



Eupen, September 20, 2021

Dear customers,

all of you know that on July 15th, 2021, we were struck hard by a flood catastrophe.

Therefore, because of this act of nature beyond our control, we had no other option than to declare "Force Majeure" for our three business divisions - *Eupen Cable*, *Eupen Pipe* and *Eupen Foam*.

This terrible disaster hit us all badly and confronted us with enormous challenges. A special thanks goes to our employees, who immediately after the catastrophe started with high motivation the clean-up and repair works on the production installations of our company.

The work is progressing better than expected and is still in full swing. At this point, we could see that solidarity and community spirit can move mountains... even mountains of mud and debris!

Because, on the said July 15th, 2021, we found ourselves in a situation which actual scale left us speechless. There was no power, water nor gas supply anymore. Parts of production facilities and administration buildings were seriously damaged. Quite a few production devices were exposed to a several meters high muddy flood wave for hours.

Today, however, about eight weeks after that fatal day, we would like revert to you with some encouraging news:

Our division *Eupen Pipe* (plastic pipes) had a stroke of luck and was only slightly hit by the water masses. However, the area surrounding the factory, like the access roads, bridges etc., were heavily affected. But due to strong support, also by the Technical Services of the City of Eupen, it was possible to restore the company access road already at the beginning of August. Therefore, this business unit could completely resume its activities already on August 9th, 2021. In the meantime, the *Eupen Pipe* division reached again its full operability and we were able to lift its "Force Majeure" status on September 9th, 2021, which is a fantastic and encouraging success. For the *Eupen Cable* and *Eupen Foam* divisions, regrettably, we are still obliged to maintain their "Force Majeure" status. The complete repair works of the damaged production installations and halls and of the entire infrastructure will still take several months.

In the *Eupen Foam* business division (polyurethane foam products), the cleaning work on the important foaming machines is as good as completed. If the subsequent repair of the mechanics goes according to plan, production could gradually start again before the end of the year.



For the *Eupen Cable* (cables and wires) business unit, the spotlight is on our RF cable department (coaxial cables). Because of its slightly higher position on the company grounds, it was "only" inundated by a water level of 80 cm. For this reason, the reconstruction of this production segment was given top priority. Production was already resumed begin of September, and today, we are very confident to put back into operation almost all production installations of our RF cable department until the end of October. This would mean that within few weeks, we could have again at our disposal about 90% of our regular production capacity of this key segment of our cable portfolio. This would be another big step forward on our long journey back to our old strength.

The before-mentioned efforts bear further fruits! In some production departments of the *Eupen Cable* division, the professionally carried out clean-up and repair works of our machinery, of the motors, of the electronic controls and of various mechanical parts go faster than originally planned. Therefore, after good progress in reconditioning, a gradual resumption of production for individual products should be expected at the end of the year. We will get back to you in the next few weeks with further details on products and estimated resumption dates.

We are sorry not to be able to serve your orders as usual in the divisions *Eupen Cable* and *Eupen Foam* at the moment. We would love to meet your wishes and help you with the realization of your projects – but unfortunately our hands are still tied at the moment.

We thank you for your understanding and hope – as soon as the business divisions *Eupen Cable* and *Eupen Foam* are able to act and produce again – to see you soon again and to supply you with the usual high quality. We do our best and hope to repay your trust in our quality and service soon!

Best regards,

Mike Goblet
Commercial Director