal Learning Account' (FLA), which was launched in 2023 and will continue to be rolled out in 2024, remains a delicate issue. The measure comes with a multitude of practical and administrative challenges. It goes back to the *'Deal pour l'Emploi'* (Deal for Jobs) which rounded off 2022 and has not really helped our businesses to meet the challenges linked to staff shortages and all manner of transitions. On the other hand, by exchanging the collective training effort for an inflexible individual training right, this deal has led us away from the already challenging training effort of an average of 5 days per full-time equivalent job, even when adapted to sectoral and company-specific needs. The annual sector training data, which GSV has been collecting for a long time, attest to the strong performance of our sector, year after year.

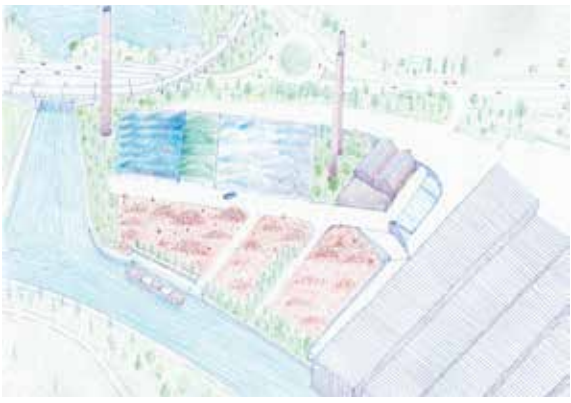
It goes without saying that in 2023, GSV also fully assumed its role of representing and defending the interests of its member steel companies. In doing so, it pointed out the specific needs of our sector in numerous files and at various levels of authority. GSV will continue to do so, as it is convinced that these awareness-raising efforts will contribute to the desired adjustment of the legal and regulatory framework. GSV will persist to focus on those issues it considers essential to support both the development of industrial activity and the fair transition facing the business world. The latter, in any case, requires a fully-fledged economic pillar, alongside the green and social pillars, where fundamental labour principles and rights go hand in hand with an economic level playing field.

Thy-Marcinelle expands its site

Thy-Marcinelle recently acquired the Carsid agglomeration site, which is adjacent to its facilities and spans approximately 3,5 hectares. The objective of this extension is twofold.

Firstly, Thy-Marcinelle aims to relocate by-product materials such as slag and scale away from the city limits, thereby improving the view from the city centre. This will also optimize the use of the waterway, reduce the impact on local transportation, and improve environmental quality.
Secondly, Thy-Marcinelle aims to enhance its scrap storage and sorting capacity to improve mill efficiency.

Furthermore, the new site will be landscaped with vegetation to promote environmental sustainability and support local biodiversity conservation efforts.



Centre for Research in Metallurgy

www.crmgroup.be

CRM Group, the independent research organization, with 75 years of specialization and expertise in metallic materials, is based in Liège and Gent-Zwijnaarde. Our strength lies in the combination of skilled and experienced research teams (>290 employees) alongside with unparalleled testing facilities spanning the entire manufacturing chain of metals. From raw materials to advanced steel applications, our facilities are tailored for laboratory-scale experimentation up to pilot and semi-industrial production lines. Driven by sustainability, resource efficiency and reducing climate and environmental impact, we actively support the steel industry in the journey towards climate neutrality.

One of the pathways to decarbonize the steel industry involves replacing the blast furnaces by direct reduction shafts. CRM Group has been proactive in upgrading its facilities to accommodate direct reduction processes, including the development of lab-scale furnaces and reactors capable of simulating conditions representative of direct reduction processes in shafts (such as Midrex or Energiron) and able to produce up to 50kg (hydrogen-reduced) DRI per batch. Additionally, CRM Group has commissioned a cutting-edge plasma furnace. This furnace with a capacity of 1 ton can be configured to realistically reproduce various (s)melting processes such as an Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) or a Submerged Arc Furnace (SAF), as well as be operated as a demonstration pilot for slag remelting & granulation operations to study slag valorization routes. *[Fig. 1]*

Simultaneously, the greening of the conventional steelmaking routes remains an important decarbonization path. CRM Group is heavily involved, with steelmakers and technology suppliers, in the production of 'alternative reductants' from wood, biomass and waste streams. These transformed materials will be able to largely replace fossil coals in pneumatic injection applications, at the blast furnace (BF) and the EAF. *[Fig. 2]*

Moreover, the integration of hydrogen or hydrogen-rich injectants into the BF to reduce coke consumption and CO_2-emissions is also under study. These changes will significantly impact blast furnace operations, prompting CRM Group to enhance its modeling and simulation tools to adapt to the new parameters linked to high levels of hydrogen in the reducing gas. The CRM Group's mathematical model of the Blast Furnace process, known as 'MOGADOR', underwent upgrades to accommodate these changes. *[Fig. 3]*

With steel scrap recycling at the forefront of the shift towards greater circularity in the steel sector, adopting innovation in scrap collection, sorting and pre-treatment will enable the use of scrap as input for high quality steels. In the frame of the Horizon Europe project CAESAR that we coordinate *(https://caesarproject.eu)*, an extensive mapping of the European scrap market was conducted, with a focus on exports out of EU.

