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Heidelberg Materials France plans closure of two plants and accelerates decarbonisation

- **Heidelberg Materials France plans a restructuring that would result in the closure of sites in Beffes (Cher) and Villiers-au-Bouin (Indre-et-Loire)**
- **Restructuring follows a stronger alignment towards low-carbon products and a significant decline in cement sales in France**
- **Heidelberg Materials has committed to invest more than €400 million to modernise its plants and reduce its carbon footprint in France**

Driving an ambitious decarbonisation strategy, Heidelberg Materials France plans a restructuring that would result in the closure of its sites in Beffes (Cher) and Villiers-au-Bouin (Indre-et-Loire) as of October 2025. This restructuring project follows a stronger alignment of the company's cement portfolio towards low-carbon products which include reduced clinker content, putting a strong focus on investments in the green transformation. At the same time, Heidelberg Materials France is faced with a significant decline in cement sales caused by weak construction demand due to the current market environment. Socially acceptable solutions for all affected employees are being sought, including redeployment offerings to other sites of the company in France. In doing so, Heidelberg Materials France is working closely with its social partners, local authorities, and government bodies.

Reducing carbon footprint in France

Heidelberg Materials introduced a substantial investment plan of more than €400 million in 2020 to reduce CO₂ emissions with modernisation measures at the Airvault site in Deux-Sèvres, the Beaucaire site in Gard, the Bussac-Forêt site in Charente-Maritime, and the Couvrot site in Marne. The investment plan aims to improve energy efficiency, replace fossil fuels with alternative fuels, and further reduce the clinker content of cement in these sites. Overall, CO₂ emissions will be reduced by around a third.

The company is also making significant progress towards circularity in France. Leading a large-scale closed-loop recycling project called CIRCO₂BETON[®], Heidelberg Materials France is implementing an industrial-scale selective separation platform at its Achères quarry, where demolished concrete will be crushed and separated into sand, aggregates, and recycled concrete paste (RCP). The high-quality recycled sand and aggregates will be used in new concrete, while the RCP will be carbonated using

CO₂-containing exhaust gases from the kiln at the Ranville cement plant.

Driving CCUS projects on path to net zero

Seeking viable solutions for unavoidable process CO₂ emissions, Heidelberg Materials France is working closely with project partners to accelerate the deployment of carbon capture and storage (CCS) technologies. Just recently, the company announced its largest modernisation project in France at its Airvault site, where it aims to complement conventional CO₂ reduction measures with Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) technology enabling a capture capacity of approx. 1 million tonnes annually.

Ambitious global climate strategy

Heidelberg Materials follows an ambitious global climate strategy, having set targets to reduce specific net CO₂ emissions per tonne of cementitious material by 47% by 2030 compared to 1990. The Group aims to generate 50% of its revenue from sustainable products that are either low-carbon or circular by 2030. By 2050 at the latest, Heidelberg Materials plans to be carbon neutral across its entire product portfolio and achieve Net Zero emissions.

About Heidelberg Materials

Heidelberg Materials is one of the world's largest integrated manufacturers of building materials and solutions with leading market positions in cement, aggregates, and ready-mixed concrete. We are represented in around 50 countries with around 51,000 employees at almost 3,000 locations. At the centre of our actions lies the responsibility for the environment. As the front runner on the path to carbon neutrality and circular economy in the building materials industry, we are working on sustainable building materials and solutions for the future. We enable new opportunities for our customers through digitalisation.

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