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WAB 31 | FALL 2021

FOCUS

Walloon companies
commit to SDGs

BIG PICTURE

Olivier Legrain
Towards a better society

GASTRONOMY

Gin is in our genes

WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH, WE KEEP ON GOING!

Belgium, Germany, and Italy stricken by unprecedented floods. France and Greece, not to mention California, all fighting deadly fires. And everywhere, ordinary people and entrepreneurs are rolling up their sleeves and working hard to restore their local areas, their homes, and their businesses—businesses that are also doing their part.

It is as if this awareness of the big picture, which has been there for some time now, driven forward by the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, and with a deep-seated desire for innovation at its core, had been strengthened and invigorated. Whether we are talking about biotechs, IBA, CSL, or John Cockerill, everyone is keen to play their part in pressing ahead with high-quality sustainability initiatives that have a positive impact on the world and the people in it, far and wide. We hope you are dazzled by this wonderfully sunny side of our companies, and that you too can set off on a Sun trip, perhaps, or—who knows?—on a bamboo-bike adventure!

As you look forward to recharging your batteries, whether in the spa resort that visitors rave about, over a glass of gin made in Wallonia, or standing together in front of thought-provoking art or architecture in Venice or Milan, we are pleased, now more than ever, to invite you to take a real tour of the sustainable world.

A voyage of discovery awaits you!

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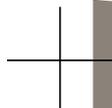
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GSK AND ITEOS THERAPEUTICS: A HISTORIC AGREEMENT

The Charleroi-based company iTeos Therapeutics and pharmaceutical giant GSK have signed an agreement worth a tidy sum that could eventually reach 2 billion dollars, for a therapeutic antibody. This is unprecedented in the history of biotechnology in Wallonia. Specialising in immuno-oncology, which involves educating the body and its immune system to fight cancer cells, iTeos Therapeutics is currently working on two programmes in clinical development, including one in collaboration with GSK, which will accelerate the development of the therapeutic antibody and differentiate it in the immuno-oncology market.

DREAMWALL WINS FIVE BROADCAST PRODUCTION AWARDS

The animation and graphic-design studio Dreamwall (Charleroi), which creates 2D and 3D animation and media solutions, as well as event-based augmented reality, has come away with five awards at the Broadcast Production Awards in Las Vegas. In the “Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality Design” flagship category, Dreamwall was singled out for its virtualisation of the Wallonia Export Grand Prize 2020 ceremony.



BELGIUM'S FIRST EDIBLE SPOON, MADE IN LIÈGE

With Ecopoon, Cyril Ernst and Maxime Vanderheyden (26) are offering an alternative to single-use plastic and wooden cutlery with their sustainable cutlery that is 100% edible. Practical, resistant and environmentally friendly, their coffee spoons and stirrers are ideal for bringing a fun and tasty touch to meals and hot beverages. Three flavours are currently available: plain, rosemary and chocolate.





DIM 3 AWARDED FOR ITS NUTROW PLATFORM

Dim3, a medical-technology company based in Liège, recently won the prestigious Italian AboutPharma Award for its Nutrow platform. This tool, which was selected from among 50 entries, enables the management and monitoring of a patient's artificial nutrition in real time, in hospitals, nursing homes, and at home. That saves caregivers time, and helps make the patients more comfortable. It also means they can be discharged from hospital more quickly and that their convalescence can be managed more effectively.

BELGIAN TRIUMPH AT WIMBLEDON

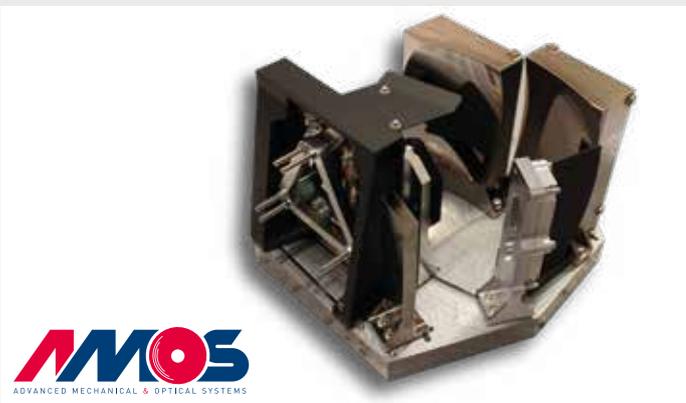
Tennis player Joachim Gérard, who is from Court-Saint-Etienne, won the Wimbledon Wheelchair Men's Singles in July. This is his second Grand Slam victory, after the Australian Open in January, and also comes on top of the 4 doubles titles he already holds.



© Fred Guerdin

AMOS AT THE HEART OF THE NEXT COPERNICUS SPACE MISSION

AMOS, a company based in Liège, will supply the 9 hyperspectral spectrometers that are at the heart of the CHIME satellite mission. The mission is part of the Copernicus expansion programme of the European Space Agency (ESA), in partnership with the European Commission. Hardware designed by AMOS (optical instruments, subsystems, and flight equipment, and optical and mechanical test solutions on the ground) has already contributed directly to more than 40 space missions, but this is the first time the company has provided the main instrument.