Additionally, we have assessed the quality of exported low-quality scrap and the effectiveness of advanced scrap cleaning technologies through melting and characterization trials. *[Fig. 4]* In parallel to the development of the process solutions for carbon-neutral steelmaking, a thorough understanding of the metallurgical consequences of the increased use of (low quality) scrap is crucial. As residual and tramp elements will inevitably impact microstructure, process conditions and final properties a detailed understanding of the metallurgical consequences of the new steelmaking routes is compulsory. A comprehensive study, beyond empirical laws, of the interaction between residuals, alloying elements and metallurgical phenomena is underway to manage product properties of high-quality steels produced in a sustainable way.

Finally, CO_2-capture pilot plants complete our offer to the industry with a large-scale pilot plant based on absorption technology, another one for adsorption processes and a mobile unit for direct use on industrial sites (anti-sublimation capture process).

Fig. 1 – Pilot plasma furnace simulating EAF, SAF or slag valorization routes

Fig. 2 – Alternative reductants

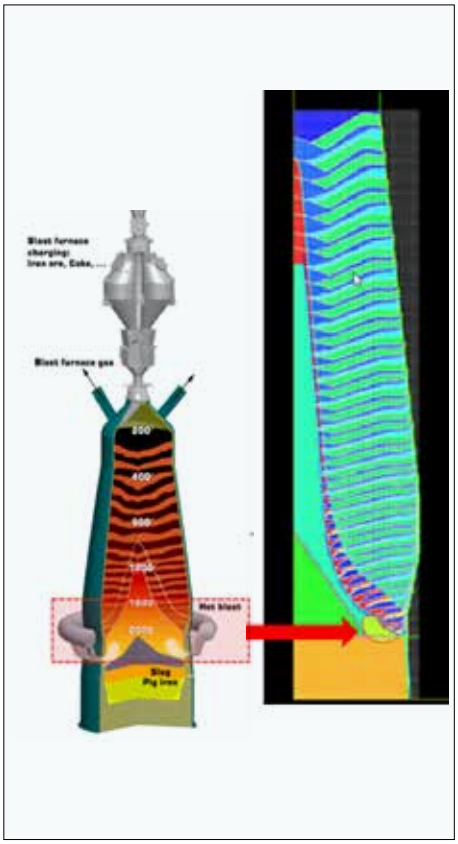


Fig. 3 - Modelling the impact of H2 injection in the blast furnace

Fig. 4 - Mapping of the scrap export and scrap melting trials for characterization

Steel promotion, information - Infosteel

www.infosteel.be

Under the slogan 'Together, for more steel in construction', Infosteel's activity is built around 3 core principles: connect – inform – inspire. To organise these actions, close cooperation with the main segments of the key value chain is essential: steel producers, steel distributors and the steel construction sector.

'Score With Steel'

Activities specifically focused on inspiring architects and contractors, are organized under the umbrella of 'Score With Steel'. Besides project visits, the focus is mainly on communication via social media.

Info_Steel-magazine

An important keystone in communication is the Info_Steel-magazine which is delivered – largely free of charge – 4 times a year in over 2.500 letterboxes. In every edition, a selection of different steel applications is presented more in detailed text but, above all, in pictures.

Training

Keeping up to date knowledge about the design and application of steel in the construction sector is an important objective of Infosteel. Besides the publication of manuals, the Infosteel courses are a significant tool in this respect.

STEELdays

The STEELdays are a series of consecutive activities around one central theme. This year, 'the future of and with steel' was that leitmotif. A total of 6 activities were scheduled: 3 webinars and 3 physical events, 1 French-speaking and 2 Dutch-speaking respectively.

'Construction Agreement Steel'

Similar to the initiative in the Netherlands, Belgium is also working on a sector-wide charter to make clear to contractors, architects and governments how the sector can help achieve the 2030 (and 2050) target.

