

# Boosting Recycling Rates



Through partnerships and innovative solutions, **Constellium works tirelessly to improve and increase aluminium recycling.**

Aluminium can be endlessly recycled while maintaining its properties. By replacing the need for primary aluminium, recycled aluminium reduces waste, protects resources, and minimizes greenhouse gas emissions.

Better schemes, investment in sorting centers, and citizens' efforts have pushed Europe's aluminium beverage can recycling up to 74.5%<sup>(1)</sup>. However, results remain much lower in the U.S. (49.8% in 2018), despite recent progress in the collection and recycling of beverage cans<sup>(2)</sup>. To help address this issue, we are working with regulators and industry partners, including the Can Manufacturers Institute and The Recycling Partnership, on potential solutions such as container deposit programs and legislation. We also advocate for recycling via communication campaigns (read about our award-winning video on page 38), at conferences, and by leading recycling initiatives.

Constellium actively recycles more than 560,000 metric tons of externally sourced aluminium scrap per year<sup>(3)</sup>. At the same time, we are constantly seeking to boost the recycling rates of the industries we serve by working with partners on scrap collection and sorting, and more efficient closed-loop recycling processes.

While recycling scrap generated within our plants, Constellium works constantly to improve the efficiency of our recycling processes. One ongoing technical challenge of recycling aluminium is properly identifying the composition mix of scrap, so that it can be sorted and then recycled into the most suitable alloy. If an incorrect composition is used for an alloy, additional energy and/or virgin aluminium is required to fix it.

In 2019, our Issoire and Neuf-Brisach sites in France introduced 2D barcodes to better identify the alloy type, weight, and origin of scrap and coils, to deter-

mine the ideal mix for the recycling process and optimize scrap recovery. We are testing other technologies, such as radio frequency identification and optical character recognition, to achieve even greater recycling efficiency.



Aluminium process scrap

2020 TARGET	2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS	NEXT STEPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 80% beverage can recycling rate in Europe ●●○</li> <li>• Work with the industry and with our stakeholders to increase the beverage can recycling rate in the U.S. ●○○</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The average aluminium can recycling rate in Europe reached 74.5% in 2017 (figures published in 2019)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to work on improving in-house recycling efficiency</li> <li>• Keep working with stakeholders to promote recycling and regulations that treat all materials fairly</li> </ul>

(1) Data from 2017, published by European Aluminium on October 14, 2019. <https://european-aluminium.eu/media/2669/european-aluminium-mpe-aluminium-beverage-can-2017-recycling-rate-press-release.pdf>. (2) Data published by Aluminium Association. <https://www.aluminum.org/aluminum-can-advantage>. (3) The registered amount of aluminium scrap externally sourced for recycling has been reviewed by PwC as part of the non-financial performance statement. See page 64, GRI-301-2 Recycled input materials used.