The European Container Glass Federation: Our first 40 years

FEVE - the European Container Glass Federation - is the voice of the glass container industry in Europe. Founded in 1977, we have become instrumental in promoting glass as an ideal packaging material for its unique environmental, economic and social assets for consumers, stakeholders and policy makers.

Europe – the cradle of glass manufacturing

In Europe, Venice is the cradle of glass, with origins dating back to the Roman Empire. Today, this heritage continues to cross generations, with more than 160 production sites across Europe. The industry continuously invests in innovation and high quality glass manufacturing. Today, the European Glass Container Industry is a pioneer of the circular economy.

During the last 40 years the industry has been:

Caring for the environment

1970s: first bottle banks set up in Europe to collect and recycle glass. Today, some 1.5 million bottle banks are available in Europe.

Glass recycling up by 139% in the last 15 years. Today in Europe, 74% of glass is collected to be recycled into a bottle closed loop.

Expanding production while keeping environmental impact low:
Energy consumption reduced by 80%; CO₂ emissions reduced by 70%.

Caring for innovation

€610 million is invested/year in upgrading plants and improving innovation, energy efficiency and decarbonisation.

Glass production has increased by almost 40% across Europe.

Glass bottles are 30% lighter, while maintaining product preservation, recyclability and innovative design.
What do we stand for in the future?

As the European Container Glass Federation we want to continue to support our customers in:

- Driving innovation and sustainable growth to remain the industry reference in the packaging sector in Europe.
- Delivering safe and sustainable packaging solutions for consumers.
- Building an economic model that produces no waste, as raw materials are continuously used, reused and recycled in a closed loop.

Nearly 9 out of 10 Europeans choose glass because they say it is the best packaging to preserve their food and beverages.

1 in 2 Europeans claim to use more glass than in 2014.

3 out of 4 Europeans view glass as the most environmentally friendly packaging.

Our Future is Glass – the sustainable packaging choice for the 21st century lifestyle.

Glass industry contributes up to €9.5 billion to the annual EU GDP.

125,000 direct and indirect jobs are maintained across the European supply chain.

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