Steel Construction Contest

The Steel Construction Contest has long been a fixed value in Infosteel's programme. The elaboration has evolved somewhat in recent years: a separate competition is alternately organised for bridges on the one hand and for buildings on the other, at BeNeLux and BeLux level respectively. Extra efforts are made for more involvement, with a nice event each time to announce the laureates.

Info_Steel-magazine

STEELdays

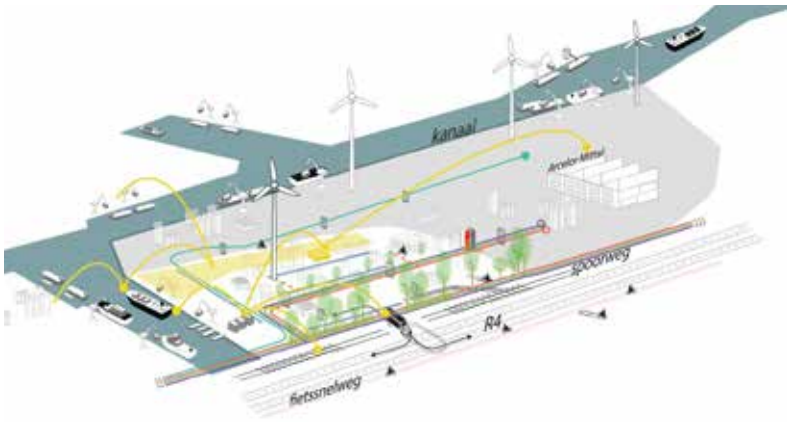

Footbridge in Arquennes - photo Greisch / JL-Deru

Circular industrial estate planned on ArcelorMittal's Ghent site in order to contribute to a climate-neutral port

North Sea Port, ArcelorMittal Belgium and all the port companies have committed themselves to a climate-neutral port by 2050. This will be achieved by reducing CO_2 emissions and further developing the circular economy. To this end, the North-C Circular industrial estate is being developed in Ghent.

The development of the North-C Circular industrial estate is a joint initiative by North Sea Port and ArcelorMittal Belgium. Together, they will develop an industrial estate on the right bank of the Ghent-Terneuzen Canal in Ghent.

The site lies between Rodenhuizedok, the port ring road R4 and the ArcelorMittal Belgium site. It is part of the port area that is designated for companies based in the seaport and along the waterways. The intention is to prepare this 150-hectare site for construction, install basic infrastructure such as utilities, provide access by road, rail and water and move in companies geared towards circular activities.



GSV
Belgian Steel Federation

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GSV is the professional organization representing the Belgian steel industry

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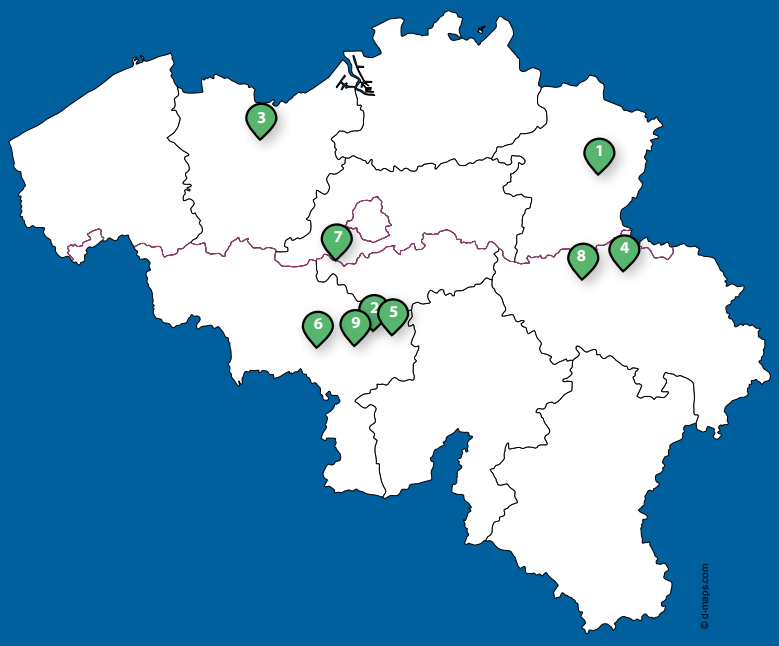

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COVER (f.l.t.r.):
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Steel production at ArcelorMittal Ghent, photo ArcelorMittal Ghent // Steelanol installation ArcelorMittal Ghent, photo ArcelorMittal Ghent // Steel production at Aperam Genk, photo Aperam