MEMBER ANNUAL PUBLIC REPORT 2017

BEL

Constituency: Industry, Trade & Finance

Date: 30 March 2018

Primary contact responsible for the institutional commitment to RTRS
(name, e-mail, phone number, office address)
➡ Stéphane PAILLOT, spaillot@groupe-bel.com, +33 1 84 02 78 73, 2 allée de Longchamp 92150 SURESNES

Person reporting
(If different)
➡ Elodie PARRE, eparre@groupe-bel.com; +33 1 84 02 72 37, 2 allée de Longchamp 92150 SURESNES

Please state what the main activities of your organization are, both overall and those specifically linked to soy production:
➡ The Bel Group is a world leader in branded cheese and a major player in the healthy snacks segment.

Its portfolio of differentiated and internationally recognized brands, including such products as The Laughing Cow®, Kiri®, Mini Babybel®, Leerdammer®, and Boursin®, as well as some 20 local brands, enabled the Group to generate sales of €3.3 billion in 2017. The acquisition of the MOM Group complements a portfolio of strong brands with the integration of the Pom’Potes and GoGo squeeZ brands.

Bel uses each year roughly 2 billion liters of milk, mainly originating from Europe, from 2,650 milk producers. As a major player in dairy products, Bel is committed to reducing the environmental impact of each step in the dairy industry, from dairy cow feeding to cheese distribution. Among key animal feed raw materials, soy is seen by the group as a priority to lower its environmental footprint.

Please state in which regions the organization operates
➡ 12,700 employees in some 30 subsidiaries around the world contribute to the Group’s success. Bel products are prepared at 32 production sites and distributed in over 130 countries. Bel Group headquarters is based in Suresnes in France.

Is the person reporting for the entire organization or a specific region? (please, state which one)
➡ The person is reporting for the entire organization

What is the organization’s policy on soy
please provide link if available
➡ The use of Bel soy is indirect since it concerns - a small part of - the feeding of cows which produce the milk used in our products.

In November 2012, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and Bel joined forces to work together on a scheme to develop a more sustainable dairy industry by reducing its environmental impact. From the study carried out by Bel and the WWF of the environmental risks of each raw ingredient used in dairy cattle feed, it emerged that soy can have a particularly high environmental impact.
Supporting the sustainable production of soy used in dairy cattle feed has become a priority for Bel which became a member of the Round Table on Responsible Soy (RTRS) in 2014.

In 2015, the Group purchased RTRS certificates to cover all soy volumes used in cow feed by European dairy producers.

In 2016 the Group has strengthened its commitments through the purchasing of RTRS certificates to cover all soy volumes used worldwide to produce the milk used directly or indirectly in the making of its products. These purchases do not cover milk collected by Bel from Dutch producers who are already covered by certificates purchased by the Dutch dairy sector.

To make its commitment more meaningful, the Bel Group supports, throughout a sponsorship since 2016, a field project to help soy farmers in Brazil’s Mato Grosso state obtain RTRS certification through the adoption of more sustainable practices.

Finally, end of 2017 Bel took part in the Cerrado Manifesto alongside 61 leading companies pledging to help tackle soy and cattle driven deforestation in this region of Brazil.


**Operations related to soy**

What is your organization’s annual soy footprint?
Please state direct use and indirect, in tonnes

→ 72,895 Tonnes of indirect use of soy.

Do you have a system for calculating your (direct and indirect) production, purchase, trade or use of soybeans or derivatives?
→ Yes, with the WWF France we have developed an “environmental calculator” that estimates our indirect use of soybeans.

What is the total volume of your (direct) soy use (beans, meal, oil, hulls, lecithin, derivatives).
Please specify per category and specify the scope, where relevant (national/international, own brands/all brands, etc)

→ 0 for direct use.

What is the total volume of your (indirect or embedded) soy use (beans, meal, oil, hulls, derivatives, e.g. in feed for animal products)
Please specify per category

→ 100% of our volume is indirect and represents 72,895 tonnes of soy in 2017 (Tiers 3 defined by CGF).

Other relevant information on this topic
→
Operations related to RTRS Soy\(^1\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RTRS Certified Soy Purchased/used in 2017</th>
<th>Segregated</th>
<th>Mass Balance</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>72 895 T</td>
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Did you purchase this yourself directly or did your supplier do this? If your supplier did so, how did you specify and verify this?

