



WASTE NOT, WANT NOT

As the proverb goes, one man's trash is another man's gold – waste management company Renewi embraces this philosophy by recycling millions of tonnes of 'rubbish' every year, boosting the circular economy, and ultimately protecting the environment, as CEO Otto de Bont explains.

OTTO DE BONT
CEO @ Renewi

Renewi's goal is simple: it wants to make the world a cleaner, better place. As the leading waste management company operating in Europe, it's all about extracting value from garbage as opposed to profiting from its disposal through mass burn incineration and landfill. Renewi handles 14 million tonnes of waste every year, 90% of which is either recycled or used for energy recovery. It's sick of seeing piles of trash, a shortage of raw materials, and oceans turning to plastic soup.

Driving the circular economy

Renewi's unique waste-to-product approach addresses social and regulatory trends, and offers the most capital-efficient solution to the effective recycling and management of trash. CEO Otto de Bont says caring for the environment is in Renewi's DNA and by investing in innovation and entrepreneurship, it's taking an ecologically resonant and sustainable approach to processing the world's garbage. Otto was appointed CEO in 2019 after a successful stint as the MD of Renewi's Netherlands Com-

“DAF is proud of its long-standing partnership with Renewi. All of the company's unique DAF waste collectors and cleansing trucks boast favorable operating costs, unmatched reliability, and industry-leading driver comfort. Renewi can count on DAF, like we can count on Renewi.”

Michiel Kuijs,
Managing Director
North-West Europe, DAF

mercial Division and member of the Executive Committee, playing a central role in the integration of Shanks Group plc with Van Gansewinkel Groep BV to form Renewi in 2017. Before joining, Otto worked for a number of blue-chip companies including United Technologies and the Plastics and Security divisions of General Electric.

“Some people call it the ‘waste industry,’ but in reality it's actually more about recycling and the production of secondary raw materials,” he says. “There's a tremendous amount of change happening and it will continue to happen for the next five to ten years at least – because of the new regulation that's coming in, the governments in Continental Europe especially, want to drive the circular economy. I joined Renewi because its purpose is close to my heart – driving sustainability – and I also wanted to be involved in the circular economy. As you approach 50 years of age, you start to think about life and I didn't want to spend another 20 years pushing volume, sales, and commercial activity in large corporations because it's not that meaningful.” →



Synergising

One of the first challenges Otto was faced with was the integration of the two companies to create Renewi. “Both Shanks Group plc and Van Ganswinkel Groep BV were quite different but to reach the synergy targets we set ourselves, everyone and everything had to be aligned, things like integrating IT systems and optimising truck routes,” he explains. “We spent the best part of a year doing this before we were able to invest in new technology and production capacity. In the three year since we began operations, we generated around €40 million in synergy savings and we’ve been able to grow the company’s revenue while keeping the team onboard.”

By taking waste and creating something new with it, Renewi is actively protecting the world’s natural resources and working to preserve the planet for future generations. By encouraging its upstream clients to sort and segregate rubbish, the company places its downstream recycled and recovered products into markets where their sustainability benefits can be maximised.

“ At the Adecco Group we don’t just understand the changing employment landscape – we partner up with clients to ensure they can embrace it. Our long-term relationship with Renewi is built on shared values and driven by collaboration and sustained by partnership! ”

Nico Reeskens,
Country Manager,
The Adecco Group in Belgium

Renewi also collaborates with sustainable startups to boost the transformation of the circular economy. One example of this is its cooperation with several young entrepreneurs from the Better Future Factory to make filaments for 3D printers from Renewi’s recycled plastics. To be able to do this, all kinds of rules and regulations had to be met in order to use recycled materials as opposed to primary raw materials. Renewi played an important role in the transfer of knowledge and through its subsidiary Cool-rec, it helped the Better Future Factory achieve its goal.

