

environmental management strategy in the Elemental Holding Capital Group



Admission

The Elemental Holding Capital Group (hereinafter referred to as "Elemental" or the "Group" or the "Organization") operates in the field of recovery, including recycling of waste all over the world, particularly in Europe, the United States, the Middle East, and Asia. The Group specializes in the recovery of precious metals (including platinum, palladium, gold, and rhodium) through waste recycling in the following three business segments:

- recycling of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)
- recycling of printed circuit boards (PCBs)
- recycling of used catalysts (SAC)

In addition recycling of non-ferrous metals is distinguished within group's operations.

The Group's activities are part of global climate protection and sustainable development activities. Through an extensive range of activities in the aspect of waste recovery, the Group actively implements and develops the concept of circular economy, thus influencing the development of rational management of natural resources, in particular metals, but also fuel and energy resources, which are intensively used in metal extraction processes in mining.

Elemental, has taken up the challenge and takes an active part in saving the planet and improving the lives of societies by achieving the goals set by the United Nations in the field of environmental protection.



The Management Board of Elemental has identified the key areas in which the Group's economic activities are related to those described in Commission Delegated Regulation

(EU) 2021/2139¹ of 4 June 2021, supplementing Regulation (EU) 2020/852² of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2020, i.e. it is qualified as environmentally sustainable, due to:

- making a significant contribution to one or more environmental objectives by meeting the technical screening criteria;
- not to cause significant damage to any other environmental objective;
- · compliance with minimum social security.

According to the Elemental Management Board, selected areas of the Group's business activities pursue the following environmental objectives:

- climate change mitigation;
- adaptation to climate change;
- transition to a circular economy;
- pollution prevention and control.



Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/2139 of 4 June 2021 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council by establishing technical screening criteria to determine the conditions under which an economic activity qualifies as making a significant contribution to climate change mitigation or adaptation and to determine whether that economic activity does not cause serious damage to any of the other objectives Environmental (hereinafter referred to as the "Delegated Act on Climate (2021/2139)) <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal--content/PL/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32021R2139</u>

2 Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council (EU) 2020/852 of 18 June 2020 on establishing a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/PL/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32020R0852&qid=1661868314295&from=EN</u>

The Group's business activity, which is covered by the current eligibility criteria³, is listed in table below:

LP	type of activity	action to mitigate climate change	action to adapt to climate change
١	collection and transport of non-hazardous waste in fractions segregated at the source		
2	recovery of materials from non-hazardous waste	and converting sepa waste streams into se mechanical processin Economic activities in	eration of equipment for sorting arately collected non-hazardous econdary raw materials, including ng, except backfilling. this category may be linked to se- particular, E38.32 and F42.99
3	road transport goods	hicles designated as of the scope of EURO VI, ight transport services Economic activities in	easing, rental, and operation of ve- category N1, N2, or N3 falling within stage E its successor, for road fre- s. n this category may be linked to n particular, H49.4.1, H53.10, H53.20
4	ownership of buildings	From the purchase of real estate and the exercise of ownership of this property. Economic activity in this category may be related to NACE code L68	

³ Delegated act on climate (2021/2139)

