



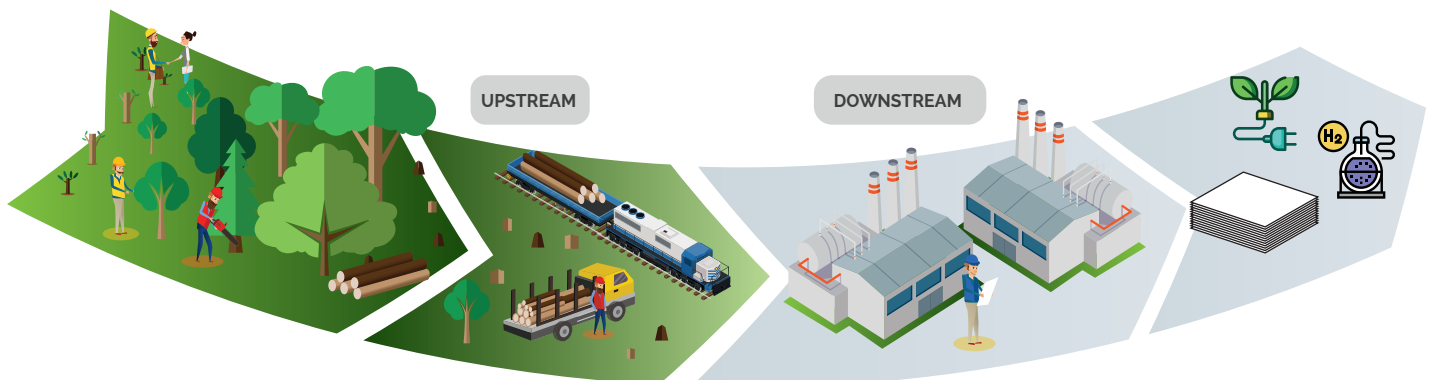
# Fibre Excellence SAINT-GAUDENS

## THE RENEWABLE TIMBER RESOURCE AT THE HEART OF THE FIBRE EXCELLENCE SAINT-GAUDENS ACTIVITY

The Fibre Excellence plant in Saint-Gaudens which was created in **1959**, produces approximately **280,000 tonnes per year of pulp** which is used to produce many everyday products (paper, hygiene products, packaging).

It employs almost **300 people** and generates over **5,000 indirect jobs** in the region.

### THE FIBRE EXCELLENCE GROUP IS COMMITTED TO THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF TIMBER RESOURCES



#### FOREST MAINTENANCE AND RENEWAL



A network of over 300 forestry partners including the subsidiaries

**ENVIROFORESTERIE** which supports sustainable forest management.



**SEBSO**, which harvests timber responsibly.

#### TIMBER TRANSPORT



A network of 200 transporters, including **SEBSO**, which transport the timber to its final processing location.

#### TIMBER RESOURCE USE



**FIBRE EXCELLENCE** works on using timber resources:

- for pulp for essential uses
- for green energy
- for green chemical components

### THE FIBRE EXCELLENCE SAINT-GAUDENS PLANT USES A RESPONSIBLE AND LOCAL TIMBER SUPPLY

- Contributes to the maintenance and renewal of the forests, in particular through the use of wood from thinning operations which are governed by the French Forestry Code and contribute to proper forestry industry cycles to guarantee forest renewal.
- Uses a certified timber supply chain compliant with the international PEFC and FSC sustainable forest management standards.
- The plant supports reforestation initiatives through sponsorship or direct support to forest owners committed to the renewal of their forests.
- Part of the supply is composed of local sawmill by-products, thus making the most of the material from French forests. The bark from the logs is incinerated in a biomass boiler, providing renewable thermal energy and electricity.



# A THREEFOLD USE OF TIMBER RESOURCES

## FIBRE EXCELLENCE, AT THE HEART OF THE BIO-ECONOMY.

A NATURAL AND RENEWABLE RAW MATERIAL

A SUSTAINABLY MANAGED RESOURCE THAT CONTRIBUTES TO CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION

A MATERIAL THAT HAS MANY USES AND INNOVATIONS



**90%** of logs from forest thinning operations

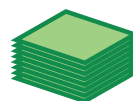
**10%** of related products from local sawmills



A **225 km** supply radius around the plant



FSC and PEFC certified timber supply chain



Pulp production for everyday use



Energy production from paper by-products (electricity, biofuels)



Production of green chemical components



### Timber bio-components are used to produce pulp.

The timber purchased by Fibre Excellence Saint-Gaudens from local forestry players (including the SEBSO subsidiary) is debarked and shredded, then cooked using the combined action of heat and chemicals (white liquor) to extract the cellulose which composes the pulp.

The cellulose is washed, bleached and pressed into large sheets and then dried. These sheets are then shipped to paper manufacturers who use the pulp in their production process.



### The timber residues from the production process are recycled into energy.

During pulp production, the cellulose is separated from the water, lignin and hemicellulose: these residues are known as black liquor. This black liquor is concentrated and then incinerated at very high temperature in a boiler.

Furthermore, the bark from the logs is incinerated in a biomass boiler.

The steam generated from the boilers supplies turbines that produce enough green energy to run all the plant's equipment and inject electricity into the EDF national grid.



