

2. FOST PLUS

2.1. New accreditation

On 2 February 2024, with a slight delay, the IRPC granted a new accreditation to Fost Plus as a compliance organisation for the management of household packaging waste. This accreditation is valid from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2028 and covers the following main points:

- Baseline scenarios for the collection of household packaging waste (article 6)
- Collection and operating costs at recycling centres
- Payment of the costs of KGA/DSM/DCM-HCA collected
- “Other” waste streams collected at recycling centres
- Method for calculating recycling targets
- Sorting message
- “Materials” working group
- “Ad hoc” working group for self-management costs
- Allocation keys for paper/cardboard
- Local “bring” systems
- Overall budget for investments in collection containers and infrastructure
- Alternative collection of single-use gas cylinders
- Project monitoring costs
- Local communication costs
- Purchase and distribution of blue bags
- Sorting bonus for PMD
- Prevention and reuse
- “Overpackaging” contact point
- Out-of-home strategy
- Deposit return scheme
- Cooperation Agreement on EPR for certain waste streams and litter



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THE MAIN POINTS OF THIS NEW ACCREDITATION



2.2. Sorting and recycling

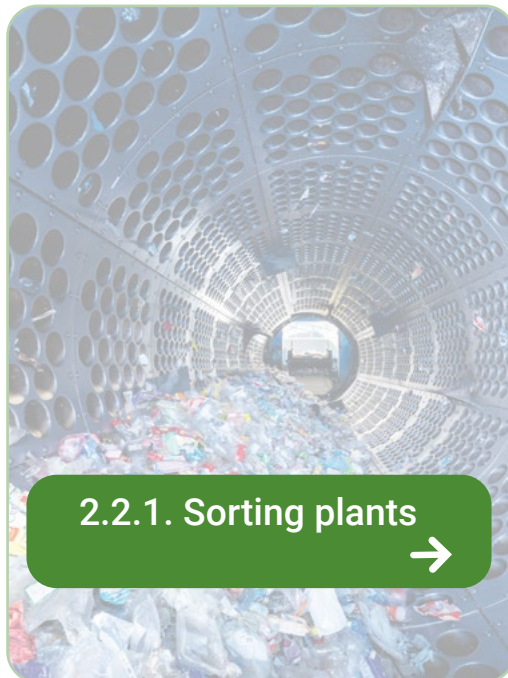
The expanded blue bag has been used throughout Belgium since the end of 2021. Since 2023 this bag has been sorted into a minimum of 16 fractions in brand-new sorting plants, with the aim of ensuring recycling of the highest possible quality. The new sorting facilities came into operation in 2021 and 2022.

The fractions concerned are:

transparent PET bottles colourless, transparent PET bottles blue, transparent PET bottles other colours, opaque PET (bottles), PET trays, HDPE, PP, PS, mixed PO, PE films, other films, drink cartons, ferrous metals, aluminium, small aluminium, residual waste.

The high-quality fractions that come out of the new sorting plants must also be recycled to the highest possible standards.

Fost Plus has therefore arranged new recycling contracts for plastics to ensure that recycling is as circular as possible. At the same time, steps have been taken to maximise the amount of recycling carried out in Belgium. This will be made possible by the construction of new recycling plants, which are either already up and running or are due to start up in 2024.



2.2.1. Sorting plants

The expanded PMD stream will be sorted entirely in Belgium. Five new sorting plants have been built for this purpose, spread across the country.

Prezero

- Evergem
- Operational since January 2021
- Annual tonnage: 78,000 tonnes

Val'Up

- Ghlin (Bergen)
- Operational since fourth quarter of 2021
- Annual tonnage: 50,000 tonnes

