



# Our sustainability journey

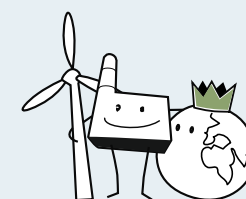




# ONEHOME

In 2022 Unilin launched One Home, our group-wide sustainability strategy with ambitious targets in several domains. We look into the environmental impact of our products and production processes, but also at how we live at home, at work and on our planet.

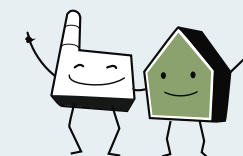
Our One Home strategy fits perfectly with our Unilin purpose: we push boundaries to improve people's quality of life by creating better spaces.



PROTECTING  
OUR PLANET

## Planet Home

Greenhouse gas emissions must be reduced or even completely eliminated. This is a major challenge for the manufacturing industry, as we still too often burn fossil fuels and end-of-life products. We need to switch to circularity, using renewable or recycled materials and making recyclable products.



IMPROVE PEOPLE'S  
QUALITY OF LIFE

## Your Home

A healthy, comfortable and sustainable living environment is more important than ever. The products we make must provide added value to our customers, without compromising on health, comfort or sustainability.



SUSTAINABLE WORKING  
ENVIRONMENT

## Our Home

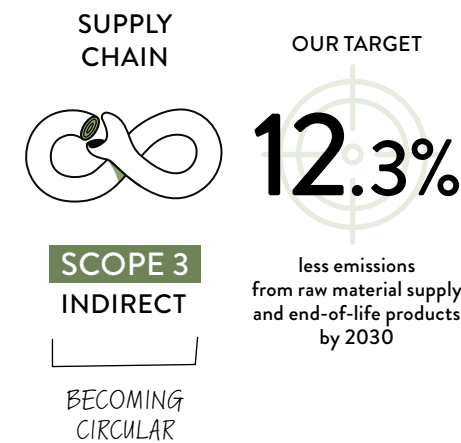
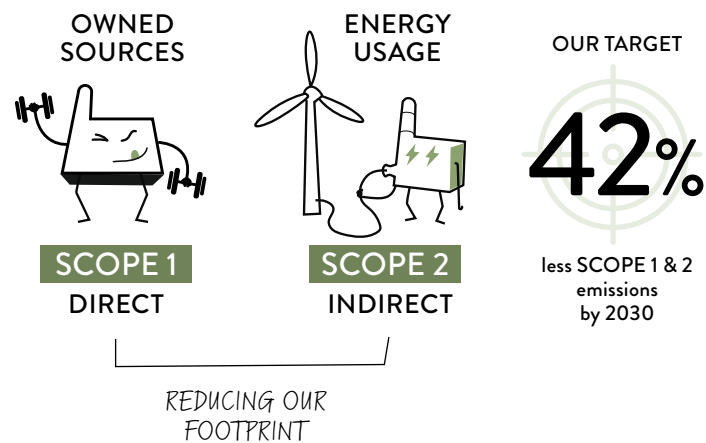
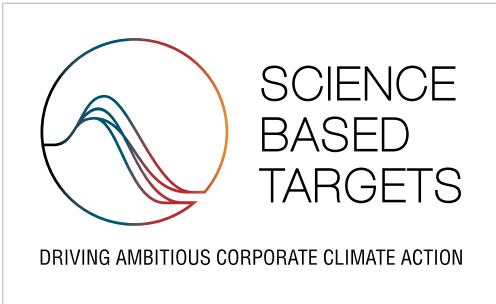
Our company is a second home for more than 8,000 employees. We aim to create a positive, stimulating and safe working environment where they feel good and valued; an environment where everyone can challenge themselves and continue to grow. Our community, municipalities and neighbours also form a significant part of our story.

