

PORTUGUESE-BELGIAN-LUXEMBOURG
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

e-Book 2020

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This e-Book is one of the key digitalisation initiatives undertaken in 2020 by the Chamber. This English version is largely inspired on the original printed version of the commemorative book for the Centenary of the Chamber edited in Portuguese, while integrating new contributions from institutional partners and members.

The Board of Directors of the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce is particularly grateful to the Ambassadors of Belgium and Luxembourg for the longstanding collaboration and their sponsorship to publish the present digital version in English.

The Board also sincerely wishes to thank the members of the Chamber and other partners who provided the indispensable support for the realisation of this new editorial initiative.

A special thank you goes to Jean Poncelet, Honorary President, for the valuable work developed as project leader in the historical research, writing of numerous contents and global edition of the original commemorative book for the Centenary of the Chamber.

We also do not forget the contribution of the many personalities and similar entities that distinguished us with their messages and their encouragement along the past year.

Sincerely thanks for the appreciation, friendship and high sense of collaboration that everyone has shown in the name of a beautiful and ambitious project that we have made reality with the same spirit of mission that guides us in the service provided, year after year, to the CCLBL members and stakeholders.



This book was originally published in printed format in Portuguese

Title: Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce e-Book 2020

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Edition and coordination: Mário Branco

Design: Tutti Design

ISBN 978-989-20-8836-5

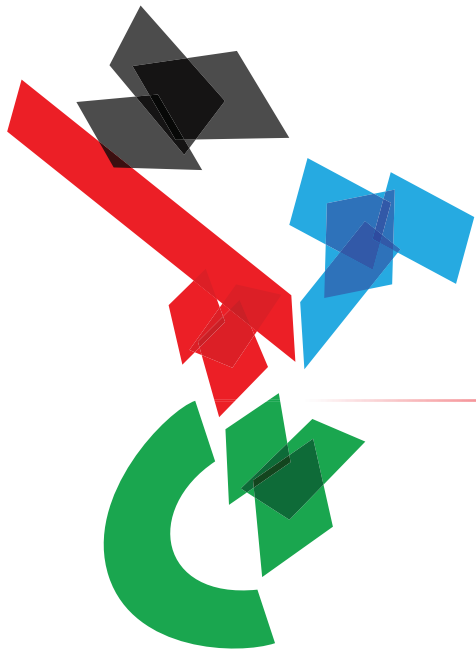
Legal Deposit: 446278/18

First Portuguese edition printed in Lisbon in October 2018

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



“The Chamber plays an important role in developing the economic tissue in Portugal, promoting entrepreneurs and sharing experience between our members”

A NEW EXCITING CHAPTER IN THE CHAMBER’S HISTORY

I am very honoured to have been appointed as President of the Câmara de Comércio Luso-Belga-Luxemburguesa (CCLBL) in March 2020 and have the opportunity to duly represent a Chamber with a longstanding tradition in promoting the commercial and cultural relations between our respective countries.

2020 brought new dynamics for the Chamber with an ambition to modernise its service offering as a business partner and to attract members representing a diversity of economic sectors committed to the Portuguese import and export market.

While taking into account the new social and economic reality, the Chamber is more than ever convinced that partnerships between the public and private sector are key to support Belgian and Luxembourg investment projects in Portugal.

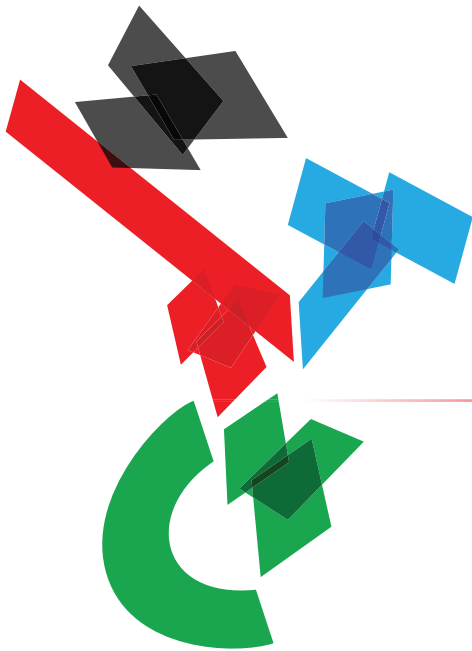
It is of utmost importance to facilitate the promotion of products, services and know how and to stimulate community building and business opportunities both at a local and a European level.

As such, the Chamber plays an important role in developing the economic tissue in Portugal, promoting entrepreneurs and sharing experience between our members.

As the pandemic context continues to impact personal and economic realities of many people and entrepreneurs, I would like to confirm the support of the Chamber to the economic development and especially to all entrepreneurs in realising their projects, especially the ones that subscribe to the sustainability and innovation goals.

I am looking forward to writing this new exciting chapter in the Chamber’s history together with all of you!

Chantal Sohier
President of Câmara de Comércio Luso-Belga-Luxemburguesa



THE CHAMBER

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**Marketing and Business
Development Manager**

LEVERAGING OPPORTUNITIES IN TRADE RELATIONS

PURPOSE AND SERVICES

The Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce (CCLBL) is a non-profit association affiliated and accredited by the Federation of Belgian-Luxembourg Chambers of Commerce.

The Chamber is an inclusive Chamber adhering to the 17 UN sustainable development goals 2030, with a special attention to objective 5 on gender equality, and to the objectives of the EU Green Deal.

CCLBL works closely with the Embassies of Belgium and Luxembourg in Lisbon,

and with diplomatic and consular agents as well as with Belgian, Luxembourg and Portuguese official bodies.

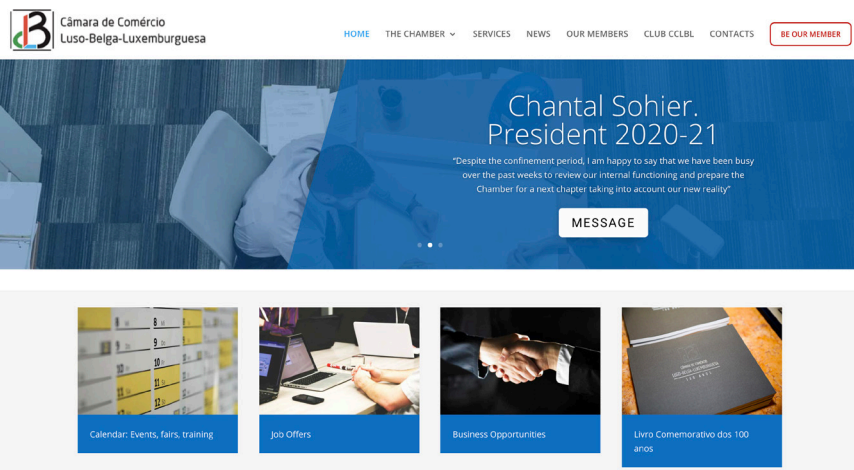
These partnerships are key to develop the bilateral relations with the economic sectors of the three countries, as the Chamber aims at promoting trade relations among the Portuguese, Belgian and Luxembourg markets.

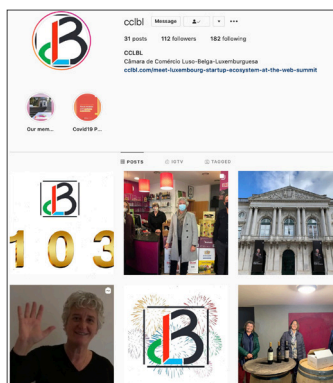
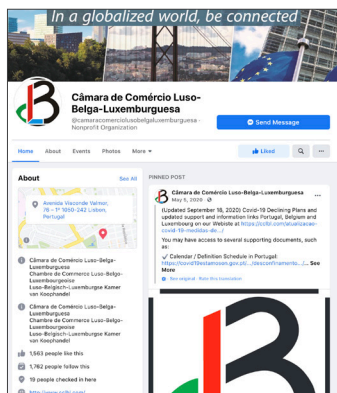
Its membership network is comprised of individual and collective members of these three countries.

CCLBL assists its members with a broad range of services, from the diffusion of business opportunities to its members and partners network to the organization of meetings with potential business partners (entrepreneurs and investors). It offers regular network events, such as lunch-debates, business cocktails and dinners, which gives members the occasion to establish and reinforce their professional relations. Since the pandemic crisis, the Chamber is available to host digital events to connect its members and partners.

The Chamber also develops specific actions (seminars, economic missions, trade fairs) around a number of sectors, such as energy, transport and logistics, environment and waste management, information and communication technologies, food processing, health and sustainability and innovation, amongst others.

The Chamber works with regional liaison officers to connect companies, organizations and investors anywhere in mainland Portugal and the islands with business interests in the markets covered by the Chamber.





BENEFITS OF BEING A MEMBER

The Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce integrates a privileged foreign network of contacts and services. As one of the oldest chambers of commerce in Portugal, we have deep knowledge of international business and developing markets.

Our members can rely on us and on our extensive network to help expand their business, find business partners and significantly increase their visibility.

Benefits of being a CCLBL member may be described as follows :

- Increase your network of professional contacts and integrate the directory list of CCLBL members.
- Promote your products and services through the CCLBL social media.
- Access to a privileged institutional network.
- Access to specialized support for Portugal 2020 and European funding programs.

- Access to an online global matchmaking platform of partner searching.

- Participation to economic missions and trade fairs with the CCLBL.

- Participation to seminars organized by CCLBL and its members and partners.

- Availability to organize digital seminars and economic missions.

- Increase the visibility of your company through our communication channels.

- Attend Chamber events at member's rate.

In 2021, the Chamber is launching a new service offering to facilitate the onboarding of Belgian and Luxembourg investors and entrepreneurs in Portugal, especially in support of start ups, entrepreneurs and projects focusing on sustainable development and innovation.

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A NEW DYNAMIC

The worst of times brings out the best in people. As it happens, this is true of organizations as well.

All over the world, businesses are being challenged by the COVID-19 pandemic to find new ways to serve their customers. CCLBL is not an exception. The Chamber is being doing its best to modernise its service offering and to bring on a new dynamic to its activity.

These pages illustrate that change. Following the initial general lockdown, the Chamber reinvented itself and looked for new ways of supporting its members and of attracting new companies and entrepreneurs to its collaborative network.



Photo captions

1. President Chantal Sohier visited Viana do Castelo and had a working meeting with the Mayor, José Maria Costa, the Councillor for Economy, Luís Nobre, and the President of the local Business Association (AEVC), Manuel Cunha Júnior (August 2020)
2. Welcoming a new partnership in circular economy between NÂM Belgium Start-Up, represented by its CEO, Natan Jacquemin, and Portuguese Delta Cafés, represented by its CEO, Rui Nabeiro. Belgium Ambassador to Portugal, Geneviève

Renaux, hosted the meeting. Isabel Cró (FIT) and Maria da Luz de Sousa (AWEX) were also present (September 2020)

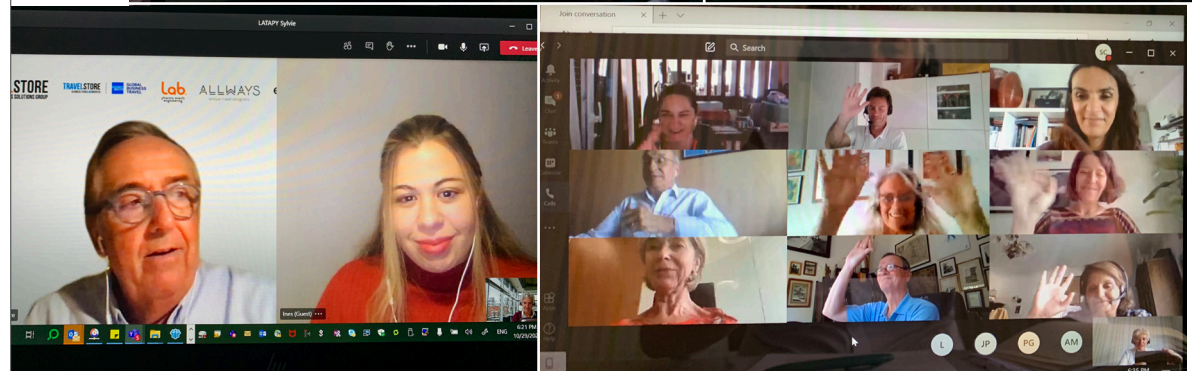
3. Lunch with the representatives of the Belgian company Haedes, a consulting company active in the Blue Economy (October 2020)
4. Working lunch with the Secretary of State for Internationalization, Eurico Brilhante Dias, in the presence of Belgian investors, representatives of the CCLBL and the regional agencies in charge of Trade and Investments (October 2020)



CCLBL GOES DIGITAL !

Necessity is indeed the mother of invention. The COVID-19 crisis has created an imperative for organisations to reconfigure their operations and an opportunity to transform them.

The CCLBL's Board realized clearly the acceleration in the use of technology, digital transformation and new forms of working and communicating.

This e-Book is one of the key digitalisation initiatives undertaken in 2020 by the Chamber in its process to reshape its service offering and operating model. Digital channels and tools, social media and virtual meetings became the day-to-day of the Chamber. There's no going back.



Câmara de Comércio Luso-Belga-Luxemburguesa

Nonprofit Organization Management

The CCLBL aims at promoting trade relations among the Portuguese, Belgian and Luxembourgish markets.

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About us

The Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce (CCLBL) aims at promoting trade relations among the Portuguese, Belgian and Luxembourgish markets.

We assist our members with a broad range of services, from the diffusion of business opportunities to the organization of meetings with potential business partners. We also offer our members regular network opportunities such as lunch-debates, business cocktails and dinners, which allow them the opportunity to establish and reinforce their professional relations.

CCLBL also develops specific actions (seminars, economic missions, trade fairs), around a number of sectors such as energy, transport and logistics, environment and waste management, information and communication technologies, food processing and health, amongst others.

CCLBL is based in Lisbon but has a representation in Porto, to bring together companies and organizations from the north of Portugal with business interests in the markets covered by the chamber.



PORTUGAL



PORTUGAL

GEOGRAPHY

Surface : 92,090 km²

Exclusive Economic Zone :
1,727,408 km² (the third largest in the EU) – Doubling of the area under negotiation at the United Nations

1,753 Km of coasts (Atlantic)

1,224 Km of borders (Spain),
between the most ancient in Europe

Population : 10.3 million

Capital : Lisbon

Constitutional Republic

Portugal is a democratic Republic based on a parliamentary and semi-presidential political system.

President

Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa

Portugal independence dates from 1143 (treaty of Zamora)

Official language

Portuguese (spoken by more than 278 million worldwide)

Strong points

- Privileged geographical location with access to world markets, including 500 million consumers on the European continent
- Open market
- Good logistic infrastructure (road, sea, air and telecommunications)
- Available, flexible, well-qualified workforce
- Knowledge of foreign languages
- Quality of life (climate, safety, hospitality)



Photo President of Republic:
Rui Chôa/Presidência da República

Photos Douro and Aveiro :
Adriano Miranda



The Portuguese economy

Portugal offers an open and dynamic economic environment in full development and modernisation

Some numbers

2019 – Source: INE

GDP (Gross Domestic Product) :
212.3 billion € | 20,622 € per capita

Exports: 59.9 billion €
Imports: 80.3 billion €

Main customers

Spain (25%), France (13%), Germany (12%), UK (6%), USA (5%), Italy (4%),
Netherland (4%), Belgium (2%)

Main suppliers

Spain - 32%; Germany - 14%; France - 7%; Italy - 5%

Main exports

Transportation equipment (16%),
machines (14%), textiles (9%), metal
articles (7%), mineral products (7%),
plastics (7%), prepared foodstuffs (6%)

Main imports

Machines (18%), transport material
(16%), mineral products (12%),
chemical products (10%), metal articles
(7%), plastics (6%)

PRESIDENT OF AICEP



Celebrating 100 years is also celebrating the future

To commemorate the Centenary of the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce is to celebrate the historical links between three very close and familiar countries. It is celebrating the past, but it is above all looking ahead into the future: we can and must continue to deepen economic and trade relations with Belgium and Luxembourg.

Belgium and Luxembourg together account for 25 billion foreign direct investment in Portugal with a share of 21% in 2017. Belgium remains in the top 10 destination of Portuguese exports, while Luxembourg is in the top 20, which demonstrates well the relevance of both countries to Portugal.

These countries are at the heart of Europe, Belgium being the heart of the European Union, hosting the main Community institutions to Brussels. And they have a strong and dynamic Portuguese community – the Portuguese remain the largest foreign community residing in Luxembourg. The Portuguese diaspora is a decisive asset in the development of Portugal, which contributes to a large extent to the close relations we have with these countries and to the proximity that Portuguese companies experience in approaching these markets.

Besides, I would like to refer to my personal experience. I lived in Belgium until I was 18 years old and I keep many good memories of the Country. I grew up in the European School and quickly spoke French and English.

In addition to the flexibility in learning languages, the cosmopolitanism and multiculturalism of Belgium opened me up to different worlds. We may have the same goal, but the reason for getting there often differs and therefore the important thing is to understand each other and work together. It is undoubtedly a fundamental experience to perform my current duties as President of the Agency for Investment and Foreign Trade of Portugal.

AICEP supports companies in their internationalization processes and in the promotion of Portuguese exports while working to capture more and better investment for Portugal. A daily activity which is done with the support of its External Network, present in more than 60 markets, including Belgium, with a delegation that also monitors Luxembourg.

Cooperation with the Chambers of Commerce has proven to be essential and, in particular, with the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber that has done so much to promote the internationalization of Portuguese companies and the raising of investment for Portugal, contributing to the national economical development and to the deepening of the mutually beneficial relationship between Portugal, Belgium and Luxembourg. For all the work done over these 100 years, congratulations!

I believe that the successes of the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber will continue to be celebrated for many good years because its success is also the success of our countries. I believe that it is possible and desirable that economic and trade relations with Belgium and Luxembourg should be intensified. The official visit of the Kings of Belgium to Portugal in October 2018 certainly represented an opportunity for Portuguese companies. With regard to AICEP's actions, we are fully committed to the objective of boosting this truly strategic institutional and business cooperation.

Luís Castro Henriques

President of aicep Portugal Global

Note - Original testimony published in 2018 in the printed version

PRESIDENT OF CIP



Cooperate to create more value

When, a hundred years ago, still in the middle of World War I, the Belgian Chamber of Commerce was created in Portugal, which is at the origin of the current Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce, the common challenges that were at stake at that time were quite different from those we currently are experiencing.

Today, in the European Union, the framework in which our companies operate is undoubtedly incomparably richer and more favourable to economic relationships.

However, the role of this Chamber of Commerce is not minor, because the full use of this framework requires companies to have access on the field to a wide range of services and initiatives that no one better than this institution can offer.

In an accelerated changing world, where Belgium, Luxembourg and Portugal share common values and challenges, I am sure that the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce will continue to work with its members, with its recognised persistence and quality, to support the promotion and development of economic relations between our markets.

One hundred years after its creation, two convictions remain and give strength to this Chamber of Commerce: the certainty that cooperation and business associations are the best way to face adverse times and the certainty that the prosperity of our people depends on an intense and open economic relationship based on sound foundations.

Let us therefore continue to develop closer proximity, closer mutual knowledge and trusting relationships between the companies of our countries, in order to cooperate more and better.

Cooperate to better compete. Cooperate to create more value.

António Saraiva

President of the Business Confederation of Portugal (CIP)

Note - Original testimony published
in 2018 in the printed version

PRESIDENT OF CCIP



The Chambers of Commerce are reference entities

It is a pleasure for me – and a great honour – to be able to bear witness to the path taken by the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce (CCLBL) in this edition commemorating its centenary.

Belgium and Luxembourg are recognised as important trading partners in Portugal. In 2017, Belgium ranked ninth in the destination of Portuguese exports of goods and services and Luxembourg ranked 20th. The number of Portuguese exporting companies for these markets has been growing. In 2017, more than 3,400 companies exported to Belgium and more than 720 companies to Luxembourg, which demonstrates the importance of these markets in the internationalisation of our companies.

In addition, and in particular Luxembourg, they are also destinations of Portuguese emigration, which leads us to have relationships of a personal and family nature with these countries.

The Bilateral Chambers of Commerce and Industry, as is the case with the CCLBL, are close to the companies and communities of the countries they represent. They are reference entities for the promotion not only of economic and trade relations, but also in the cultural area, which represents three countries, and which is a good example of a work of excellence in this matter.

For these reasons the CCIP has been promoting the work carried out by the Bilateral Chambers of Commerce, both in Portugal and abroad.

For many years, we have advocated with the Portuguese Government to amend the legislation of the Chambers of Commerce with a view to formalizing the possibility of official recognition by the State of the Portuguese Chambers of Commerce abroad.

It was with the greatest satisfaction that at the end of 2017, we were informed that the measure had been approved allowing the 42 Chambers, that are part of the Network of Portuguese Chambers of Commerce abroad, to acquire the status of public utility in Portugal.

I conclude by wishing the CCLBL the best for the next 100 years and to continue, as done so far, to promote the increase of economic, commercial and cultural relations between Portugal, Belgium and Luxembourg.

Bruno Bobone

President of the Portuguese Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Note - Original testimony published in 2018 in the printed version

PRESIDENT OF AEP



Bringing businesses and countries closer

The AEP – Portuguese Entrepreneurial Association - Chamber of Commerce and Industry congratulates the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce as it celebrates its 100th anniversary, also welcoming to the “club” of organizations over 100 years old (AEP has celebrated its 170th Anniversary in 2019).

This is an important milestone in the life of any organization, particularly those which have a purpose of bringing countries closer through economic relations, and thereby providing evidence of great vitality. This feeling is naturally reinforced between organizations that share the same ideals in the field of political and economic organization, as well as by defending the same idea of Europe.

Since its foundation in 1849, one of the pillars of our Chamber’s intervention is the international cooperation. Proof of this are the figures for the last five years, during which we developed more than 170 actions in 49 countries on all continents, through business missions or trade fairs participation.