Valtris

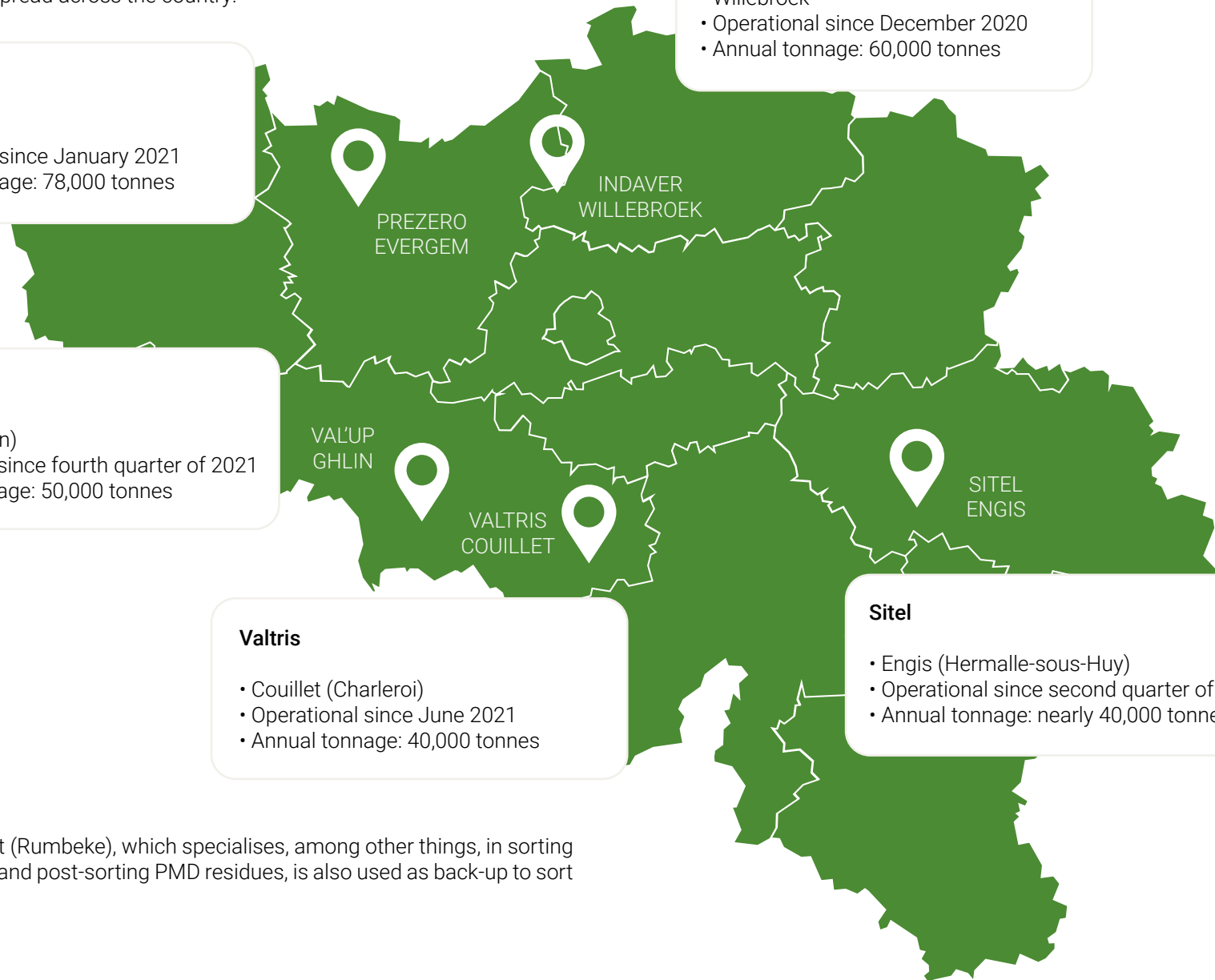
- Couillet (Charleroi)
- Operational since June 2021
- Annual tonnage: 40,000 tonnes

Indaver

- Willebroek
- Operational since December 2020
- Annual tonnage: 60,000 tonnes

Sitel

- Engis (Hermalle-sous-Huy)
- Operational since second quarter of 2023
- Annual tonnage: nearly 40,000 tonnes



Vanheede's existing sorting plant (Rumbeke), which specialises, among other things, in sorting PMD collected from companies and post-sorting PMD residues, is also used as back-up to sort the new PMD fraction.

2.2.2. Recycling plants

The various plastic streams are processed to a high standard thanks to the existence of new (or rebuilt) recycling centres in Belgium and the fact that long-term contracts have been signed. Belgium is thus focusing on recycling within its national borders to ensure optimal quality and control.

Filao

Recycling of PET bottles. Colourless transparent PET bottles and blue transparent PET bottles are transformed into high-quality recycled PET for food-safe applications. The recycled PET, or rPET, is then placed back on the Belgian market, for instance by being used for the bottled water of various Sources Alma brands and the brands of their retail partners.

- Couillet (Charleroi)
- Operational since 2023
- Annual tonnage: 40,000 tonnes

Ecoo Beringen

PE film-to-film recycling. Household packaging films are turned into bin liners and packaging films or used for other film applications.

- Beringen
- Operational since May 2022
- Annual tonnage: 42,000 tonnes

ECOO
BERINGEN

ECOO
HOUTHALEN-
HELCHTEREN

Ecoo Houthalen

Recycling of mixed plastics: MPO (mixed polyolefins) and mixed films (other than PE films). Mixed films and MPO plastics are recycled into MPO regrind (400-2000 microns), MPO agglomerate and regrind for industrial applications, such as compost bins, sustainable garden edging and benches.

- Houthalen-Helchteren
- New line operational since January 2021
- Annual tonnage: 24,000 tonnes (this capacity may be increased by adding a third line)

FILAO
COUILLET

MOPET BELGIQUE
NEUFCHÂTEAU

Mopet Belgique

Recycling of PET trays, blue transparent PET bottles, other colours of transparent PET bottles and opaque PET bottles. The PET trays will become new PET trays, and the bottles will be turned into new bottles. Very high percentages of these products are re-entering the Belgian market.