# The way to a low-carbon future

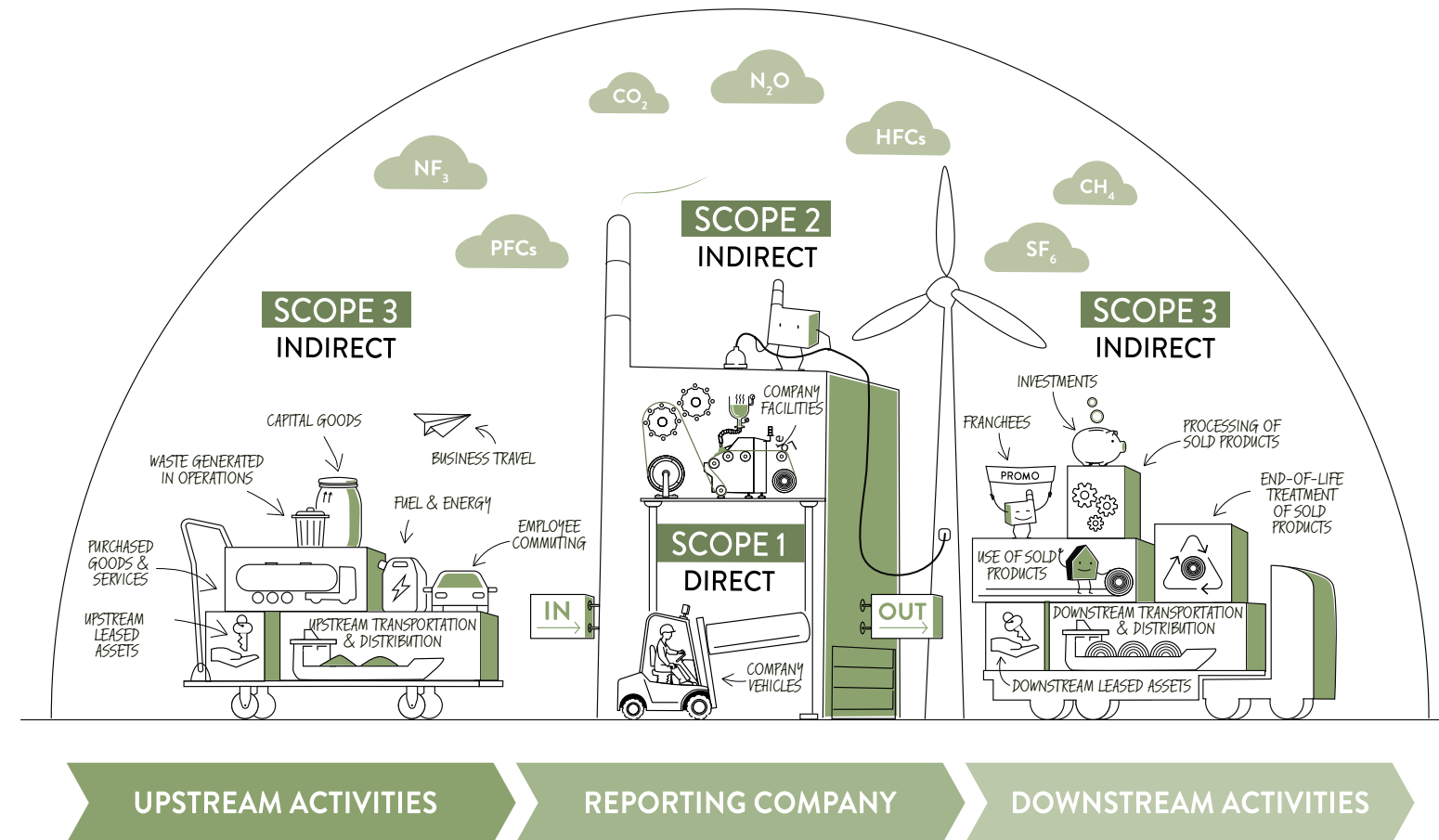
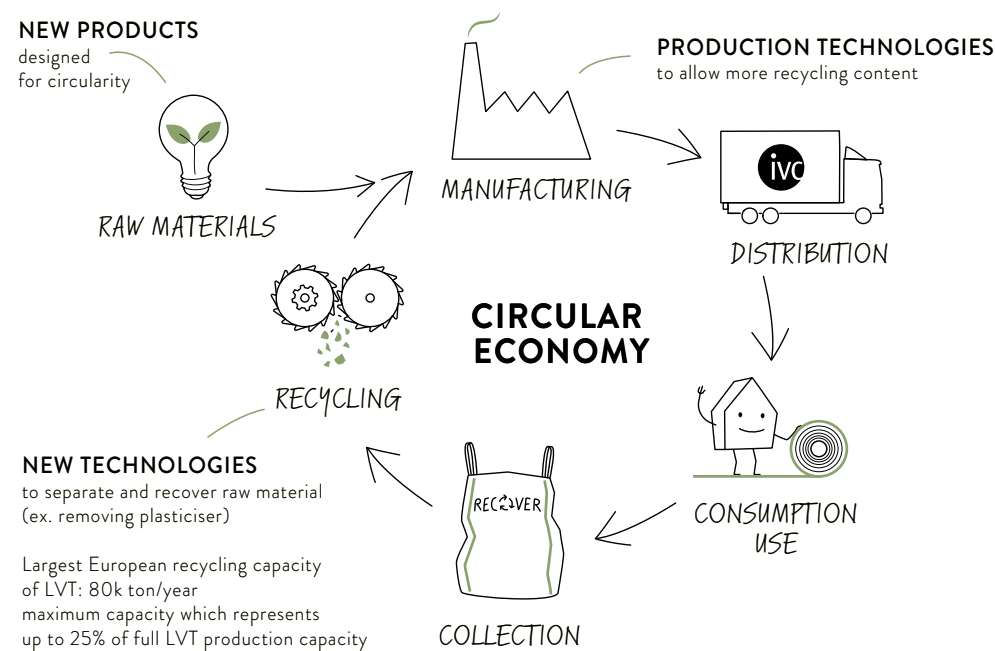
## SCIENCE BASED TARGETS

Science-based targets provide companies with a clearly-defined path to reduce emissions in line with the Paris Agreement goals – limiting global warming to 1.5°C. These targets are considered ‘science-based’ if they are in line with what the latest climate science deems necessary to meet the goals.

Since 2021 we are working with the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) – alongside over 4,000 other companies – and we have submitted our calculation and targets for validation. In 2023 the SBTi has confirmed alignment with the 1.5°C goal and approved our emission reduction targets set for 2030.



## FROM LINEAR TO CIRCULAR



### SCOPE 1+2

**SCOPE 1** emissions are direct greenhouse gas emissions from a company’s owned or controlled sources. **SCOPE 2** emissions are indirect greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the generation of purchased or acquired energy.

To reduce our SCOPE 1 and 2 emissions, we invest in additional improvements in terms of energy efficiency and renewable power and heat to reach our goal of 42% less GHG emissions by 2030.

Group-wide renewable energy already covers 60% of our energy needs, thanks to solar panels, wind-turbines and waste-to-energy plants. Other initiatives in our operations, include for example the transition of a significant portion of our vehicle fleet and rolling materials to electric, and we switched a part of our road transport to river barge transport.

### SCOPE 3

**SCOPE 3** emissions are indirect emissions that occur in a company’s value chain, including both upstream (e.g. product design, procurement) and downstream (e.g. customer use, disposal) activities. As a manufacturing company, responsibility extends beyond our operations. We are at least partially responsible for everything that happens throughout our value chain.

Our SCOPE 3 emissions are mostly associated with purchased goods and services and how our end-of-life products are treated. We will focus on these priorities to reduce our SCOPE 3 emissions by 12.3% by 2030.

### We strive towards 100% circularity

To reduce our SCOPE 3 emissions, we are switching to lower carbon materials such as recycled PVC, optimizing product design for recyclability and implementing take-back schemes to increase recycling rates. In other words, circularity is key!





