



Summary of Company

Evian Volvic Suisse is a subsidiary of Group Danone, a leading global food company with the mission of bringing health through food to as many people as possible. Danone builds on health focused and fast-growing categories in three businesses: Essential Dairy & Plant-based products, Waters and Specialized Nutrition.

Evian Volvic Suisse is a wholesale business unit of Group Danone, which means it markets Danone's bottled water brands in its area of operations, but the subsidiary does not directly control the product manufacturing process.

Evian Volvic Suisse sells three brands of bottled water products:

- evian® natural spring water
- Volvic® natural spring water
- Badoit® sparkling natural mineral water

Evian Volvic Suisse Practices

Water Access

Danone owns or leases the land in the immediate proximity of the water sources for each brand sold by Evian Volvic Suisse. Volvic natural spring water comes from Auvergne, a region in France known for its volcanic geology with the Chaîne des Puys-Limagne Fault, recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Natural Site. The source of evian natural spring water comes out from the heart of the French Alps, a unique geological site in the world. Badoit natural sparkling water comes from the small town of Saint-Galmier, located in the Loire Region of Southern France, at the foot of Mount Forez. For all of these sources, the underground origins act as a natural filter for the natural waters, providing them with a unique mineral composition and natural purity, and sparkle for Badoit¹.

Companies dedicated to the natural spring water activity in France are required by law to pay specific taxes based on the volume sold, in order to access the water resource. Pursuant to French regulations, the proceedings of these taxes go to French customs and to the local municipalities. All Danone natural spring water sites in France fully comply with this requirement.

Sustainable Usage

In order to ensure the company's water extraction rates are environmentally sustainable, the company commissions hydrogeological studies, which are used to inform the regulatory body which sets the permitted extraction rates and amounts. Water extraction for use by Danone

¹ For more sparkles, CO₂ is added to the natural mineral water before bottling.



Waters does not impair the sustainability of the water resource over time. Extraction rates are monitored and adjusted by hydrological experts and according to the French regulatory framework, to ensure that water levels are not permitted to go below minimum thresholds to ensure sustainability over time.

Evian Volvic Suisse's brands use Danone's proprietary SPRING (Sustainable Protection and Resource ManagING) evaluation method, which is designed to optimally manage the water resource. On their most recent SPRING rankings, Volvic's facilities are classified as "Standard" performance, meaning it scores at 80%. Badoit and evian's facilities earned the "Excellent" topmost ranking. In 2019, Evian Volvic Suisse decided to stop selling Badoit in all markets except France, Belgium and Switzerland in order to preserve the water source given that the Saint Galmier region of France has been experiencing droughts over the last few years and this has impacted the groundwater's natural replenishment rate.

Waste Management

Evian Volvic Suisse sells three brands of water products: Volvic, evian and Badoit. In terms of product packaging for these different brands, the company uses a combination of virgin plastic, recycled plastic (rPET) and glass across the various bottle formats. In 2019, the average amount of recycled input material across various water products sold by Evian Volvic Suisse was 30% rPET.

Furthermore, in 2018, evian committed to make all of its plastic bottles from 100% rPET by 2025. By the end of 2020, Evian Volvic Suisse aims to have an average of 96% rPET in its evian portfolio and 100% by the end of 2023.

Evian Volvic Suisse's goal is to have 100% rPET or 100% bio-based PET across all water products by the end of 2025, however, the company is aspiring to reach that goal sooner.

Company Management Comments on Waste Management

Evian Volvic Suisse is committed to continually improving the sustainability performance of its packaging. In 2018, evian committed to make all of its plastic bottles from 100% rPET by 2025, a move that will see the natural spring water brand adopt a 'circular approach' to its plastic usage, where plastic is kept within the economy and out of nature. Working in close relationship with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation to define this roadmap, packaging will evolve from potential waste to a valuable resource.

Evian-Volvic Suisse evian is a board member of Pet-Recycling Switzerland (PRS) which provides more than 53,000 recycling collection points nationwide. Through various initiatives, PRS successfully encourages Swiss consumers to recycle.



Since 2019 Evian-Volvic Suisse has been offering a refillable bottle and in 2020 the company will continue working on further innovations for packaging, while it also continues investing in bio-based packaging technology through Danone Waters globally.

Other Management Comments

Community Efforts

In addition to managing the sustainability of the water extraction practices, Danone also has a number of community-based efforts focused on preserving the long-term quality and uniqueness of the brands' water sources and the biodiversity and overall agricultural development of the surrounding areas. In each region, they are public-private partnerships whose missions are to implement actions that reconcile local development and the preservation of the catchment area and biodiversity. For example, on the Volvic catchment area, the company collaborates with organizations to provide scientific and technical support to local farmers to help them implement sustainable agricultural practices for crop and land management as well as shifting to organic farming; another example, to protect the Evian watershed, the company joined forces with a group farmers and local authorities, developing a biogas facility called Terragr'eau, which uses farm waste to produce a fertilizer and more than 40,000 tonnes of biogas per year.

Another example is the "Environmental Committee for the Protection of the Volvic Impluvium (CEPIV)", also a public-private partnership co-created by Société des Eaux de Volvic in 2006 with the 4 local communities of the catchment area. Its mission is to implement actions with all territory stakeholders that reconcile local development and the protection of the catchment area and its biodiversity. Amongst other things, Volvic collaborates with organizations to provide scientific and technical support to local farmers to help them implement sustainable agricultural practices for crop and land management as well as shifting to organic farming.

Carbon Neutrality

evian's bottling plant is carbon neutral since 2017, and the use of rPET and more sustainable transport systems help evian to reduce its emissions. evian was certified as a carbon neutral brand in Switzerland in April 2019 and globally in April 2020 by the independent organization Carbon Trust. The brand is looking to further minimize its carbon emissions and also offsets its emissions through its partnership with the Livelihoods Carbon Funds and their reforestation program, through which so far around 130 million trees have been planted in over 10 years.