

PURELAB PLASTICS: SELECTED FOR THE FRANCE RELANCE PROGRAM

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From left to right: Marie-Christine Dalloz, Deputy of Jura, Marc Cantenot, Industrial Director of PureLab Plastics, David Philot, Prefect of Jura and Grégoire Long, Mayor of Moirans-en-Montagne.

PureLab Plastics, a leading French company for laboratory consumables, has been selected for the France Relance program. This program helps support PureLab Plastics with the short-term need for tips by increasing production capacity and creating a national center of excellence for this type of product.

The COVID-19 crisis revealed France's dependence on the development, production, and logistics of sterile consumables essential for research and diagnostic activities. This need for sterile consumables includes products such as pipette tips and capillary-pistons, which PureLab Plastics manufactures. Therefore, the French government decided in summer 2020 to involve ambitious resources as part of the France Relance program to meet these resilience and relocation challenges. In more concrete terms, France Relance will support projects to set up strategic industrial activities through national and regional mechanisms.

These consumables include pipette tips and capillary pistons, which PureLab Plastics manufactures and for which it is the reference company in France. Its plant located in Moirans-en-Montagne, Jura, France, is dedicated to producing medical plastic parts. In this framework, PureLab Plastics, part of the Gilson group, specializes in plastic injection to produce parts and consumables and assemble plastic systems for the medical technology, diagnostics, and Life Sciences sectors. The company is proud to have been selected for the France Relance program.

Production capacity to be tripled

With its parent company Gilson, PureLab Plastics started a project to increase its capacity and create a national center of excellence to provide a sustainable response to the supply difficulties observed for these products during the COVID-19 crisis. Its objective is to enable biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies established in France to have guaranteed access to these essential resources, both for their economic development and their ability to manage our current health crisis. This national center of excellence will help meet the needs and challenges of biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies.

The plan triples the production capacities of the PureLab Plastics site, contributing both to the development and delivery of these products, and the development of the economy and employment in the region. Over the past 15 months, the first steps of the project were completed. Now PureLab Plastics can operate seven days a week, in 3x8, thanks to the recent hiring of new employees.

«We used to have three teams working only over the normal working days. Now we have two new teams working over the weekends. We also hired temporary workers for peak workloads,» said Marc Cantenot, Industrial Director of PureLab Plastics.

This project will create many new job positions in the Center of Excellence for plastics at Gilson. The company already planned to recruit experts in the industry, especially injection technicians with very high competencies.