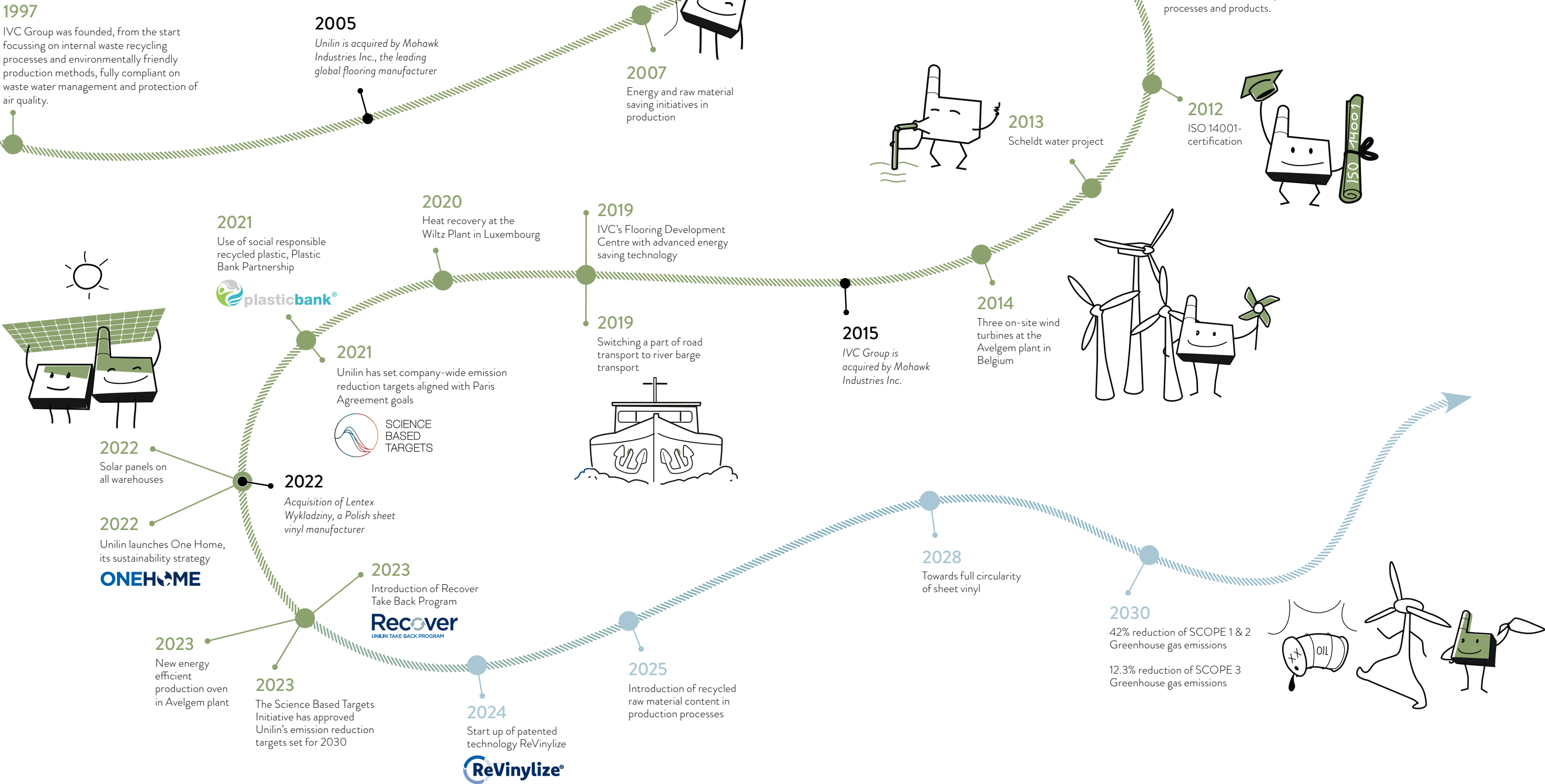
# Our sustainability journey

“At Unilin, we push boundaries to improve people’s quality of life by creating better spaces. Sustainability is at the core of our DNA.”



# Our sustainability journey through time

Since its start in 1997, IVC has had a focus on durable and sustainable production methods.





# Smart use of renewable energy



When we make sheet vinyl flooring, we rely on natural resources like the sun, wind and water as much as possible to reduce the environmental impact of our manufacturing process. Since nature's resources are the most valuable ones we have, we make every effort to look for the most efficient and sustainable ways to use them.



IVC plant Avelgem has three windmills

## WIND ENERGY

In 2014, three wind turbines have been installed on the Avelgem production site. The turbines produce around 11,000 MWh of **renewable energy** each year. That's about as much as the yearly electricity consumption of 3,000 Flemish households. With this clean energy we power our own production facilities.

“The windmills are part of the bigger plan: to increase the use of renewable energy to fuel our plants.”

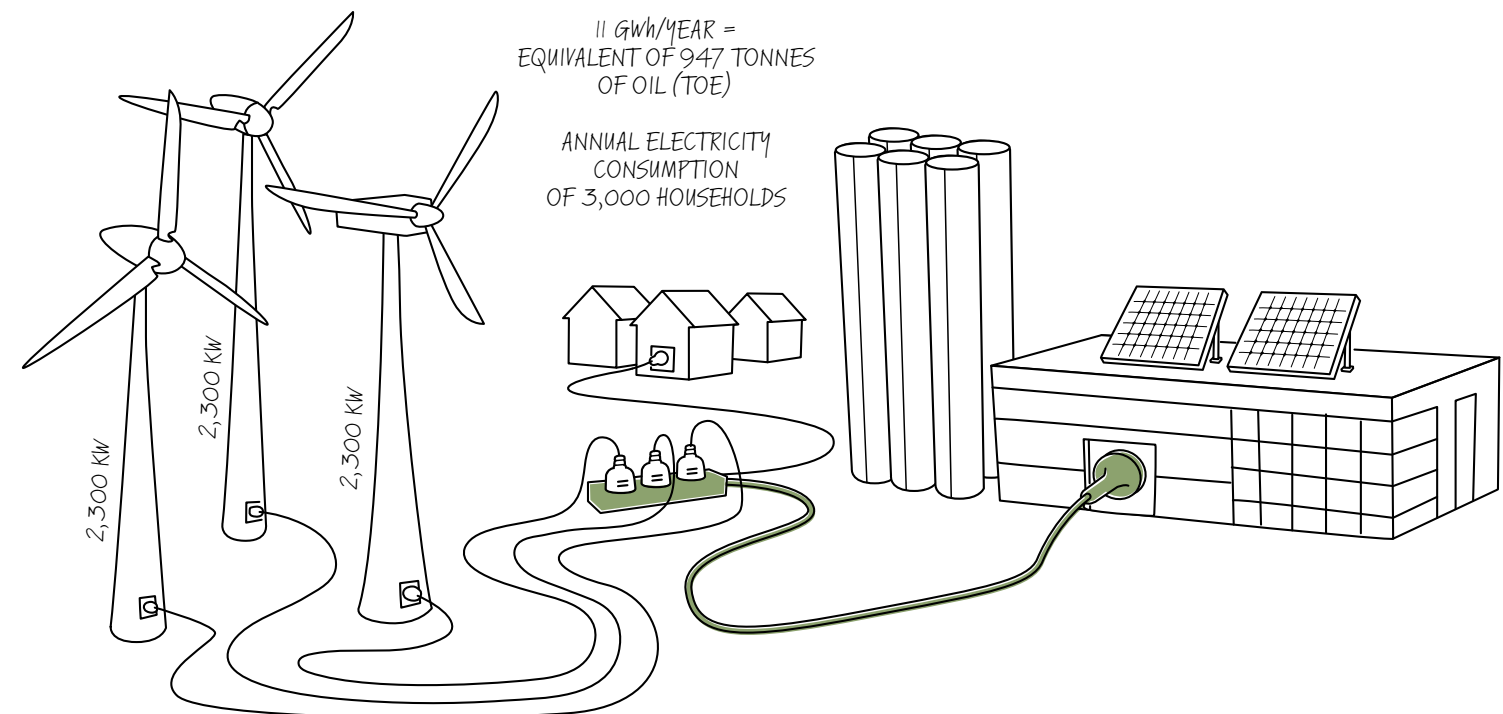
## GREEN POWER PROJECT

Following the installation of our on-site wind turbines in Avelgem, we decided to bring the winds of change to the local community through the establishment of a green power cooperative. Approximately 250 neighbours and 250 employees are currently participating in the three windmills as shareholders, earning 4 to 6% yearly dividend with the production of renewable electricity. Avelgem Green Power allows IVC and our partner communities to work together to promote green energy and combat climate change.

