



Press release

Paris, 2 September 2022

In the face of the expected energy crisis this winter, InVivo is accelerating its 2025 energy sufficiency plan

In the face of the energy crisis linked to the war in Ukraine and feared by the whole of Europe, and the express request of the Prime Minister to reduce the energy consumption of companies by 10% in the coming weeks, the InVivo group, Europe's second largest agricultural group, is stepping up the mobilisation of all its business lines: agriculture, malting, milling, industrial baking, garden centres, trading and wine.

As a *Société à Mission* (French legal framework in which businesses pursue a set social and environmental purpose with specific sustainability goals) since 2020, convinced that agriculture is a solution to climate change, the InVivo group has made CSR one of its main drivers for progress since 2013, and its subsidiaries are already continuously improving their practices.

However, the group is seizing this new crisis as an opportunity to challenge its businesses even more firmly on energy issues; it has already set up an energy crisis unit, which will work closely with the energy committee and the group's energy specialists.

The InVivo group is accelerating its 2025 energy sufficiency plan

The group's energy crisis unit met for the first time this week, for an indefinite period, to identify with the group and business line energy specialists how to further reduce energy consumption in order to achieve at least the 10% target set by the government.

"After the COVID crisis, we are now facing an unprecedented energy crisis, and we intend to face it with the same philosophy: to use it as an opportunity to further improve our practices. This is why we immediately mobilised to set up the crisis unit that will steer the development, implementation and monitoring of our new 2025 energy sufficiency plan. Due to our presence throughout the food chain, from field to plate, we also want to engage our stakeholders on the issue of energy: our employees, our customers and our partners", states Thierry Blandinières, CEO of the InVivo group.

At group level, one of the strong measures already in place is teleworking, imposed at a level of 50 or 60% for all eligible employees following the new organisation of work implemented post-COVID. The rollout of this measure to the 6000 employees of the recently integrated Soufflet business lines will be accelerated.

In parallel, a series of immediate decisions have been taken for all the group's administrative sites:

- Raise the air-conditioning temperature and lower the heating temperature by 2° (1° less = 7% savings) during the day. Lower the temperature settings at night and on weekends.
- Switch off (rather than place on standby) all electrical equipment in the evenings and on weekends: monitors (standby -70% / off -100%), multifunctional sockets, coffee machines, water coolers, etc.
- Reduce lighting timers and increase the number of presence detectors.
- Discussions will be initiated with the owners of the rented sites in order to establish ways of making savings on the communal areas.



Business line commitments

InVivo Retail

95% of the 1200 Jardiland and Gamm vert shops are not air-conditioned and only 1/3 of the sales areas are heated. In the closed areas (greenhouse, pet shop, lifestyle, shop, tills), the immediate reduction of the heating temperature is 2°C (from 19°C to 17°C). The shops will also benefit from the installation of air destratifiers in the greenhouse area, and the replacement of obsolete heating equipment is planned for the coming years.

With regard to lighting, the shops benefit from a significant amount of natural light during the day thanks to the greenhouses, which limits the amount of artificial lighting, and the external illuminated signs are already switched off when the shop closes. The existing light fittings will be replaced with LED lighting: tests have already been carried out and have shown savings of 20-30% depending on the size and profile of the shop.

In order to respond even better to the challenges of the group's energy and environmental strategy, InVivo Retail has decided to implement Citron® Energie, a digital platform that allows the consumption of each point of sale to be monitored in real time in order to detect and immediately correct any anomalies in the consumption of the sites, as well as to analyse consumption, billing and greenhouse gas data.

Agriculture

The drying season will see a 40-50% reduction in gas consumption (-25 GWH) compared to N-1, and a reduction in associated electricity consumption. This is due in particular to the 20% drop in the collection of autumn products.

Commitments have already been made to significantly reduce silo operations this winter (ventilation, cleaning, grading) and to stop night operations. Raising awareness of good ventilation practices and the use of handling circuits will also help to reduce consumption. Replacing the existing heating systems with reversible air conditioning in the silo offices will reduce electricity consumption by a factor of three.

Transport

The reduction in collection will lead to a 20% reduction in transport (to get the wet goods to the dryers): 7000 fewer trips, meaning approximately 100,000 L of diesel saved (3% of Soufflet Transport's annual consumption). The reinforcement of eco-driving training for HGV drivers, with 19 drivers trained in 2022/23, will result in a saving of 23,000 L of diesel (0.7% of annual consumption).

About the InVivo Group

The InVivo group is one of Europe's leading agricultural groups, with a turnover of almost €10 billion, more than half of which is generated in France, and a workforce of more than 13,000 employees, including more than 10,000 in France. Established in 38 countries, it has more than 90 industrial sites, including 63 in France.

This key figure in food sovereignty operates along the entire value chain, from farm to fork, and is a leader in each of its strategic business lines: Agriculture; Malting; Milling, ingredients, baked goods; Garden centre and food distribution; International grain trade; Wine.

A cross-functional global centre for innovative and digital solutions completes the system for accelerating the transformation of these activities, towards the 3rd agricultural revolution.

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