AMOS
ADVANCED MECHANICAL & OPTICAL SYSTEMS



1,528



312,000,000



Louvain-la-Neuve

IBA A CONSTANT PROCESS TOWARDS A BETTER SOCIETY

Ion Beam Applications (IBA), a world leader in particle accelerator technology, is active in 4 domains: proton therapy, radiopharmaceuticals, sterilisation and dosimetry. In 2021 it was awarded B corp certification, becoming part of a global movement to transform businesses and contribute to a more sustainable and inclusive economy and society.

A PASSION FOR ECOSYSTEM REGENERATION

It's an open secret: every year in early June, at his home in Grez-Doiceau, Olivier Legrain opens his garden to the public. His passion is to showcase the power of nature. He and his wife have planted 5,000 trees based on the Miyawaki technique to restore forests, and have created a permaculture orchard. Legrain aspires to build a community, from farmers to scientists; there is even a dedicated artists' retreat in the making.



© courtesy of IBA

IBA was created in 1986 in Louvain-la-Neuve, where its founder, Yves Jongen, had studied. He wanted to give back to his region the support he had received during his studies and at the beginning of his career. IBA's core business was in the medical field, and it was looking to offer great careers to its engineers. And because it was locally based, employee health and welfare were part of IBA's genetic makeup.

Five dimensions

When Olivier Legrain became CEO in 2000, he pursued IBA's values. In 2018, he heard about B Corporation certification, a benchmarking framework to measure companies' performance in 5 dimensions other than financial, i.e., involving stakeholders other than investors, such as clients and employees, and concern for the environment, the community and society at large.

The first step in the process involves answering more than 200 questions on the company's performance in those 5 dimensions. The certification threshold is 80 points. "IBA's estimated score was 90. We therefore thought it was worth pursuing", Legrain remembers. It took IBA a year to complete the certification process through documentation and interviews.







© courtesy of IBA

A constant process

IBA is the first company in Europe to be B Corp certified after being listed. Its statutes now include a sustainability goal, a condition required by B Corp certification: “a significant positive impact on all of its stakeholders, in particular patients, shareholders, employees, customers, society and the planet.”

It’s a constant process, since certification has to be reviewed every 3 years. Legrain’s goal is to go well beyond the score of 90 in 3 years’ time. “It’s realistic but nevertheless ambitious.”

A competition with yourself

Thanks to the audit process, he is clear where he needs to act. IBA will implement no fewer than 75 initiatives across all its activities. “We’ll start with monitoring our energy consumption across the board to become low-carbon, low-water, low-waste, and also at product level. Our supply chain has great potential: our suppliers will evolve with us”, Legrain says.

However, the 3-year journey has a global cost of around 1 million euro for a company the size of IBA, which is active worldwide. Is it worth it, financially? Legrain, backed by his board and the shareholders’ assembly, has no doubts: “We know that we have to pursue the path to sustainability. It allows for better risk anticipation and it’s clearly a growing trend in the financial sector that also attracts talented people. There’s a momentum. You just can’t ignore it.”

“We realise that the score of 90 is well below our potential. It’s more a competition with yourself than with others”, Legrain concludes.

LIÈGE SPACE CENTER (CSL)

RESEARCHERS ARE MAKING MAJOR ADVANCES IN SPACE ENGINEERING

Picosecond by picosecond, researchers at the Liège Space Center (CSL) have been identifying and analysing stray light trajectories, which had until now limited the performance of space optical instruments. This is a world first which should revolutionize space imagery, carried out in partnership with the University of Strasbourg.

“In a telescope, stray light rays follow different optical paths from the rays that form the image,” said Serge Habraken, chairman of the CSL board. “Using a very short duration (picosecond) pulsed laser and an ultra-fast detector, we measure the image and the different effects of stray light at different times. In addition to this analysis, we can also identify each ray using its time of arrival, which is directly related to the optical path. That allows us to find out the origin of the problem, and thus eliminate it.”

This is not the first time a CSL accomplishment has caught the attention of the European Space Agency (ESA), NASA, the Chinese Space Agency (CNSA) or European space industry leaders. Thanks to the multi-layer coating technology developed in the Liège laboratories, which enables the precise selection of wavelengths for analysis in the ultra-violet spectrum, the SMILE mission (ESA + CNSA) can now study the northern lights more closely. This technology will also soon be used as part of a NASA mission.

“We have also developed, in recent years, one of the most important techniques for analysing rocks with X-rays. Similar to the one employed on Mars with the Curiosity rover, our instrument uses pyroelectric sources to avoid radioactive materials and reduce measurement time; it is as compact as the NASA version and offers slightly better performance.”



