

MORE THAN 8,000 SOLAR PANELS – DURACELL PUTS SUNROOF INTO OPERATION

Heist-op-den-Berg/Belgium, 22 September 2023 – In the presence of both international and regional politicians and notables, Duracell today put its solar roof into use with more than 8,000 solar panels, good for approximately 4,000 MWh of green energy per year. This instantly makes Duracell one of the largest solar energy producers in the region.

Duracell is one of the world's largest manufacturers of consumer batteries and the Belgian innovation hub - the only site in Europe - is an important pillar of the group's growth strategy. While the batteries are produced in their Aarschot site, packaging and shipping is located in Heist. More than five million AA and AAA batteries leave the plant every day, mainly for the European and African markets.

Duracell already supplies 100% of its production, packaging and logistics operations with certified renewable electricity sources. This summer, the company went one step further.

To further reduce energy consumption and the ecological footprint, more than 8,000 solar panels were installed on the 45,000 m² roof of the packaging and logistics center in Heist-op-den-Berg. This installation now guarantees approximately 4,000 megawatt hours of green energy, the equivalent of the annual energy consumption of more than 1,000 families. This makes Duracell one of the largest solar energy producers in the region.

For Javier Hernandez Reta, President Duracell Europe & Africa, the installation is central to the company's sustainability strategy. *"Under the title of 'Powering a Greener Future', we are leading the way in environmental initiatives for portable batteries. The 8,000 solar panels are an important milestone for Duracell - and for our stakeholders."*

"We attach great importance to sustainability, and, thanks to numerous efforts, we now emit almost 80% less CO₂ than in 2014. However, we continue to continuously look for opportunities to improve our sustainability profile. I am therefore pleased that we can take another big step forward with the installation of this solar roof," says Stefaan Boterberg, Senior Vice President Global Operations Duracell.

Jan Casteels, Plant Director Duracell Aarschot & Heist, adds: *"The solar energy generated is more than sufficient for energy consumption in Heist during the sunny hours. We even charge our autonomously driving electric forklift trucks with it. We also want to use the energy surpluses at our site in Aarschot."*

-End of media release-

Facts & figures Duracell operations in Belgium

- Number of employees: 600
- Active in Belgium since 1967
- Daily volume of batteries: more than 5 million
- Types of batteries produced and packaged in Belgium: AA and AAA