

The image shows the top section of a press release. It features a background with green and yellow wavy shapes. The ReSolute logo is prominently displayed in the center, with the text 'High performing and safe solvent derived from cellulosic feedstocks' in orange below it.

ReSolute

High performing and
safe solvent derived
from cellulosic
feedstocks

Press release
May 5th, 2022

RESOLUTE PROJECT UPDATE AFTER 1.5 YEARS OF WORK

Since the project launch in October 2020, the ReSolute project has progressed well, with significant work undertaken to ensure plant costs are kept within updated estimates. While the preparatory work for ReSolute's plant has started, the project has received support from all levels of the French government. For example, the project's coordinator Circa has been awarded a €8.2 million grant by the "France Relance" Programme for the development of the ReSolute plant.

ReSolute's partners are pleased to share key outcomes of the first 18 months of work.

Plant construction in progress

The preparatory work for ReSolute's plant has begun. It will be set up on the site of an old coal-fired power station near Carling Saint-Avold in north-eastern France. The ReSolute plant supports the region's plan to transition from a fossil-based industry to a more sustainable, greener, and low-carbon economy that provides skilled jobs in clean technologies.

"ReSolute is the result of hard work developing Circa's proprietary technology over many years, of supportive investors and National and European sustainability vision. Circa selected this site because it has the right conditions for success – availability of feedstock, infrastructures in the heart of Europe, close to our customers, the ability to retrofit existing buildings and the possibility of green electricity, steam, hydrogen and other utilities needed to make our lower carbon, sustainable products. The region has a longstanding mining and manufacturing history, combined with strong R&D support from regional Universities that Circa has worked with for several years. For Circa and the region this is an exciting development."
Circa's CEO, Tony Duncan

The ReSolute project will result in a first of its kind industrial plant and downstream value chain for the adoption of Cyrene™, a bio-based solvent, which is a safer and more sustainable alternative to toxic petroleum-based solvents. The plant will scale-up the current Cyrene™

production process to achieve 1,000 metric tons of output per year. This is the first of a series of plants. Circa's plan is to reach a production capacity of 80,000 tonnes by 2030.

Progress on an agreement with the energy producer GazelEnergie

Circa has progressed towards an agreement with GazelEnergie, the owner of the Emile Huchet site, adjacent to the Carling Saint-Avold platform and Total Chemesis Composite Park in France. The scope includes the land, buildings, energy, steam and utilities that enables the parties to complete final costing, environmental assessment and other evaluations for the ReSolute plant. Circa's work With GazelEnergie on an agreement is an important milestone for the project to continue progressing on schedule.

French Minister for Industry visited the ReSolute plant

To mark the start of the preparatory work for the ReSolute plant in the Moselle region of France, French Minister of State for Industry, Agnès Pannier-Runacher visited the site in December 2021. She was joined by key regional and local government officials.

"This project bears witness to the industrial transformation of our country. Here in Carling, we will move from using coal for energy to low-carbon biomass heat and we will move from fossil-based chemistry to bio-based chemistry. By decarbonising the very fabric of our industry, we make it more sustainable but also more competitive and less vulnerable to price fluctuations in raw materials. Our efforts in Carling also show how, on an industrial area, we can reindustrialise and attract new companies by working collectively with companies from the platform and making the most of the key sites we have. It's a real local dynamic which has started in the Warndt Naborien which we will continue to capitalise on."

(Unofficial translation of the Minister's French quote)

French Minister of State for Industry, Agnès Pannier Runacher



Circa awarded €8.2m grant by French government

Circa has been awarded €8.2 million from the French government for the development of the ReSolute plant in Eastern France as part of the 'France Relance' programme.

"We are continually impressed by France's commitment to building a more sustainable, more self-sufficient, low-carbon economy. This latest Relance grant is recognition of our progress and vision and provides another layer of support for ReSolute, which Circa has received both directly and indirectly from regional and national organisations, and our community of stakeholders."

Circa's CEO, Tony Duncan

Next Steps

ReSolute partners will be commissioning suppliers for all design and construction packages, and the construction will be ramping up.

ReSolute partners are confident in the design of the plant and assure it will provide an important framework for future large-scale plants to be built.

ABOUT THE RESOLUTE PROJECT

Duration: 36 months (October 2020 - September 2023) | Total budget: €23 M

This project has received funding from the Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking (JU) under grant agreement No. 887674. The JU receives support from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and the Bio-based Industries Consortium.



For more information, please refer to the website of the European Commission:

<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/887674>

Website of the project:

<https://www.resolute-project.eu>

PRESS CONTACT:

SOPHIE MURIAS

EU Projects and Communication Officer
+33 6 12 54 01 99

s.murias@bioeconomyforchange.eu


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