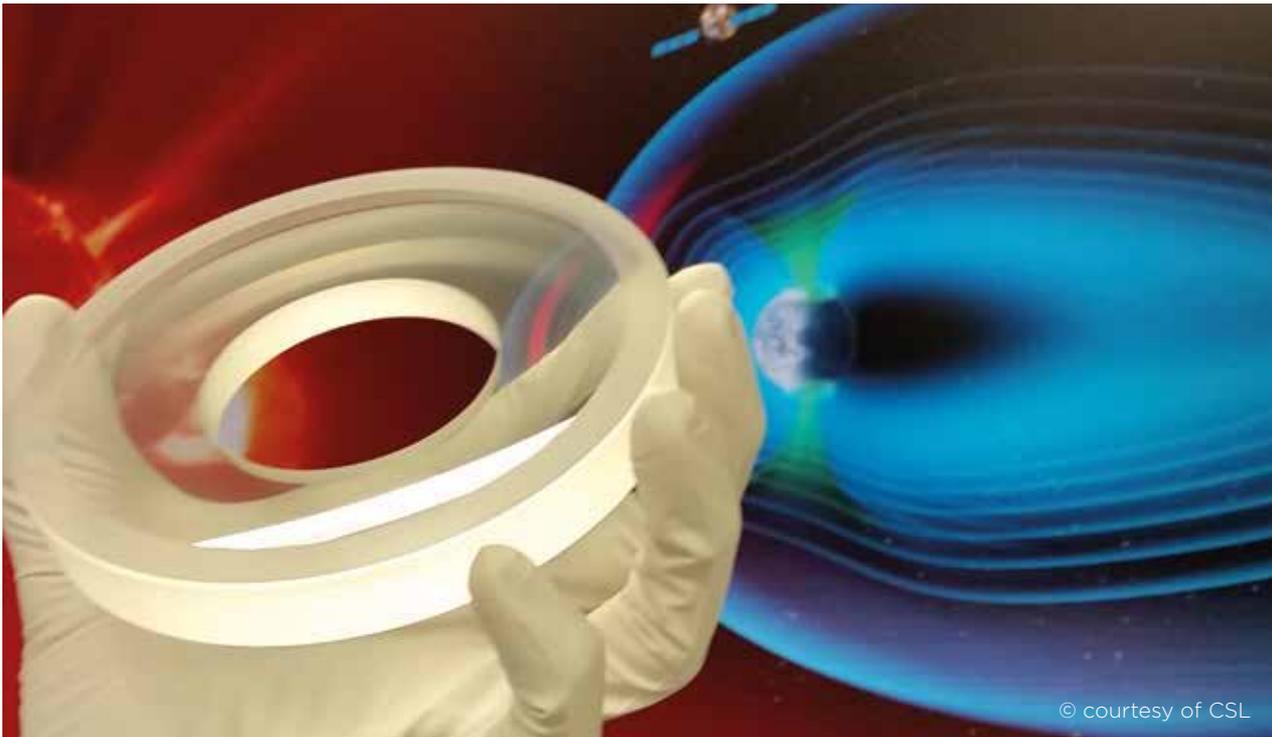
95



15,000,000



Liège



© courtesy of CSL

The CSL also has a state-of-the-art environmental testing centre used by ESA, the space industry and regional companies. Among other things, it simulates the harsh space environment in which the satellites and their instruments will have to operate.

Did you know?

- ▶ Light travels at 300,000 km a second, or about 1 millimetre in 3 picoseconds. 1 picosecond = 1 millionth of a millionth of a second!
- ▶ Stray light rays are a bit like headlights that dazzle you at night, or the halos of light caused by the sun that you see in your holiday photos.
- ▶ X-rays have a fluorescent effect on rocks: studying the spectrum emitted makes it possible to tell what kind of rock it is without needing to take a sample.

CATALENT AT CHARLEROI BIOPARK

A WIN-WIN PARTNERSHIP



A series of acquisitions has established Gosselies as Catalent's cell and gene therapy European Centre of Excellence in less than 1 ½ years. By attracting a leading global contract development and manufacturing organisation (CDMO) such as Catalent, Charleroi Biopark has become a global hot spot for this very promising niche in the medical sector.



courtesy of Catalent, Inc.





The Biopark accounts today for a fifth of the European production of gene and cell therapies. Bertrand Alexandre, its new CEO, is not surprised: “Catalent’s move validates the strategy that is the result of a vision developed in the last 20 years on the university campus. Now we are poised to expand.” Forty thousand square metres of added infrastructure is planned for the years to come. “We are looking to attract international players who, ultimately, want to set up greenfield projects to supply the European market”, he adds.

A unique ecosystem at Gosselies

Catalent plans to hire over 250 new employees over the next five years. Cell and gene therapies “require a spirit of innovation and fresh thinking. Our teams in Belgium are highly trained and have years of experience, with many partnerships with leading

innovators”, says Manja Boerman, President of Catalent.

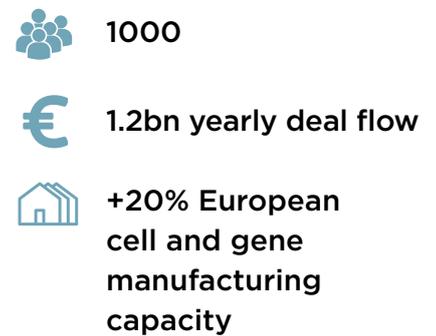
The Biopark’s unique ecosystem includes suppliers, specialised financing institutions (including a cell and gene therapy accelerator programme), well-qualified staff and a great location. Cell and gene therapies have to be produced as close as possible to their customers. The central location of Wallonia and the dense road and airport infrastructure mean the tailor-made products can be rapidly available in the European market.