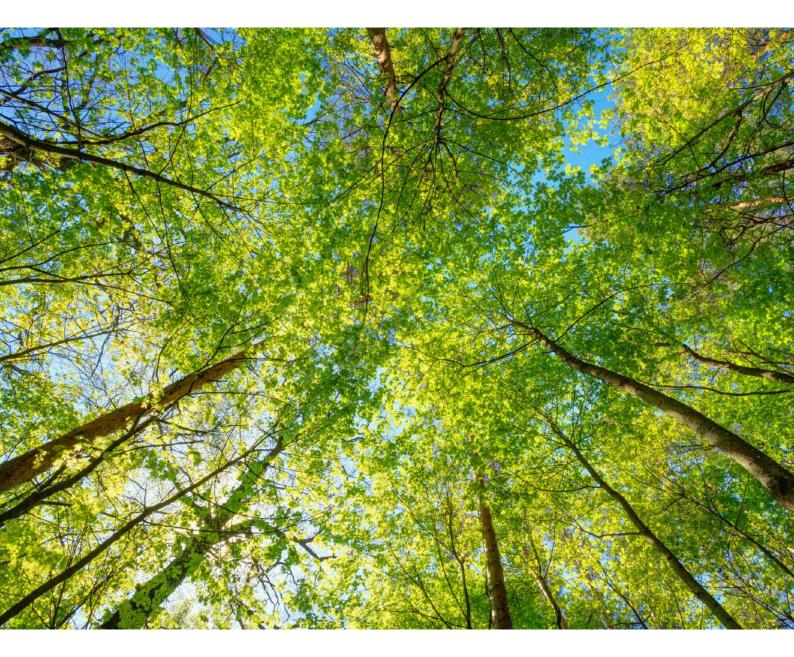
The Group's economic activities covered by the draft eligibility criteria (not yet in force) proposed in March 2022 by the Platform for Sustainable Finance for economic activities contributing to the achievement of other environmental objectives is listed in the table below:

LP	type of activity	transition to a circu- lar economy	pollution prevention and control
1	from the collection and transport of non-hazardous and hazardous waste as a means of recove- ring materials	 facilities centers and waste transfer stations) as a means of material recovery. The activity is classified under NACE codes E38.11, E38.12 and F42.9 This activity includes the separate collection and transport of hazardous waste before its treatment, material recovery, and/or disposal, including the construction, operation, and modernization of facilities for the collection and transport of such waste as a means of pollution prevention and control. Hazardous waste is waste that exhibits one or more of the hazardous properties listed in Annex III to EU Directive 2008/98/EC. Includes (but is not limited to) the following streams (illustrative and non-exhaustive list): hazardous waste from households waste hoppers batteries uncontaminated WEEE uncontaminated end-of-life vehicle A complete classification of hazardous waste is included in the European Waste List (2000/532/EC). The activity is classified under NACE codes E38.12 and F42.9. 	
2	with the collection and transport of ha- zardous waste		
3	treatment of hazar- dous waste		

admission

LP	type of activity	transition to a circu- lar economy	pollution prevention and control
		This activity includes the treatment of hazardous waste as a means of material recovery. This includes the construction, modernization, and operation of such facilities.	
4	treatment of hazar- dous waste	 The activity is classified under one or more of the following NACE codes: E38.22 (which includes the operation of equipment for the treatment of hazardous waste); E38.32 (which includes the operation of material recovery equipment); and F42.9 (which includes the construction of other civil engineering projects). 	
5	removal of contami- nants and disman- tling of end-of-life products	dernization of disman plex end-of-life produ	e the construction, operation, and mo- tling facilities and dismantling com- cts, movable property, and its compo- of materials and/or the preparation ponents.
		economic activities es 1893/2006, those activ gories under one or m • E38.31 (which incl	o the statistical classification of stablished by Regulation (EC) No ities can be subdivided into subcate- ore of the following NACE codes: udes dismantling wrecks); ludes the recovery of sorted mate-
		 E46.77 (which inc E42.9 (which inclugineering project This includes dismantly vables and their components, televisions equipment) to recove dismantling and remotified 	ludes the wholesale of scrap waste); udes the construction of other civil en- s) ling end-of-life products and mo- ponents of all kinds (e.g. cars, ships, s, wind turbine components, and other r materials. In addition, it includes the oval of contaminants from cooling and mply because they contain harmful ular, ozone-depleting substances).