More info: [www.avelgemgreenpower.be](http://www.avelgemgreenpower.be)



YOU TUBE – Watch the building of our windmills in 2015 in Avelgem.





# Smart use of renewable energy



Solar panels on all warehouses

## SOLAR PANELS

The **IVC Flooring Development Centre** in Waregem (Belgium) has been turned into a sustainable base. It uses heat recovery, intelligent lighting technology and is powered by solar panels on the building.



IVC Flooring Development Centre

Solar panels contribute significantly to reducing our plants' carbon footprint. We installed more than 6,000 solar panels on the roof of our **Avelgem plant** generating 3,076 MWh per year.

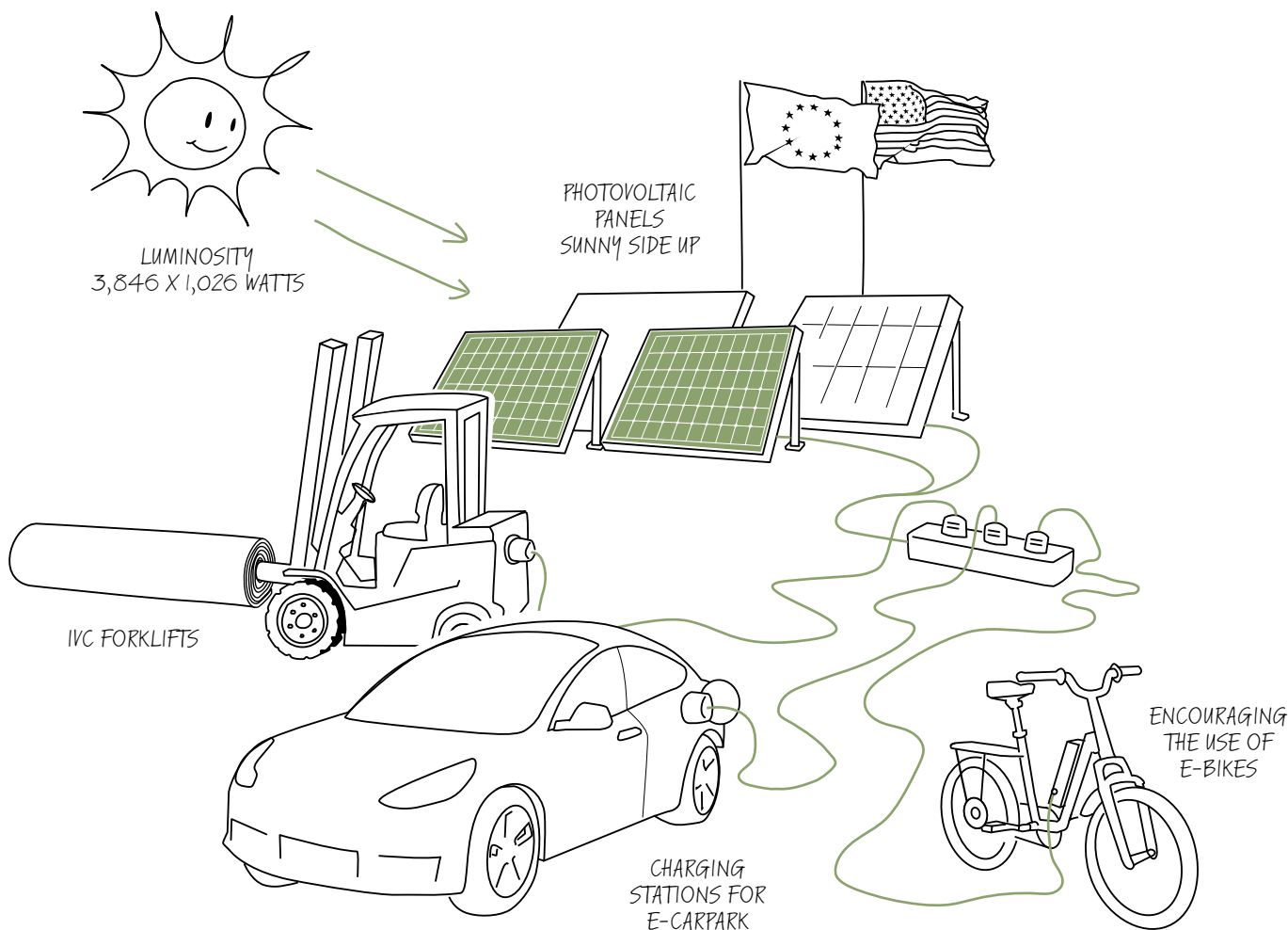


Solar panels on plant Avelgem

**DID YOU KNOW...**  
that we have as many as 81,800 solar panels on the roofs of our various sites worldwide?

## E-MOBILITY

We also use solar energy to make our fleet greener, in every sense of the word. For instance, we use the power from our solar panels to charge our employees' electric cars and e-bikes. Furthermore, even the forklifts in our warehouses are charged with solar energy. The result is a great amount of kilometres with zero emissions.





# Smart use of renewable energy



## SCHELDT PROJECT

The manufacturing of high-grade vinyl floors requires cooling water to absorb heat in the different stages of production. Thinking outside the box, IVC has invested in a bold experiment that uses surface water from the nearby river Scheldt as a secondary coolant. Using only a minimal amount of energy, river water is pumped up and sent along the closed loop flow of our Avelgem plant's process cooling water. The exchange of thermal energy (up to 4,000 kw) is achieved through state-of-the-art heat exchangers, so there is no direct contact between the river water and the process water en route.

Using minimal electricity compared to other cooling systems, these innovations have resulted in a 30% increase of energy efficiency in the overall production of vinyl floors. By eliminating the need for machine-driven refrigeration, we've also significantly reduced on-site noise and created better working conditions.