“Belgium plays a leading role in the pharmaceutical industry in the European Union, and we have been able to take advantage of the region’s unique combination of world-leading research and knowledge centres and its excellent academic network in life sciences to hire top talent”, Boerman adds.

CATALENT



BIOPARK



JOHN COCKERILL

200 YEARS OF INNOVATION

Interview with Chief Technology Officer Jean Jouet

What does innovation mean to you?

“Innovation is combining acquired knowledge and ideas, and transforming them to make profits.” I like this quote: innovation rarely happens from scratch. Knowledge is needed, as is a new way of combining, using and implementing it. At John Cockerill, we do not innovate just for the sake of it, but to meet the needs of our time. Take electrolysis: it’s not a new idea. What is new is our knowledge, certain materials, and how to use them to replace carbon with hydrogen so as not to emit CO₂.

Do ideas come quicker than 10 years ago, or do some processes still take the same time as before?

I don’t have the feeling that they come quicker. I like the image evoked by Blaise Pascal, who compared knowledge to a sphere. The more it grows, the more surface area is open to the unknown. In other words, the more we know, the more questions there are. The sum of all our knowledge has increased considerably, but each new idea begs new questions.

At John Cockerill, how do you go from an idea to an actual product or service?

We always try, at the outset, to meet a need. When it comes to the steel industry, you might think that everything has been said. However, we are currently testing a technique

that would allow us to limit the loss of zinc during the galvanisation process. This is an old problem, which can now be addressed with modern tools and techniques. On the topic of green hydrogen, over the last 2 years we have followed a much more structured approach to reduce energy consumption during electrolysis. We make these advances, not on our own, but by working with laboratories, research centres, and universities. This is how new ideas are born.

Industrya brings intrapreneurship to John Cockerill

“Sometimes things move faster than expected. Since 2012, we have noticed that our way of innovating is not fast enough in certain areas. However, when it comes to the management of our clients’ projects, our slogan is clear: ‘No risk’. To live with this paradox, we launched Industrya, a 42-million euro investment fund with an incubator and an accelerator,” Jean says. The first call for projects, launched “without too much publicity” in June 2020, led to 82 applications. The second call is focused more on hydrogen. There are a lot of projects underway, and new ideas keep coming up: the more knowledge there is, the more questions there are... and thus more avenues to explore,” Jean Jouet concluded.



“As we come from Belgium, Wallonia, and Liège, we are essentially geared towards exports, and therefore on being prepared to fight our corner. For 200 years, we have used innovation to gain a foothold in the market despite the presence of much larger groups. We will stay this course.”

*Jean Jouet, CTO,
John Cockerill Group*



@halostudio.be





WALLOON
COMPANIES
COMMIT TO
the **SDGs**

+

**5 pillars and
17 sustainable
development goals,
broken down into
169 targets, signed
up to by 193 nations
(Belgium included, of
course), working towards
a sustainable and fair
society by 2030.**



© GreenWin ASBL 2021

WALLONIA, A CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INNOVATION

“Wallonia is a fertile land with an extremely rich manufacturing past. It is a wellspring of talent, refinement and millennial ingenuity. Industrialisation has also left us with brownfield sites, and an environmental legacy and challenges that must be addressed”, says Françoise Scheepers, Marketing & Communication Manager of the GreenWin Cluster. “As a result, the choice to go green in Wallonia is a choice made out of obligation, out of duty. This firm commitment to rehabilitate our heritage, to promote the circular, reasoned and regenerative economy, and to avoid repeating the mistakes of the past, functions as a real catalyst for creativity and innovation. Proposals abound, and the solutions being implemented aim to achieve real sustainability. The urgent need for reinvention is precisely what drives and stimulates the current industrial and environmental transition in Wallonia.”

FIVE PILLARS TO SUPPORT A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Leave no one behind; protect the planet, air quality and biodiversity; use innovation to promote harmony; create fair, inclusive and peaceful societies; and forge stable links between the public and the private sector, in order to work together in mutual respect. These 5 ambitious pillars focus on conventional economic, ecological and social issues, in addition to seeking peace around the world and encouraging strong and lasting partnerships.



PEOPLE

B CORP CERTIFICATION FOR TECHNORD



The Technord industrial group, which specialises in the integration of industrial electricity projects, has just received B Corp certification. As part of this framework, the group is committed to having a positive impact on the world and to operating transparently. By respecting strict social and

ecological standards, Technord uses its profits to improve the wellbeing of its employees, its partners and, above all, its customers. By helping its people develop their skills further and taking the first step towards the future, the international family business intends to play a dynamic role in the long term.



PLANET

CHÂTEAU DE BIOUL CHOOSES QUALITY OVER QUANTITY



© Olivier Polet

Walloon farmers are undertaking many projects to promote organic, sustainable and high-quality products while respecting the terroir. With the support of the Walloon Federation of Agriculture (FWA), the whole sector is rolling up its sleeves to make a difference. Château de Bioul, for example, is part of a permaculture approach. Grape varieties, carefully selected for their resilience to the Belgian climate, are surrounded by beehives, hedges, a vegetable garden, perches for birds of prey, and more. The wine they produce is bursting with aromas and endowed with a unique typicity. Not far from Namur, the Château protects biodiversity, water cleanliness and soil quality, while creating local economic activity.