LP	type of activity	transition to a circu- lar economy	pollution prevention and control
6	sorting and material recovery of non-ha- zardous waste	operating facilities for us waste streams to h using a mechanical tr be divided into one or • E38.32 (which inc very equipment);	udes the construction of other civil en-

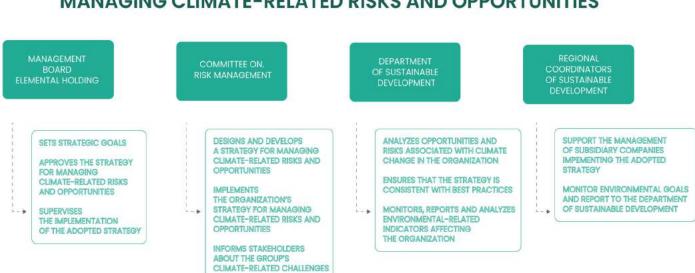




structure for managing climate-related opportunities and risks in the organization



The Management Board of Elemental Holding believes that the green transformation and the related transition to a circular economy are no longer a choice and are becoming a necessity. The Group's global activities in the area of waste management, in particular the recycling of platinum group metals, are an important element of the fight against climate change. To ensure a systematic and effective assessment of the risks and opportunities of the Organization related to the climate, as well as to guarantee the best possible supervision over the environmental aspects in the capital group, the Management Board adopted the management structure of this area presented below:



MANAGING CLIMATE-RELATED RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The Management Board of Elemental Holding

- once a year, analyze the reports prepared by the Risk Management Committee on climate-related threats and opportunities and the implementation of the adopted strategy;
- update the strategic objectives once a year;
- approve the strategy for the management of climate-related risks and opportunities (hereinafter referred to as the "Strategy") developed by the Risk Management Committee and approve the amendments to the strategy.

The Risk Management Committee consists of the director of the Sustainability Department, the director of the mergers and acquisitions department, the director of the finance department, the director of the trading and market risk management department, and persons responsible for internal audit in the Organization. The Risk Management Committee is headed by a Member of the Management Board of Elemental Holding for Finance (CFO).

The Risk Management Committee for climate-related risks and opportunities:

- develops the Strategy based on analyses prepared by the Department for Sustainable Development, conclusions submitted by representatives of the Group's departments and stakeholders;
- develops a plan for the implementation of the Strategy in the Group;
- prepares and approves the annual budget for the implementation of the Strategy;

structure for managing climate-related opportunities and risks in the organization

- informs stakeholders about the adopted Strategy;
- once every 6 months, analyze the requests made by representatives of departments and stakeholders for the setting of new targets and the implementation of new projects related to the environment, in particular, climate-related threats and opportunities;
- once every 6 months, analyses the level of advancement of climate-related projects, the risks, and opportunities that have recently emerged in a given area;
- prepares changes to the Strategy, if necessary, and submits them to the Management Board for approval;
- prepares an annual report on the implementation of the Strategy and present it to the Management Board for approval.

The Department for Sustainable Development for Environmental and Climate Change Action is responsible for the:

- ongoing analysis of opportunities and risks related to climate change in the Organization;
- ensuring compliance of the Organization's activities with the best practices and guidelines of international organizations and entities cooperating with Elemental in the field of environmental protection and climate change goals;
- ensuring compliance of the Activities of the Organization with the principles of sustainable development;
- ongoing monitoring, analysis, and reporting of environmental indicators affecting the Organization.

The Sustainability Coordinators for Environmental and Climate Change Activities at the subsidiary level are responsible for the:

- supporting the management boards of subsidiaries in the implementation of the adopted Strategy;
- monitoring environmental indicators in subsidiaries and reporting to the sustainability department.

When identifying the aspects and impacts of the Group on the natural environment, the Organization, analyzing each time the geographical, legal, cultural, and political conditions prevailing in the areas in which it operates, take into account such factors as:

- air pollution;
- surface water pollution;
- soil and groundwater pollution;
- noise nuisance;
- waste burden on the environment;
- consumption of natural resources;
- compliance with legal and other requirements to which the organization has committed.