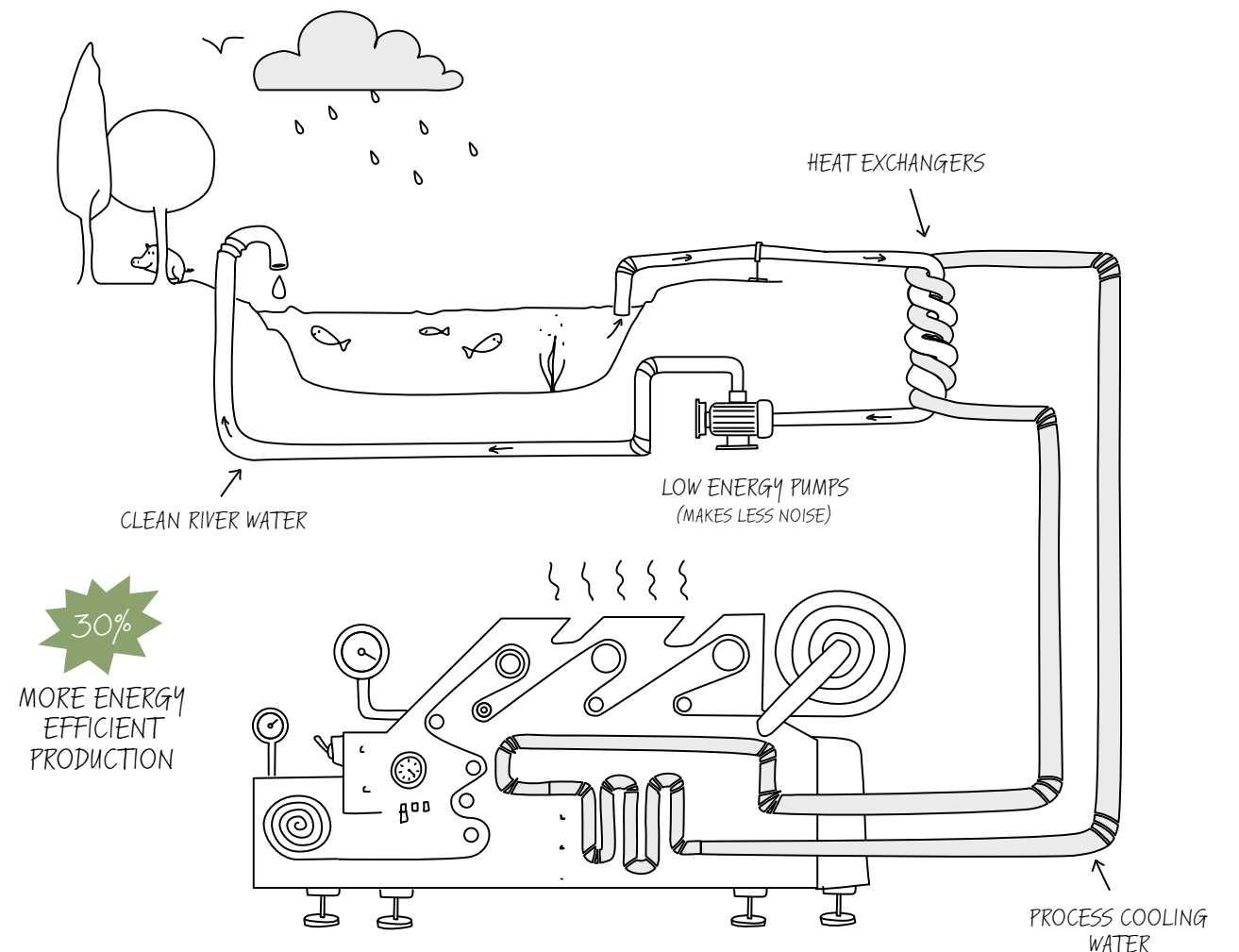
Scheldt Project on plant Avelgem

## DID YOU KNOW...

The innovations in our cooling system have resulted in a 30% increase of energy efficiency in the overall production.

## PROCESSING SYSTEMS

Finally, by continuously looking for improvements on our closed loop system for process water, we have established an additional **40% reduction in the use of process water** in the Avelgem plant since 2010.





# A green factory



Our plants in Europe, located in Belgium, Luxembourg and Poland, provide employment to more than 450 people. The plant in Avelgem (Belgium) was built in 1997 according to the newest standards. In 2006, we took over a sheet vinyl production site in Wiltz (Luxembourg) and in 2022 we acquired Lentex Wykladziny, located in Lubliniec (Poland). In every plant and in every step of our production lines, we produce our sheet vinyl to the highest possible sustainable standards.