PROSPERITY

LES LAVANDIÈRES DU BONALFA WASH AWAY INEQUALITIES



For the last 20 years, this laundry services company, based in Vielsalm and working in collaboration with the Red Cross, has successfully combined a social project with an economic objective. Its aim is to offer decent and stable working conditions, skills training, a high standard of wellbeing and a fair salary to people in difficulty. It advocates for multiculturalism, and is delighted to regularly welcome newcomers (4 people per year on average). Each employee must follow strict quality standards despite language difficulties, which are often overcome through mutual aid or, more rarely, with the help of pictograms. The success of this family-run project can also be shown in numbers: 19 jobs have been created so far, and one tonne of laundry is processed each day.

PEACE

ODOO PROMOTES TRANSPARENCY, AUTONOMY AND TRUST

In 2004 Fabien Pinckaers created TinyERP while studying in Louvain-la-Neuve. Now called Odoo, the company has more than 1,774 employees. With a business model based on free access, transparency, mutual aid and sharing, and a horizontal organisation chart (3 hierarchical levels), Odoo promotes autonomy, development and adaptability among its employees. During the health crisis, for example, more than 1,000 people were working remotely,

with no effect on performance. In addition, three times a year, the CEO organises “Ask me anything” sessions in which 85% of employees participate. With its sustainable industrialisation model that is accessible or free, it’s full steam ahead for the company, which is based in Walloon Brabant.



PARTNERSHIP

CUP BY CUP, CHARLES LIÉGEOIS IS STRENGTHENING GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP

In 1955, Charles Liégeois began roasting coffee beans. Years - and litres of coffee - later, his sons, Benoît and Michel, took over the reins of the company and elevated it to the rank of leading roaster in Wallonia. They believe in getting to know their producers and in respecting local populations. They did not have to wait long before seeing results. Mexican coffee

is valued at 90% (compared to 10% previously) and, in Kivu, coffee is finally selling at its fair price (5 times more than before!). On the innovation front, the company has just launched compostable capsules, replaced its boilers, and installed solar-power plants, and is also working on sustainable-packaging solutions.



FARMERS ARE ALSO AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE



FWA

“Agriculture in Wallonia is being shaken up by all these changes, in addition to suffering from an image and identity problem. The players in the sector are rolling up their sleeves, determined to play an active role in the global ecological shift and secure the future of following generations”, said Marianne Streel. In order to reinvigorate both production and producers, the Walloon Federation of Agriculture (FWA) has established 12 priorities. FWA will soon meet with government representatives in order to align government measures and assistance with this future project.

“Forest managers are showing that it is possible to run and grow your business with a long-term vision, because, when they plant trees, they know full well that their children and grandchildren will benefit. This healthy and environmentally responsible approach is entirely applicable to other economic and industrial sectors. This is why Life Cycle Analysis is at the heart of GreenWin project strategy.”