Realizing that the Group's enterprises may be burdensome for the environment, conducting its dynamic development, the Group first tries to choose locations away from human habitation, preferably in industrial districts dedicated by local governments. All activities of the Group companies must take into account the principles of foresight, environmental risk management, and bearing the costs of pollution resulting from their activities. The way to

structure for managing climate-related opportunities and risks in the organization

measure the effectiveness of the Group's activities in the field of environmental protection is to measure the number of complaints regarding the impact on the environment as part of the mechanism for reporting irregularities and to measure the amount of penalties and non-financial sanctions for non-compliance with environmental law. Please note that everyone, including employees, associates, and third parties, should immediately report any objections to compliance with the Organization's environmental principles.

When monitoring the impact of the Organization's activities on the environment, the Group does not limit itself only to its plants. In addition to reducing the negative impact of its own companies on climate change and other elements of the environment, Elemental also takes care to reduce all pollutant emissions throughout the supply chain. To this end, it encourages its suppliers and subcontractors to apply the principles of safety and environmental protection and to treat these principles as a criterion for the development of their activities, with particular regard to the protection of plants and animals living in nature.

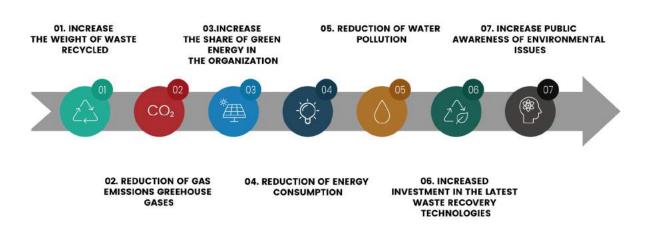






In 2022, the Management Board of Elemental Holding set the group the following environmental goals for the years 2022 – 2026

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES FOR 2022-2026



The above objectives are a continuation of the business and environmental strategy adopted by the Group's Management Board in previous years.



GOAL 01: INCREASE THE WEIGHT OF RECYCLED WASTE

The analysis of the impact of the organization's activities on the natural environment and climate change clearly showed that the Group's activities in the waste management sector consists of the collection and recovery, including in particular recycling of waste containing precious metals, including those from the platinum group (PGM) is a significant element of sustainable development and has a significant impact on reducing the consumption of natural resources through the transition to a circular economy. It is also important that with the increase in the scale of waste collection, the degree of waste pollution decreases and the control increases, in particular over the battery, waste electrical equipment and electronic. Recycling carried out to obtain metals provides great advantages, especially compared to extraction from primary (mining) reserves. In addition, the recovery of precious metals for reuse from waste is in line with the principles of the circular economy.

The main way to achieve this objective is to increase the level of waste collection by:

- 1. development of waste collection networks, in particular, spent catalysts (SAC) by expanding the activities of the Group companies to further geographical areas, including Asia, Africa, and other European countries;
- 2. acquisition of entities specializing in the collection and recovery of waste in areas where the Group has not yet operated;
- 3. raising public awareness by conducting information campaigns, participation in activities undertaken by recovery organizations promoting the collection of waste, in particular waste electrical and electronic equipment from households;
- 4. investments in modern technologies for recycling lithium-ion batteries, catalysts, and printed circuit boards.

To verify the level of achievement of the objective, the Organization monitors the data presented in the figure below collected from subsidiaries belonging to the Group:



GOAL 02: REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Primary production of PGM emits CO2 in a system of about 77,000 tons per ton of PGM, while secondary production of PGM produces greenhouse gases in terms of only 800 tons per ton of PGM. Therefore, PGM recycling is responsible for only 1% of CO2 emissions generated during the extraction of 1 ton of PGM. A comparison of these values is shown in Table 3 below:

source	production volume of PGM in tons (Mg)	greenhouse gas emission factor per 1 ton PGM in tons (Mg)	estimated greenhouse gas emissions in tons (Mg)	estimated % of greenhouse gas emissions
primary production (mining)	375,1	77 000	28 882 700	99,60%
secondary production (recycling)	146,5	800	117 200	0,4%
total production/ emissions	521,6	77 800	28 999 900	100%

Comparing the environmental impact of primary and secondary PGM production, it can be concluded that the recycling of platinum group metals is economically viable, sustainable, and more ecological than extracting metals from ore – so it should be developed. It is more economically viable and has a lower impact on the environment, especially in the context of climate change.

