

More sustainable production

GEA boosts sustainable production: Green stainless steel supplied by Klöckner & Co to be used at first site

- Klöckner & Co is to deliver the first consignment of CO₂-reduced stainless steel to GEA's production site in Bönen (Germany)
- The carbon footprint of "green stainless steel" is around 90 percent less than that of its conventionally produced counterpart
- As part of its Climate Transition Plan 2040, GEA is increasingly replacing the raw materials it uses with more environmentally friendly alternatives

Duesseldorf (Germany), January 27, 2024 – GEA is to use its first consignment of "green stainless steel" in the production of its machinery and equipment. The stainless steel coil will be delivered to the GEA production site in Bönen (Germany) by Klöckner & Co's German subsidiary Becker Stainless. In a pilot project, the material is being used to make the production of milking technology more sustainable, for example.

According to the "Product Carbon Footprint Declaration", the carbon footprint of the stainless steel coil is around 90 percent less than that of conventional stainless steel. This puts it in the "Pro" category of Klöckner & Co's proprietary Nexigen® product categorization system for "green stainless steel". In other words, the CO₂ emissions from resource extraction and production to the point of delivery are fewer than 700 kg per ton of stainless steel (covering Scopes 1 to 3). With the delivery, GEA also receives the "Product Carbon Footprint Declaration", which documents the precise kilogram value of the emissions generated from raw material extraction to production, processing and transport to the factory gate (cradle to customer entry gate).

By using "green stainless steel", GEA is furthering the implementation of its Climate Transition Plan 2040 with the goal of achieving net-zero emissions. Cooperation with suppliers such as Klöckner & Co and leading stainless steel works in Europe is to be expanded over the coming years.

GEA's Chief Sustainability Officer, Dr. Nadine Sterley: "Our Climate Transition Plan 2040 sets clear targets for the reduction of our greenhouse gas emissions to net zero right across the value chain. As long as no other alternative to this material is available, green stainless steel is the best option for GEA. Starting now, we are adding it to our raw materials mix and will steadily increase the proportion it accounts for to reduce the emissions in our supply chain."

"Our suppliers play a key role in achieving our climate targets," says Johannes Giloth, member of the Executive Board and COO of GEA. "Sustainable procurement is crucial. That's why we are working shoulder to shoulder with our partners to develop and offer resource-efficient solutions together. And we're delighted to be successfully implementing this project with Klöckner & Co."

Klöckner & Co CEO Guido Kerkhoff: “Our primary aim with the Nexigen® umbrella brand is to help our customers make their supply chains greener. This makes it especially gratifying that our long-standing partner GEA has chosen Klöckner & Co to supply its first consignment of CO₂-reduced stainless steel.”

How Klöckner & Co makes CO₂ emissions transparent

Terms such as “green steel”, “green stainless steel” and “green aluminum” are on everyone’s lips. Yet despite the proliferation of labels and quality seals, there has long been no universal definition of when these products are “green”. That has made comparison difficult for customers. Klöckner & Co has come up with a CO₂ categorization system based on customer demand, producer perspectives, production technologies, ISO standards and the GHG Protocol as the most widely used basis for greenhouse gas emissions accounting.

Under the Nexigen® brand, Klöckner & Co provides full transparency regarding the product carbon footprint (PCF) from raw material extraction through production all the way to logistics (cradle to gate). Using the Nexigen® PCF Algorithm, whose calculation method has been certified by TÜV SÜD, customers can retrieve the individualized PCF for almost any of Klöckner & Co’s approximately 200,000 products. The Nexigen® Data Services technology solution not only enables customers to track product emissions, it also suggests greener alternatives and points to potential for reducing CO₂ emissions.



Image: Guido Kerkhoff, CEO Klöckner & Co, Dr. Nadine Sterley, Chief Sustainability Officer at GEA, Johannes Giloth, member of the Executive Board and COO of GEA, Hasso Haibach, CEO Becker Stahl-Service (from left to right).
Source: GEA / Klöckner & Co

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About GEA

GEA is one of the world's largest suppliers of systems and components to the food, beverage, and pharmaceutical industries. The international technology group, founded in 1881, focuses on machinery and plants, as well as advanced process technology, components, and comprehensive services. With more than 18,000 employees working across five divisions and 62 countries, the group generated revenues of more than EUR 5.1 billion in fiscal year 2022. GEA plants, processes, components, and services enhance the efficiency and sustainability of production processes across the globe. They contribute significantly to the reduction of CO₂ emissions, plastic usage, and food waste. In doing so, GEA makes a key contribution toward a sustainable future, in line with the company's purpose: "Engineering for a better world".

GEA is listed in the German MDAX and the STOXX® Europe 600 Index and is also among the companies comprising the DAX 50 ESG and MSCI Global Sustainability and the Dow Jones Sustainability World Indices.

More information can be found online at [gea.com](https://www.gea.com).

If you do not want to receive any further information from GEA, please send an e-mail to pr@gea.com.

Über Klöckner & Co

Klöckner & Co is one of the largest producer-independent distributors of steel and metal products and one of the leading steel service companies worldwide. Based on its distribution and service network of currently 160 sites in 13 countries, Klöckner & Co supplies more than 90,000 customers. Currently, the Group has around 7,800 employees. Klöckner & Co generated sales of some €9.4 billion in fiscal year 2022. With the expansion of its portfolio of CO₂-reduced materials, services and logistics options under the Nexigen® umbrella brand, the company is underscoring its role as a pioneer of a sustainable steel industry. At the same time, Klöckner & Co leads the way in the steel industry's digital transformation and has set itself the target of digitalizing and largely automating its supply and service chain. In this way, the Company aims to develop into the leading one-stop shop for steel, other materials, equipment and processing services in Europe and the Americas.

The shares of Klöckner & Co SE are admitted to trading on the regulated market segment (Regulierter Markt) of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange (Frankfurter Wertpapierbörse) with further post-admission obligations (Prime Standard). Klöckner & Co shares are listed in the SDAX® index of Deutsche Börse.

ISIN: DE000KC01000; WKN: KC0100; Common Code: 025808576.

Über die Becker Stainless Center GmbH

With locations in Mannheim, Hockenheim and Süßen, Becker Stainless Center GmbH offers its customers high-quality solutions for all aspects of processing and commerce in flat stainless steel products. As part of the Becker Group with a total of 700 employees, Becker Stainless is one of the largest stainless steel service centers. The company supports a wide range of industries (including mobility, construction, food processing and White Goods) with a variety of products, solutions and services. As a subsidiary of Klöckner & Co, one of the world's biggest producer-independent steel distributors, Becker is a pioneer for a green steel industry. Under the Nexigen® umbrella brand, the company offers CO₂-reduced steel and metal solutions that make the supply chains of its customers and partners more sustainable.