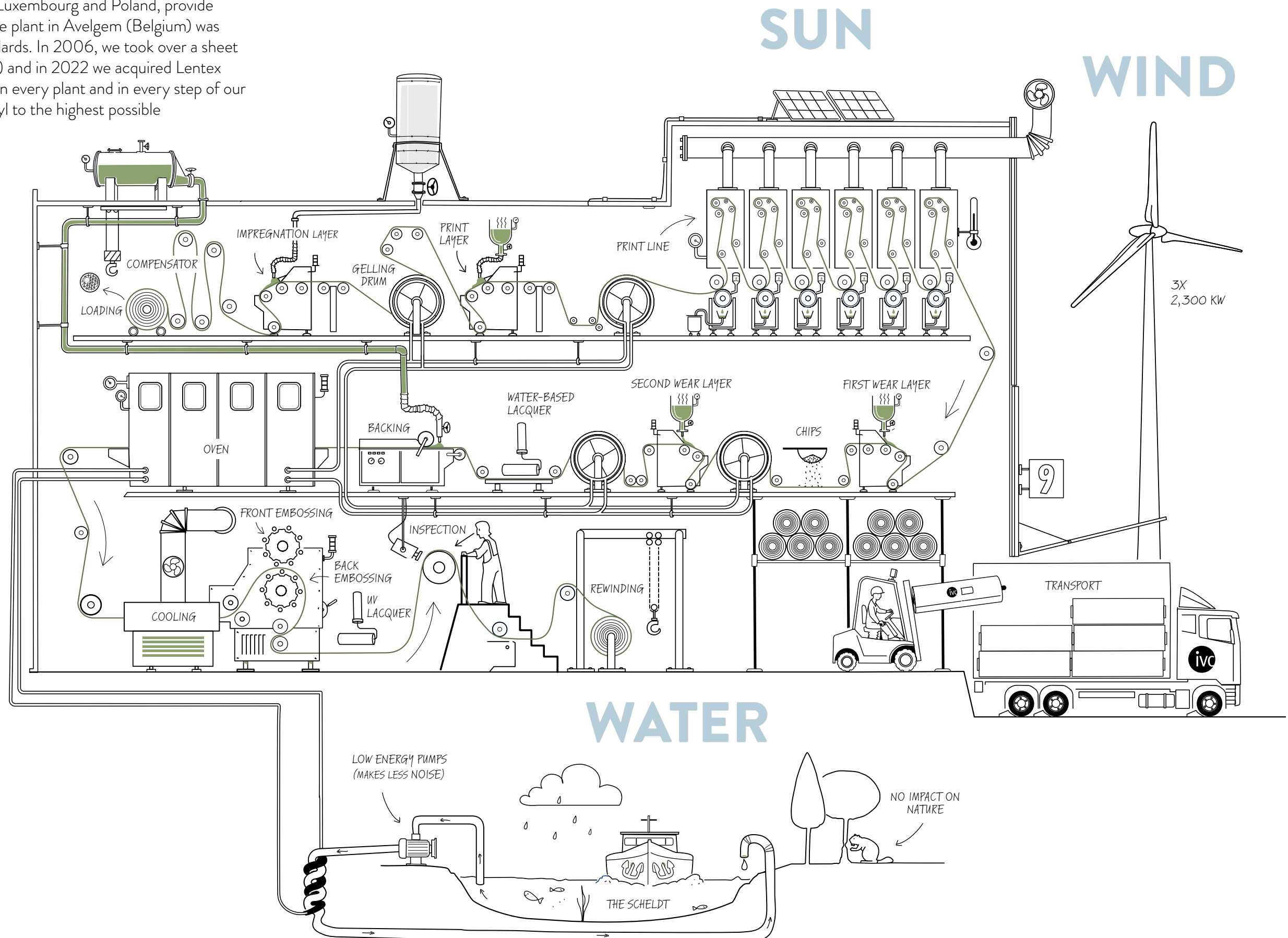


Our plant in Avelgem

## SMART USE OF RESOURCES

When producing our vinyl, we use all raw materials as consciously as possible:

- Our raw materials are delivered in bulk to avoid unnecessary packaging.
- A part of our energy consumption comes from our wind farm and solar panels.
- The water used in the process comes from the river Scheldt.
- The gelling drums recuperate the heat from the oven through a revolutionary heat recovery program.
- All post-industrial vinyl waste is recycled and reused for production purposes, with a circular economy in mind.





# Socially responsible flooring

For our textile-backed products, we're working together with Plastic Bank. Every day, Plastic Bank communities are searching for ocean-bound plastic waste and bring it to local collection centres. In exchange, they are rewarded with life improving benefits including health, work and life insurance, digital connectivity, grocery vouchers, school supplies, fintech services, and more. Plastic Bank currently stops ocean-bound plastic in the Philippines, Indonesia, Brazil, and Egypt.



## SOCIAL PLASTIC FOR TEXTILE BACKINGS

The collected material is reprocessed as Social Plastic and integrated into our sheet vinyl collections. By using Social Plastic for our textile backings, we're cutting down ocean plastic and improving lives in vulnerable coastal communities.



“By using Social Plastic for our textile backings, we’re cutting down ocean plastic and improving lives in vulnerable coastal communities.”





# Towards circularity



By using internally recycled materials in the composition of our floors, we use fewer new raw materials and work towards our goal of a fully circular product. We try to reduce our environmental impact not only by producing efficiently, but also by the way we use materials. Today all sheet vinyl production waste, and most of the sheet vinyl coming in via our Recover Take Back Program is being recycled and reused in the backing of LVT products.

## OUR 'RECOVER' LOOP

In our ambition to achieve full circularity, waste reclamation, reuse and recycling are essential parts of our daily process. With our Recover Take Back Program, we try to maximise the amount of material that we recycle into new floors. The initiative gives us a way to collect off-cuts and used floors to be recycled or reused.

First of all, we take back post-installation waste and post-consumer loose-lay sheet vinyl during installation and guarantee

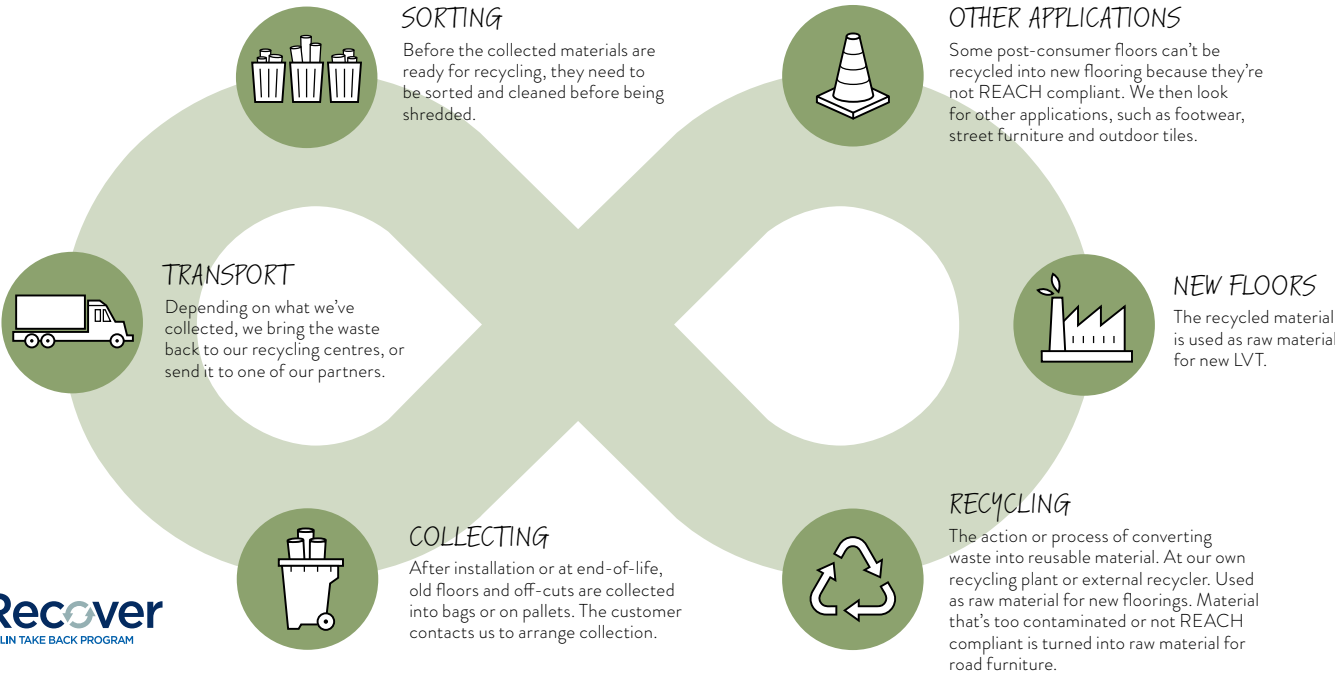
full recycling, often at our own on-site recycling units. This way, we avoid additional transport between partners and our production sites. Secondly, we promote loose-lay installation, which is easier to remove and recycle. All recycled material is then used as raw material for new LVT.