Recoverable amounts of platinum, palladium, and rhodium can range from 1–2 grams for a small car, to 12–15 grams for a large truck in the US. These quantities make recycling economically attractive and, due to the much higher concentration than the ores mined, also help significantly reduce the environmental impact of metal supplies, especially climate impact.

Used automotive catalytic converter (SAC) is a rich source of PGM that contains higher concentrations of PGMs than those found in natural ores (on average 10–20 ppm). Recycling automotive catalysts allow the recovery of up to 95% of the PGMs contained in them, saving a significant amount of energy compared to traditional mining (processing 1-2 tons of used catalysts balances the extraction of 150 tons of ore or 400 tons of gangue).

The main way to achieve the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions based on PGM recycling is to increase the level of SAC collection, i.e. to achieve a goal no. 01 for the collection of used catalysts.

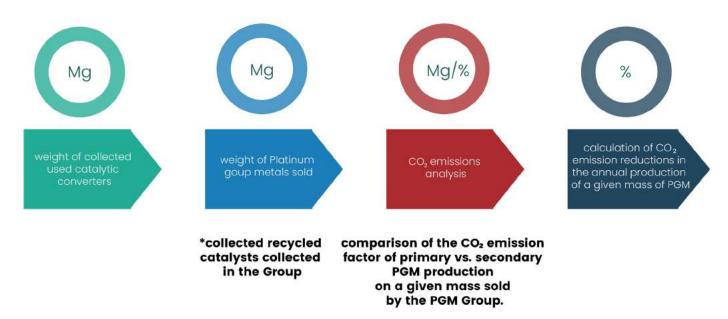
It should also be noted that not only PGM production brings significant environmental benefits. The production of aluminum from scrap metal carried out by the Group companies in comparison with the production of aluminum from bauxite allows for:

- 95% reduction in emissions of chemicals (e.g. aluminum fluoride) during electrolysis processes;
- saving by about 95% of electricity (for comparison, in the case of copper, the saving is 85%, for zinc 60%, for lead 65%);
- saving bauxite deposits 1 ton of scrap is a saving of 4 tons of ore;
- oil savings 700 kg of crude oil is saved when producing 1 ton of recycled aluminum.

However, Elemental has decided at this stage to focus on monitoring the level of CO2 emissions in the PGM recycling process.

To verify the level of achievement of goal no. 02, the Organization monitors the data presented in the figure below collected from subsidiaries belonging to the Group:

monitoring: goal 02 analysis of CO2 emissions on an annual basis in the PGM recycling process

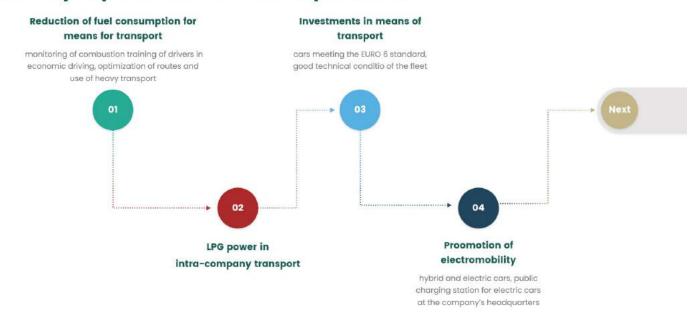


GOAL 03: REDUCE ENERGY CONSUMPTION

In addition to meeting the needs of the global economy in the supply of recycled metals, Elemental recognizes the need to implement and maintain measures related to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and energy savings in the current operations of the Group companies.