We intend to continue on this path of intervention by expressing our full readiness to strengthen the ties that unite our institutions, working together to bring companies closer to the countries we represent and, consequently, our countries.

The AEP renews its sincere congratulations to all CCLBL’s governing bodies, its members and collaborators on the centenary celebration.

Luís Miguel Ribeiro

President of the Portuguese Entrepreneurial Association - Chamber of Commerce and Industry



GEOGRAPHY

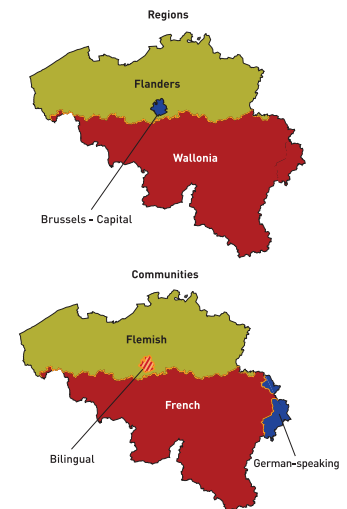
With a total area of 30,528 km² and 11.4 million people, Belgium is one of the most densely populated countries in the world, with 376 people per km². The federal capital, Brussels, is located in the geographical center of the European Union. Road, rail, air, sea, telecommunications and intercom networks are dense and modern

Independence dates from 1830. Since 1993, Belgium has been a Federal State composed of three communities (Flemish, French and German-speaking), three regions (Flanders, Brussels-Capital and Wallonia) and four linguistic regions (French, Dutch, bilingual in Brussels-Capital and German). The three communities and the three regions have recovered competencies from the Federal State. However, it is up to the Federal State to manage the sectors of interest to all Belgians. The three official languages are French (40%), Dutch (60%) and German (<1%).

European country

The central geographical situation makes Belgium one of the most important countries in Western Europe. Although it seems paradoxical, we could say that Belgium already fulfilled, in a certain way, a “European” function even before becoming “Belgian”. Just think of the role of Bruges and Antwerp, in the past, in international trade; in Leuven, as a university city; and in Liège, during the industrial revolution.

Belgium, considered the capital of the European Union, is a founding country





of the Benelux in 1944 (B-NL-L); of the 1948 Treaty of Brussels (B-NL-L-FR-UK); of the NATO in 1949; of the European Coal and Steel Community, ECSC (B-NL-L-FR-GE-IT); and of the EEC, in 1957.

Some of the most appreciated characteristics of Belgium are the quality, flexibility and productivity of the workforce, multiculturalism and multilingualism, quality of life, level of education, gastronomy, heritage, company taxation, open economy (exports more than 80% of its GDP), creativity, logistics, education and health services, and open real estate market.

The monarchy in Belgium

Philippe of Belgium is the 7th King of the Belgians. In the political domain, the monarch's action does not exercise of its own power, but exercises jointly with the Government. The King is in contact with numerous representatives of the Belgian society and, together with the Queen and the other members of the royal family, represents Belgium abroad. Kings also maintain close contact with citizens and encourage public and private initiatives that contribute to the improvement of society.

Some numbers

2019 – Source: NBB

GDP (Gross Domestic Product) :
473.1 billion € | 40,960 € per capita

Exports

397.7 billion € (84% of GDP)

Imports

381 billion € (81% of GDP)

Main customers

Germany (17%), France (15%),
Netherlands (9%)

Main suppliers

Netherlands (17%), Germany (13%),
France (10%), USA (8%), Ireland (5%),
China (4%), UK (4%)

Main exports

Chemical products (25%), transport
materials (13%), machines (11%),
mineral products /9%), plastics
(8%), base metals and articles (8%),
prepared foodstuffs (6%)

Main imports

Chemicals products (23%), transport
material (14%), machines (13%),
mineral products (13%), base metals
and articles (7%), plastics (5%),
prepared foodstuffs (4%)

A WORD FROM THE AMBASSADOR OF BELGIUM



I welcome the publication of this book on the centenary of the LBLCC, which illustrates the diversity of Belgian investment in Portugal and its contribution to the development of bilateral economic and trade relations between the two countries.

We enjoy excellent bilateral relations and we are working hard to further expand our bilateral trade and investment.

Today, as the world and its people face a pandemic which has turned our lives and social lives upside down, it's more essential than ever to think on the long-term. We also face the two crucial challenges of the ongoing green and digital transitions.

Now more than ever, our production, consumption and investments must be sustainable. The long-term objective is the establishment of circular economies, centered on sustainable and inclusive development. The aim is also to ensure that everyone has a place and a role to play which lives up to their expectations. The United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals is a roadmap to be achieved by 2030 by all the countries of the world and will guarantee that no one is left by the wayside.

The Chamber of Commerce can take an active part in these projects and objectives, in particular through active support for start-ups and for young Belgians and Portuguese who wish to develop their economic and social activities between our two countries.

I am convinced that thanks to the support and contributions of all of you, the Chamber will participate with ambition and determination.

Geneviève Renaux
Ambassador

FEDERATION OF BELGIAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

A NETWORK OF TRUSTED PARTNERS FOR BUSINESS SUCCESS

One hundred years is a respectable age, but in the universe of the Chambers of Commerce it is still youth.

The first Chamber was established in Marseille, in 1599, and set an example for many others, which would be founded in the following years with the effort of merchants to gather knowledge in a corporate organization that could defend and promote the economic interests of their cities. And that hasn't changed over the centuries.



Belgian Chambers

Today, the Chambers of Commerce form a global network of 10,000 associations, which embrace the same mission: to defend a business-friendly climate, provide services to businesses and contribute to the economic development of their region. Within this global network, the Belgian Chambers play a leading role, with seats at the board of the ICC-World Chambers Federation and EUROCHAMBRES, among other institutions.

The Federation of Belgian Chambers of Commerce represents the 13 Chambers of Commerce in Belgium and 33 Belgo-Luxembourg Chambers of Commerce abroad, focusing our operations on three fundamental pillars: facilitating international trade with a strong emphasis on the online issue of export documents; support companies in their international expansion; help entrepreneurs find sustainable solutions to society's new challenges.

We always work together with our members, the local and bilateral chambers, because they are closer to companies. With our accreditation and training programs, we ensure that the Chambers will be strong, reliable and quality partners for their members.

For Belgian companies, international entrepreneurship is of vital importance. The bilateral Chambers of Commerce play a crucial role in this, in addition to the work of the Belgian federal and regional representatives. After all, the added value of a bilateral Chamber lies in the knowledge of the terrain, in the daily practice of entrepreneurs and businesspersons who experience, every day, what it is to think and do business in that particular country. A bilateral Chamber is a network of companies that can help each other, but also facilitate support for newcomers to the market in order to operate successfully abroad.

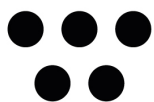
We are proud that CCLBL is part of our network and we congratulate it on its 100th anniversary. We hope that CCLBL will continue to reveal the same momentum over the next 100 years and to remain a firm and indispensable partner of Portuguese and Belgian business.

René Branders, President

Wouter Van Gulck, General Manager

AWEX

AN ADDED VALUE FOR INVESTORS



Wallonia.be

Feel inspired



Wallonia, Belgium's French-speaking region, holds a privileged position within the heart of Europe: 60% of the 500 million European consumers are located within a 1000km radius. This location, allied to its developed infrastructures which facilitate distribution (namely the 5 multimodal platforms at the doorsteps of Germany, The Netherlands and France), make Wallonia an added value for foreign investors.

There are several interesting financial incentives – important tax-free European and regional support: in some areas of the territory they can reach up to 10% of investment for large enterprises and 30% for SMEs. Two hundred public activity parks, with wide spaces and fully equipped buildings, at some of Europe's lowest real estate rates, are available and localised next to Europe's large communication corridors.

In order to promote activity and employment in promising economic sectors, competitiveness clusters were created in 2006, gathering large enterprises, SMEs, Universities, grandes écoles and research

centres. These clusters also enable the Walloon industry to benefit from a larger international visibility and have the following designations: Logistics in Wallonia¹ (transportation and logistics), Skywin² (aeronautics and space industry), GreenWin³ (chemical engineering and sustainable materials), BioWin⁴ (biotech and Health), WagraLim⁵ (agrotech) e MecaTech⁶ (mechanical engineering).

Wallonia represents around 0.1% of the world's GDP and its companies generate 0.3% of the world's trade. On average about 70% of the business generated by Walloon companies is directed to exports, one of the world's highest export rates (EU average: 30%). Belgian exports to Portugal totalled € 1.265,95 million in 2016, with an impressive growth of 38.3% during the first semester of 2017.

Wallonia is, therefore, at the helm of European regions thanks to its strategy of attraction of foreign investment. Wallonia's international presence is also due to the global notoriety of its innovation capability and to the industrial valorisation of products originating in fundamental

research. From this perspective the brand "Digital Wallonia" was born, standing on 5 structured aspects: the digital sector, the digital economy, the intelligent and connected territory, public services, competencies and employment. This platform supplies services and support to public and private agents connected to the implementation of the digital strategy. An asset for the Portuguese market, where new technologies are considered one of the promising sectors.

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1 www.logisticsinwallonia.be 2 www.skywin.be 3 www.greenwin.be 4 www.biowin.org 5 www.wagraLim.be 6 www.polemecatech.be

hub.brussels

BRUSSELS:
THE PERFECT ECOSYSTEM FOR
INTERNATIONALIZATION



Brussels, an epicenter of political and economic decisions, is home to most European institutions. More than 1500 international organizations, 2000 associations and about 1300 foreign companies live side-by-side with various lobbying companies, public relations agencies and diplomatic representations. It is a whole microcosm favourable to business!

Cosmopolitan and multilingual, 30% of the capital's inhabitants are foreign citizens, mainly from Europe, Africa and Turkey. The cost of living - including residential and commercial real estate - remains, however, moderate, and the quality of life is unanimously recognized. The excellent transport infrastructures (motorway network, high-speed trains, a port and an airport) guarantee an easy international access. Paris is only 1h20 by train and London, Amsterdam and Cologne around 1h50.

Economically served by skilled labour, Brussels-Capital Region generates 19% of GDP, accounts for about 15% of Belgian exports of

goods and services and concentrates 22% of the country's investments. The services sector accounts for 90% of employment and added value.

Its geostrategic position, combined with a favourable socio-economic context, makes Brussels an essential destination for SMEs specialized in ICT, health, architecture and construction, fashion and design, food, but also in the services sector.

Several countries have been able to take advantage of this dynamic ecosystem. According to the National Bank of Belgium, Portugal is in the top 20 of the region's economic customers, while in 2016, it held the 17th place as a supplier and 20th place as a customer in our Region.

Portuguese companies willing to develop their business in the Brussels market can count on the support of Agence Bruxelloise pour l'Accompagnement de l'Entreprise (hub.brussels). The agency supports foreign investors who intend to settle in Brussels and / or develop their business internationally. Its spearhead? The Welcome package.

The Welcome package allows investor candidates to assess, under real conditions, the interest of an implementation in Brussels. An equipped office and personalized assistance are offered for three months. The 91 economic and commercial attachés, present throughout the world, have the mission of supporting, free of charge, companies to investigate concrete results in their respective sectors.

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For many years Flanders is worldwide known as a 'super trading region'. Thanks to its unique location in the heart of Europe's purchasing power and its business-oriented mindset, it's the perfect place for business and foreign investment. Flanders ensures smooth access to one of the world's highest concentrations of people, money, and industries.

But Flanders is much more than its central location. Flanders aims to be a pioneer in the European knowledge society and economy in a wide range of sectors by boosting its knowledge base and innovative potential. A strong and deep collaboration between industry, academic, and governmental institutions is the engine behind this success story. A tight network of R&D clusters, innovative universities, and 4 cutting-edge strategic research centers in nano – and digital technology, life sciences and biotech, energy, sustainable materials, and environment, and (additive) manufacturing technologies, offers investors a unique and accessible platform to innovate and to grow. With a unique set of R&D incentive-tools, Flanders welcomes corporates, startups, and institutions to be part of a top-notch knowledge region.

FLANDERS INVESTMENT AND TRADE – OUR MISSION

Flanders Investment & Trade (FIT) is the government agency of Flanders, the northern region of Belgium. FIT has an intelligent network anchored in more than 70 cities worldwide and in 5 cities in Flanders. The HQ is located in Brussels, the capital of Europe. FIT promotes international enterprise in Flanders in a sustainable way as a key factor in the social and economic development of the region.

Dispersed over more than 100 offices across the main economic centers in the world, FIT supports the international activities of Flanders based companies through free-of-charge advice, market information, and a wide range of actions & events. SME's, bigger companies, entrepreneur's organizations, or chambers of commerce can also turn to FIT in order to be granted financial support.

Furthermore FIT assists foreign companies looking to set up or expand operations in Flanders. The agency identifies, informs, advises and supports overseas enterprises by establishing production and research facilities, contact centers, headquarters, logistics operations, and the like in Flanders.

In 2019, Flanders accounted for 81.31% of the total value of exports from Belgium. On a global scale, Flanders accounted for 1.93% of worldwide merchandise exports, ranking 15th in 2019.

For many years, Portugal has been a stable and reliable trading partner for Flanders. Over the last 5 years, there has been a steady growth in Flemish merchandise exports to Portugal. In 2019, annual exports from Flanders to Portugal reached € 1.97 billion, up 9.31% year-on-year. Portugal accounted for 0.61% of the total value of global annual exports from Flanders and thus ranked at position number 26 among Flemish export partner countries.

The internationalization of the Flemish economy is a top priority for the current government. The 'Accelerating Flanders Strategy 2017 -2021' focusses both on encouraging Flemish businesses to venture abroad and on attraction to and retention in Flanders of foreign owned companies. In the 'Accelerating Flanders Strategy' 2017-2021 5 'accelerators' are identified: Life Sciences & Health, Food, Solution driven engineering & technology, Smart Logistics, and Sustainable resources and Materials & Chemistry.

A stylized map of Luxembourg is shown in a light blue color, positioned on the right side of the image. The map's outline is irregular, following the country's geographical shape. The background is a dark blue gradient.

LUX
EM
BOURG



GEOGRAPHY

Surface: 2,586 km²

Population: 626,100 people, 47% of whom are foreign nationals and 15% Portuguese.

Luxembourg is located in the geographical center of the European Union.

A representative democracy

The State of Luxembourg is a representative democracy, in the form of a constitutional monarchy, of which the Crown is hereditary in the Nassau family. Its independence dates from 1839. Three officially recognised languages: Luxembourgish, German and French.

European country

Due to its geopolitical situation, located in the heart of Europe and wedged between two great powers

(France and Germany, sworn enemies along the way), Luxembourg was obliged, since the 19th century, to look for openings towards the future. Ultimately, it was the European project that, after World War II, gave these integration efforts their true dimension and intrinsic value.

Luxembourg currently hosts the headquarters of numerous international organizations. The country's main advantages lie in its strategic location in Europe, in the quality of the transport, logistics and telecommunications infrastructure,



in the availability of qualified and multilingual workforce, in the political and social stability, in the existence of an attractive legislative and fiscal framework, and a multicultural and international environment, with an open spirit and a high quality of life.

The Luxembourg economy

Open, dynamic and trustworthy, the Luxembourg economy provides the highest GDP per capita in the world (US\$ 102,200), in addition to low rates of inflation and unemployment. The industrial sector, initially dominated by steel production, has diversified to include the chemical and rubber sectors.

Growth in the financial sector corresponds to approximately 22% of GDP and offset the decline in steel. State-of-the-art technologies, such as satellite communications, space mining, biotechnologies and data centers have also, for the past few years, been an important contribution to the Luxembourg economy.

Some numbers

2019 – Source: Statoc

Exports

13.3 billion € (21% of GDP)

Imports

20 billion € (32% of GDP)

Main customers

Germany (26%), France (16%), Belgium (12%), Netherlands (6%), Italy (4%), UK (4%)

Main suppliers

Belgium (36%), Germany (26%), France (12%), Netherlands (6%), USA (3%)

Main exports

Base metals and articles (23%), Machines (20%), Plastics (15%), Transport material (10%), Chemicals (10%) Textiles (4%), Animals (4%), Prepared foodstuffs (4%)

Main imports

Transport material (18%), Machines (17%), Base metals (12%), Mineral products (11%), Plastics (8%), Chemical products (8%)

A WORD FROM THE AMBASSADOR OF LUXEMBOURG



My country Luxembourg can be a particularly interesting partner for Portugal as well as for other EU countries in the post-pandemic economic recovery process. Luxembourg and Portugal traditionally enjoy close and very cordial political relations. The presence of a large and well-integrated Portuguese community in the Grand Duchy is a major factor in this.

One of my main priorities as Luxembourg's ambassador to Portugal is to bring our respective economies and economic players closer together. I have no doubt that our economic relations still have considerable potential for development. Space, finance, environmental technologies, logistics, information technologies, maritime affairs, industrial production and health are key sectors of the Luxembourg economy where very interesting opportunities for cooperation and partnership exist.

More than one hundred years old, the Luso-Belgo-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce (CCLBL) unites three countries that share particularly close bilateral relations. The strength of these links is not only based on a proximity of political and economic views, but also on an exceptional understanding on a human level. For decades, the movement of people between our three countries has been very intense. The constant networking resulting from permanent or temporary migration has greatly favoured the emergence of new economic opportunities.

Like all comparable organisations, the CCLBL has experienced, during its long history, ups and downs, moments of feverish activity and phases of relative inaction. During a recent period, this venerable institution has rendered valuable services to my country, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, by supporting our efforts to promote the Luxembourg economy in Portugal. At the same time, with its multiple contacts, it has always constituted a very useful network for all Luxembourg Ambassadors in Portugal.

The Covid-19 pandemic has forced our companies to slow down. The virus will also have affected the CCLBL, but without weakening it. Confronted with a whole series of new challenges, it has just entered a new period of

change and I predict that from 2021 it will find a new youth by reinventing itself to better adapt to the multiple demands of the 21st century.

It is under the leadership of its new President, Mrs. Chantal Sohier, that a profound process of modernisation and revitalisation of the CCLBL has been initiated. Together with my Belgian colleague, I support this renewal with all my strength, as there is no alternative if we want to keep a CCLBL that can continue to play its role by providing us with useful and much appreciated services.

This is why I would like to encourage all Luxembourg companies interested in Portugal to become active members of the CCLBL as far as possible. The CCLBL also has the support of the Luxembourg Ministry of Economy and the Chamber of Commerce of my country. I wish Mrs Sohier every success and assure her once again of the full support of the Luxembourg Ambassador in her efforts to transform the CCLBL into a real force multiplier for the development of our economic relations with Portugal.

Conrad Bruch

Ambassador of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

LUXEMBOURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Connecting the heart of Europe and the Atlantic

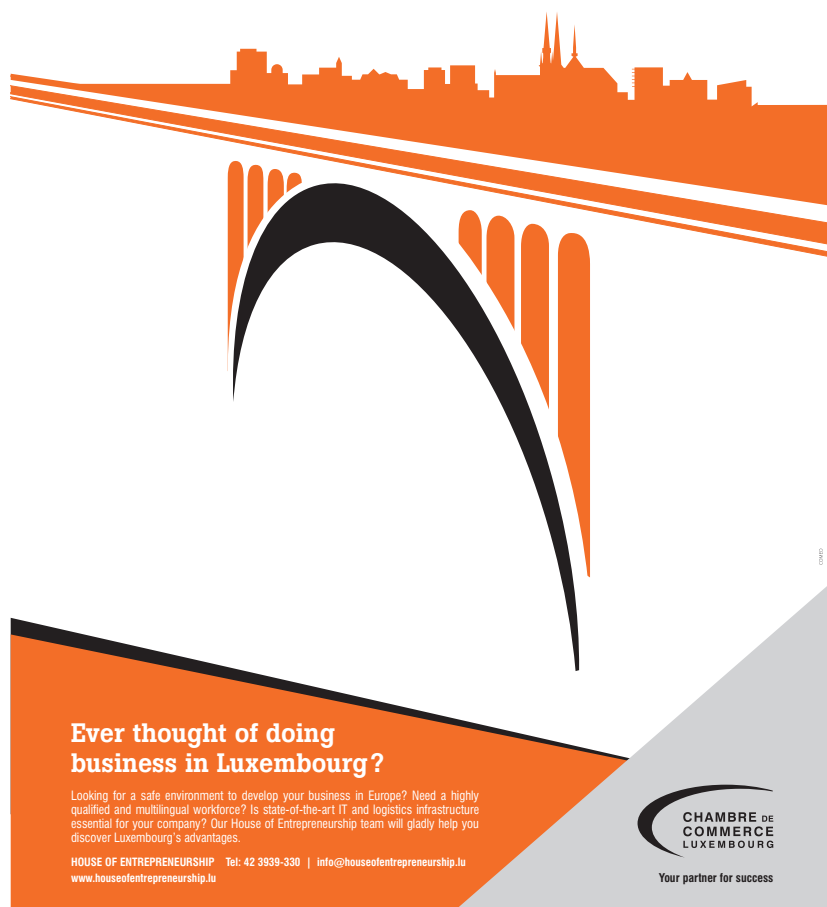
Trade ties and business relations between Luxembourg and Portugal have never been stronger. Around 3000 Portuguese companies export directly and indirectly to the Grand Duchy, with many Portuguese multinational and financial companies having a dedicated center here to serve a wider European market. Luxembourg companies accounted for 19% of all direct foreign investments in Portugal in 2017, making the Grand Duchy the third largest investor in the country.

These links are expected to strengthen thanks to increasing activity in various growth sectors. And there is also an evolution in cooperation between the ecosystems of startups, universities and research centers of the two countries. A job that is facilitated by regular daily flights offered by four airlines. These routes not only promote international business and personal networks, but also provide access to the Portuguese sun and hospitality to thousands of tourists residing in and around Luxembourg.

This dynamism did not happen by chance. It is due to the long-term work of people, companies and governments, often working through the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce (CCLBL).