### The Fibre Excellence plant in Saint-Gaudens is also exploring green chemicals from timber components.

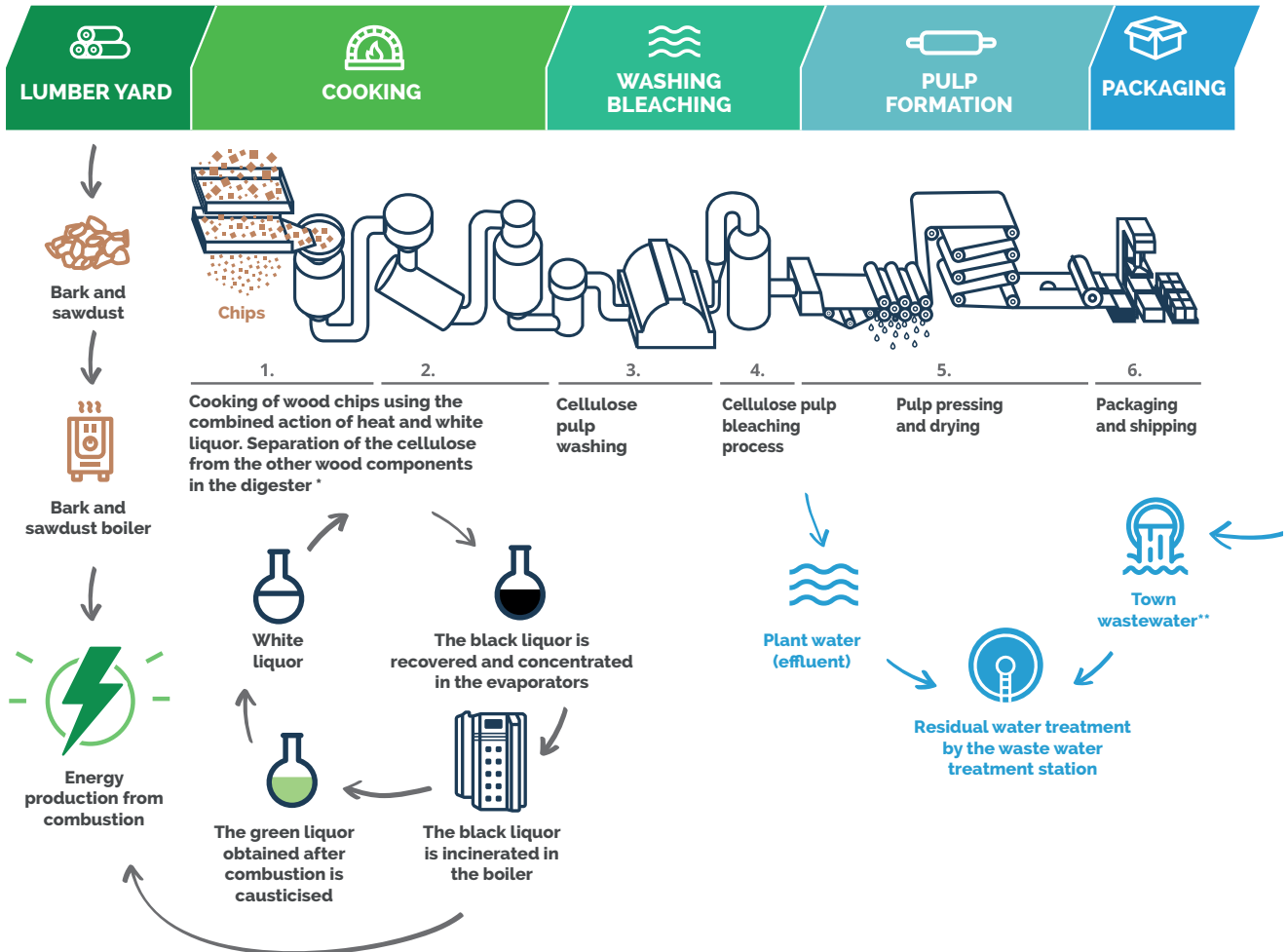
- The production of hydrolysates and purified sugars for industrial and food processing uses is being tested in a pilot plant.

- The plant is looking into the development of alternatives for the virtuous production of viscose pulp used in textile production.

Fibre Excellence Saint-Gaudens is also working on industrial avenues such as biofuels or the production of green hydrogen.



# HOW DOES THE FIBRE EXCELLENCE SAINT-GAUDENS PLANT OPERATE?



\* Water, lignin, hemicellulose of which black liquor is composed

\*\* The plant's wastewater treatment plant not only treats the plant's water but also the wastewater from the town of Saint-Gaudens

➔ Closed cycle reuse of essential production components.

➔ By-product recycling throughout the production cycle.

➔ An ISO 14001-certified plant: reuse of chemicals, treatment of plant and town wastewater, recycling of the wastewater treatment plant sludge.



# FIBRE EXCELLENCE SAINT-GAUDENS, A PLANT COMMITTED TO THE CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF ITS ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

**Subject to strict industrial and environmental regulations, the plant continuously works to improve its facilities.**

Pulp production is a process that involves large machines which can generate noise, fumes and smoke, and which need water to run. To limit its impact on the environment as much as possible, **Fibre Excellence continuously works to improve its installations and to limit inconveniences to local residents, in particular noise and odours.**

**Fibre Excellence is also continuously modernising and maintaining the plant to improve safety and efficiency and to pursue the reduction of its environmental footprint.**

Every two years, the plant commits significant budgets (several million euros), in particular to regional companies, for major maintenance shutdowns. These stoppages are in addition to regular preventive and corrective maintenance operations.



## DID YOU KNOW?

**In addition to its core pulp production business, the plant also plays a role locally:**

- To provide the **treatment of wastewater** from the town of Saint Gaudens, which its wastewater treatment plant covers in addition to the treatment of water used in the industrial process.
- To contribute to the **production of electricity from renewable sources** and to local energy autonomy: the steam generated by the production process allows the plant to be self-sufficient in energy. The generated surpluses are recovered and re-injected into the national grid by Fibre Excellence Energie (up to 60 GWh/year of electricity from renewable sources, i.e. the consumption of 20,000 households).



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