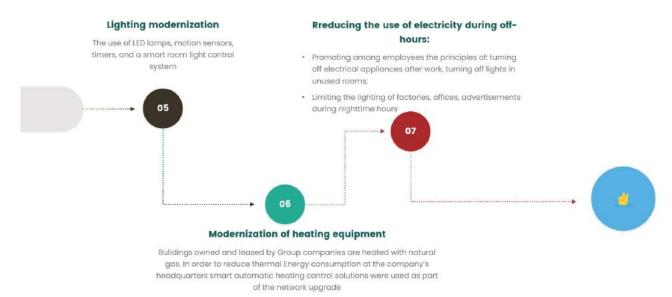
The measures undertaken at Elemental to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport are shown in the figure below.

Measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Group operations - transportation



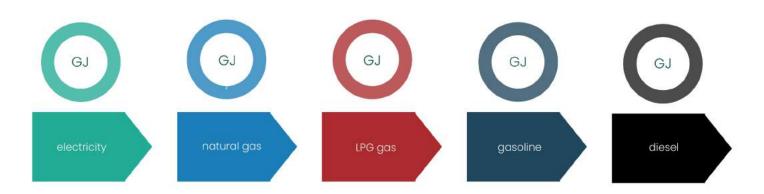
The Group companies also take several measures to reduce energy consumption in their current operations:

Other efforts to reduce Energy consumption in the Group's operations

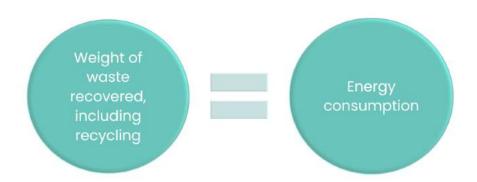


To verify the level of achievement of objective no. 02 and 03 in the scope of current activities, the Organization monitors the data presented in the figure below collected from subsidiaries belonging to the Group:

monitoring: goal 02 and 03 analysis of the level of energy consumption on an annual basis



However, the Management Board of the Company is aware that the technological processes used in the recovery and recycling processes of waste in production plants, as well as the transport of waste, even though they absorb less energy in terms of recovered metals and cause lower emissions than mining processes, require the use of energy-consuming installations. Therefore, in the analysis of energy consumption in the Organization, it should be remembered that the increase in the amount of waste processed causes a proportional increase in energy consumption in the Organization.



For this reason, the Management Board has set another environmental goal to increase the use of energy in the Group from renewable sources.

GOAL 04: INCREASE THE SHARE OF GREEN ENERGY IN THE ORGANISATION

The largest and most important project aimed at achieving Goal 04 is the construction of the first comprehensive recycling plant in the European Union for 1-ion batteries (LIB) for

electric vehicles, as well as other waste containing precious metals such as car catalysts (SAC) will be built in Zawiercie in the south of Polish, which will be powered entirely by energy from photovoltaic panels. The scope of the project is shown in the figure below.

Innovative inteligent energy management system at Zawiercie plant

Photovoltaic power plant

Total output:

~ 10-12 MWp

(comparison II quarter 2023 r.)

+~20-25 MWp

(comparison IV quarter 2024 r.)

 Energy storage system with capacity

~ 10 MWh





The above investment is part of the implementation of strategic environmental goals: Groups:

- 01 increasing the weight of recycled waste;
- 02 reduction of greenhouse gas emissions;
- 03 reduction of energy consumption

The extent to which the investment will contribute to the achievement of objectives 02 and 03 is confirmed by an independent expert opinion attached below and issued by TÜV Rheinland Poland Sp. z o.o.:

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OBJECTIVE 05: REDUCTION OF WATER POLLUTION

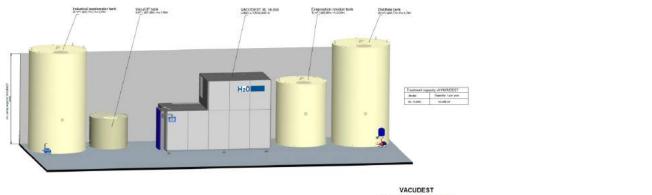
Except for the new plant being built in Zawiercie, Elemental does not use water for industrial purposes. Actions to reduce water pollution focus on securing rainwater that can accumulate on the premises of plants on such surfaces as parking lots, internal communication routes, or storage yards, by hardening the squares, using a drainage and water purification system in separators, and then discharging it to retention tanks. This water is used for watering green areas or fire-fighting purposes. The amount of rainwater discharged is not monitored. To verify the quality of rainwater discharged into the environment, periodic measurements of the purity of the water are made after it has been purified in separators.