Luxembourg has been working closely with its Belgian neighbours for centuries. This tight relationship led to the creation in 1922 of the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union (a forerunner of the European Union), as well as to numerous joint initiatives to promote investment and international trade. Created in January 1918, CCLBL was part of this trend and continues to play an important role in stimulating trilateral cooperation.

The ties between Luxembourg and Portugal are particularly strong, given the fact that tens of thousands of Portuguese have settled here. Today, about one in six residents of Luxembourg have Portuguese nationality.



Ever thought of doing business in Luxembourg?

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www.houseofentrepreneurship.lu

CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE LUXEMBOURG
Your partner for success

Companies and governments have worked to encourage this flow of talent, which has been an essential part of Luxembourg's economic success.

Today, citizens and decision-makers in both countries are working together to build the growth industries of the future. There is growing cross-border cooperation through research, development and innovation in sectors as diverse as biotechnology, financial technology and space. CCLBL remains an important forum through which similar development strategies will continue to shape.

As far as these professional links are concerned, the ties between Luxembourg and Portugal are deeply human. These networks will become increasingly important as our countries and Europe embrace the exciting challenges that await us. CCLBL will continue to support the millions of personal and business relationships that will build future success.

On behalf of the Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce, I would like to express my sincere congratulations to the CCLBL for its 100th anniversary. A century of success is an impressive achievement and we address our best wishes for the next hundred years of achievements.

Carlo Thelen

Director-General of the Luxembourg
Chamber of Commerce



LUXINNOVATION

#MakingInnovationHappen

Luxinnovation is Luxembourg's national innovation agency. It encourages and supports companies to innovate and to grow, whilst facilitating their collaboration with public research players.

We offer a wide portfolio of services to companies and public research organisations in order to foster innovation, thus supporting the Government's economic development objectives.

Also ensures that Luxembourg continues to attract international investment, companies and skills that are a perfect fit for the country.

We are committed to helping companies looking for the ideal location for their European headquarters or branch office succeed with your international expansion.

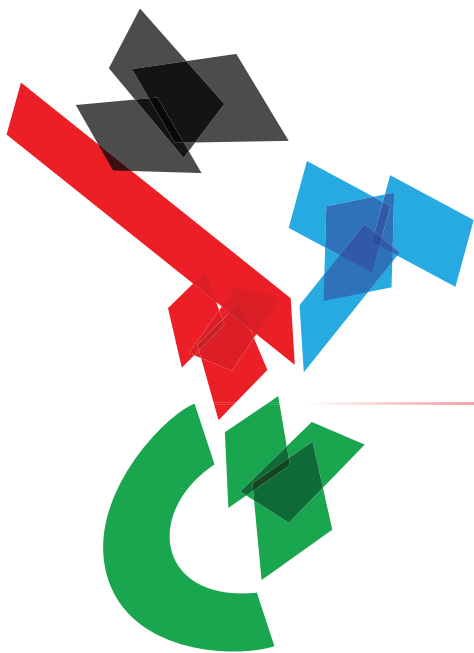


Together with our partners, we can provide you with the information needed to take an informed decision on whether Luxembourg is the right place for your business and guide you through the whole process of setting up your company here, launching your activity and expanding on the European market.

+352 43 62 63 1

info@luxinnovation.lu

www.luxinnovation.lu

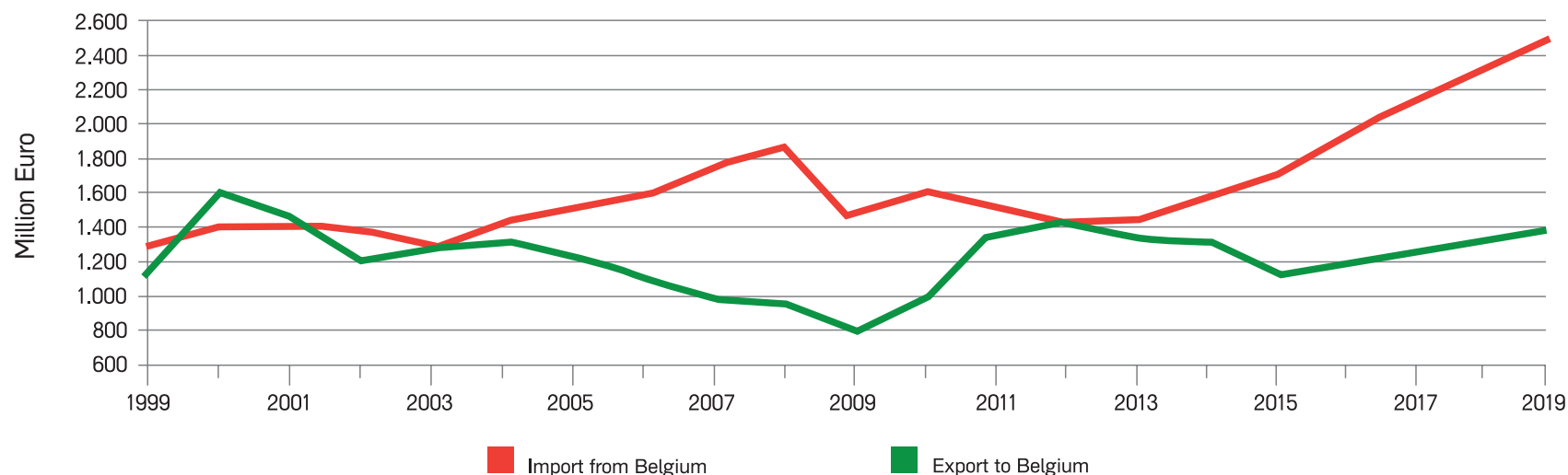


BUSINESS RELATIONS

BETWEEN PORTUGAL, BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG

Commercial relations between Portugal and Belgium

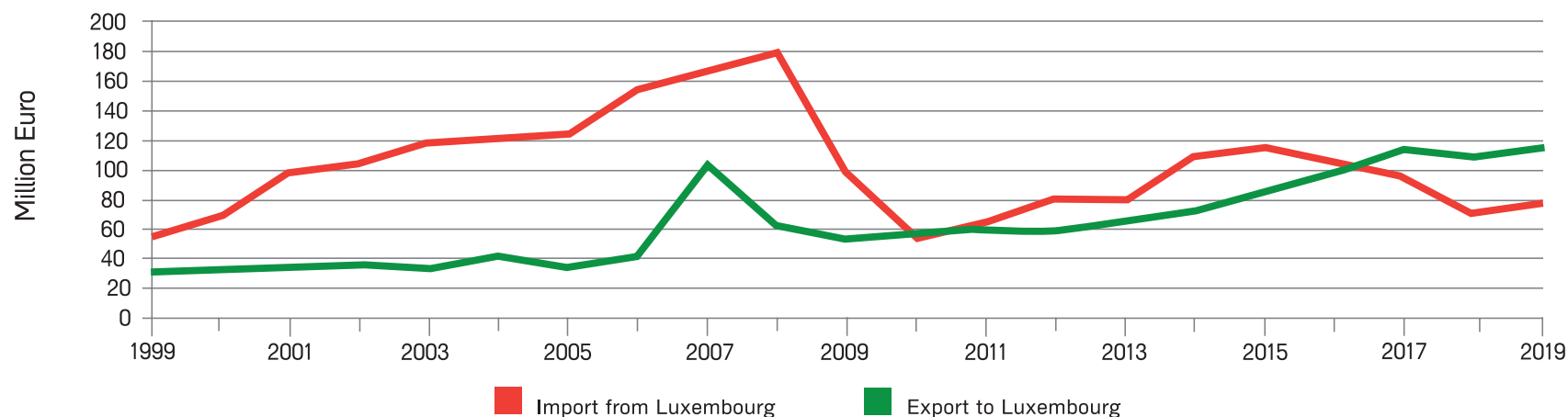
2019 – Source: INE



Imports 2019 from Belgium	Exports 2019 to Belgium
2,482 million €	1,391 million €
Belgium is the 7th supplier of Portugal	Belgium is the 8th client of Portugal
19% Products of the chemical or allied industries	13% Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment
19% Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment	12% Mineral products
11% Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment	12% Products of the chemical or allied industries
10% Mineral products	11% Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment
8% Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof	9% Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof
7% Base metals and articles of base metal	7% Textiles and textile articles
7% Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits	7% Base metals and articles of base metal
5% Textiles and textile articles	6% Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits
4% Footwear, headgear	4% Vegetable products
3% Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring	3% Footwear, headgear

Commercial relations between Portugal and Luxembourg

2019 – Source: INE



Imports 2019 from Luxembourg		Exports 2019 to Luxembourg	
77 million €		114 million €	
24%	Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment	26%	Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits
22%	Base metals and articles of base metal	17%	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment
13%	Products of the chemical or allied industries	9%	Live animals; animal products
11%	Textiles and textile articles	8%	Articles of stone, plaster, cement, ceramic, glass
11%	Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof	7%	Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment
9%	Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits	6%	Vegetable products
6%	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment	6%	Base metals and articles of base metal
		5%	Miscellaneous manufactured articles
		5%	Miscellaneous manufactured articles

EVOLUTION OF COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG

The relations between Portugal and Flanders and, later on, with Luxembourg are very old. In the year 350 BC, there was knowledge of the installation of bands of Belgian founders of settlements in “domum” (house) in Lusitanian lands.

The Flemish Crusaders played an important role in the takeover of Lisbon in 1147, and several marriages between stately families brought people together.

From a strictly commercial point of view, we can point out relationships that date from the middle of the

13th century and the creation, in the beginning of the 16th century, of a factory in Flanders that, at 1503, settled in Antwerp.

During the Middle Ages and especially, in the period of the Discoveries, Portugal thus established a very important trade with the cities of Bruges and Antwerp.

In fact, Antwerp functioned in the 16th century, as a distribution platform, in Northern Europe, of the wealth brought from India by Portuguese navigators, namely precious stones and spices.

An important Flemish colony was established at the time in Lisbon.

Growing business

The industrial revolution reinforced these privileged relations. Large industrial groups and large Belgian entrepreneurs set up manufacturing units and mining operations and were at the base of Lisbon's electrification.

Portugal mainly exported canned fish, Douro wines, cork, minerals (stones and pyrites) and resin products. And mainly imported metallurgical products, machinery and pharmaceutical products.

Currently, the majority of goods exported are machinery, chemicals, vehicles and transport material, and plastic materials.

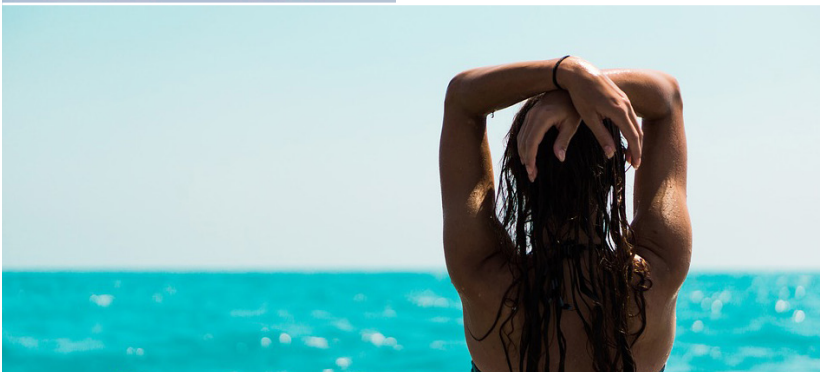
While the majority of imports are chemical products, machinery, vehicles and transport material, plastics and metals.

Transactions with Belgium (INE-2019)

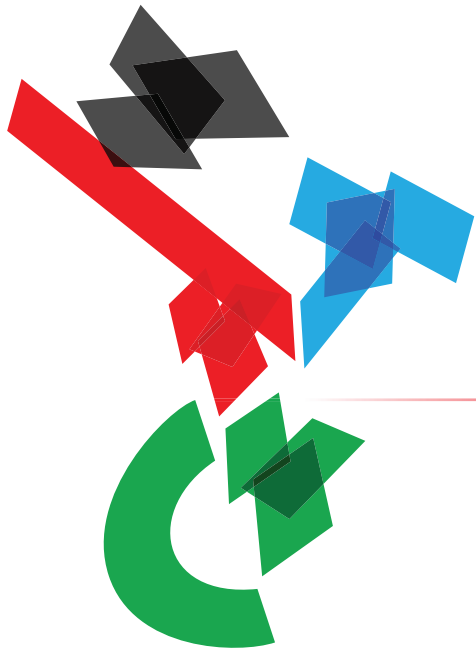
- Imports from Belgium: 2,482 M€
- Exports to Belgium: 1,391 M€

Transactions with Luxembourg (INE-2019)

- Imports from Luxembourg: 77 M€
- Exports to Luxembourg: 114 M€



The trade balance is favorable to Portugal in services (travel and tourist products)



PARTNER TESTIMONIALS

• Portuguese-French Chamber of Commerce and Industry

One hundred years is a long life for an institution and such an event deserves, of course, to be marked and celebrated, as the Portuguese-French Chamber did in 2017, in which it also completed the beautiful age of 130 years.

My congratulations, therefore, and the hope that in the next hundred years the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber will continue to play a strong role in the business community of the three countries and serve as a meeting point between their companies and people.

We are all citizens of a single continent, of an area of freedom and tolerance, with rooted historical, cultural, linguistic and religious affinities. We face complex challenges in an increasingly globalized and multipolar world, where new powers emerge with very different political, social and economic systems and with whom, while underlining the difference through even greater cohesion, it is necessary to coexist in peace.

I also hope that the two chambers will continue to collaborate and relate in the exemplary way as they have done to date, promoting common initiatives or adhering to those of each of them, and facilitating a closer relationship between their associates.

Carlos Aguiar
President of CCILF

• Dutch Portuguese Chamber of Commerce

On behalf of the Governing Board of the Dutch Portuguese Chamber of Commerce, we are pleased to contribute to the digital book of the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce.

This year your Chamber celebrates its 102th anniversary and it is a pleasure for us to count on your Chamber as a longstanding partner. The Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg stood at the cradle of the formation of the European Union with the BENELUX and will hopefully remain friendly countries and allies for a very long time to come.

We wish CCLBL a prosperous future and look forward to a continuation of our pleasant collaboration.

Nuno Pinto Magalhães
President of CCPH



• Swiss Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Portugal

The Swiss Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Portugal congratulates the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce on its 100th anniversary. We have had over the last 33 years, since the beginning of our existence in Portugal, an excellent relationship between the two Chambers.

We also want to thank the great collaboration we have received from all the team of this Chamber.

We wish the partners a close 100 years full of good bilateral relations and great business for the three countries represented.

António Bico
President of CCISP



• Belgo-Portuguese Chamber of Commerce

One of the oldest bilateral Chambers of Commerce in Belgium, the Belgian-Portuguese Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1938 by a group of five Belgian and Portuguese businessmen, under the aegis of R. Billiard, with the mission of promoting trade and investment between the two countries.

More than 80 years after its creation, our Chamber remains committed to pursuing its original mission, by promoting exchanges between its members, organising events, replying to requests for information of commercial, legal and fiscal nature, organising trade missions, etc.

In April 2019, when the current Board took office, we decided to launch the Chamber's European desk, that will use our privileged position in the heart of the European institutions as a bridge between business and policy-makers.



Rui Faria da Cunha,
current President of the CCBP

CCBP has currently around 50 members, that range from trade associations to large companies and SMEs in different areas of industry and services, such as textile, chemical, agri-food, legal, consulting and financial services, among others.

In terms of management, the Chamber has a fourteen-member Board of Directors that oversees the implementation of the annual plan approved by the General Assembly, and 6-member “Bureau”, composed by the President, Treasurer, Secretary-General and Vice-Presidents, who runs the Chamber’s daily business with the assistance of a secretariat.

The funding channels are essentially three, namely: the annual contributions of members, which represent the largest source of income, the organisation of events and Belgian State subsidies.

The activities of our Chamber can be followed through its website (<https://www.ccb-portugal.be>) and on social media (<https://www.facebook.com/belgian.portuguese.chamber>). We may also be contacted by email (info@ccb-portugal.be) or correspondence (15 Rue Sainte Gertrude, 1040 Brussels, Belgium).

On behalf of the Belgian-Portuguese Chamber of Commerce and its members, I wish CCLBL’s members all the best for the year 2021.

Rui Faria da Cunha
President of CCBP



Flemish around the World

The **Vlamingen in de Wereld (VIW)** or Flemish around the World foundation is an advocacy group for citizens of Flanders who live, work or just stay abroad. VIW maintains a worldwide network of thousands of expatriate Flemings. The organization offers them a personalized service in emigration and expatriation related matters. Moreover, it acts as their spokesman towards the Flemish government.

Through a variety of initiatives which simplify and enrich the life of emigrating Flemings, VIW supports the integration of those who arrive in a new country. These tips and tricks comprise of advice on removals, handling of administrative burden related to pension funds and social security, tax laws, education and more.

VIW aims to create a network between people in Flanders and Flemings around the world. The best ambassadors of any nation are its citizens and VIW fulfils this by connecting Flemings in any possible way. Economic, cultural, social and human contacts boast the image of Flanders abroad.

In Portugal VIW is going through a transition. A lot of Flemings established themselves in Portugal many years ago and built their network the old fashioned way.

Today a new breed of Flemings is discovering Portugal and particularly Lisbon. The combination of its rich culture, good infrastructure, soft winters and excellent business opportunities for those with a healthy dose of Flemish entrepreneurship make Portugal a great destination for those wanting to work and live abroad close to home.

Initiatives are underway to accommodate this high demanding new kind of expat. VIW Portugal is working to connect these newcomers in the best possible way. Through a very active Facebook presence, regular social events and a well-established communication channel with the Chambers of Commerce of Belgium and Luxemburg in Portugal as well as the Belgian Embassy, VIW wants to raise the curiosity of these young wolves in the ever-busy socially connected world we live in today.



L'UFBE, depuis 1967 au service des Belges francophones expatriés

L'UFBE, créée en 1967, regroupe et représente toutes les catégories de Belges à l'étranger: agents des organisations internationales, artistes, cadres et techniciens, commerçants, coopérants officiels, coopérants volontaires, enseignants, étudiants, expatriés et émigrés, experts internationaux, missionnaires, salariés, ...

Aujourd'hui quelque 4000 membres directs et abonnés résident dans 120 pays font confiance à L'UFBE, sans compter les affiliés des cercles et associations également membres de L'UFBE.

L'UFBE, d'une part, défend en Belgique les intérêts des Belges à l'étranger et, d'autre part, les

aide à résoudre les innombrables problèmes de tout ordre qui se posent à eux aussi bien avant leur départ que lors de leur retour ou pendant leur séjour hors du pays (180 notices disponibles).

Voici quelques domaines, parmi d'autres, dans lesquels l'association s'efforce d'apporter des solutions tant à des problèmes généraux qu'à des cas particuliers :

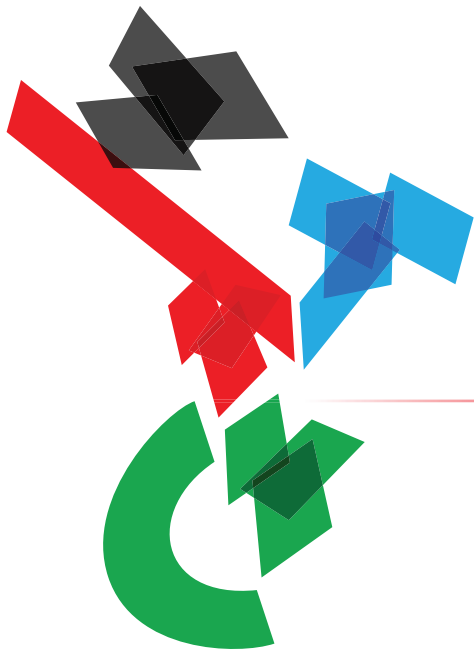
- Problèmes sociaux: pensions, assurances soins de santé, ...
- Problèmes d'études: allocations, équivalences, accès aux écoles françaises, ...
- Problèmes d'emploi: liste de sites internet, info allocations de chômage, ...

- Problèmes fiscaux: en Belgique et à l'étranger
- Problèmes administratifs: permis de conduire, immatriculation de voiture, ...
- Problèmes fondamentaux: information, double nationalité, droit de vote, ...
- Mise en relation des Belges quittant le pays avec ceux résidant déjà à l'étranger.

L'UFBE s'est associée avec Vlamingen in de Wereld et une série d'associations similaires européennes pour constituer une fédération européenne: "Les Européens dans le monde".

L'UFBE est reconnue par les autorités publiques suivantes :

- Wallonie Bruxelles International (WBI)
- SPF Affaires Etrangères
- Les gouvernements de la Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles, de la Région Wallonne, de la Région Bruxelles-Capitale
- L'Exécutif de la Commission Communautaire Francophone (COCOF)
- Les Provinces du Brabant Wallon, du Hainaut, de Liège, de Namur.



FEATURED MEMBER COMPANIES



Pensez-vous aux défis de demain ? Parlons-en aujourd'hui.

Abreu Advogados a un lien étroit avec le marché francophone. Le French Desk est composé d'une équipe multidisciplinaire, parlant couramment le français et ayant une connaissance approfondie de la dynamique de ce marché au niveau international.

Thinking about tomorrow? Let's talk today.

abreuadvogados.com

Abreu:
advogados

Future in progress

AGEAS



grupo
ageas[®]
portugal

DIVERSITY AND COMPLEMENTARITY AS THE KEY TO SUCCESS

Ageas is an international insurance group, based in Brussels, with over 190 years of experience and present in 14 countries. It concentrates its activities in Europe and Asia, which together make up the largest share of the global insurance market. In 2019, Ageas globally reached 35.9 billion euros in turnover and 979 million euros in current net income.

The strategy of the Ageas Group aims to invest in Portugal as one of the main markets, where it is intended to develop through strong partnerships and contributing to the development of the country and society, always providing value for its Customers.

Its mission is clear: to provide an emotional and relevant experience in people's lives, by being a reference partner in insurance and the best workplace for entrepreneurial people.