Renewi has also obtained a 32% stake (alongside a minority stake of Ingka Investments, part of Inga Group, the world’s largest franchise of the IKEA concept) in the company RetourMatrass, which has developed a unique technology to recycle mattresses so 90% of their materials can be reused. The investment is a good example of how it’s possible to expand margins in circular manufacturing through partnership with leading brands committed to sustainability. →

RENEWI CONNECTS THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY



14 m
Handled a total of 14 million tonnes of waste at our sites

89%
Recycled and recovered 89% of a total waste we handled

143,462
Generated 143,462 MWh of green electricity, enough to power 40,000 households for a year

THE ADECCO GROUP

Adecco | **BADENOCH + CLARK**

LEE HECHT HARRISON | **modis**

PONTOON | **Spring Professional**

Our ecosystem of brands for all your staffing needs

Our values are what make us... us

- Passion
- Entrepreneurship
- Customer Centricity
- Team Spirit
- Responsibility



Renewi handles 14 million tonnes of waste every year

Something from nothing

In the Netherlands and Belgium there are about 600,000 tonnes of diapers being incinerated every year, so Renewi is working with some big players including Procter & Gamble to finalise a process to recycle diapers by separating the plastic and cellulose they're made from – these materials can then be used in new production. This is just one example of taking a large amount of volume from incineration and putting it into recycling, as Otto explains: “100,000 tonnes of metal contaminated with asbestos or paint is sent to landfill every year, so together with a Dutch company called PMC, we have made an exclusive arrangement: they're building a factory in the north of the Netherlands and we will be their exclusive collector of all contaminated metal waste. This will be sent to PMC's facility to be separated from the contaminants so the metal can be reused.”

Volvo and DAF Trucks are two of Renewi's main suppliers. “With Volvo we're working on developing electric trucks and with DAF hy-

“ The Wynmalen & Hausmann Group is a partner of Renewi and provides machinery including Liebherr material handlers and wheel loaders. Our objective is to make Renewi's business processes more efficient to provide trouble-free operations! ”

Mr Wim van den Heuvel, CEO, Wynmalen & Hausmann Group

drogen-electric trucks, so we are testing both side-by-side. We need these vehicles to transport all of the waste we recycle and we're trying to make them as green as possible. Another ‘supplier’ provides us with 700,000 tonnes of waste wood each year from different manufacturing locations – we use it both for bio energy and we also treat it so it can be reused to make things like plywood,” Otto explains. “Cooperation is the key word in the circular world and as a waste collection and recycling company, Renewi understands better than anyone else what happens to waste at the end of a cycle and the beginning of a new cycle, since we produce the resources for these processes. This is where we see our future, working together with our partners to develop innovative concepts which go well beyond the efficient and sustainable collection of waste streams. We always want to enter into long-term partnerships to create shared innovations relating to reuse, specific refurbishment programmes, and other usage models.”

CONTRIBUTING TO THE SUSTAINABILITY OF RENEWI'S FLEET



Introducing the circular lifecycle of BAS' Global Truck Concept

With the delivery of a wide range of new Volvo trucks (Volvo FE skiploaders and Volvo FM & Volvo FMX hookloaders) BAS has made an important contribution to the renewal and sustainability of Renewi's fleet in the Netherlands. The drivers have also been extensively trained by BAS driver specialists. Repair and maintenance of the fleet of Renewi trucks is organized by FleetCareXL, also part of BAS Holding.

To actively lower emissions and to contribute to a greener world, Renewi – as the first organization worldwide - has ordered a fully electric Volvo truck, which will be used for the collection of industrial waste in inner-city areas.

About BAS Holding

BAS Holding is an international, flexible, versatile company and service provider 100% focussed on the transport sector. At the heart of these global services is BAS' Global Truck Concept. From buying and selling new and used trucks up to and including financial services and our after-sales service: the Global Truck Concept covers all disciplines and really helps transport companies to move forward.

Facts & figures

In 2019, BAS sold more than 9,000 trucks, machines and commercial vehicles and achieved a turnover of more than 400 million euros.