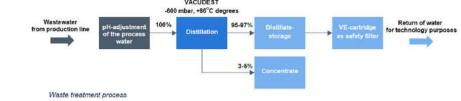
In the remaining scope, water is used for the living needs of employees. Water abstraction and sewage disposal shall be monitored in the Organisation.

At the plant in Zawiercie, already at the design stage, a modern investment wastewater elemental.biz 20

management system was taken into account, which we present in the figures below.

Modern investment wastewater management system





Clean water recovery system - VACUDEST

all wastewater streams from PCB recycling processes are collected and treated using the VACUDEST system – the most innovative solution available on the market under pressure conditions reduced to approx. 0.6–0.8 bar, the water contained in the waste evaporates at a significantly reduced temperature. About 95% of the energy needed for evaporation is returned to the wastewater treatment process in the flowing clean water after condensation is cooled in the lower heat exchanger by the incoming wastewater in the counter-current. The distillate leaves the installation at a temperature of approx. 50°C depending on the cycle time and is returned to technological processes

OBJECTIVE 06: INCREASE INVESTMENT IN THE LATEST WASTE RECOVERY TECHNOLOGIES

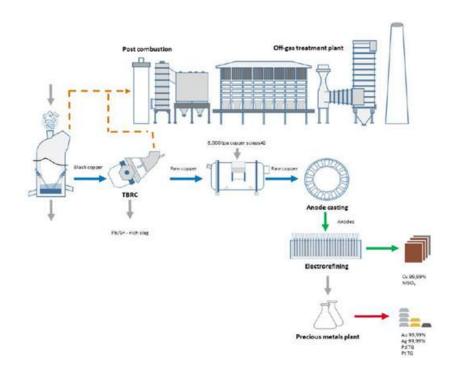
Elemental actively participates in the global fight to improve climate quality. The organization participates in the project "Development and first industrial implementation of innovative battery recycling technologies Lithium-ionic and catalysts with the recovery of metals of strategic importance" approved by the European Commission constituting part of an Important European Common Use Project – Batteries (IPCEI – Batteries). Currently located in the R&D phase and the first industrial implementation and the construction of a pilot plant.

The project assumes the construction of a new production plant, in the greenfield formula in Zawiercie. The plant will carry out technological processes of recycling and production of metals in two separate technological lines. The basic raw materials will be used lithium--ion batteries and used automotive and industrial catalysts, although the use of other raw materials, described in detail later in this study, is also envisaged. Annually, the following will be delivered to the plant:

- up to 4,000 tons of lithium-ion batteries;
- up to 6 000 tons of automotive and industrial catalysts,;
- and other raw materials and consumables

All technological processes used in the plant will comply with the REQUIREMENTS OF BAT ("Best Available Techniques" specified in the reference documents, prepared by the IPPC Directive.

As part of the project, dedicated technology is developed in cooperation with leading Polish technical universities from Wrocław and Gliwice, as well as the Łukasiewicz Research Network – Institute of Non-Ferrous Metals and leading global suppliers of advanced production equipment. The production diagram is presented below.



The project led by the Group is co-financed by the National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR) with additional support from the European Commission. Elemental Holding Capital Group is one of 18 European companies (the others are m.in BASF, Solvay, Umicore, BMW, SEEL, and Varta) notified by the European Commission under the European Industrial Policy, which aims to create a value chain of sustainable mobility in the EU.