Grupo Ageas Portugal occupies the second position in the insurance market and is recognized by the Portuguese through different awards attributed to its five brands (Ageas Seguros, Ageas Pensões, Médis, Ocidental and Seguro Directo).

In order to diversify the business and be close to its Customers, the Grupo Ageas Portugal goes beyond insurance, offering a wide range of services through Clínica Médis, Kleya, Go Far, Ageas Repara and Mundo Ageas.

The ambition to do more and better, to surprise and be more present in the lives of customers, leads Grupo Ageas Portugal to invest in Innovation and Corporate Social Responsibility, guiding the company towards society and addressing significant and emerging problems, on the one hand through business solutions, on the other through Fundação Ageas.

This commitment is also a reality when it comes to its employees, as an employer of 1,281 people in Portugal and counting with a few thousand business partners.

The purpose is simple, to be a reference employer for its Employees and to count on excellent professionals, true brand ambassadors and entrepreneurs capable of offering the best service to their Customers.



Photo captions

1. Realex – 60,000 sq.m mixed development scheme – Brussels, Belgium
2. Square 42 – 20,350 sq.m offices and 1,250 sq.m retail – Esch-sur-Alzette, Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg
3. WellBe – 28,355 sq.m offices and 1,240 sq.m retail – Lisbon, Portugal

www.atenor.eu

OUR IDENTITY

ATENOR is a Belgian real estate development company listed on the continuous market of Euronext Brussels. Its mission is to propose, based on its planning and architectural approach, adequate responses to the new demands created by the evolution of the urban and professional life. In this context,

ATENOR invests in prestigious and large-scale real estate projects that meet the highest criteria in terms of location, economic efficiency and respect for the environment together with the best standards of comfort and well-being for the occupants.

ATENOR develops its activities throughout Europe, with 29 offices, residential or mixed-use projects in its portfolio, representing a total of more than 1,270,000 square meters. Present in 9 European countries,

ATENOR opts for dynamic markets, supported by strong economic growth, and is committed to making sustainable cities flourish and improving the quality of city-dwellers' lives.

OUR TALENTS

ATENOR combines international reach with local expertise. Each market has its own specifics, demands, habits and partner networks, but also its own challenges and responsibilities, which only specialized experts can grasp. That is why we have put local teams in place in each of the countries where we are present. Guided and driven by the same values and the same quest of excellence, our 95 team members imagine, every day, projects that match the challenges and demands of their city and their market.



SUSTAINABILITY

Eco-logical, smart, connected, community-minded, focused on their residents and their well-being. That's what tomorrow sustainable cities will be all about.

To address these challenges, ATENOR investments are attuned to sustainable development. ATENOR is committed to play its part in lowering the current global emissions trajectory, supporting adaptation to climate change in cities, reducing pollution and damage to the natural environment, and increasing the use of renewable resources. To succeed, ATENOR can draw on its expertise while continuing to invest massively in innovation and new technologies applied to the real estate industry. To highlight our commitment and the transparency of its actions, ATENOR has embarked on two best-in-class international certification processes: BREEAM and WELL. Both BREEAM and WELL certifications highlight how ATENOR projects implement sustainable and concrete solutions to address these environmental and societal challenges at global level as well as in the day-to-day life.





BACCHUS
Loja de cerveja Belga



www.cervejabacchus.pt

info@cervejabacchus.pt

www.hopinbeershop.com

info@hopinbeershop.com

Bacchus, Loja de Cerveja Belga is a young Portuguese company. We mainly import and distribute Belgian beers throughout Portugal.

We have more than 200 different beers on our offer. We supply both catering and private customers.

"At Bacchus, Loja de Cerveja Belga, we want to take you on a journey of discovery. Belgian beer is our great passion, but we also import beers from other parts of the world and stock fantastic artisanal beers from right here in Portugal. We hope to share with you our love of beer culture and are always hunting for the latest beer sensations."



BIU Internacional, Consultoria e Comércio, Lda.

(Trading & Consultancy)

BIU Internacional will celebrate its 30th business anniversary in 2021 !

Civil engineers Erik Ulrix and Denise Dacach Ulrix, both graduated from the Catholic University of Leuven (KUL) with a Master Degree in Architectural Engineering in 1988 decided to move to Portugal.

After a tough start in 1991, they founded the company BIU Internacional Lda., dedicated to technical consulting, importing, retailing and the processing of construction products, as well as providing specialized services in the domain of civil construction. Today, the company represents some 15 international companies.

The belgian companies are:



<https://www.bekaert.com/>



HENGELHOEF
CONCRETE JOINTS

<https://www.hcjoins.be/>



<http://www.fitco.be/>



construx

<https://www.construx.eu/en/>

FORTIUS

<https://www.fortius.be/>

In the last 3 decades we have managed to establish solid partnerships with world-renowned market-leading companies, giving us a privileged position in the market and ensuring a quality-oriented service to our customers.

Our main activities are:

- Marketing of construction products, together with technical support
- Advisory services
- Trials, on site or in specialized laboratories
- Specialized tasks, such as:
 - industrial floors (design, concept, jointless floors)
 - technical screeds for concrete floors
 - concrete repair, reinforcement and corrosion protection
 - grouting with non-shrinkage mortars
 - injections for the treatment of rising damp in walls
 - natural stone repair works.

Contact: BIU Internacional - SEDE Rua Gil Vicente nº 4 - Arcena
 2615-223 Alverca do Ribatejo, Portugal

Tel: (+351) 219 578 888 | Mob: (+351) 963 056 234 | email: info@biu.pt

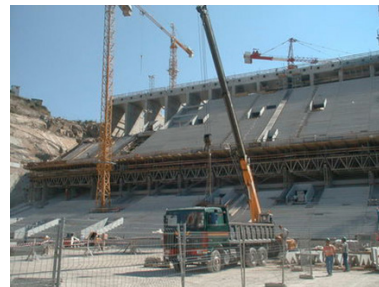
Some references



Palácio Nacional de Queluz (rising damp)



Museu Nacional dos Coches (rising damp)



Football Stadiums (Benfica, Sporting, Braga, Aveiro)
 (epoxy screeds, masonry reinforcement, grouts)



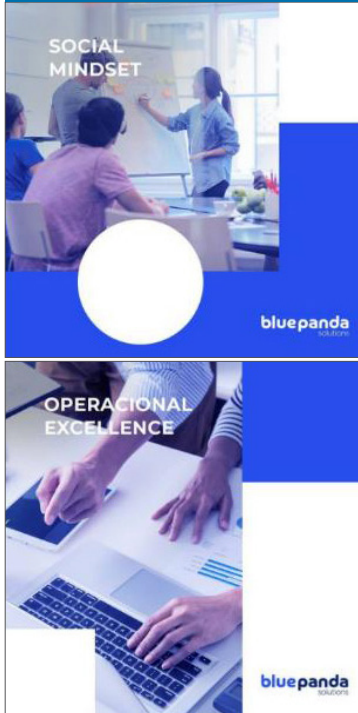
Fábrica IKEA em Paços de Ferreira
 (steel fiber floors)



AUTO EUROPA – Palmela
 (steel fiber floors, epoxy screeds, grouting)

BluePanda

BLUEPANDA IS A NEARSHORE COMPANY
CREATED BY BELGIUM PARTNERS.



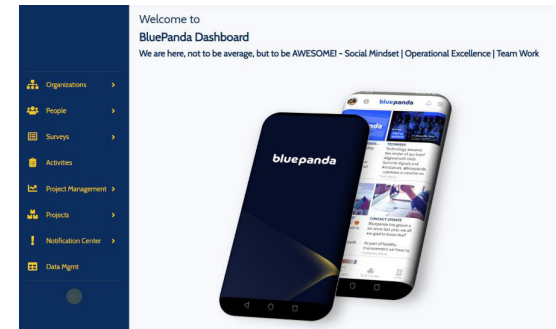
bluepanda

Based in Portugal, with offices in Lisbon, Braga and Viseu, where we provide the best people resources and IT Solutions for our clients, which are, most of them, based in Belgium and the Netherlands.

Our mission is to improve lives, by focusing on employee happiness and customer satisfaction.

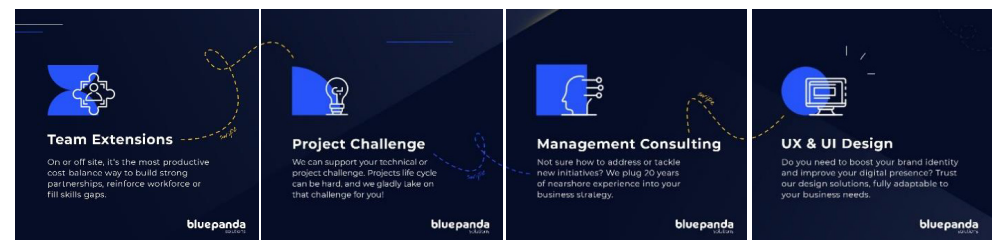
We have built an awesome team, on whom we invest to create Top Professionals and Happy Individuals. This is our key factor to provide the best solutions to our customer needs and challenges: with smiles, flexibility, and professionalism.

Technical solutions are what comes next: we make sure to apply optimized working principles to deliver, improve skills and share knowledge.



At BluePanda, Custom development of web, mobile and enterprise solutions, go hand in hand with delivering motivated and skilled consultants.

Bringing people together, supporting creative ideas and cherishing a multi-cultural environment in a gender balance culture help us to make a difference in society. We are proud to be a reliable employer that provides a healthy work-life balance.

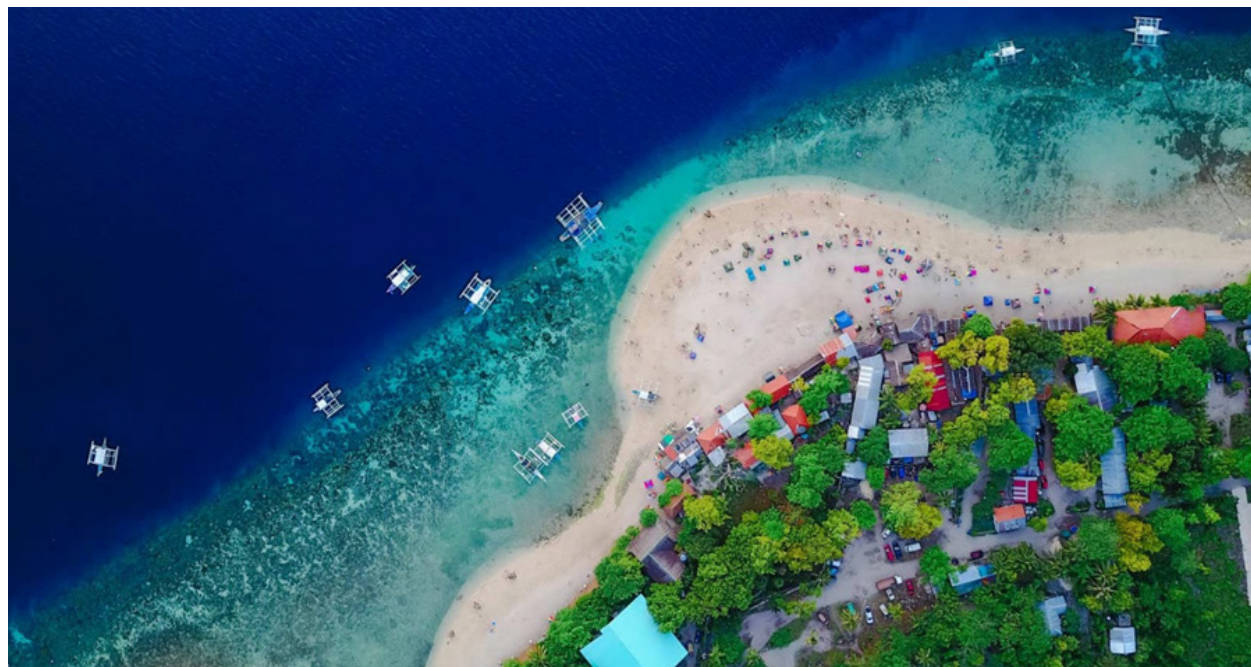


BPN PARIBAS

THE BANK
FOR A CHANGING WORLD



BNP PARIBAS



BUILDING TOGETHER A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY BY BNP PARIBAS

Launched in September 2015 by the UN, the Sustainable Development Goals aim to end poverty by 2030 while protecting our planet's environment. As a global company and Bank, BNP Paribas has a key role to play in this collective effort. Our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) approach allows us to take part in building a sustainable future

while promoting the Group's performance and stability.

In 2018, BNP Paribas contributed to the development and endorsed the United Nations Principles for Responsible Banking, which specify the role and responsibilities of the banking sector in building a sustainable future in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and

the objectives of the Paris Climate Agreement. At the end of that year, the total amount dedicated to financing the sectors, considered to directly contribute to the SDGs reached EUR 168 billion.

As an international Bank with an integrated and diversified business model, supporting all sectors of the economy in 71 countries, BNP Paribas is led to

finance a number of industries, some of which present major environmental, social and governance (ESG) challenges. This is the case in the defence, palm oil and nuclear energy industries, for example. For these sectors, we have outlined policies, which take into account ESG standards, in addition to economic performance criteria, when making financing and investment decisions.

In order to align its financing activities with the objectives of the Paris Agreement, and contribute to the transition to a low-carbon economy, the Bank acts in a responsible way:

- By increasingly financing the renewable energy sector: EUR 15.4bn in 2018 and a growth rate of 66% over two years;
- By decreasing the support to fossil fuels and supporting the companies in their transition towards a less energy and raw materials-consuming model, and
- By developing innovative financial and investment solutions for the energy transition.

As a recognition of its action, BNP Paribas was awarded in 2018 by the English magazine – Euromoney – «Best Bank in the World for Sustainable Finance», and ranks #24 in the world and the 1st among European banks, in the 2019 Corporate Knights «Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations» ranking.

In Portugal, BNP Paribas aims at leading the action towards Ocean's conservation, but also to

find new ways of exploiting the sea's richness in a sustainable way - Portugal has the 3rd largest exclusive maritime economic zone of EU and together with France and Norway it is at the forefront of blue economy initiatives.

On that note, the Bank has recently performed some important actions:

- Joined **Fórum Oceano**, the official Portuguese Maritime Cluster;
- Became a member of **Atlantic Smart Ports Blue Acceleration Network**, led by Beta-I and Fórum Oceano. This consortium aims at launching the building blocks that will found a dynamic acceleration services platform for EU Atlantic ports to work as blue economy hubs, thus diversifying their business models and revenue sources.
- Dedicated the annual thought leadership event, **Leading Change**, to the theme **“Blue Economy: An Ocean of Opportunities?”** focusing on the challenges and opportunities presented by the economy of the seas.

In 2021, the country will benefit from a particular context: EU Presidency – Portugal will lead

EU during the first half of the year and the UN Oceans conference will be held in Lisbon in July. Having in mind this favourable environment there will certainly be opportunities to meet with BNP Paribas professionals – both in Portugal as in Belgium and Luxembourg - to support your Blue Economy related projects.

About BNP Paribas in Portugal

Established in Portugal since 1985, BNP Paribas was one of the first foreign banks to operate in the country. Over the last three decades, we've been gradually consolidating our presence in Portugal, offering both our corporate and individual clients a wide range of integrated financial solutions to support them in their day-to-day lives and businesses.

We are proud to have a strong domestic business, with full coverage of our business, and a number of competency centres that are paramount to our global operating model by providing worldwide clients with high valued services. In line with our global mission, we aspire to be the reference among our competition, the preferred long-term partner to our clients, and an active contributor to a responsible and sustainable global development.

Today, we have eight entities operating directly in Portugal. Our services and solutions range from corporate and institutional banking to consumer finance and fleet management. Leading commercial brands and entities, such as Arval, Cetelem or BNP Paribas Factor embody our local offer and expertise, working hard to provide our local clients with the best answers to their business needs.

BRUSSELS AIRLINES

OFFERING SMILES FOR 18 YEARS

Brussels Airlines is Belgium's national airline, connecting the capital of Europe to more than 70 destinations, whereof 15 in Africa, the continent that Brussels Airlines carries close to its heart. Moreover, Brussels Airlines offers 54 destinations in Europe and 2 in North America. The company employs 3,300 employees and operates 38 aircraft.

Thanks to its no-compromise positioning, Brussels Airlines combines

competitive all-flexible fares with the highest service quality. With yearly changing Belgian Star Chefs, its wide offer of Belgian food and drinks and the six Belgian Icons, Brussels Airlines is acting as a real ambassador of its country, bringing the world to Belgium and the best of Belgium to the world.

Creating over 40,000 direct and indirect jobs, Brussels Airlines plays an important role in the Belgian economy and is part of Belgium's second largest economic engine: its hub at Brussels Airport. In 2019, the airline transported over 10 million passengers to, from and via Brussels Airport.

Brussels Airlines offers cargo capacity on all its flights, commercialized by Lufthansa Cargo. The airline also handles the daily maintenance of its aircraft fleet.

Brussels Airlines is one of the four Lufthansa Group network airlines (Austrian, Brussels Airlines, Lufthansa and Swiss) and member of Star Alliance. The company was founded in 2002 and is 100% owned by Deutsche Lufthansa AG.

OFFERING SMILES FOR 18 YEARS

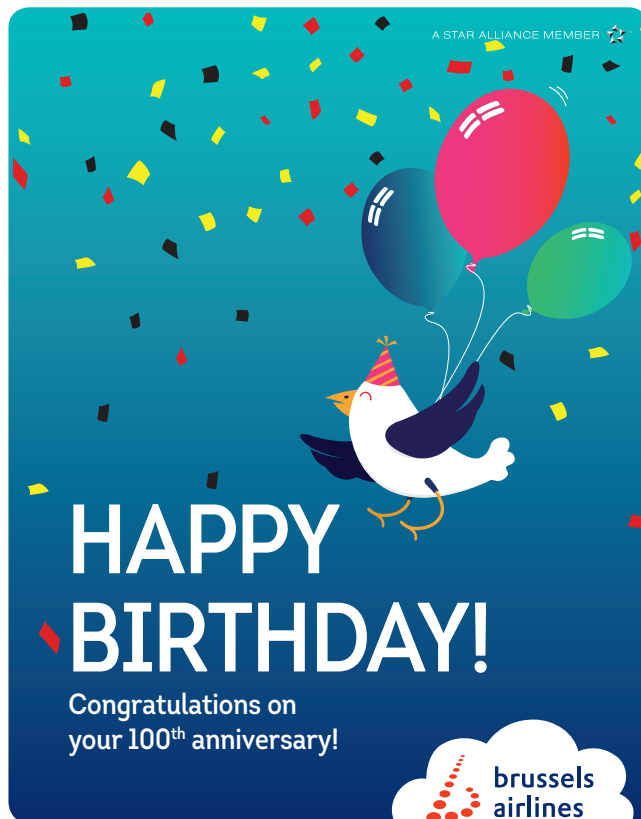
February 15, 2002. The news are dominated by the consequences of the attacks on the Twin Towers, the recent

introduction of the euro ... and the birth of SN Brussels Airlines. On the cold morning, at 6:15 am, the first flight leaves Brussels for Geneva. Thus was born SN Brussels Airlines, created by 40 shareholders gathered under SN Airholding. On that day's payroll there are almost 1400 employees and the network consists of 29 European destinations. Just a few months later, Africa is added to the network.

February 15, 2017. Brussels Airlines celebrates its 15th anniversary. Connecting Belgium to the World, being a company that understands the needs of passengers, creating jobs and sustainable growth, were the ingredients of the business plan in 2002 and remain the priority.

Fifteen years later, Brussels Airlines became known as the specialist in Africa and, as a member of the Star Alliance, collaborates with dozens of other airlines from its hub at Brussels Airport.

During these 15 years, 78.8 million passengers were received on board Brussels Airlines: 69 million traveled on European flights, 8.1 million flew to Africa and more than one million crossed the Atlantic. 320 thousand tons of cargo were transported on long-haul flights.





CAVAN

CAVAN was founded in Belgium 1924 as “Poteaux Cavan”, by Jean Baptiste Deffense and Pierre Van Caille.

The first factory to produce reinforced concrete poles was set up in Péruwetz. At the time, factories were of the “volant” type (dismountable). Similar to a mobile unit, they would be assembled/dismounted in towns/cities like Bruges and Saumur (France) that required the product.

In 1930 the highest reinforced concrete poles were 14 meters. The need to go higher was necessary so Jean Baptiste designed, calculated,

produced and lifted on site a 30-meter pole.

Due to a high demand of poles from C.R.G.E [Companhias Reunidas de Gás e Electricidade], a team was created by Cavan consisting of Jean Baptist, Remis Dezitter as team leader and five Belgian workers with the purpose to travel to Portugal and set up/produce the first factory located in Alcabideche. By the time the job was completed, Jean Baptiste

decided to remain in the country as he saw great potential in pole production, which led to the founding of “Sociedade Portuguesa Cavan, S.A.R.L” in 1932 with his partners Abreu Nunes, Bertinchamp and Barreto de Carvalho.