Join us in our journey towards circular vinyl flooring and become a **certified Recover partner**.

Mail to [recover@unilin.com](mailto:recover@unilin.com)



Recover big bag



## Recover UNILIN TAKE BACK PROGRAM

### REFERENCE CASES OF COLLECTING SHEET VINYL



#### AINTREE RACE COURSE UNITED KINGDOM

At The Grand National Aintree, the most popular horse race in Britain, more than 3,000 m<sup>2</sup> of wood and vinyl went directly from the racecourse to the landfill each year. A huge waste after an event of only three days. Thanks to our Recover Take Back Program, all floor materials are now recycled, saving about 2.45 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.

#### VACCINATION CENTRES BELGIUM

During the pandemic, the Belgian government set up vaccination centres in several public buildings, such as a 2,000 m<sup>2</sup> site in Bruges. To protect the original floors from damage during this temporary use, heterogeneous vinyl from IVC Commercial was installed loose-lay so it could be easily reclaimed and recycled afterwards through the Recover Take Back Program.



#### VILLAGES DES ATHLÈTES FRANCE

This temporary and circular village will provide an optimal welcome to the athletes of the world's most popular sporting event and become an eco-responsible neighbourhood after the games. A superior and versatile building project, and a perfect fit for our Batimax vinyl. With its innovative design, the floor is easy to install, remove and recycle. It's high performing, resistant to heavy use, flexible for reuse and long-lasting.



# Glueless installation

No glue, rapid installation, durable and easy to recycle: Looselay vinyl is the next-level flooring solution. Used in both public and private building projects, this product is in demand for good reason. The glueless technology makes installation superfast, odourless and stainless, while creating a healthy and elegant indoor environment. Made from 100% recyclable materials, it's a refined and sustainable flooring innovation.



Nomad, Optic T02

NO GLUE, 100% LOOSELAY  
& EASY TO REMOVE

**“No glue, rapid installation, durable and easy to recycle: Looselay vinyl is the next-level flooring solution.”**

Our collections for glueless installation:

## NOMAD COLLECTION

Nomad vinyl is a timeless classic for new building projects and renovations alike. The innovative double glass-fibre construction makes it excel in stability and rigidity, while this floor can be installed and removed without glue. Nomad is made of 100% recyclable materials, provides a 20 dB sound reduction and is easy and quick to install.

The glueless installation offers many advantages, saving both time and costs. It's an eco-friendly solution to meet modern housing expectations in terms of style, acoustic comfort and use.

Did you know our Nomad collection can be installed on top of other floors, such as hardwood floors, concrete, compact vinyl or acoustic vinyl?

## BATIMAX (PLUS)

Ease of installation and powerful performance, that's what Batimax vinyl combines. This collection offers 12 designs ranging from classic Scandinavian woods to sleek decors. Batimax creates a relaxing atmosphere in public or private spaces and solves problems of acoustics and installation.

Both Batimax and Batimax Plus provide walking comfort and an impact noise reduction of 20 dB. Easy to install, this vinyl is ideal for the renovation of any surface. The wear layer provides resistance to heavy use, with Batimax Plus going above and beyond. For better maintenance, the Hyperguard+ surface treatment provides superior protection against scratches and stains.



Batimax Plus, Tavel T33



Logitex Ultimate 55, Stockholm T37 and Gravel T36

## LOGITEX ULTIMATE 55

With a sound reduction of 19 dB and a durable 0.55 mm top layer, Logitex Ultimate 55 is the perfect vinyl floor when silence is needed. It's a quiet and comfortable solution for housing projects and an impressively versatile floor for education, office, and healthcare spaces. The textile backing also provides underfoot warmth and makes it easier to hide small subfloor imperfections.

This vinyl keeps it simple: no glue or major subfloor preparations are needed, and it can be used on a wide range of floors. Whether refurbishing or starting from scratch, Logitex Ultimate 55 is a fast and easy way to enjoy an acoustic and aesthetic floor designed for heavy use.