- Neufchâteau
- Operational in 2024
- Annual tonnage: 28,000 tonnes



A new recycling plant is also being built in Lommel for PP and HDPE and should be operational by mid-2025.

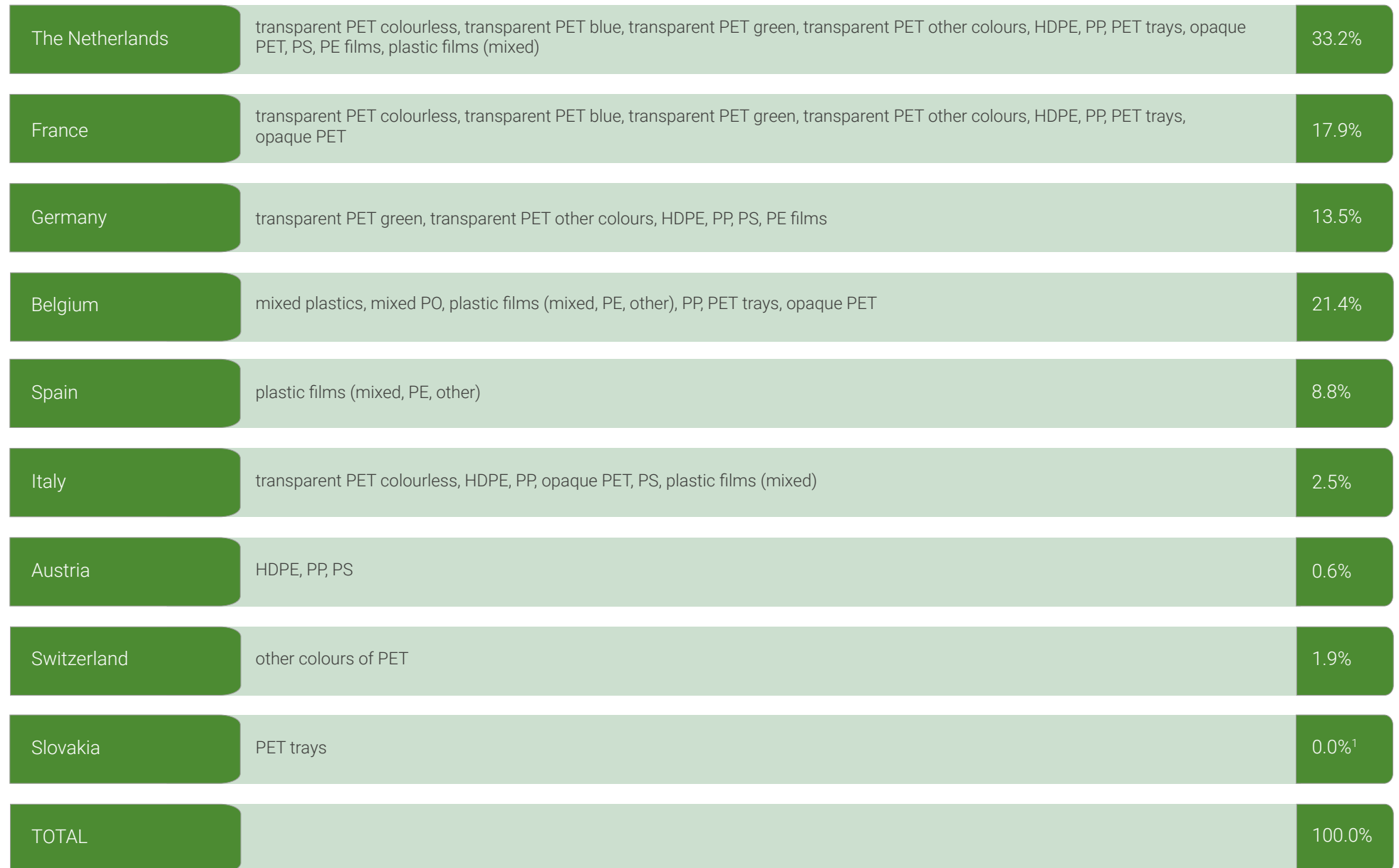
2.2.3. Recycling situation in 2022

Currently, Fost Plus packaging waste is already recycled only in the European Union and 81% is even recycled in Belgium.

Proportion per material as %	Belgium	France	Germany	The Netherlands	Spain	Italy	Switzerland	Austria	Slovakia	Total %
Glass	97.6	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Paper/Cardboard	93.9	0.0	0.0	6.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Drink cartons	0.1	54.8	32.9	0.0	12.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Aluminium	84.8	0.0	15.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Ferrous metals	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Plastic	21.4	17.9	13.5	33.2	8.8	2.5	1.9	0.6	0.0 ¹	100.0
Total	81.5	4.0	3.3	8.6	1.7	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.0	100.0

¹ Slovakia: 0.02%

In the case of plastic packaging waste, only 21% of recycling took place in Belgium in 2022 (Ecoo). This is because many of our new recycling plants were still under construction.



¹ Slovakia: 0.02%