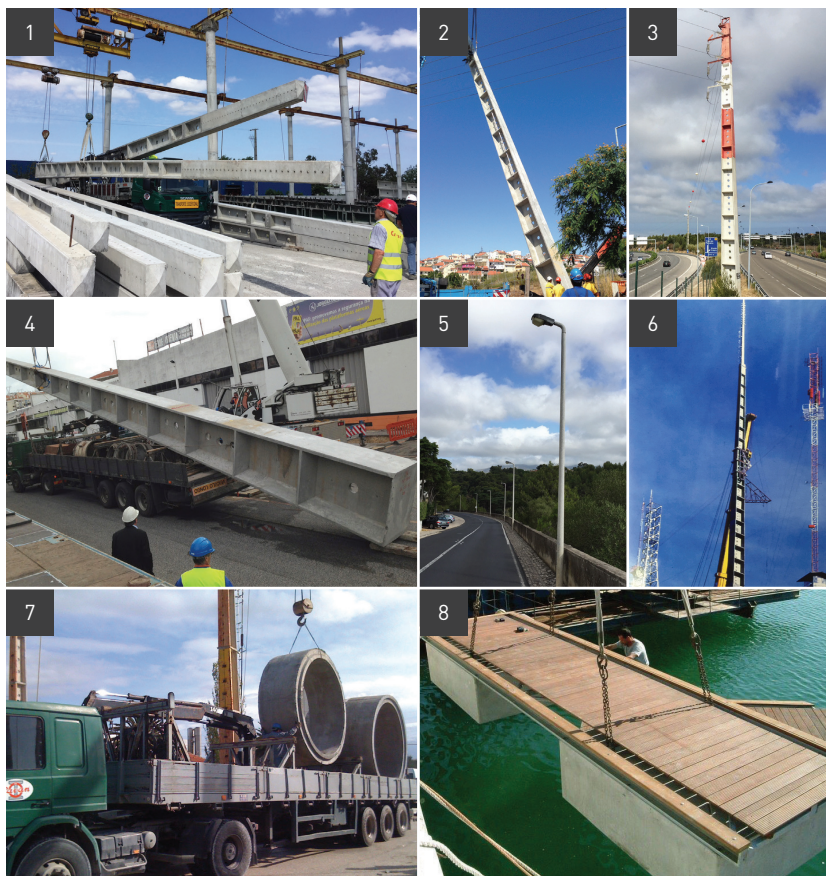


Photo captions

1. Loading poles in factory
2. Lifting of pole
3. High Tension Power line
4. Unloading pole
5. Illumination columns
6. Lifting of 74-meter tower
7. Drainage pipes
8. Concrete floats for marina

As time went by, demand kept increasing forcing more factories to be set up in:

- Póvoa de Santa Iria, 1934, with the head office located in Rua Pascoal de Melo in Lisbon. To produce its own poles, Cavan started designing, manufacturing and producing moulds, mixers and machinery;

- Brasil, 1940. Established as "Postes Cavan" with a factory in Osasco, São Paulo and further 23 thereafter;

- 1951, Permanent unit in Santa Iria de Azoia followed by Ovar, Faro, Vila Real, Setúbal, Vialonga and Viana do Castelo;

- Africa, 1957, first manufacturing unit in Mozambique (Machava); then, in 1970, in Angola (Viana); and in 1992 in South Africa (Randfontein).

In 1986 Cavan was selected to represent Portugal in the elaboration of EN 12843 Precast concrete products – Masts and poles.

In 1992, the most resistant poles permitted at the time a nominal load

of 50 kN (5 ton). This brought some setbacks as poles needed to be more resistant due to the increasing loads on the structure. So, a series of poles with nominal loads up to 165 kN (16.5 ton) were designed, calculated and produced to meet such requirements.

The need to go higher turned out to be an even greater challenge as at the time the highest one-piece poles went to 36 meters. So, in 1994 Cavan designed, calculated, produced and assembled on site a pole with an astounding height of 74 meters at the top of the Serra de S. Mamede.

Today (2020), Cavan continues to stand strong and celebrates 96 years of existence and 88 years of presence in Portugal. It is one of the world leaders for its design, calculation and production of reinforced concrete poles for transmission lines passed from generation to generation by Jean Baptiste Deffense.

Sociedade Portuguesa Cavan, S.A.
Avenida Visconde Valmor 76, 1.º
1050-242 Lisboa
- Phone: 217991820 / 917309746
- Email: cavan@cavan.pt
- Website: www.cavan.pt

DCN BEERS

1993
CONNOISSEURS



We began our adventure in 1993. 15 years later, we renew our vows before one of the most prestigious brewers' organization in the world: La Chaverlerie du Fourquet des Brasseurs.

In the afternoon of 5 September 2008, we have sworn to honor and prosper, providing the most noble fermentation, to those who, like us, are passionate about beer. We import and distribute more than 250 references of premium beers. From the most popular, to the ones that are only marked by "connoisseurs". Our beers are certified and recognized as quality products, produced by some of the most respected brewers in the world. We give our customers the chance to create beer menus, easy to adapt to each market trend, never compromising the quality.

We've been doing it for the past 27 years, with a lot of professionalism and success!



1993



1994



1998



2003



2005



2008



2011



2011



2014



2014



2015



2015



1995



2003



2008



2012



2015



2017



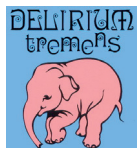
1998



2005



2008



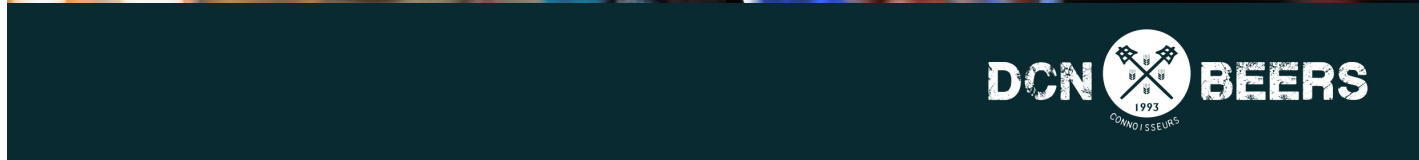
2014



2015



2018



No centenário do nascimento de Amália, a Delta Cafés celebra intensamente o mais emotivo dos símbolos portugueses. Conheça o outro lado de Amália na exposição "Bem-Vinda Sejas, Amália" que percorrerá intensamente, ao longo de 2020, Portugal.



INTENSA

Amália e Delta, duas marcas que despertam Portugal para a humanidade das emoções, para a verdade dos momentos, para a pressa do futuro, e para a intensidade de fazermos com paixão tudo o que o mundo espera de nós. Porque é disso que a vida precisa.

A vida precisa de intensidade.

INTENSAMENTE 

**PATROCINADOR OFICIAL DA EXPOSIÇÃO
"BEM-VINDA SEJAS, AMÁLIA"**

Saiba onde em amaliarodrigues.pt/



EDUARDA GODINHO & ASSOCIADOS LAW FIRM

FOUNDED IN 2016

LGA

LEMOS GODINHO ADVOGADOS
LAW FIRM

Founded in 2016, Eduarda Godinho & Associados Law Firm SP RL is an experienced law practice with strong legal professional skills. We advise on M&A, purchase and sale of assets and out-of-court corporate restructuring and corporate governance. We counsel on corporate and commercial law, real estate and contracts; private equity and venture capital funds. We guide Portuguese/international companies in transactional and regulatory matters, in energy, retail, telecommunications and finance.

Eduarda Godinho & Associados is committed to adding value to its customers by supporting them in the development of their business and providing innovative solutions to the challenges they face.

Believing that providing a quality service implies that the customer feels accompanied at all times, Eduarda Godinho & Associados offers permanent availability, excellence and in-depth knowledge of customers and their sectors of activity.

Eduarda Godinho & Associados office is located in the center of

Lisbon, close to its clients. With a long international practice, it offers remote support to non-resident clients, using new technologies or even moving its staff to other jurisdictions as needed.

In addition to its permanent team, it also has a set of consultants and collaborators who are prepared to form multidisciplinary and multi-jurisdictional teams capable of meeting the specific needs of each case or project and offering permanent support to their clients in an external logic in-house.

Maria Eduarda de Lemos Godinho

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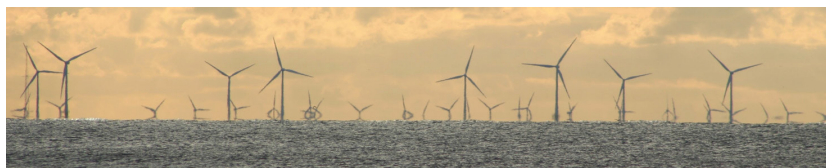
Website: <http://www.lgalawyers.pt>

Address: Rua Castilho, 71, 1.º Dto.

1250-068 Lisboa

Portugal

CONNECTING PEOPLE & SOLUTIONS FOR COASTS, RIVERS, CITIES & OCEANS - WHY?



HAEDS enables independent, talent oriented and creative engineering & consultancy for challenges at our coasts, estuaries, rivers & oceans. We want to inspire and create a change where engineering skills are combined with soul, feeling, system and design thinking. We give priority to regenerative solutions, based on a nature enhanced framework. We aim to deliver solutions that tackle the cause of problems, not the consequences. HAEDS focuses on return on reputation and trust. We want to be an inspiring working environment that allows us to discover our employee's talents and maximally use the strengths and skills of all generations. We are active worldwide but present with an office in Belgium and Portugal. Read more at www.haedes.be.

Connection is key: connecting with Nature, a source of inspiration and harmony, connecting people & ideas, connecting our engineering skills with our soul & intuition, connecting expertise, talents & skills in Portugal and Belgium.

Autonomous & free: we operate autonomously, unrestricted & take the freedom to contemplate, think and act in line with our skills, soul & intuition. **Authenticity:** we are genuine & true to what we believe in. We have courage, compassion, empathy and we build long-term connected relationships.

OUR MARKETS, SERVICES & EXPERIENCE

HAEDS BV is a young company (° Jan 2020) with vast experience. Its founders and collaborators have vast experience in the sector, often supported by a PhD. in water-related topics and international training. HAEDS works for public authorities and private clients. We collaborate with knowledge institutes for R&D. Our activities are situated in the following markets, as shown by some illustrative references:

• **Ports & River logistics:** Coordination & partly execution of the entire FEED study for the PPP Project for a Port Access Channel in Latin America.

• **Ocean and offshore renewable energy:** Rock berm design assessment for an offshore wind farm development in France (static, dynamic, and probabilistic).

• **Climate resilience & sustainable water systems:** Topic paper for ESPON, European Commission on "How can marine spatial planning and multi-functionality support the resilience of European sea interactions?"

• **Blue growth:** Coordinator and lead-partner for the R&D project MARCOS on large-scale offshore aquaculture – survivability, technical feasibility, multi-functionality, and natural coastal protection.

In everything we do we believe in breaking the status quo & strive to find the best opportunity to provide regenerative development & design.

Our services relate to:

• **Project management:** complex projects, tendering and certification process, EIA, permitting, system & design thinking.

• **Numerical modeling:** sediment transport, coastal erosion, hydrodynamics, morphodynamics, fluid-structure interaction (CFD), AI & Neural Networks.

Engineering & design: nature enhanced design, seabed morphodynamics, met-ocean conditions, hydraulic design, cable burial risk assessment, scour protection, re-use of dredged materials,...

PIET HAERENS

Founder

Chief Soul & Strategy Officer
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TIAGO FAZERES FERRADOSA

Marine Ambassador Portugal
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OUR PARTNERS

IHRH Instituto de Hidráulica e Recursos Hídricos
<https://www.fe.up.pt/ihrh>

The Blue Cluster
<https://www.blauwecluster.be>

Belgian-Portuguese Chamber of Commerce
<https://www.ccb-portugal.be>

Câmara de Comércio Luso-Belga-Luxemburguesa
<https://www.cclbl.com/>

LAMBERT DARGENT

AT THE ORIGIN OF THE PORTUGUESE
METAL-MECHANICS INDUSTRY



The main objective of the firm Cardoso Dargent & Cia, created in 1898, was to realise a project by engineer Mesnier du Ponsard, which allowed the manufacture and assembly of the Santa Justa Elevator in Lisbon, built by that company. This work brought great prestige to the company, which became known as Casa Dargent.

This initial work was followed by a metal cover in Alhandra, the S. Bento Train Station and the Campanhã offices in Porto, the metal structures of the railway stations of Santa Apolónia, Campolide and Cais do Sodré, in Lisbon, and the CP offices in Entrecampos.

The metal spheres at the roof of the Campo Pequeno Bullring, the Alcântara market, and the Bulhão market in Porto were also built during that period. Many of these works were carried out in partnership with construction companies, however Casa Dargent remained always responsible for supplying and assembling the metal components.

In 1908, Lambert Dargent bought the partners shares, creating as such L. Dargent Lda., which continued to

carry out important works such as the metal part of the Central Tejo, the Central Brewery (on Av. Almirante Reis, in Lisbon) and several iron bridges, such as the drawbridges of Leixões and Alcácer do Sal, the one of Mortágua and others in Ribatejo. The hangars of the Sintra Air Base and cranes for the ports of Lisbon and Leixões were also manufactured.

Lambert Dargent contributed to society recognizing qualities of metalworking mechanics to entities, and later on admit starting companies as partners engineers, such as Mague and Construtora Moderna, as well as a worker who, although illiterate, proposed valid changes and projects with metal components. Lambert Dargent showed well his openness to all the good collaborators who passed by.

Casa Dargent's main clients were, in addition to the Portuguese state and CP, the Gas and Electricity Company and the National Steel Industry.

Most of the works related to the domestic market, however some works were carried out for the former colonies in Africa and for Brazil. At the end of World War I,

Ambassador Raymond Le Gatt invited Lambert Dargent to create the Luso-Belgian Chamber of Commerce, where he took on the role of treasurer for several years. His grandson Georges became one of the presidents of this Chamber in the first decade of the 21st century.

In the early 1930s, Lambert Dargent decided to sell the factory to his employees to take a rest from a life of intense work. The firm kept the name, but without a Dargent as a partner.

With the construction of the Bridge over the Tagus, the offices of L. Dargent Lda. were reduced, since the main pillar of mooring of the bridge is implanted on society property.

This reduction in space resulted into limited production capacity and increased manufacturing costs.

In 1967, Georges Dargent, economist and grandson of Lambert Dargent, was invited to become a partner, having as main mission to find a solution for the future of the company: to be either liquidated or change place or merge with another party. Contacts are then established with the aim of finding an alternative to survival, always thinking of the more than 200 workers, most of them seniors serving for many years.

Despite the difficulties, Casa Dargent completed in 1974 its last work, the Quanza river bridge in Angola, and proposed to Sorefame/Lobito the sale of all equipment that had remained of the assembly of this bridge.

During the negotiations the sale of the shareholder position in Construtora Moderna is also proposed, which is realized in August, putting an end to Casa Dargent and its activity.

The elements cited can be obtained in more detail in the work no. 29226 carried out by Maria Leonor Dargent, of the Classical University of Lisbon Law, or in Georges Dargent's book, "My Life Story", prefaced by Eng. Joaquim Ferreira do Amaral presented by Prof. Dr. Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa at the Cultural Center of Cascais, in November 11, 2008

MORAIS LEITÃO FRENCH DESK

Morais Leitão, Galvão Teles, Soares da Silva & Associados (Morais Leitão) is a full-service law firm based in Lisbon with offices in Porto and Funchal.

With a solid background of decades of experience, Moraes Leitão is broadly recognized and a reference in several branches and sectors of the law on national and international level.

The firm's reputation among both its peers and clients, which include some of the largest national and international groups and companies, as well as public and private entities, stems from the excellence of the legal services provided, characterized by a unique technical expertise, combined with a distinctive approach and cutting-edge solutions that often challenge some of the most conventional practices.

 frenchdesk@mlgts.pt

In response to the challenges of the current market, Moraes Leitão has created internal teams (Africa and Asia Teams and German and French Desks) to support clients in their inbound and outbound investments.

The **French Desk** is a multidisciplinary team, coordinated by Ana Monjardino and composed of lawyers which are bilingual or have a sound grasp of the French language and culture and with recognized expertise in a wide range of industry sectors, dedicated to ensuring tailor-made services to Francophone clients, both in Portugal and in Portuguese-speaking countries.

With the creation of the Moraes Leitão Legal Circle network in 2010, the firm also provides support to its clients from partner offices in Angola and Mozambique, having a very significant presence on the international scene.

In 2001 the firm was admitted as the Portuguese exclusive member of Lex Mundi, the world's leading association of independent law firms. The permanent collaboration and contact with other top-ranked law firms allow Moraes Leitão to take part in the most challenging transactions and dispute resolutions across borders.



SCHRÉDER

THE FOUNDATION OF CONSTRUÇÕES ELÉCTRICAS SCHRÉDER IN THE CONTEXT OF THE LUSO-BELGIAN RELATIONS

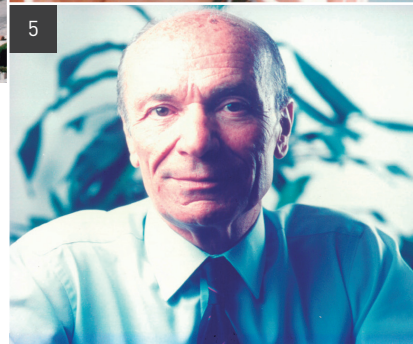
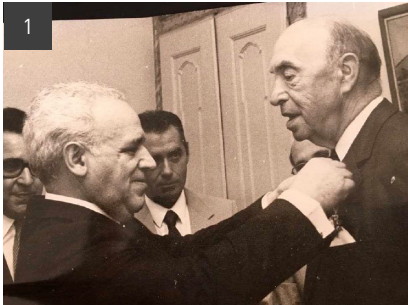


Photo captions

1. Marcel Schröder was decorated by Minister Veiga Simão
2. Schröder in Carnaxide, Oeiras
3. And in Évora
4. Marcel Schröder
5. António Maria Pinheiro Torres
6. Oeiras Municipality Distinction

I owe to Divine Providence the opportunity to have been the first collaborator and partner of Marcel Schröder in the foundation of Construções Eléctricas Schröder. Initially [1956] a private limited company, then [1972] transformed into a public limited company.

In the fuel of any engine, note: creation motivation - there must be a sentimental additive for perfect functioning. That was our professional and friendly relationship.

Marcel Schröder fell in love with Portugal. So much so that he established his residence here, took a vacation and spent his last years, in a passion passed on to his children, who also took root in Estoril. His knowledge of the country and the Portuguese people was decisive, in that special post-revolution time of 1974, for the stability of society and business, which he never gave up on.

Interestingly enough, as a child, I heard feelings of gratitude towards Belgium, due to the fact that family members sought refuge there in 1910, when the Republic was proclaimed. And when I got married, I found the same atmosphere in my wife's family, because also in

Belgium, and also in 1910, family members had found refuge.

At the beginning of the 50s of the 20th century, the whole of Europe started to install public lighting devices with a discharge lamp, replacing incandescent lamps. We were aware of participating in an important technological evolution and contributing to the progress and modernization of our countries.

It was an exciting time, lived with enthusiasm and joy: our firm became the leader of a market in which many Belgian citizens and companies participated in the development, intensifying the relationship between the two countries. Thus, the relations between the Schröder and Pinheiro Torres families also evolved, in a history of friendship and business partnership that extended to the generations that followed us.

I finish with a word of greeting to the Luso-Belgian-Luxembourgish Chamber of Commerce, the place of many meetings that have marked our professional and business life, and whose protagonists over time are witnesses of this history, and to whom I wish the best of luck!

António Maria de Oliveira Pinheiro Torres

Schröder

Experts in lightability™



Oeiras Municipality Distinction

On the 7th of June 2018, in the commemorative session of the Day of the Municipality of Oeiras, Schröder Iluminação was awarded the Medal of Municipal Merit - Gold Honour.

The Mayor, Isaltino Morais, praised Schröder's merits in these terms: "The business fabric based in Oeiras knows, therefore, that it is not new that the main strategy of this mandate corresponds to the municipality's continued effort to assert itself as the main engine of economic development in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area. In this sense and on this special occasion of the visit to Portugal of His Royal Highness the King of the Belgians, we could not fail to emphasize the importance that Schröder Iluminação assumes in the consolidation of the business profile of Oeiras, as a cradle of business excellence.

It is not by chance that the presence of the renowned Belgian company for 45 years in Carnaxide, Oeiras, and 63 years in Portugal, has been asserting itself as a lighting specialist and using high technological standards.

[...] To paraphrase one of Schröder's happiest' slogans, 'Intelligent solutions for efficient lighting', who knows, the Municipality of Oeiras, so inspired, should use 'Intelligent Policies for Efficient Cities'."



2019 creation of Schröder Hyperion - from Portugal to the world

In 2019, Schröder launched its brand new business unit dedicated to beyond-lighting and smart city solutions, Schröder Hyperion, delivering and supporting new technologies, from Portugal to the world.

2020 was the year of growth of Schröder Hyperion, the main focus being building up a team of more than 60 highly motivated experts, counting more than 15 nationalities, which demonstrates not only the attractiveness of the Portuguese economy in terms of foreign investment, but also the presence of a diverse community of talented people, eager to work on innovative solutions.

Challenging as the current circumstances may be - with the spread of the COVID19 pandemic and the related efforts to curb the expansion of the disease - this has not barred Schröder-Hyperion from achieving important milestones, such as:

The launch of Schröder EXEDRA, the most advanced lighting management system on the market for controlling, monitoring and analysing streetlights in a user-friendly way. Schröder EXEDRA contributes to maintaining city infrastructures, as well as to consistently provide safety, comfort and well-being to citizens.



A complete and revamped offer of various SHUFFLE smart pole configurations (lighting, connectivity, security, mobility, identity & infotainment), allowing cities and infrastructure managers to connect people to their social environment.

Schröder Group is proud of these achievements and hope that 2021 will bring new and exciting developments and innovations, so as to continue the founding principles behind Schröder Group's success: building a better future and contributing to more sustainable and livable public spaces.

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SOFI

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FOR DOORS AND WINDOWS

Established in 1989 and thanks to the impulse of its founders, the Belgian family Van Parys and their vast experience, STA has been a synonym of technology advancement, innovation and quality ever since.

While Sofi® has been a well-known and respected brand in the market for more than 50 years, also the products and brands we produce for third parties are recognized for their consistent quality far beyond our national border.

At STA, people make the difference. STA is more than an advanced machine park or production processes. It is an exceptional team that works hard and with pleasure to meet our customer's ever increasing expectations.