*Véronique Graff, Managing Director,
GreenWin*

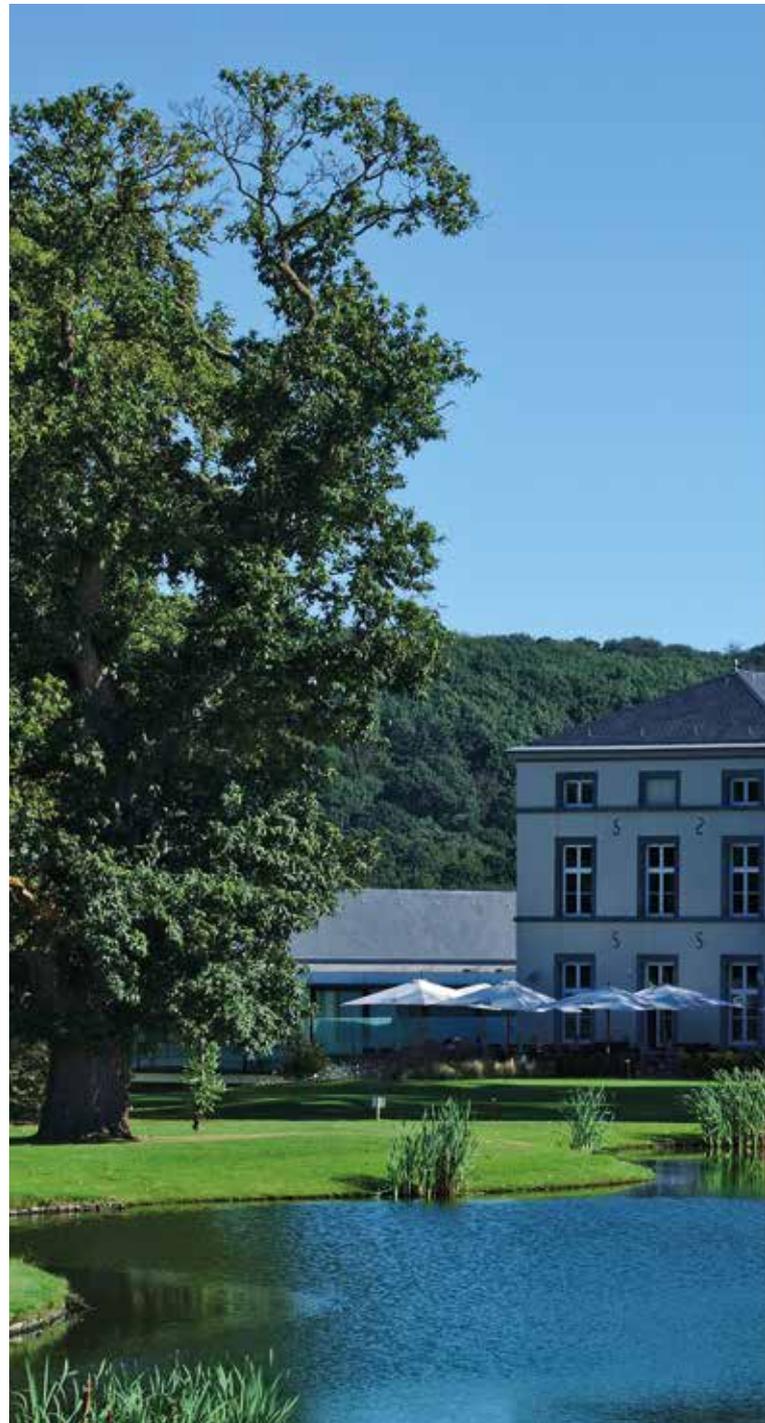


© GreenWin ASBL 2021

DOMAINE DE NAXHELET

ONE OF THE TRIPADVISOR TOP 10

Located in the heart of Wallonia, the Domaine de Naxhelet offers a full range of services: a hotel, a restaurant, golf, wellness facilities, seminar rooms and more! The hotel understood the strategic importance of a real online presence, which won it a TripAdvisor Traveller's Choice 2021 award.



“This award has been hugely encouraging for our teams, because we know that TripAdvisor is a reference tool for people”, said the Domaine’s administrator, Françoise Jolly. The TripAdvisor Traveller’s Choice Award goes to those hotels, attractions and restaurants whose ratings put them in the top 10% in a given region. The award is based on reviews and comments left online by customers. The ranking takes into account the total average score, the number of reviews, recent reviews and the quality of share photos, according to an algorithm managed by the platform.

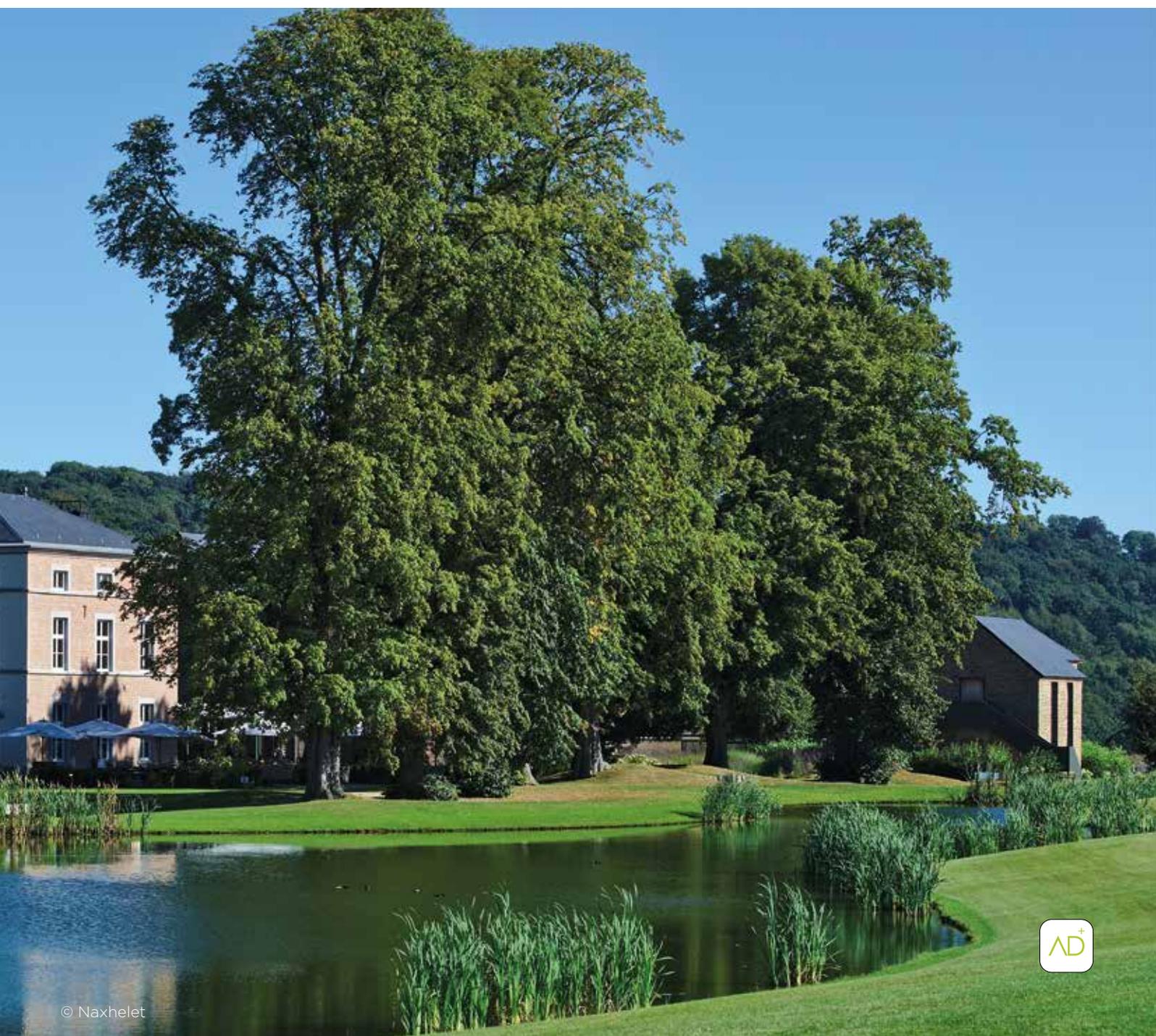
An online presence is more indispensable than ever

