

URGO reaffirms its ambitions in France: €60 million to build a new factory in the Loire region and conquer the global market for medical compression garments

The URGO Group is taking a new strategic step forward with the announcement of a €60 million investment in the construction of its fifth industrial site in France, to support the strong growth of its medical compression range. Located in Andrézieux-Bouthéon (Loire), this 35,000 m² factory will create 200 direct jobs and 115 indirect jobs in the region. With this new facility, URGO reaffirms its ambition to become the world leader in medical compression whilst maintaining its commitment to local production in France. 100 per cent of its innovative medical compression products will be manufactured in the Loire region. This investment will be recognised as part of the Choose France event on 17 November.

URGO: France's bid for global leadership

As part of its expansion strategy, URGO is stepping up its efforts to meet the strong international growth of its UrgoK2 medical compression range. This investment ensures that 100 per cent of production of this innovative textile will remain in France in the long term, positioning the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region as a global hub for medical textiles. Producing cutting-edge medical solutions locally ensures patient safety and strengthens France's strategic autonomy in the healthcare sector.

A new cutting-edge technology project that creates jobs and adds value to the local area

The future site, located 5 km from the historic Veauche factory, will cover 9 hectares. It will bring state-of-the-art production and logistics facilities together in a single location. The €60 million to be invested by 2029 will enable the construction of a complex incorporating the latest industry standards in Industry 4.0 (automation, industrial IT, industrial development).

The project is expected to create 200 direct jobs and 115 indirect jobs over the next 10 years. To address the skills shortage in these in-demand sectors, URGO will rely in particular on its in-house Textile School, established in 2022 in partnership with France Travail and Maya Campus, which aims to train and recruit 10 permanent staff members per year.

A French venture with deep roots across our regions, from Burgundy to the Loire

With its four letters at the heart of the word 'BoURGOgne', this French family-run business, founded in 1882 in the region, has become a global leader in healthcare. Despite strong international growth, which has pushed its turnover to nearly 890 million euros, the group remains true to its roots and has made the strategic choice to manufacture 80 per cent of its products in France. This strong commitment to manufacturing is embodied in its regional strongholds: in Burgundy, of course, but also in the Loire region, where, since 1997, URGO has



transformed the Veauche site into a centre of excellence that employs 130 staff and works in partnership with 175 local partners.

The new investment in Andrézieux-Bouthéon, which is supported by Saint-Étienne Métropole with a grant of 600,000 euros, confirms this commitment to securing long-term value creation and employment in France's regions.

For Guirec Le Lous, Chairman of URGO Medical, this investment embodies a long-term industrial vision:

"In a challenging economic climate, we have chosen to continue investing in France. My grandfather was a military pharmacist during the Second World War and experienced shortages of healthcare products first-hand. He held a deep conviction: to create a flagship French healthcare company to safeguard the autonomy of French patients. We are proud to continue building on this legacy. With this investment and the creation of 315 jobs, we are reaffirming our strategic choice: to produce, innovate and build our future in France. Our objective is clear: to become the world leader in medical textiles manufactured entirely in France, whilst supporting France's ambition for healthcare sovereignty."

On behalf of Saint-Etienne Métropole: *"With the URGO Group's establishment on a site of nearly 9 hectares within the ZAIN Loire Sud industrial estate in Andrézieux-Bouthéon, Saint-Etienne Métropole is strengthening its position amongst France's leading regions for healthcare and innovation. This major project, representing an investment of 60 million euros and set to create 200 direct jobs in the long term, demonstrates Saint-Etienne Métropole's ambition to welcome and provide long-term support – through suitable land provision and bespoke support – to industrial companies that generate business, value and jobs. "Yes, now more than ever, Saint-Étienne Métropole is an attractive region that benefits all its residents."*

About the URGO Group

URGO, a French family-owned business founded in 1882 in Burgundy, is now a leading mid-sized company in the healthcare sector, with 4,000 employees worldwide, including 1,100 in France. The Group has experienced rapid growth over the last decade, tripling its turnover to reach €890 million in 2024, and expanding its presence to more than 60 countries through its 22 subsidiaries. True to its commitment to the region, URGO will have invested €1 billion in France between 2000 and 2030 (€650 million in R&D and €350 million in its manufacturing sites). More than 80 per cent of its products are now manufactured in France.