In short, STA is the living proof there is tradition in quality and quality at reasonable prices.

www.sofi.pt

SOLUBEMA

DE MERBES-SPRIMONT (BÉLGICA)
SOLUBEMA (PORTUGAL)

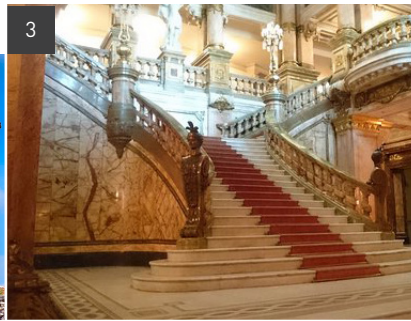
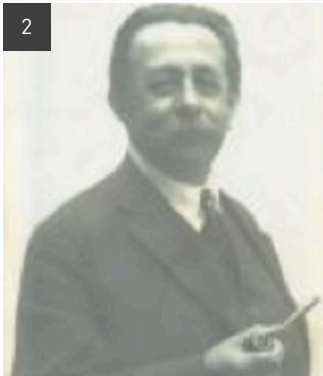


Photo captions

1. Temple of "Diana" in Évora, whose granite columns are topped by Corinthian finials in the Vigária's marble
2. Georges Demoustier
3. Municipal Theater of Rio de Janeiro - Marble works carried out by De Merbes-Sprimont
4. Realization of the BENJAMIN FRANKLIN MEMORIAL in Philadelphia
5. Bust of a man-wearing toga, unfinished, discovered in the marble quarries of Vigária (Solubema – exhibited at the National Museum of Archaeology of Lisbon in the Roman Lusitania Exhibition)

A story engraved in marble

The "Roman Lusitania" exhibition held at the National Archaeological Museum in Lisbon, in 2016, remembered us that the presence of Portuguese marble resources in Alentejo is well documented since the beginning of the Antiquity.

It is not surprising, then, that at the beginning of the 20th century these marble deposits aroused the interest of Georges Demoustier, a dynamic Belgian Mining Engineer who then roamed the Portuguese territory in search of metallic minerals. As his grandson Dr Alain Demoustier explains, the role of Georges Demoustier proved to be of the utmost importance:

"My grandfather had a passion for everything that was mines – he had tungsten mines and tin mines. He ran all over Alentejo and got completely fascinated by the Vigária marbles, that were worked by the Marble Society of Portugal at that time" [...].

"My grandfather knew the people of Pêro Pinheiro and thought to create the Luso-Belgian Marble Society with those important industrialists. In 1928, he invited those Portuguese partners to participate significantly.

However, despite their interest, such partners contributed little to the company's share capital.

"As my grandfather was very close to the governor of the Société Générale de Belgique (SGB), General Blaise convinces him to enter society, which is why the subsidiary of ornamental rocks of Société Générale de Belgique will participate at the time with almost 80 percent of the share capital.

"My grandfather gets one part, my father gets another and our Portuguese friends also have a small part (Pardal Monteiro, Manuel Carrasqueira, Baptista Brothers and others). The capital entrance was through the Société Anonyme de Merbes-Sprimont, which was a large marble company in Belgium."

Founded in 1782 by the Puissant family, which makes it one of the oldest in the world in this sector, the De Merbes-Sprimont company, specialized in extraction and transformation, is at its peak in 1928. Globalized ahead of time, and having the Société Générale de Banque among its shareholders, the company not only owns most of the limestone and marble deposits in Belgium, but also a dozen processing plants in Belgium, Holland, Germany and France.

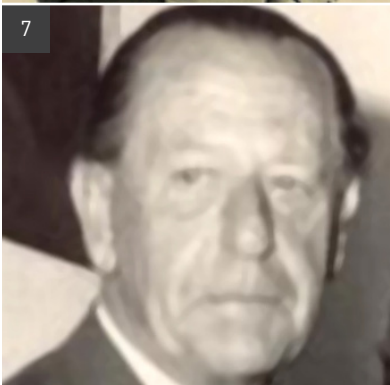


Photo captions

- 6. Leopoldo Portas
- 7. Jean Demoustier
- 8. Alain Demoustier

This industrial capacity which was never repeated, is also reinforced with commercial representatives and showrooms in most of the main capitals of the world of that period: Brussels, Paris, London, Berlin, Budapest, St. Petersburg, Vienna, Prague, Constantinople, Montreal, Rio de Janeiro, Lima, Tokyo, etc.

The De Merbes-Sprimont, which had already started an industrial growth abroad at that time, with quarries and factories in Carrara (Italy) and exclusive commercial partnerships in Greece, then makes available to its Portuguese subsidiary its professional experience, its human and mechanical resources as well as its knowledge of the international markets.

As such, the Luso-Belgian Marble Society appears on 24 July 1928 in a context of increasing activities of extraction of marble for export. With the assistance of De Merbes-Sprimont, Solubema immediately introduced in its quarries the mechanical extraction of land and stones, with winches and trolleys, and with the cutting of the masses by the helical wire, radically modifying the old work processes.

The personality of the Mining Engineer Leopoldo Portas stands out in the regional press. In 1929 he is invited by

Georges Demoustier to manage the works of exploration and extraction of marbles of the Sociedade Luso-Belga de Mármore, in Vila Viçosa. He will remain in that management function until the end of his days.

In 1933, after the death of his father, Jean Demoustier was elected as the new Managing Director. He organises and centralizes Solubema's commercial services in Lisbon.

That's when Solubema's first major marble block export orders are placed, the most significant for the BENJAMIN FRANKLIN MEMORIAL in Philadelphia.

The excellent quality of Solubema marbles will gradually impose itself in international markets, with Belgium, France and Italy as its main customers throughout the 20th century.

In 1936, the marble empire of the De Merbes-Sprimont company was hit with extreme violence by the shock of World War II. Spread across a number of countries, several of its companies have disappeared or been sold, with only Belgian and Portuguese units remaining.

In 1971, Jean Demoustier, one of Solubema's great workers, Manager and Managing Director, died. His son,

Alain Demoustier will assume the presidency of the Board of Solubema until 1993. He will make the most important strategic decision for the industrial development of Solubema marbles through the creation of ETMA (Empresa Transformadora de Mármore do Alentejo), aimed at ensuring the transformation of Solubema blocks.

In 1993, he welcomed the Kezirian family to the capital of companies, allowing a necessary strategic reorientation, which is still in place today. Under the impetus of Jean Kezirian and sons, the different companies undergo a radical industrial and commercial restructuring, allowing the group to become one of the world's largest players in the sector.

Ensuring the presence of the fourth generation of the Demoustier family in the Solubema group, Barbara Demoustier, daughter of Alain Demoustier, is elected President of the General Assembly of ETMA at the general meeting held in June 2018.



SOLVAY

WE BOND PEOPLE, IDEAS AND ELEMENTS TO REINVENT PROGRESS

Solvay is a science company whose technologies bring benefits to many aspects of daily life. With more than 24,100 employees in 64 countries, Solvay bonds people, ideas and elements to reinvent progress.

The Group seeks to create sustainable shared value for all, notably through its Solvay One Planet plan crafted around three pillars: protecting the climate, preserving resources and fostering better life.

The Group's innovative solutions contribute to safer, cleaner, and more sustainable products found in homes, food and consumer goods, planes, cars, batteries, smart devices, health care applications, water and air purification systems.

Founded in 1863, Solvay today ranks among the world's top three companies for the vast majority of its activities and delivered net sales of €10.2 billion in 2019.

Solvay group's presence in Portugal dates back to 1934 and the thread of time testifies proximity and a close relationship, which has been able to overcome challenges and discover new directions of participation in the economic and social development of the country.

Solvay currently operates in two sites in the Lisbon metropolitan area:

- An industrial unit of production, marketing and R&D of hydrogen peroxide in Póvoa de Santa Iria (municipality of Vila Franca de Xira), from which **Solvay Peróxidos Portugal** supports the demanding Pulp and Paper sector.

Solvay industrial presence in Portugal does not take on the same dimension of the past, but Póvoa de Santa Iria continues to be the



birthplace of the Group's activities in Portugal and to host a modern pilot plant of strategic importance for the Group. This production unit does not only supplies the national hydrogen peroxide market but also conducts industrial trials performed both in process optimization and new technology testing and development, whose results are scaled up to the Solvay Peroxides mega plants around the world.

- An administrative center located in Carnaxide (municipality of Oeiras), where **Solvay Business Services Portugal** operates as a competence center providing service to different corporate functions and global business units of the Solvay group. Activities range from Finance, Customer Management, Human



Resources and Procurement to areas such as Supply Chain, IT Support, Information Services or Process Automation.

The e-services drive

The Group's growth, geographical expansion and modernization suggested the opportunity to exploit the innovative e-services industry through a first (but decisive) step, which resulted in the creation of a pioneering model of shared financial support services, purchasing, customer management and human resources to Solvay business units, side by side with IT support and information services.

Among more than 90 cities around the world, the Lisbon area was selected for the installation in 2005 of Solvay's first international shared services centre, and the Portuguese capital was elected thanks to the support provided by national authorities to enable the investment, for having the required technological infrastructure and for offering qualified human resources, with skills developed in foreign languages and high adaptability.

Solvay Business Services Portugal – at the time 3S Solvay Shared Services – made its way and today stands out as a reference in the shared services industry. It attracts,

therefore, the attention of numerous international partners, who visit the administrative center to discover the model of organization and operation, and take it as an example for their own establishment in Portugal.

SBS Portugal has grown consistently, contributing to the employability of young graduates and the country's economy. The work environment is dynamic and multicultural, with about 450 employees (61% female) of 27 different nationalities. The official working language is English, but 13 more languages are also spoken.

The company commits to developing its employees' competences and skills through internal training (40 hours/person/year) and strategic partnerships with university institutions, and to building well-being at work, promoting leisure and social responsibility initiatives.

Within the framework of the Group's strategic guidelines, SBS Portugal began a process of transforming from 'extended backoffice' to 'integrated transactional services', positioning itself among the top business service organizations and offering professional and personal development opportunities to its employees. A high investment in digitalisation is one of the strands of the current development process.



SOUDAL

LEADER IN SEALANTS AND ADHESIVES

Since its founding by Victor baron Swerts, SOUDAL has been one of the most important players in the market for sealants, polyurethane foams, adhesives and waterproofing in Europe. Today, it is considered the largest independent European manufacturer of those products for professional and private markets. With presence in 130 countries, 19 production branches on 5 continents and 63 subsidiaries, it can ensure optimal technical and logistical support

It all started in 1966, when Victor Swerts bought a small company in Ossenmarkt, Antwerp, and specialized in welding materials and the production of polyester mastics for car repair. Two years later, the company moved to Turnhout, to the old market of Mr. Swerts' parents.

In the first year in Turnhout, production was 5000 units of silicone sealants. Since then, the company has transformed itself from a small family business into

the current multinational company that formulates, manufactures and distributes worldwide about 250 million cartridges of sealants and adhesives and 100 million cans of PU foam per year, with about 3,100 employees worldwide.

On July 1, **1997**, SOUDAL completed the acquisition of the Construction Silicones Department of BAVG, a wholly owned subsidiary of Bayer AG, in Leverkusen. Germany has the largest European market for sealants and PU

foams, so the acquisition has provided a strong boost to SOUDAL in the German market. Almost immediately, it was necessary to double production and storage capacity.

Since then, SOUDAL has established new sales and distribution offices in several countries, on five continents, including the Portuguese subsidiary. In **2005**, SOUDAL Portugal began its journey with the mission of offering a wide range of quality products, with an exceptional after-sales service.



In **2008**, the construction of a new Research & Development Centre (R&D), a building that accommodates, among others, a high-tech laboratory designed to support all future developments and innovations, began in Turnhout.

In recent years, SOUDAL's growth has also undergone an M&A strategy, with the acquisition of some key players in the North American, Asian and European markets. These acquisitions have always had the complementarity and synergy of values as their guiding thread. We have as an example the acquisition of TKK (2013), the second European production pole of PU foams.

More recently, they also joined the SOUDAL group: Bochem (2014) - critical in expanding the product portfolio for the industry; Accumetric (2014) - silicone manufacturer in the USA; Tenachem (2015) - to implement the presence in the glass industry; Proflex in Sweden (2016) - former SOUDAL distributor and with specific construction products for the window market; Mitol in Slovenia (2017) - with a high-quality portfolio in industrial glues; and Dong Yang in South Korea (2017) - to strengthen the strategic position in Asia.

SOUDAL Portugal has recently changed its facilities to better support

its growth. Today, the company has a Training Center – SOUDAL ACADEMY PORTUGAL – that in almost everything is a replica of the existing version at its headquarters in Belgium. These new facilities have allowed serving even better the network of distributors, forming them and making them more capable for the resale of products and solutions.

In almost **50 years**, SOUDAL has offered much more than a product that does the job. Quality, specific solutions and exemplary after-sales service are the elements that make the company a true success story.

SOUDAL in Portugal is proud of having at its service a team very motivated, experienced and committed to its customers.

In addition to a range of high quality products, constant innovations, product development and permanent environmental effort applied in production processes, SOUDAL in Portugal offers an exceptional after-sales service: delivery of orders in 24 hours; comprehensive stock of the main references; personalized support to each partner; permanent technical advice; continuing training for distributors and resellers; resolution of complaints in the shortest period of time and daily logistical and administrative service.

However, without the firm commitment and dedication of the network of distributors and resellers none of this would be possible.

Associated with all these components of the business, SOUDAL directs its strategy towards adapting the offer of products and solutions to the segments where it operates - Construction, Industry and Retail, thus differentiating itself from the more generalist approach of its direct competitors. This focus on market segmentation has allowed the accumulation of experience and expertise that, in various situations, has proved useful and relevant in defining the next areas and/or sectors of action.

The combination of these five components – differentiation strategy, human factor, distribution network, product portfolio and logistics – has allowed SOUDAL Portugal to grow more than 100% in the last years. It also allowed assuming a prominent position within the sector, conquering market leadership in several product families.

TRAVELSTORE

BUSINESS SOLUTIONS GROUP

LEADER IN CORPORATE TRAVEL AND CORPORATE EVENTS

The Travelstore group executes a multi-channel strategy based on specialisation and market segmentation. It operates autonomous business units, each delivering specific value propositions aiming at adding value to corporations and their associates.

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UNIQUE EXPERIENCES

ALLWAYS
unique travel designers



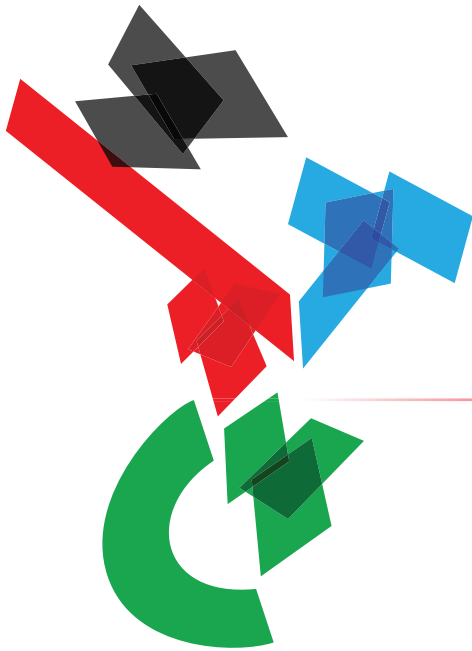
WOW EVENTS

emotionstore
meetings and events



CORPORATE PHARMA EVENTS

lab.
pharma events
engineering



CHAMBER HISTORY

LOOKING BACK AND AHEAD

The edition of a book celebrating the centenary of the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce represented a real challenge to which this Association gave itself without hesitation. And it did so out of pride and firm conviction, but above all because of its fidelity to the founding principles and objectives.



The history goes way back and is full of intense and varied activities; however the route has always been consistent with the identity framework of origin and has respected a common denominator: Developing industrial and commercial relations between Portugal and Belgium (and, more recently Luxembourg) with actions that extend to the sciences and arts.

This Chamber of Commerce has gone through a lot, but knows how to adapt itself to the vicissitudes in a courageous and remarkable way – be it the most diverse political and economic developments, the globalization of trade or the technological evolution, increasingly deeper and faster aiming to reduce distance and time.

From a very closed “club”, Belgian businessmen in Portugal were able to open themselves, serenely and gradually, to the Portuguese community and were able to read the signs of the times, as evidenced by the elections of the first non-Belgian administrator in 1981, of the first non-Belgian president in 2008 and of the first woman president in 2016.

This Chamber will maintain the will and the capacity to adapt and to respond to the challenges that arise when undertaking the journey of its second centenary. For this, the collaboration and commitment of its members and the attributes of realism, competence, determination and dynamism of management will be the best guarantors.

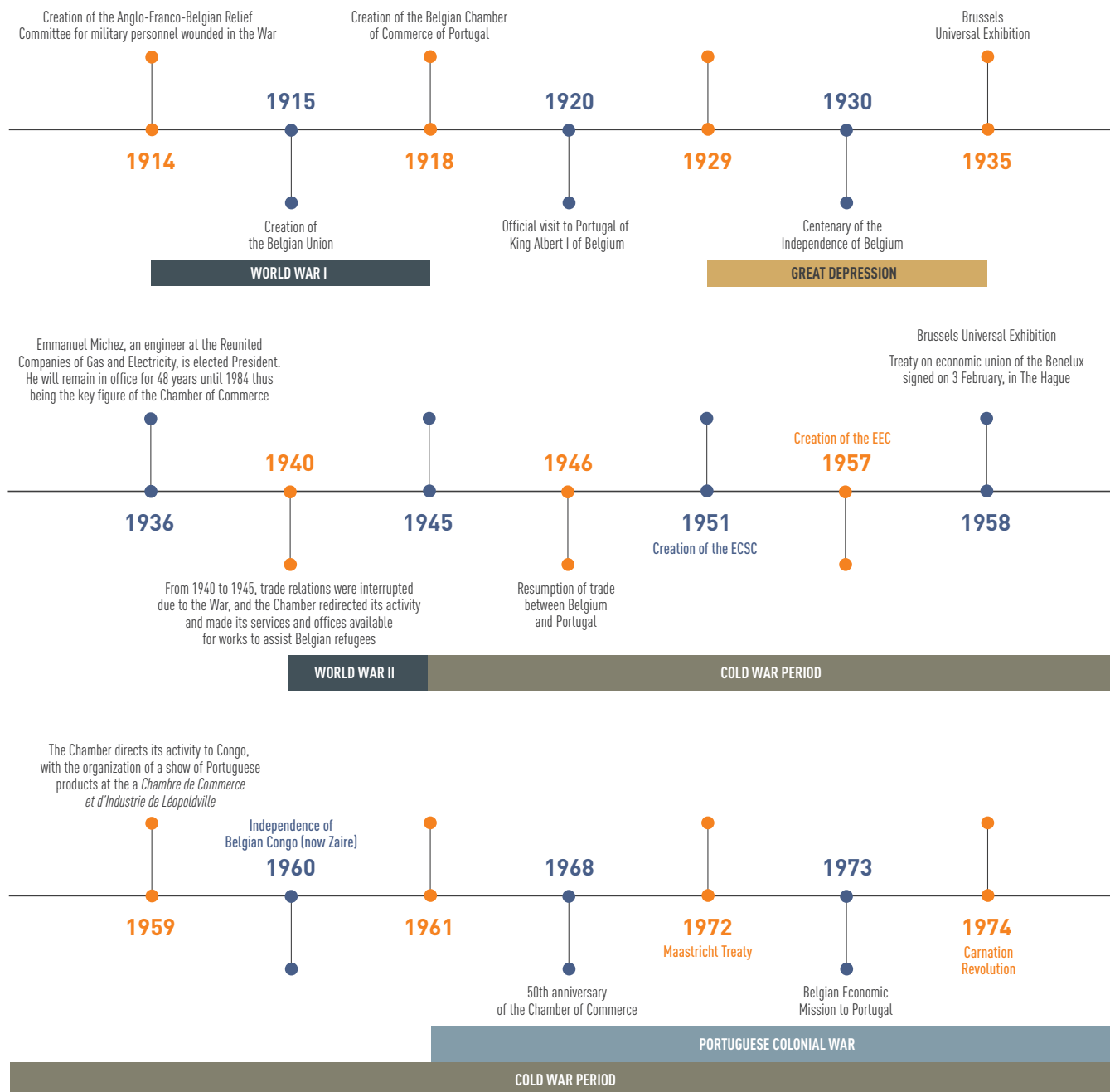
The Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce is proud of its 100 years of existence and uses this valuable heritage as a lever for its projection in the future.