- Bel has purchased directly credits (53 320) for his global perimeter except for his Dutch activity. The Dutch dairy sector has committed to use RTRS (or equivalent) soy for their entire perimeter (18 552). All our Dutch dairy farmers are compliant with the KKM (Keten Kwaliteit Melk), a specification that demands dairy farmers to use animal feed coming from certified feed producers using RTRS (or equivalent) soy. All Dutch dairy farmers are regularly audited for the KKM specification.

What type of products do you use RTRS soy for?

( Specify supply chain options), direct and indirect.

- The use of Bel soy is indirect since it concerns - a small part of- the feeding of cows which produce the milk used in our products

Did your organization make any public claims related to the production, trade and purchase of RTRS soy?

Please provide link.

- Since our first partnership with WWF in 2012, we value our actions and commitments on our website, during ad hoc conferences externally and internally or in press releases for example.  

Other relevant information on this topic

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Time bound plan for Responsible Soy

What date did your organization start, or does it plan to start using or supporting RTRS soy via purchases? (including all supply chain options)

- Bel started to purchase RTRS certificates since 2015 for soy volumes used in cow feed by European dairy producers.

Does your organization expect to use 100% RTRS soy?

If so, by when?

- Yes, since 2016 we cover 100% of our soy volumes with RTRS certificates.

What milestones has your organization defined for its responsible soy use?

Please state annual targets/strategies, including its 2017 target if applicable

- After becoming a member of the Round Table on Responsible Soy (RTRS) in 2014, Bel starts to purchased RTRS certificates in 2015 to cover all soy volumes used in cow feed by its European dairy producers and since 2016 Bel cover with RTRS certificates all soy volumes at global level.

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\(^1\) Where ‘soy’ is mentioned this refers to all products (beans, oil, meal, hulls, lecithin, derivatives, etc.) and both direct and indirect use.
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To make its commitment more meaningful, the Bel Group supports, throughout a sponsorship since 2016, a field project to help soy farmers in Brazil’s Mato Grosso state obtain RTRS certification through the adoption of more sustainable practices.

Finally, end of 2017 Bel took part in the Cerrado Manifesto alongside 61 leading companies pledging to help tackle soy and cattle driven deforestation in this region of Brazil.

Please quantify your commitment or estimated purchase/use of Certified Responsible Soy in the table below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(tonnes)</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Segregated Mass Balance</td>
<td>Credits</td>
<td>Segregated Mass Balance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct use</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Indirect use</td>
<td>71 885</td>
<td>72 895</td>
<td>75 000</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
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Other relevant information on this topic

Membership & Promotion

How did your organization provide information about its RTRS membership to internal and/or external audiences?

- Since our first partnership with WWF in 2012, we value our actions and commitments on our website, during *ad hoc* conferences externally and internally or in press releases for example.


How did your organization support or promote RTRS?

E.g. what internal and external activities were organized?

- We promote our commitment to RTRS in different ways depending on opportunities. For example, during CSR week internally, on our corporate web site or during conferences such as Produrable in Paris in March 2017 and April 2018, the Think Tank Saf agr’iDées in November 2017 or the RTRS Annual Conference in May 2017.

Did the organization proactively encourage other companies (supplier, customer, and colleague) to support or become members of the RTRS?

If so, please specify.

- By promoting our commitment to RTRS we encourage other companies such as suppliers, customers, etc. to support or become members of the RTRS.

Other relevant information on this topic


Other support activities

Did your organization provide support towards RTRS certification for producers, such as training, in producing countries? 
If so, please specify.

→ To make its commitment more meaningful, the Bel Group supports, throughout a sponsorship since 2016, a field project to help soy farmers in Brazil’s Mato Grosso state obtain RTRS certification through the adoption of more sustainable practices.

Did your organization raise/contribute funds in order to support capacity building and other activities? If so, please specify which organization were supported, the nature of the activities and the amount of funds that were contributed

→ Yes, through our partnership with WWF since 2012 that help us to work on a scheme to develop a more sustainable dairy industry by reducing its environmental impact.

Did your organization participate in RTRS working groups or courses?
If so, please specify.

→ Bel participated in a conference during the RTRS Annual Conference in May 2017 in France to explain the group commitments regarding responsible soy. In 2018, the Bel Group will also be present to the Annual RTRS Conference.

Other relevant information on this topic

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Other comments

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