With 442 million unique monthly visitors and with 6 out of 10 travellers checking the site before making a booking, TripAdvisor, an American company, has become a key player in the sector, whatever the size or location of the hotel.

According to a recent study carried out by University College Dublin, establishments that frequently respond to comments left on the networks see their chances of receiving new bookings soar by 20%.

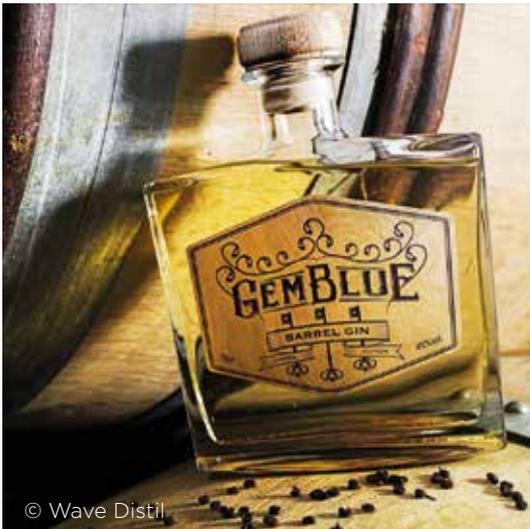
More direct bookings

Active on Facebook, Instagram, TripAdvisor and LinkedIn, the Domaine de Naxhelet has understood the importance of being truly present on social networks: “Before, we managed social media internally. We are now using a professional service. We are certain that it works: many of our customers now book directly, without going through Booking.com”, says Françoise.



GIN WALLONIA'S GOT TALENT

According to our most famous food critic Eric Boschman, gin finds its roots in jenever, or peket, Wallonia's traditional juniper-based spirit. "It's in our genes", he says. His three top Walloon gins reflect the exceptional know-how of Belgian spirit makers:



© Wave Distil

GEMBLUE BARREL GIN

is created by Wave Distil, a distillery in Dinant. Aged in wild cherry wood and infused with juniper wood, its peppery taste is balanced with a certain silkiness. Drink it pure with Ardennes cured ham.

PREMIUM GIN 972

from distilled beer at La Manufacture Urbaine in Charleroi derives its name from the depth of Well n°4, paying tribute to the region's glorious mining past. Very subtle, this award-winning gin is best drunk pure to accompany a trout pâté from Mathonet fish farm in Malmedy.



© Manufacture Urbaine



© Idrisse Hidara Photographe

APOTEK

is made from organic alcohol by Ardent Spirits (Radermacher), Wallonia's oldest distillery, near Liège. It is flavoured with a perfect combination of herbs and spices and infused with citrus. A neutral mixer gives it a great finish in the mouth.

GABRIEL RASKINET TRAVELS IN THE LAND OF EARTH AND WATER

Independent copywriter and Wallonia.be ambassador

A two-day bike trip organised by the NGO Mekong Plus to showcase the Vietnamese countryside, and an overview of the tangible support provided to the poorest families



© Gabriel Raskinet

A committed NGO that operates on the ground, an untouched and uncompromising landscape, a resilient local population with a clear ambition to lift themselves out of extreme poverty, and 14 Belgians on bamboo bikes. No, that last one was not a joke.

Over the course of a weekend, sharing meals together, cycling over land and water, under a blazing sun or torrential rains, this group of cyclists got to visit a family that heats itself with “natural gas”. The waste produced by pigs raised in the backyard is collected and stored in a kind of bladder while it ferments. The resulting biogas (methane) is then recovered and used to fuel the stove. In addition, the animals are raised and sold for their meat, which is a source of income for the whole family.

These few days help us understand the real human and health issues of a country that has been hit hard by the pandemic.