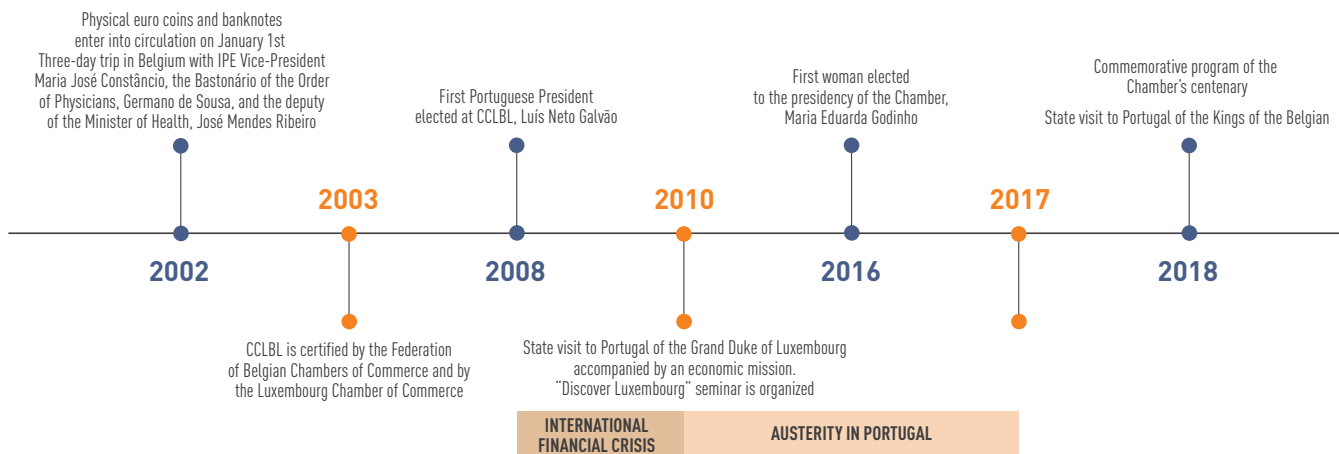
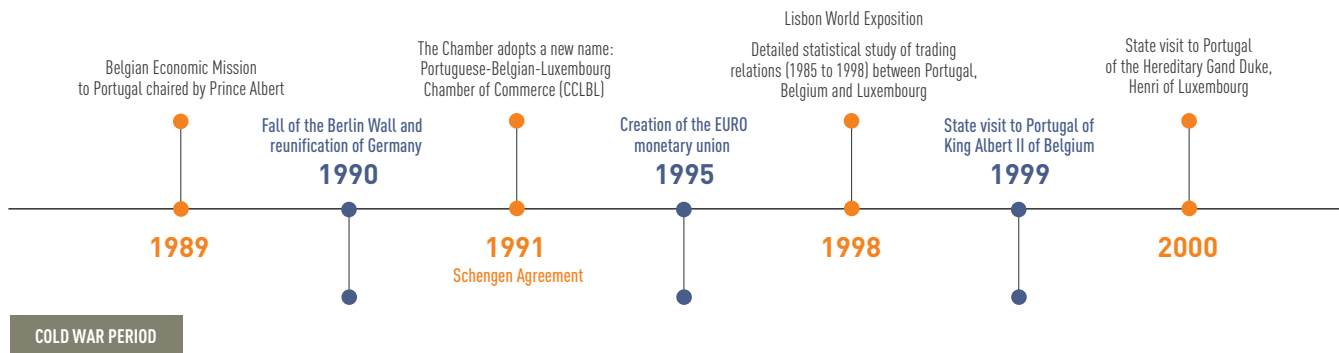
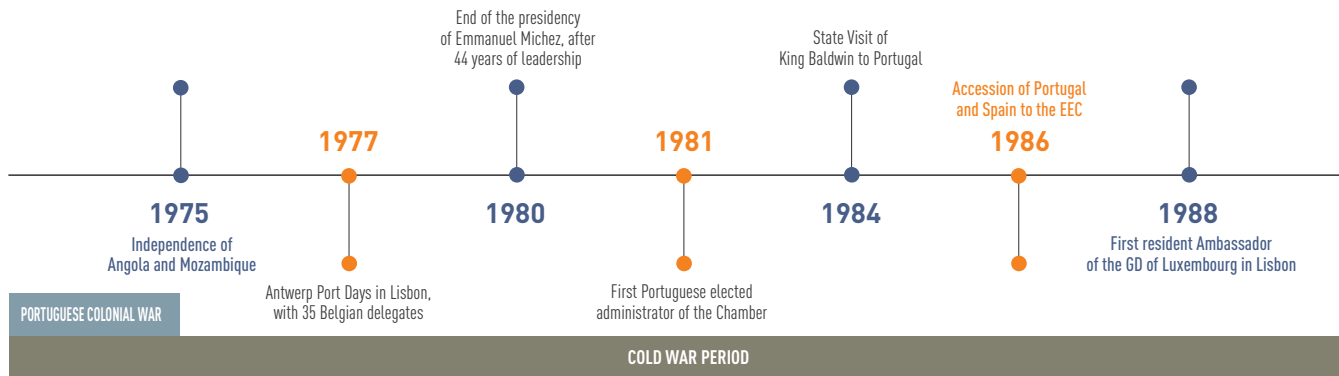
This is, in effect, a privileged moment to SEE the past – with pleasure, without longing; LIVE the present – with resilience, without fear; and FORECAST the future – with confidence and determination.

Jean Poncelet

Honorary President of the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg
Chamber of Commerce

TIMELINE INFOGRAPHIC





MERITORIOUS WORK OF CARE AND MOTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The centenary-old history of the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce had as forerunner the creation of the Belgian Union on 10 August 1915, whose first president-elect was Romberg Nisard. Relevant assistance work during and after the War, the Union took two crucial steps towards economic and social development between countries, first on 28 May 1918, once the creation of the Belgian Chamber of Commerce in Portugal was decided, and then on 25 January 1920, through its dissolution and incorporation into this Chamber.

The difficulties in developing relations between the two countries in the years following the end of the first major global war conflict were obstacles to the activities of the Chamber, given the numerous economic, legal and political restrictions that were then in force. The global crisis of 1929 contributed to the worsening of this situation and the complete cut in economic relations between the two countries, which occurred in 1940 as an effect of the outbreak of the Second Great War, further worsened the situation.

During the five years that followed, a period of military occupation and major constraints in Belgium, the Chamber of Commerce and Belgians living in Portugal devoted themselves to numerous initiatives of support and social assistance to their fellow citizens. Some of this aid, aimed at wounded and the most deprived military, resulted in the shipment of more than 2.5 million packages of essential goods. At the same time, aid conveyed also to the many Belgian citizens seeking to reach England through the Portuguese territory.

Even after the War, which had devastating consequences across Europe, there were constraints again to the normal restoration of economic and social relations between the two countries. Only from 1974 on, with the so-called “Carnation Revolution” and the modification of the political and social framework, the situation entered a normalization path, despite many losses initially resulting for Belgian interests in Portugal.

Portugal’s adhesion to the European Economic Community on 1 January 1986, the Schengen Agreement on 26 March 1995, and the Eurozone on 1 January 1999 gave rise to a new dynamism allowing for the full development of relations between the countries. A three-way relationship began then: since 1991, the Chamber extended its activities to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and adopted the designation of the Luso-Belgo-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce.



Photo captions

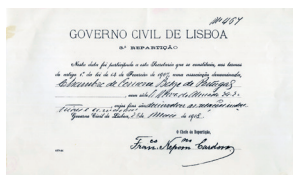
1. António Horta Osório, then CEO of Lloyds Bank, speaking at an event in 2009 jointly organized with CCLBL
2. The Grand Duke of Luxembourg visited Portugal in 2010 and opened the Seminar “Discover Luxembourg”
3. Personalities invited to the Conference “Europe, between crisis and growth”, in 2011

CHRONOLOGY OF 100 YEARS OF HISTORY



1914 Romberg Nisard, managing director of the Vouga Valley Railway and the Rasca Cement Factory, creates the Anglo-Franco-Belgian Relief Committee for military personnel wounded in World War I, by sending clothes and food.

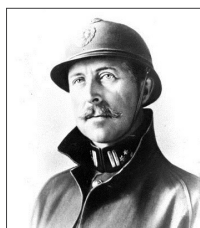
1915 Creation of the Belgian Union, initially to meet the difficulties of the Belgian community in Portugal and later to deal with trade between Belgium and Portugal.



1918 Creation of the Belgian Chamber of Commerce of Portugal (25 May), aiming to develop industrial and commercial relations. Three days later, the Civil Government of Lisbon officially recognizes it;

The first newsletter is published in July.

1919 The delegation of the Brussels International Fair is entrusted to a member of the Chamber.



1920 The Chamber proposes a Portuguese-Belgian trade treaty to be submitted to the Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs; Official visit of King Albert to Portugal. Eight fiacre vehicles are made available to members of the Chamber of Commerce;

Dissolution of the Belgian Union.

1921 The Chamber of Commerce faces a period of great difficulty.

1922 Ratification of the Convention of the *Union Économique Belgo-Luxembourgeoise* (UEBL).

1923 Attack on Pierre Dargent, member of the Chamber and son of Lambert Dargent, a founding member of the Association.

1925 Appointment of a delegate in Porto.



1930 Centenary of the Independence of Belgium;

Inauguration of the Lisbon stopover for the ships of the Belgian Maritime Company of the Congo;

Antwerp and Liège international exhibitions.



1932 Constitution of a *Caisse de Bienfaisance* for the Belgians in need.

1934 Death of King Albert.



1935 Brussels exhibition – the Chamber is represented by the pavilion of the House of Portugal, reopened shortly before in Antwerp, and by a Port Wine pavilion.



1936 Emmanuel Michez, an engineer at the Reunited Companies of Gas and Electricity, is elected president. He will remain in office for 44 years until 1980, thus being the key figure of the Chamber of Commerce.

1937 Belgium is the fourth largest supplier of goods and services to Portugal and its fifth main customer.

1938 Attempt to create an association of Belgian engineers in Portugal or Portuguese engineers who studied in Belgium.

1940 Portuguese World Exhibition in Lisbon – it was visited by numerous Belgian refugees, who found the country very hospitable after a sad journey across Europe at war;

From 1940 to 1945, trade relations were interrupted due to the War. The Chamber redirected its activity and made its services and offices available to Belgian refugee aid works.

1943 The Chamber celebrates its 25th anniversary with a grand meeting at the *Foyer des Anciens Combattants Belges et Français*;

With the impulse given by the Belgian Government in London, the Belgian Chamber and the Belgian Legation in Lisbon prepare information on Portugal, which will facilitate the resumption of Portuguese-Belgian relations.

1944 Signing of the Treaty of the Benelux, between the representatives of Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg, to carry out a joint customs pre-union.

1946 Resumption of trade between Belgium and Portugal;

Signature of a new Official Portuguese-Belgian Convention;

Trip to Portugal of 14 members of the Belgian-Portuguese Chamber;

New statutes: the *Chambre de Commerce du Portugal* changes its name to *Chambre de Commerce au Portugal (Centre d'Études, d'Informations et de Culture Luso-Belge)*, Association sans but lucratif (ASBL).

1948 Belgian mission to Portugal.

The Chamber organizes information meetings to address the concern of traders following the imposition by both Belgian and Portuguese governments of numerous import licenses;

Establishment of a committee for the organization of visits to premises.

1949 Creation of the OBCE (*Office Belge du Commerce Extérieur*).

1952 The Chamber recruits more employees, the offices are open all day and the Council meets more than once a month;

The Federation of Belgian Chambers of Commerce abroad is set up in Brussels.

1953 Visit to Lisbon by Prince Albert, aboard the school ship Lieut Billie.

1954/57 Remarkable evolution of the Chamber, with the publication of a quarterly bulletin, expansion of its documentation service, Belgian days with film sessions, members' lunches, ...;

The membership increases considerably;

Appointment of a Production Delegate, Mr. Saraiva.

1956 Admission of a paid salesperson in Belgium.

1957 Appointment of a delegate in Congo.



1958 Brussels Universal Exhibition;

The Chamber publishes a special issue of its bulletin (4,000 copies);

The collaboration of the Chamber raises the interest of the financial, industrial and commercial circles in Portugal by promoting lunches, organizing stands, divulging information in its bulletins (more than 150 pages), feature articles in the Press, Portuguese-Belgian meetings and a prestigious lunch in Brussels;

Organization of a photo show at the Brussels Exhibition;

Organization of a trip of 71 members to the Expo'58;

Implementation of the *Service de Contrôle des Propositions d'Affaires*, to ensure a follow-up of the information provided in response to requests;

Treaty on the economic union of the Benelux signed on 3 February, in The Hague.



1959 The Chamber directs its activity to Congo, with the organization of a show of Portuguese products at the *Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Léopoldville* premises, with 62 firms, 27,000 visitors and a plane trip to Léopoldville.

1960 Opening of a delegation in Porto;

The Chamber receives its first grant from the *Office Belge du Commerce Extérieur*;

Participation in hearings taking place at the Brussels International Fair;

Organization of internships in Belgium of young Portuguese graduates.

- 1961** Organization of an official Benelux stand at the Lisbon International Fair and a Belgian journey with the presence of individualities from both countries;
- Inauguration of the delegation in Porto;
- 25 years of the presidency of Emmanuel Michez.
- 1962** Fabrimétal Mission: visit to Portugal of 16 Belgian metal-making industrialists and bank delegates;
- Non-Belgian nationality members are now welcome at the Board.
- 1963** A Belgian Reception Committee is created to relieve the Chamber in organizing social events.
- 1964** The Belgian Academy of Wine visits Portugal and travels across the country.
- 1965** Attempt (unfulfilled) to organize a trip to the fairs of Milan, Hannover and Brussels, in cooperation with the German and Italian Chambers of Commerce;
- Three trips take place to various Belgian fairs;
- The Chamber's offices are robbed.
- 1966** The "Michez Prize" is established, designed to distinguish, in each school year, some of the best-ranked students of the Marquês de Pombal Industrial School of Lisbon, in the Preparatory Section for admission to the Industrial Institute;
- A delegate is appointed in Luanda;
- New statutes, new name – Belgian Chamber of Commerce in Portugal or *Chambre de Commerce Belge au Portugal* or *Belgische Kamer van Koophandel in Portugal*.
- 1967** Conference on Belgian laces
- 1968** 50th anniversary of the Chamber of Commerce;
- Commemoration scheduled for September, but postponed to February 1969, due to the illness of the President of the Council of Ministers, Oliveira Salazar;
- Organization of a photography show of the Belgian Institute of Information and Documentation (INBEL);
- Presence in Lisbon of a Belgian Financial Mission, with 20 leaders of the main banks of Belgium and brokers;
- Paul Willems Conference (ULB) in the Order of Engineers, on Engineering Automation;
- Lecture by Mr. Masure at the Gulbenkian Foundation on the Belgian University Foundation and scholarships for students;



Conferences of Mr. Delwaide, Councilor of the Port of Antwerp, in the Industrial Association of Porto and the Commercial Association of Lisbon;

Investment Day in the auditorium of the Lisbon International Fair;

Dinner at the Ritz Hotel, with 200 Portuguese and Belgian personalities;

Creation of the Bellus Association, which brings together Belgian women in Portugal.

1969 Increased collaboration between the Belgian Chamber of Commerce in Portugal and the Belgo-Luxembourg-Portuguese Chamber of Commerce in Belgium;

25 years of the Benelux Treaty – the creation of the EEC interrupted its momentum.

1970 Business proposals: the Chamber's control service remains very active: of 144 proposals received, 18 led to cooperation and several have entered the closing process.

1971 Portuguese products show in Brussels: 45 Portuguese exhibitors were represented and 160 orders for products were received.

1973 Belgian Economic Mission to Portugal presided over by Prince Albert.

1977 Antwerp Port Days in Lisbon: 35 delegates participated in the sessions;

General information session with 250 participants, round table "Cooperation and Organization of Ports" with 40 participants and study visit to the Port of Lisbon; lunch in Porto with 60 participants.

1978 The Belgian Chamber of Commerce in Portugal celebrates 60 years with a dinner for 104 participants.



1980 End of the presidency of Emmanuel Michez, after 44 years of leadership.

1981 First Portuguese elected administrator of the Chamber;

Belgian Economic Mission chaired by Prince Albert, with gala dinner at the Ritz Hotel.

1984 State Visit of King Baldwin to Portugal.

1986 New statutes.

1988 Official opening of the Luxembourg Embassy in Lisbon, in December. Jean Welter is the first Ambassador. Until then, the Grand Duchy was represented in Portugal by an Honorary Consul General – Manuel Ribeiro Espírito Santo (1938-40) and later João Maria Bravo.

1989 Belgian Economic Mission to Portugal chaired by Prince Albert.

1991 New statutes and new designation: Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce, the current name.



1998 Lisbon World Exposition;

Detailed statistical study of imports from Portugal between 1985 and 1998 and conclusions for the UEBL.



1999 State visit to Portugal of King Albert II of Belgium.

2000 State visit to Portugal of the Hereditary Grand Duke, Henri.

2002 One-day seminar, in the Order of Physicians, on the "Health System in Belgium", with nine Belgian personalities from the Health sector;

Three-day trip in Belgium with IPE Vice-President Maria José Constâncio, the Bastonário of the Order of Physicians, Germano de Sousa, and the deputy of the Minister of Health, José Mendes Ribeiro.

2003 CCLBL is certified by the Federation of Belgian Chambers of Commerce and by the Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce.

2004 A group of members of the Belgo-Portuguese Chamber of Commerce visits Portugal.

2005 Abrupt deletion of Belgian subsidies; President Olivier Mortier, in collaboration with the Belgian Chamber of Commerce in Paris, advocates the maintenance of these subsidies, which would be achieved at the end of the year, with a new system of allocation by the Federal Government and Regions.



2008 Seminar in the Order of Physicians on the topic "Current and Future Health Costs"; First Portuguese President elected at CCLBL, Luís Neto Galvão.



2010 State visit to Portugal of the Grand Duke of Luxembourg accompanied by an economic mission. "Discover Luxembourg" seminar is organized on the occasion.

2011 A cycle of five conferences on the theme "World War II".

2016 First woman elected to the presidency of the Chamber, Maria Eduarda Godinho.

2017 The Chamber leaves its head office at Av. Duque de Ávila and moves to the Cavan member's premises.



2018 State visit to Portugal of the Kings of the Belgian;

Commemorative program of the Chamber's centenary.

2020 A second woman is elected to the presidency of the Chamber of Commerce, Chantal Sohier.

THE CHAMBER'S OFFICES IN LISBON THROUGH TIME

1918 Rua Nova do Almada, 24 – 2.º

1921 Travessa do Noronha, 7 – 3.º

1922 Rua José Estêvão, 31 – 1.º

1924 Rua da Prata, 275

1925 Palácio Almada,
Largo de São Domingos, 11

1939 Praça Luís de Camões, 22 – 2.º

1942 Largo do Terreiro do Trigo, 52 – 2.º

1942 Rua do Loreto, 10 – 1.º

1945 Rua Ferragial de Baixo, 48 – 2.º Dto

1955 Rua Rodrigues Sampaio, 21 – 4.º Dto

1960 Avenida Duque de Ávila, 203 – 5.º

2017 Av. Visconde Valmor, 76 – 1.º

2021 Praça das Indústrias
AIP - 3.º Piso, Sala 25

PRESIDENTS OF THE PORTUGUESE-BELGIAN-LUXEMBOURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OVER THE PAST 100 YEARS

1918-1919	Romberg NISARD General Manager, Vale de Vouga Railway Track
1920-1921	H. J. MALVEZ Businessman in the reinforced concrete construction sector
1922-1924	A. WEMANS Technical Director, “Monopole des Tabacs” plants in Portugal
1925-1933	M. DE ROO Director, Companhias Reunidas de Gás e Electricidade
1934-1936	Frenand QUOIRIN Director, Englebert
1937-1982	Emanuel MICHEZ Manager, Companhias Reunidas de Gás e Electricidade
1983-1984	Roger BEERTEN General Manager, Sebes
1985-1986	Joseph MASSART Managing Director, Solvay Portugal
1987-1988	Willy DIERICKX
1988-1991	Edmond GHISLAIN President, Philips Portuguesa
1992-1995	Jacques WALA Director, Fortis Bank
1996-1999	Jean PONCELET Site Manager, Solvay Portugal
2000-2001	Georges DARGENT General Manager, Famidar
2001-2002	Georges DEFFENSE Board Member, Sociedade Cavan
2002-2003	Georges DARGENT General Manager, Famidar
2004-2007	Olivier MORTIER
2008-2012	Luís Neto GALVÃO Lawyer, Sociedade Rebelo de Sousa & Advogados Associados
2012-2016	Pedro PINTO Lawyer, General Manager, pbbr.a – Sociedade de Advogados.
2016-2020	Maria Eduarda GODINHO Lawyer, General Manager, MEG - Advogados
2020-Today	Chantal SOHIER General Manager, BNP Paribas

MEMENTOES



Photo captions

1. Ambassador Bernard Pierre with Alain De Wever
2. The Chamber organizes the participation of Belgian companies in the Alimentaria exhibition
3. Chef Gaetan Colin with Luís Galvão
4. Pedro Pinto, António Carrapatoso and Olivier Mortier
5. The Chamber's newsletter has seen a huge evolution over time
6. The European Commissioner Carlos Moedas in a debate together with Carlo Thelen and Pedro Ferraz da Costa
7. António Vitorino and the Ambassador Rudolf Heygelen
8. Ambassador J.M. Veranneman rewards António Charrua



Photo captions

9. Pedro Rebelo de Sousa, Bruno Soares and Luís Álvaro Monteiro

10. Famous Belgian Chefs in Lisbon

11. Seminar on Energy, with Murteira Nabo (ex-Galp) as one of the speakers

12. Pedro Santana Lopes and Pedro Pinto

13. Pedro Reis, then President of AICEP, winged by Ambassador Paul Schmidt and Pedro Pinto

14. Sports days generally take place in the Chamber's activity plan

15. The couple Isabel and Armando Cró

16. Tasting Belgian beers with Sven Gatz, then director of the Belgian Brewers professional association





Photo captions

17. Ambassadors Boudewijn Dereymaeker and Jean-Jacques Welfring with Marques Mendes
18. Pedro Pinto and João Duque
19. Ambassador J.M. Veranneman with Mira Amaral
20. Mrs. Dereymaeker with Georges Deffense and Georges Dargent (1st from left)
21. Ambassadors Rudy Huygelen and Alain De Muyser with Jorge Oliveira (center)
22. Carlo Thelen, Ambassador Paul Schmidt and Paulo Pereira da Silva
23. Conference panel composed of Bruno Soares, Almiro de Oliveira and Steven de Haes
24. The traditional informal dinner at Guincho
25. From left to right: Frédéric Frère, Ambassador Paul Schmidt, Luís Galvão and Peter Villax



Photo captions

26. Eduarda Godinho rewards Magda Gonçalves, Managing Director of Colégio do Vale

27. Luís Castro Henriques, President of AICEP, takes floor at the CCLBL 100th anniversary celebration before Ambassadors Geneviève Renaux and Jean-Jacques Welfring

28. Johan Albrecht (left) with Jean Poncelet
29. Debate between Silva Peneda and Bagão Félix

30. The CCLBL's 100th anniversary gala dinner was preceded by an interesting debate at the Literary Guild, in Lisbon



HISTORY OF BELGIAN FAMILIES

IN PORTUGAL



THE DEFFENSE FAMILY IN PORTUGAL

Jean Baptiste Deffense from d'Emines, a village in Namurois Belgium, was born on 28 August 1888. The eldest of 9, he had 4 brothers and 4 sisters. The family in Belgium owned and quarried pure black marble. He studied in Namur with the Jesuits and later studied the resistance of materials with a professor from Ghent. In 1914 he married Leontine Wats, from Maastricht of a Dutch father and a Belgian mother. Together they had 5 children: Fernande, Willy, Robert, Jacques and Lydia. In 1916

he was made Industrial Director of Ciment Frère in Péruwelz, producing reinforced concrete poles for fences. In 1920 he created Cavan, a company in Antwerp to produce reinforced concrete poles for power lines.

