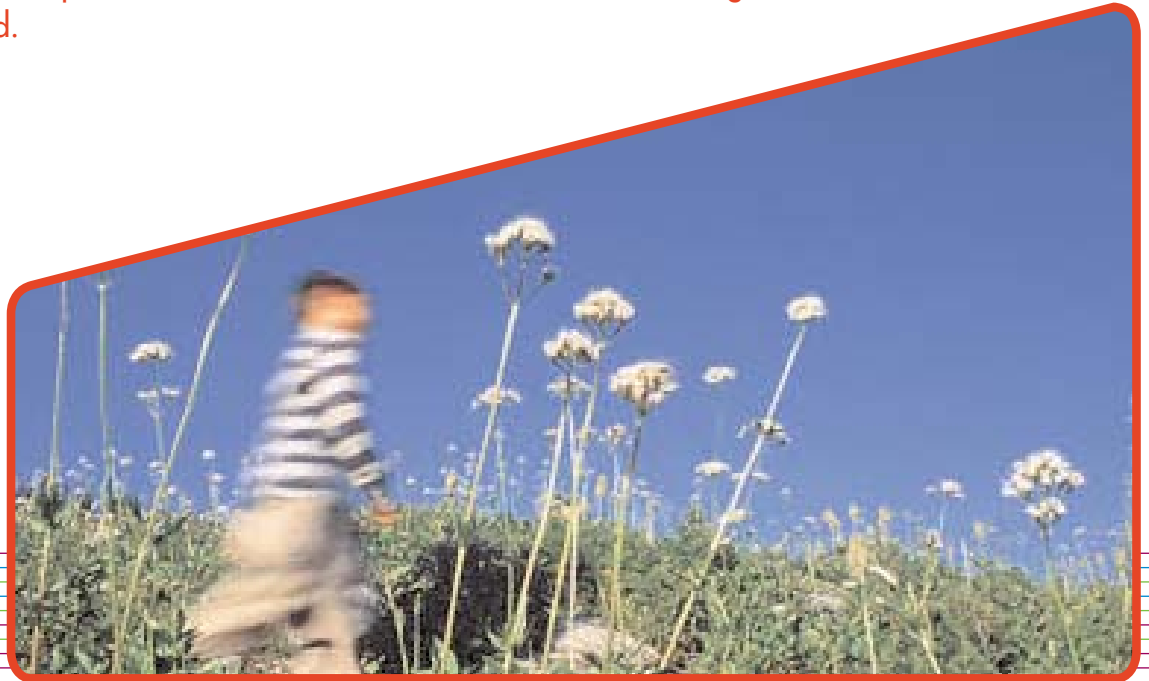


Environmentally-friendly production

The programs undertaken are mainly concerned with saving energy and raw materials, reducing air and water pollution as well as residual waste, and increasing the number of products recycled.



Nexans' ambition is to reduce the impact of its business and products on the environment at all levels.

SUPPORTED BY ALL THREE OF THE GROUP'S DIVISIONS

All of Nexans' businesses are involved in controlling risk.

- The main resources used in copper and aluminum metallurgy are energy (natural gas) and water (for steam and cooling). 95% of the water used is recycled. A special effort was made in 2001 to reduce the amount of copper dust released into the atmosphere.

- In copper power and telecommunications cables, bare wires manufacture (drawing and stranding) consumes electrical power and oily water. The wastewater is systematically filtered, treated and recycled. Water consumption overall is therefore quite low.

- The manufacture of winding wires requires greater quantities of solvents and energy than Nexans' other production processes. Particular attention is being paid to reducing the release of solvent fumes into the air.

RISK-FREE PRODUCTION

Nexans is subjected to numerous environmental regulations locally, nationally and internationally in all areas where the company is active, especially the European Union, the United States and Canada. In 2001, it extended a program to assess the compliance of its actions and products with legislation.

Thanks to a contract signed with Alcatel's Insurance and Risk Management department, Nexans benefited from a high level of expertise in 2001 in

and waste recycling

ANTICIPATING RECYCLING

Nexans is developing a global approach to recycling centered around the various stages of its products' lifecycle. It uses the EIME software developed in conjunction with the FIEEC (*Fédération des industries électriques, électroniques et de communication*), a leading body in this industrial sector. With this software, a product's impact on the environment can be assessed at the design stage, analyzing in particular the raw materials and energy used in the various phases of the product's life: design, manufacturing, use and ultimately end-of-life disposal. The product was also developed with the input of customers and the European cable industry (Europacable Environmental Committee).

END-OF-LIFE PRODUCTS

In advance of forthcoming European directives, Nexans took part in 2001 in a pilot scheme conducted in the Rhône-Alpes region aimed at the development of end-of-life electrical products. An agreement was signed with a French distributor to retrieve and recycle cables resulting from the dismantling of electrical installations.

terms of fire safety and good storage conditions for oils, solvents and flammable products. The majority of its plants run under closed-loop conditions and are well versed in waste management and energy-saving measures. Nexans applies the strictest standards when it comes to employee safety. Plans have been put in place to bring machinery into line with the relevant European directives. Nexans is able to draw on the experience gained in its many industrial installations and encourages the adoption of tried-and-tested solutions.

RECYCLING CABLES AND CABLING SYSTEMS

Nexans is one of the leading French manufacturers in terms of recycling. This approach is manifest first of all in the development of materials that comply with the most stringent environmental standards and are conducive to recycling: PVC free of heavy-metal-based additives (lead), halogen-free compounds and cross-linked polyethylenes. It also translates into a genuine policy of collection and recycling of its production waste: RIPS, a dedicated subsidiary, recycled

20,000 metric tons of these cables in 2001. Following crushing and sorting, the pure materials (copper, aluminum and steel) are sold to approved smelters, while the PVC is used for floor coverings, posts for vineyards and fencing. Nexans has devised numerous innovative solutions for reusing materials known to be particularly difficult to recycle. This is notably the case with rubber, which can be reduced to powder form and used to make highly effective rain-shedding road surfacing materials.