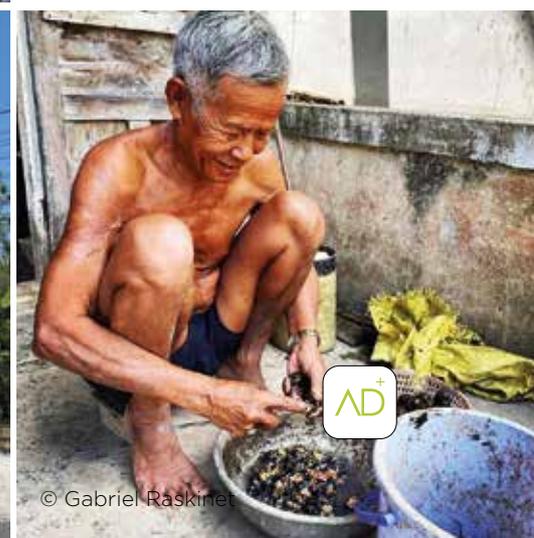
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© Gabriel Raskinet



© Assia Abbas



© Gabriel Raskinet

BELGIUM IS DESIGN

IS CELEBRATING ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY!



Together, the country's three regions promote Belgian design throughout the world.



© Jeroen Verrecht

A joint initiative

Belgium is Design is a declaration of intense passion for Design, both within Belgium and abroad. Supported for 10 years by regional institutions that promote design (Flanders DC, MAD - Home of Creators and Wallonie-Bruxelles Design Mode), Belgium is Design aims to bring Belgian talents onto the international scene and to connect them with professionals in the sector by participating in key events and organizing B2B meetings.

Milan, Paris and beyond

The result is a stronger presence and increased visibility for designers and companies, especially during the famous Milan Design Week or the Maison&Objet trade fair in Paris. In Milan this year, Belgium is Design is presenting an exhibition of emerging designers as well as a film, "The Object becomes", which is being screened at various professional events.

SUN TRIP EUROPE 2021

SUN OR BUST!

Thirty-three countries, self-sufficient for 10,000 kilometres, 5 mandatory stop-over towns, 1 Lyon-Brussels prologue and 50 contemporary adventurers on electric bikes powered solely by solar energy: these are the essentials for Sun Trip Europe 2021. By the end of the journey, which lasts no more than 100 days, the participants in this “land-based Vendée Globe” will have shown ingenuity in order to get the best performance from their bikes, but also initiative, fellowship and a great sense of direction to reach Lyon, their final destination.





BIENNALE DI VENEZIA 2021

SARA NOEL COSTA DE ARAUJO ON DISPLAY

The 17th International Architecture Exhibition opened on 22 May 2021, a year late but with a particularly topical question: “How will we live together?” SNCDA, along with 112 other participants from 46 countries, took a shot at giving an answer.

Up until 21 November, the Brussels-based architect and scenographer Sara Noel Costa de Araujo (SNCDA) will be exhibiting, at the Luxembourg Pavilion, a lightweight modular housing project with a low ecological footprint. “An extremely interesting way of answering the increasingly pressing question of access to property,” said Thomas Moor, coordinator of the Architecture Unit of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation.

“French-speaking Belgian architects have a great reputation internationally, and now more than ever”, he said. It is precisely this reputation that he hopes to highlight during the 2023 Biennale, during which the Wallonia-Brussels Federation will take its turn at the Belgian Pavilion. Architects, get ready! The call for “projects that echo the challenges of society” will be issued at the start of 2022.

© Cellule architecture FWB



Did you know?

The Belgian Pavilion is a fine example of joint ownership: the Flemish Community (which presented the “Composite Presence” exhibition there this year) and the Wallonia-Brussels Federation take turns in using it, every other Biennale.



Charleroi gets on its dancing shoes

From 13 to 30 October, the Centre Chorégraphique de la Communauté Française Wallonie-Bruxelles is hosting its Biennale, as “a chance to get together after these months of isolation.” Eighteen days to conga between “The Stables” in Charleroi and the “Raffinerie” in Brussels.

850 years of history in Tournai

Added to the World Heritage List in 2000, Notre Dame Cathedral in Tournai is celebrating its 850th anniversary this year. Visit Tournai is offering tailor-made tours of this architectural masterpiece, which, at 114 m, is 7 m longer than Notre-Dame de Paris!



Liège engraving triennial

This autumn, the magnificent Musée de la Boverie is hosting the Liège International Contemporary Engraving Triennial, an enduring legacy that started with the 1905 World’s Fair. This international competition has received 470 entries from 62 countries. The 48 works that have been selected will be on display from 17 September to 24 October.



Mons welcomes Fernando Botero

For the first time in Belgium, as part of the Biennale of Art and Culture of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation in Mons, the BAM has created a vast retrospective dedicated to the Colombian painter and sculptor Fernando Botero, from 9 October 2021 to 30 January 2022. Night-time visits will take place on the second Thursday of each month.



Fernando Botero
Danseuse à la barre - 2001
Oil on canvas 164 x 116 cm

Wallonia, the land of **SUSTAINABLE INNOVATION**



- ✓ **Circular materials** eco-design, industrial symbiosis, encouraging the reuse and repair of these materials within the economy, recycling innovation, etc.
- ✓ Innovations for **enhanced health** biotechnologies, medical equipment, eHealth, mHealth, silver economy, prevention, etc.
- ✓ Innovations for agile and safe **design** and **production methods** (IoT, 3D printing)
- ✓ Sustainable **energy** systems and **housing**
- ✓ **Agri-food** chains of the future and innovative management of the **environment**

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