In 1931 C.R.G.E. in Portugal (nowadays, EDP) placed an order with Cavan in Belgium and Jean Baptiste came to Portugal with 6 Belgian workers and the first manufacturing unit in Alcabideche. Jean Baptiste decides to remain in Portugal and creates in

1932 Cavan in the country to produce precast concrete products.

A younger brother of Jean Baptiste, Artur, sends to Portugal the table for a game called "jogo dos negos" known in Belgium as "Russian billiards". The success of this game was so notorious that the main structure of the table began to be produced in Portugal with the importation of some accessories from Belgium.

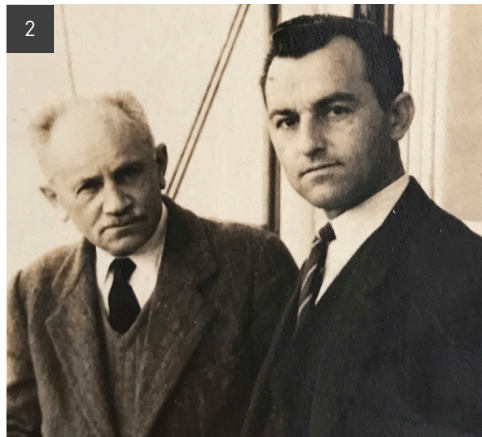


Photo captions

1. Kathleen Knowles Deffense at the WRNS
2. Jean-Baptiste Deffense and Willy Deffense
3. Willy Deffense in the liberation of Honfleur
4. The Deffense brothers: Jacques, Willy and Robert

In 1935 Willy Deffense, born in Saint-Denis-Bovesse in the province of Namur, [23/02/1917] arrived in Portugal from Belgium with his mother, Leontine, his elder sister and two younger brothers to join their father and husband. Then, tragedy hits the family. When crossing a railway, a train hits the car. Jean Baptiste was driving, accompanied by his wife Leontine, daughter Lydia and an engineer Andersen da Costa from Companhia Industrial Portuguesa. Jean Baptiste was the only survivor.

The billiard business lasted around 3 years and was abandoned due to competition and also because the orders for concrete poles progressed. Jean Baptiste would carry bills of 20 escudos that he would offer to workmen that he felt merited it and paid wages well above the standard at the time. He bought a sailing boat for his children and the eldest boy, Willy, was the fearless skipper.

Along with sailing and a passion for motorcycles, Willy was an equestrian champion in show jumping. He had a wild horse called Negro and together were an inseparable team. Willy's sister, Fernande, was also a champion show jumper. At the time, Fernande

was the only female show jumping competitor at the Lisbon Jockey Club and was always well classified.

In 1941, at the age of 24, Willy left with his brother Robert to join the army. When he left to join the Belgian Army in the U.K. he did not know whether it would be for a year, 10 years or the rest of his life. Jacques, the youngest of the family, would join them later. Willy was recruited and trained at C.R.I (Centre de Renfort et d'Instruction). Initially transferred to the 1st Belgian field battery and then later to the 1st Belgian field company of Engineers. He was made a Corporal, then Sergeant and finally a Lieutenant. His younger brother Jacques was wounded in action during the Normandy landing.

One of Willy's initial responsibilities was to check the condition of bridges and their structural capacity. He had been chosen for this role due to his expertise in structural engineering, the number of languages he spoke and his dexterity on motorcycles.

He was the local Steve McQueen from the movie "The Great Escape". Willy and his motorcycle, a Royal Enfield WD/RE 125 c.c. known as the

“flying flea”, formed a single unit capable of crossing forests, climbing mountains and overcoming any other challenges he faced.

Once he could not make a visual approach to a bridge because of the closeness of the German lines. He started talking to the people in the vicinity and luckily, a shop owner told him she had a postcard with the design of the bridge. She gave him the postcard, cost-free, as she was so happy to see an allied soldier. A customer in the shop told him that just the week before the bridge was intact. Returning with this information he was considered a courageous prodigy.

Once in the R.E. (Royal Engineers), Willy built bridges. He had a special gift for engineering structures like none other. He was capable of analysis without the need for lengthy calculations and equations. He also had an impressive gift for communicating with his men that he understood and admired and who in turn respected and esteemed him.

For his part in the Normandy landings, the liberation of Belgium and the Netherlands, and the occupation of Germany, Willy was honourably awarded six medals.

Two from Belgium, three from the Commonwealth and one from France.

It was in north Wales, where the Belgian army was established, that Willy met Kathleen Knowles born in Rhyl (05/10/1921) and of English and Welsh parentage. Willy married Kathleen Knowles in Rhyl on 11 October 1945 and they went to live first in Brazil and then in Portugal. They had 11 children, 10 boys and one girl: Guy, Alain, Roger, Michel, Georges, Daniel, Baudouin the 7th who had King Baudouin of the Belgians as a Godfather, Gerard, Jacques, Cintia and Alexandre.

The love for sailing, horses and motorcycles remained in the family with many boats ranging from an old Baltic schooner type with square rigging down to a speedy 420 and various Atlantic crossings.

Kathleen’s love of horses was well known as she considered sailing to be similar to having a cold shower fully clothed while tearing up € 10 bills.

Willy also received a civil decoration, in 1969, the Knight of the Order of Leopold, from the Kingdom of Belgium. The Deffense family in Portugal, with 32 cousins in the 4th generation, is now going onto the 5th generation, remains impressively united, strong and in full control of Cavan, other companies and assets with ramifications in Belgium, Ireland, Spain, America and Africa.

THE FRÈRE FAMILY IN PORTUGAL



Claude and Colette Frère

The Frère family is originally from the Charleroi region. In the 19th century, a nucleus of its members “emigrated” to Hesbaye and, on November 7th 1908, was born in Oreye, 20 km from Liège, the one who would become the founder of the family in Portugal – Omer Frère.

After the end of Omer’s studies in Liège in 1930, a terrible economic crisis hits the whole world and employment is scarce. Omer responds to a job offer published by Minas de Aljustrel, a Belgian company headquartered in Brussels, looking for a financial and accounting officer for its Aljustrel site. It was the start of the adventure!

Omer leaves his bride in Belgium and walks the paths of the Alentejo. He enjoys a “colonial lifestyle” with good colleagues – engineers, technicians, and a doctor – who spend their free time playing tennis and bridge. In 1932, he returns to Belgium to get married. Everyone knew his wife as “Minus”, a nickname given during the time of the World War 14-18, when a Russian visiting her parents found

her “tiny”. She was the exemplary companion of a lifetime, full of vitality and dynamism.

In May 1933, Claude was born, whom his mother later taught to read and write. However, the quiet years ended in 1940, with the outbreak of World War II. Omer then decides to join the Belgian troops, which he does at his own expense, on 12 May, leaving his wife and son in Aljustrel. After capitulation, he escapes from France, through North Africa, returning to Portugal. This was for a short time only, as he felt the duty to fight and left for England.

Special circumstances lead Omer to capture six German spies, an act of bravery that the English, as a thank you, reciprocated by inviting him to bring his family to England, as Hitler was apparently preparing to invade Spain and Portugal.

After his participation in the Piron Brigade, Omer is transferred to the State Security Service in charge of Secret Funds. Just two days after the liberation of Brussels, Omer is

already there. The family will follow him at the end of November 1944.

In 1945, the three returned to Portugal and moved to SAPEC, in Setúbal, until 1951, the year in which they settled in Lisbon, for the continuation of Omer's career as Administrative and Financial Director of the company and Board member of other companies of the group in Portugal.

Claude, his son, attends secondary school at the French School in Lisbon and completed his two bachelor's degrees in 1952. He left for Liège, with the idea of studying law. He planned to follow Diplomacy, but at the end of his second year he is invited by the President of SAPEC to join the company at the end of his studies. He then decides to complete the law with a degree in Economics and Finance.

In 1958, Claude finishes his studies and marries Colette, graduated in

Economics. He completes military service and enters SAPEC Brussels. Their first two boys, Frédéric and Hervé, are born.

In May 1960, Claude Frère was transferred to Portugal, bound for the Commercial department in Lisbon, but had to carry out a technical internship at the Setúbal factory. The newcomers settled in SAPEC Setúbal and, at the end of 1961, their third son, Marc, was born. The stay in Setúbal proves to be very pleasant, both from a professional and a family point of view, but in late 1962 Claude turns down a transfer to move to a different location and ends up leaving SAPEC in May 1963.

When planning to return to Belgium, he receives an invitation from Solvay to carry out tests in Brussels and, on October 1, 1963, he starts a new career at (then) Soda Póvoa, which he will conclude as Managing Director of Solvay Portugal in 1998, followed by five years at the Board

of Directors. Claude would also be member of the Board of Hovione for eight years.

Omer, a man of integrity, honest, upright, frank and faithful to his principles, a great patriot and a great friend of Portugal, received several awards. He was a Board member at the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce and, later, Vice-President having played an effective role in its activities. He died in April 1980.

Frédéric, Hervé and Marc attended the "Lycée Français Charles Lepierre" in Lisbon. Frédéric and Marc concluded their studies in Switzerland, at the hospitality business school "Glion Institute of Higher Education", while Hervé studied Management at the "Universidade Católica" of Lisbon, completing a Master's in Finance.

Frédéric is a founder and Managing Director of the Travelstore group, a leading travel and events

management group of companies operating in Portugal and some African markets. He has also been a Board member of the Portuguese-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce for many years. Hervé, after starting in Banking, became a business consultant, and Marc is a Country General Manager for the Accor group in Africa. All married Portuguese, of whom they had nine children, aged between 31 and 15 years (in 2020). The oldest is a graduate engineer from the Instituto Superior Técnico of Lisbon and currently works in Belgium. He is married to a Portuguese and they have one daughter who represents the first member of the fourth generation of the family since its establishment in Portugal.

Thus continues the close Belgium / Portugal connection, first initiated by Omer and Minus, and then through Colette, Claude and their children, grandchildren and, more recently, great grandchildren.

THE POSSOZ & DEMOUSTIER FAMILY IN PORTUGAL



1888 – Henri Emile and Jeanne Possoz

Henri Emile Possoz was born in Antwerp on 9 March 1856. He was a chemical engineer and artillery officer of the Belgian Army, a position from which he resigned to leave for London, where he married Jeanne Leroy (1862-1937) in January 1888.

That same year he was invited by the professional school of industrial design of Caldas da Rainha to teach chemistry applied to ceramics. He landed with his wife in Lisbon on 2 December 1888 and only two days later was born the first daughter, Emilia (Mily).

After the first school year in Caldas da Rainha, the family returned to Lisbon, where they settled in Rua das Praças, Lapa. There was born Jane, the second daughter, on October 31, 1892.

Henri worked as head of maritime section and prosecutor at the Burnay House & Cia, alongside the founder, Henry, 1st Count of Burnay (1838-1909) and his brother-in-law and partner Ernesto Empis. The House Burnay, for its importance and the fact that the founders were Belgian, functioned as Consulate General of Belgium, of which Henri Possoz was Chancellor at least from 1904 until his death in 1912.

The couple, integrated in the upper bourgeoisie of the capital, allowed their daughters an unusual education at the time. They attended the German School becoming trilingual and learned piano from Alexandre Rey Colaço. They were excellent performers.

Mily, who from an early age revealed great talent for drawing, learned in Lisbon from the best masters of the time. To complete her training, she left as a teenager to study painting in Paris and engraving in Dusseldorf (1906 to 1908).

She then returned to Lisbon, where she lived with the most stimulating avant-garde artists of the time. From 1909 to 1960, she exhibited regularly in collective exhibitions and was the first woman in Portugal to hold two individual exhibitions in the 20th century.

1910 – Georges and Eugénie Demoustier

Georges Demoustier was born in Termonde on March 25, 1875, and graduated in Philosophy, Letters and Law. He married Eugénie Van Gansberghe (1873-1934) in 1898 and, until 1902, lived in Brussels, where their three children were born: Jean, Madeleine and Paul Demoustier.

In 1903, the couple settled in Paris, where they lived until 1910. For business or family reasons, they traveled a lot. While Georges searched for mines in Italy and Spain, Eugénie visited her children in Brussels or vacationed with them in Switzerland or France.

In July 1910, Georges worked at Casa Burnay & Cia, where he was responsible for the Department of Mines.

From 1911, the children vacationed in Cascais or Estoril, where their parents had bought the Village of Acacia and, later, the Chalet Mont Rose.

The Demoustier and Possoz families will have met at Burnay House. Despite the age difference, they were very close and esteemed.

On Henri Possoz's death, Georges Demoustier was appointed Chancellor of the Consulate of Belgium and, in 1913, became Vice Consul, a position he held until 1919, when he resigned of his own free will.

Jean (1899-1971), having turned 18, joined the Belgian Army and was sent to War in August 1918. After his military service, he went to work at the company I.E.M. Corbeau & Demoustier (1918/22), in Barcelona.

In 1923, Jean came to live in Portugal and, at least until 1925, he is in Santa Comba Dão, working as commercial director of a company of woods and chemicals.

1928 – Jean and Jane Demoustier

On November 22, 1928, Jean marries Jane Possoz and goes to live with his wife at Jeanne Possoz's house in Travessa do Patrocínio, where Mily is also staying when she is in Lisbon.

Also in 1928, Georges imagines the creation of a society to explore the marbles of Vila Viçosa and, with the help of General E. Chapeaux, president of S.A. Merbes-Sprimont, creates Solubema, occupying the position of delegated manager.

At the time of his death in 1932, management passed on to his eldest son, Jean.

After 1945, Jean began his own commercial activity representing several Belgian, English and Swiss companies. Before his death in 1971, the Jean Demoustier - Sociedade Comércio e Indústria, SA was created.

Jean and Jane will have two children, Alain (1831-2017) and Claude (1933-2002). Following family tradition, they will have a very advanced

education for the time. They attend English and French schools, and then be sent to Belgium for college and military service.

1957 – Alain Demoustier and Raymonde Augusta Irene Marie Vanloo (Friquette)

At the age of 18, Alain went to Belgium and entered Louvain, where he took the Economics course.

At 22, he goes to the United States. He attends Columbia University for a year and returns to Belgium to serve in the military.

In 1957, he married Raymonde Vanloo (Friquette). They had four children: Michelle, Anne, Barbara and Pierre. Alain Demoustier joined the society Jean Demoustier as an advisor to his father.

In 1971, he was appointed administrator of Solubema, the Portuguese-Belgian Marble Society. In 1974, he created the company ETMA - Alentejo Marble Processing Company. He was also administrator of the RITZ Hotel with Madame Marquet.

In 1977, with two partners, he bought the company Merbes Sprimont from Société Générale de Belgique. He died on 26 October 2017.

1958 – Claude Demoustier and Elisabeth Marie Oscar Humblet (Betty)

Claude, at 18, goes to Liège, Belgium, where he takes a Civil Engineering course at the Institut Gramme et Isil Liège. He serves in Belgium as an officer.

In 1958, Claude married Elisabeth Marie Oscar Humblet (Betty) and has three children: Carine, Patricia and Jean-Thibaut.

In 1960, Claude and Betty returned to Portugal. Claude goes to Jean Demoustier, SA, where he worked as technical and commercial director until 1996.

Throughout his life, Claude lived his passions: he was a sailor, a photographer, an ultralight pilot. He was always on the move!

Claude died in 2002 following a prolonged illness. Betty passed away in 2013.

THE SCHRÉDER FAMILY IN PORTUGAL



Marcel Schröder (1914-1999) could not resist the charm of Portugal as early as 1938/39, when, still a recent graduate in Civil Engineering, he traveled to Lisbon, where he spent several months studying the country's foreign trade. At a glance, he begins to learn Portuguese and loves the weather. Marcel considered returning a few months later but the Belgian army's mobilization disrupted his plans in May 1940 and during the War years.

Only in the post-War period, in 1948, he resumed those trips crossing Spain by car, to show Portugal to his young wife, Fernande. That is how, almost every year, he returned to Portugal.

In the 1950s, he met his friend M. Augusto Marrata and got to know Emmanuel Michez, with whom he had a constructive and deep friendship. Michez introduced him, in 1955, to a young engineer, António Maria Pinheiro Torres, who a year later would become his partner in the creation of the Portuguese subsidiary "Construções Elétricas Schröder, Lda." – forerunner of Schröder Iluminação, SA – manufacturer and seller of lighting

Photo captions

1. Marcel Schröder, 1939
2. At home in Estoril
3. With Leo Tindemans, in Sintra
4. Prince Albert welcomes Marcel Schröder

fixtures. A flawless collaboration and strong friendship have connected us for the rest of our lives and led the company to success!

In 1956, Marcel was able to fulfill one of his dreams by buying a colonial-style pavilion that had served Estoril's first golf course! The basis for spending summer and Easter holidays was set up almost every year with his wife and three children, Edith, Jean and Agnès, while developing the local branch!

We loved those weeks in the sun, by the ocean so invigorating! Occasionally we'd go to Guincho... At the time, this beach was wild and very little frequented, and we could enjoy a small cabin in the dunes where the Michez spent their weekends.

We also liked to drink a juice in the arcades of Estoril, in the "Bikini", and sometimes we found characters who seemed enigmatic to us: "true" kings and queens in exile, the Countess of Barcelona knitting, King Humberto of Italy, the palin of Hungary Jogy de Habsbourg or one of the sons of the Count of Paris. The events of the pre-War period had gathered this small world that lived pleasant days on the Costa do Sol.

The Portuguese revolution of April 25, 1974 never prevented us from returning to Portugal. Contrary... our father encouraged us to travel and to take our holidays with our children as often as possible. Marcel had an immense confidence in the Portuguese and never believed that violence could prevail.

Despite the difficulties, the "carnation revolution" was for us the opportunity to see a more open Portugal and evolving into the future market of Europe, to which it would join a few years later with profit and success. Meanwhile, our parents reached retirement age, bought a slightly larger house in Estoril ("Casal de Santo António"), and lived there for more than 20 years. It was also in Estoril that Marcel died aged 85, in December 1999, just before the so expected year 2000!

Marcel had the honor to meet several times with Mário Soares, President Eanes, the family of Bragança and other prominent Portuguese personalities. He was decorated with the Portuguese Order of Industrial Merit, awarded by the Minister of Industry on a proposal from the president of the Portuguese Industrial Association (AIP), Jorge Rocha de Matos.

Our family remained very faithful and connected to Estoril, continuing to come to spend holidays as often as possible with children. Parents' homes were kept with enthusiasm. Our children have married and their spouses and their children have become great supporters of Portugal ... which gives us the opportunity to meet again in the summer and spend unforgettable moments.

With her parents, Edith and her husband also took up residence in Portugal and Agnès' three children were married here. Better yet, Nicolas, Agnès' eldest son, married in 2016 to a young Portuguese woman he met by chance at a dinner party in New York. The circle closed up.

The family became a little more Portuguese although in its heart it has never ceased to love the Portuguese and their country, enjoying the beauty, culture, climate and good Food. But, above all, the kindness and fidelity of friends that our family has been able to make and, more than anything, the deep attachment we have for this country, which has been part of our history for four generations.

Edith and Agnès Schröder

THE DARGENT FAMILY IN PORTUGAL



Lambert Dargent

We can say without fear of making a mistake that the presence of the Dargent family in Portugal is based on the phenomenon of the departure to Europe of about 20,000 workers (predominantly from Russia) at the end of the 19th century, among which was Lambert Eugène Alphonse Dargent. Disliking the cold of the East, he decided to accept an invitation to work at the Portuguese Industrial Company, coming together with the Portuguese Manuel Cardoso and António Silvério Vieira to create the firm Cardoso Dargent & Cia.

Lambert Dargent was born on August 1, 1864, in Flemalle-Haute, Belgium, studied in Liège and worked at Cockeril shipyards in that city, distinguished by his skill in tracing (work done with great rigor, to avoid waste), specialty highly appreciated at a time when electronic calculating and measuring equipment was practically non-existent.

In 1908, Lambert Dargent ended up buying the partners' positions and constituting his own firm, L. Dargent Lda., on the lane Conde da Ponte, in Alcantara, Lisbon.

Lambert Dargent married Josephine Rosalie Isabelle Preud'home Dargent. From that marriage he had eight children, three of whom were twins. He died on January 6, 1944, in Lisbon.

From the descent of Lambert Dargent came numerous citizens with exemplary behavior, with emphasis on the eldest son Pierre and his grandson Georges, who accompanied him most at the end of his life.

Pierre Dargent was a Belgian patriot who participated in the World Wars of 1914/18 and 1939/45, and the fact that he was wounded in World War I did not prevent him from playing a valuable role in the liberation of Belgium in World War II.

The grandson Georges became the Mayor of Cascais and took this village out of pre-bankruptcy. Its basic sanitation work allowed the cleaning of the waters of the Estoril Coast, which once again became a prosperous tourist area, once the danger that the highly polluted waters constituted was eliminated.

Georges Dargent also contributed to the expansion of the Tires Aerodrome and of several golf and tennis courts, which increased the region's tourist attraction. He was appointed representative of national and international organizations, such as the National Association of Portuguese Municipalities or the Organization of United Cities, having participated, in the Council of Europe, in Strasbourg, in the approvals of the Charters of the Family and the Defense of European Minority Languages and Cultures.

In 1989, the Belgian Ambassador to Portugal, Robert Van Overberghe, invited Georges Dargent to dinner and informed him that King Baudouin had awarded him the gold medal for an Officer of the Order of the Crown, an award that honored him greatly.

The information here referred can be obtained in more detail in the work nº 29226 done by Maria Leonor Dargent, from the Classic University of Law of Lisbon, or in the book by Georges Dargent "My life story", presented by Prof. Dr. Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, at the Cascais Cultural Center



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