From the moment of completion of the investment in Zawiercie and the launch of the plant, the Group will additionally analyze and report in detail this area of activity in terms of the impact of operations on the natural environment by the currently applicable eligibility criteria⁴. The monitored activities are indicated in the table below:

LP	type of activity	action to mitigate climate change	action to adapt to climate change
1	production of elec- tricity in photovoltaic technology	Construction or operation of electricity generation plants that generate electricity using photovoltaic (PV) technology Economic activities in this category may be linked to several NACE codes, in particular, D35.11 and F42.22 Construction and operation of transmission systems that trans- port electricity on a combined system of very high and high vol- tage. Construction and operation of distribution systems trans- porting electricity in high, medium, and low voltage distribution systems. Economic activities in this category may be linked to several NACE codes, in particular, D35.12 and D35.13	
2	electricity transmis- sion and distribution		
3	installation and ope- ration of electric heat pumps	Economic activities in this category may be linked to several NACE codes, in particular, D35.30 and F43.22	
4	femur and operation of facilities producing heat/cold using waste heat	Economic activities in this category may be linked to NACE code D35.30	
5	electricity storage	Construction and operation of facilities storing electricity an returning it later in the form of electricity. Activities include pum ped storage power plants. No dedicated NACE codes.	

4 Delegated act on climate (2021/2139)

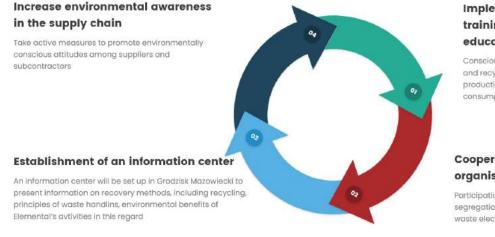
LP	type of activity	action to mitigate climate change	action to adapt to climate change
6	maintenance of instal- lations and repair of energy-saving equip- ment	Individual repair activities consist of the installation, maintenan- ce, or repair of energy efficiency devices. Economic activities in this category may be linked to severa NACE codes, in particular F42, F43, M71, C16, C17, C22, C23, C25 C27, C28, S95.21, S95.22, C33.12	
7	installation, main- tenance, and repair of renewable energy technologies	Installation, maintenance, and repair of renewable energy tech- nology, on-site. Economic activities in this category may be linked to severa NACE codes, in particular F42, F43, M71, C16, C17, C22, C23, C25 C27, or C28.	



OBJECTIVE 07: INCREASE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Elemental, as a waste management organization active in its environmental activities, is aware that the individual choices of employees, members of local communities, as well as all actors in the supply chain have a direct impact on the state of the environment. Aware of the impact of educational activities on shaping environmentally responsible behavior. The Management Board of Elemental decided to implement the following activities:

Actions to achieve goal 07



Implementation of a series of training courses for employees and educational institutions

Conscious and responsible consumption, segregatulon and recycling of waste, reduction of garbage production, reduction of Energy and water consumption

Cooperation with recovery organisations

Participation in information campaigns to promote the segregation and collection of waste from the group of waste electrical and electronic equipment

In addition to the above activities, Elemental develops its pro-environmental activities, using for this purpose the practices of the best environmental organizations to which it belongs and which it co-creates. Noteworthy in this aspect in particular the members of the Group companies in the following organizations:

- BIR (The Bureau of International Recycling www.bir.org) in which the Group shares knowledge with other industry sectors and political groups about the latest trends (including trade and environmental regulations) in the field of recycling;
- IPMI (International Precious Metals Institute, www.ipmi.org) which provides a platform for sharing relevant information on issues related to precious metals. As part of the activities of this organization, the Group participates m.in in awarding prizes to students, promotes science and new technologies, and supports important educational and research programs.

An important element of the Organization's activities to promote the principles of sustainable development is also ongoing information about environmental projects implemented by the Group companies, enabling stakeholders, in particular local communities, to get acquainted with these projects and express their opinions. The Company undertakes to regularly inform stakeholders by publishing annual reports on the implementation of the strategies adopted by Elemental and the assessment of opportunities and risks related to the climate.



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