## CIRCULAR VINYL

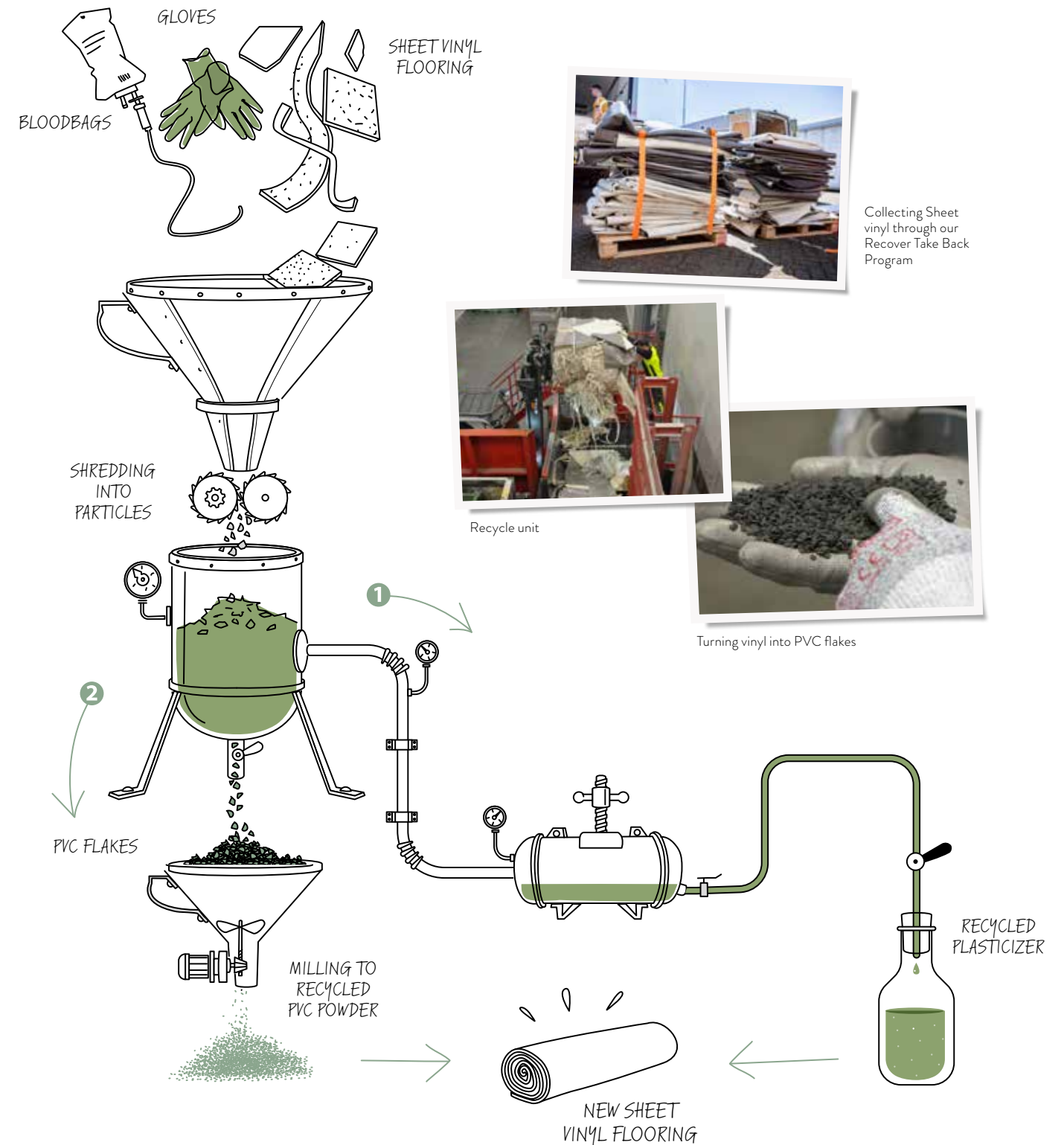
### REVINYLIZE, OUR NEWEST TECHNOLOGY

Our ultimate goal? A fully circular product. Using an innovative recycling technology, we aim to make all layers of our sheet vinyl circular. We're completely rethinking our products: how can we use recycled sheet vinyl in the development of new sheet vinyl? In order to do this, we're taking a two-pronged approach, centred on the micronisation of sheet vinyl on the one hand and the recycling of plasticizers via innovative extraction technology on the other hand.

**“We’re the first in the sheet vinyl market to scale up the industrialisation phase in this regard.”**

This groundbreaking technology – the first circular process in the industry – will result in up to 20% recycled sheet vinyl in future sheet vinyl products. Besides flooring, we will also recycle medical waste and other flexible PVC products.

Nomad, Botticelli T35





# Your Home

By minimizing unwanted noises, your home becomes more enjoyable. By developing vinyl flooring with excellent sound absorbing properties, the acoustics in houses can be improved. And with the right flooring, offices can become peaceful working environments that can reduce stress-related symptoms.



Logitex Max Collection, Burned Wood T94



Karta 582

## ACOUSTIC COMFORT

We regularly test the sound absorption properties of our vinyl floors in our own sound lab and always try to make improvements. We not only take into account the decibel level but also the timbre.



Acoustics

## SOFT UNDERFOOT

Sheet vinyl also provides enhanced ergonomics for people who have to stand for long periods, such as retail staff. Compared to other hard-surface flooring options, sheet vinyl has a softer underfoot which makes it much easier to stand on for long periods of time.

Our products with textile backing even offer extra insulation and better shock absorption resulting in a sense of well-being when walking on the floor with your bare feet.



Comfort

**“Sheet vinyl has a softer underfoot which makes it much easier to stand on for long periods of time compared to other hardsurface flooring options.”**



# Our Home



Our company is a second home for more than 8,000 employees. We aim to create a positive, stimulating and safe working environment where they feel good and valued; an environment where everyone can challenge himself and continue to grow. Our community, municipalities and neighbours also form a significant part of our story.

“A second home for our employees.”



We cherish our values of **passion, entrepreneurship, excellence and respect** in everything we do. Together we form a team of entrepreneurs driven by the will to succeed. Collaboration is our motto. Our employees give their best every day to bring Unilin’s DNA to life.

## SAFETY, ZERO HARM

The health and safety of all our employees are paramount in all our activities. We are committed to achieving zero harm through a positive and caring culture in which safety is incorporated in the way we work.

## WELL-BEING

Well-being involves physical, emotional, mental and even spiritual aspects. Everyone has their own interpretation of what it entails. It may sound simple, but we have to work on well-being, also in the workplace – because the way we feel at work affects our motivation, commitment and ability to innovate. Our workplace is a second home for our 8,000+ employees, and that includes a second family, where everyone can feel happy and valued.



We invest in both individual and collective initiatives around vitality and health, connection and fun and employee development. We constantly evaluate these initiatives in response to new needs and better insights.

## LIFELONG LEARNING

Lifelong learning forms an integral part of our HR policy. We believe that our company can only grow through the growth of our employees. Our employees know their own talents, needs and ambitions better than anyone else, and they are in charge of their own development – whether it’s about specialising, diversifying, managing or growing in their current role. Allowing our own people to develop in-house is an intrinsic part of our talent management





# Certifications for our sustainability journey

At IVC, we aim to add value to our customers’ living spaces without compromising on health, comfort or sustainability. In order to do so, we rely on third party certifications to provide transparency in terms of environmental impact and safety of our products.



Iperform 70, Calais T34 and Styx T07

## ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Since 1997 IVC has made substantial efforts towards a well and precisely tailored, fully integrated environmental management system. In 2012 we were awarded ISO 14001 certification, showcasing our commitment to environmental responsibility. This certification for ecological performances is a good reflection of our past efforts and current compliance with environmental rules and regulations.



## QUALITY MANAGEMENT

As part of our ISO 9001 certification we have implemented a quality management system, that enables us to comply with the strictest regulations. This demonstrates our ability to consistently provide products that meet customer and regulatory requirements.



## MEMBER OF THE GREEN INDUSTRY

As a leader in flooring, we are member of a wide range of organisations that represent the industry. We are member of ERFMI (EU), FEB (DE), DGNB (DE) and Kaléi (FR). With both ERFMI and Kaléi we are working together to provide our customers collective Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) and Fiches de Déclaration Environnementale et Sanitaire (FDES), showing our industry efforts towards greener products. In Belgium, we are a member of the Fedustria and Voka employer organisations. Within these industry organisations, we consider it important to work together for a green industry.



Iperform 70, Noosa 98



Batitec, Tavel T08



## ECOLABELS

Together with temperature and humidity, air quality is one of the most important factors in interior environments. We want to make sure that our sheet vinyl flooring, that is often a central part of people’s living spaces, contribute to healthy and safe living spaces and ensure that they don’t pose any health risks to our end users. To do so we make sure that our finished products intended for interior use comply with some of the strictest indoor emission labels.

Additionally we only purchase and process raw materials that are in line with the REACH regulations and only work with suppliers who comply with these regulations. In this way we are able to guarantee the integrity and quality of the end product that we deliver to the end user.



