

Press release
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Nijhuis Saur Industries and Air Liquide partner to deploy Ozone Strong Water (OSW) technology for micropollutants removal in the Benelux and the UK

Nijhuis Saur Industries (NSI), part of Saur Group, and Air Liquide have signed an agreement to jointly commercialize Ozone Strong Water (OSW) technology, an advanced ozone mixing system designed for the most efficient elimination of micropollutants in the Benelux (Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg) and the United Kingdom. This agreement represents an important step towards further deployment of this innovative ozone application addressing the fast-growing requirements for micropollutant removal in wastewater.

A fundamentally different approach to ozonation

The revised EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive requires the removal of at least 80% of micropollutants through advanced quaternary treatment. With the "polluter pays principle" now requiring pharmaceutical and cosmetic manufacturers to cover 80% of these treatment costs, there is an urgent demand for high-performance, cost-effective solutions to tackle pharmaceutical residues and chemical contaminants.

Conventional ozonation systems typically introduce ozone into water using venturi injectors or diffusers. In these systems, ozone mass transfer, mixing and reaction occur simultaneously within a single reactor, requiring hydraulic retention times of 15 to 20 minutes and resulting in relatively large reactor footprints.

Instead, OSW technology separates mass transfer, mixing and reaction into separate process steps. This enables much faster ozone transfer (95+%) and smaller footprint, resulting in 20% lower total capital expenditure compared to conventional. OSW enables highly efficient and precisely controlled ozone dosing, supporting the effective removal of pharmaceutical residues and other micropollutants with reduced energy demand and compact installation requirements. Technology's modular configuration further enhances flexibility in system integration and deployment.

Under the agreement, Air Liquide remains the patent holder and owner of the OSW technology, while NSI is appointed as the production and system integration partner for the Benelux and UK markets. The companies will jointly introduce and commercialize the technology for micropollutant elimination.

- Within NSI's treatment portfolio, OSW is positioned as a key building block of the Micro Resolve micropollutant removal solutions platform, strengthening NSI's capability to deliver integrated treatment concepts that address increasingly stringent discharge and reuse standards such as the EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive targeting advanced micropollutant removal
- Air Liquide further strengthens its role as an innovative global water technology partner supporting municipalities and industrial clients in meeting tightening water quality regulations related to the removal of micropollutants.

"By combining innovative ozone technology with industrial production and system integration expertise, we are adding a practical and future-proof solution to our Micro Resolve portfolio for

micropollutant removal,” **says Eddie Broeders, Business Development Manager Municipal Market at Nijhuis Saur Industries.**

Bertrand Masselot, North Central Europe Vice President for the Industrial Merchant Business Line at Air Liquide: “The partnership with Nijhuis Saur Industries allows us to deploy Ozone Strong Water (OSW) technology for micropollutants removal in the Benelux and the UK. By maximizing ozone efficiency, we enable our customers to meet water standards with reduced energy and footprint. It is a clear example of combined innovation with environmental stewardship. Together, we are providing a future-proof solution for the water cycle.”

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About Air Liquide

Oxygen, nitrogen, hydrogen, and many other essential small molecules are the invisible pillars of our world and our lives. They have been at the core of the Group’s activities since its creation in 1902. A world leader in gases, technologies and services for industry and healthcare, Air Liquide acts as the backbone of numerous economic sectors, serving 4.3 million customers and patients across 59 countries with approximately 65,000 employees. With revenues close to 27 billion euros in 2025, Air Liquide combines strong performance and useful growth. The Group is a leader with a diversified, resilient business model and a strong local footprint across the globe. Through deep engineering expertise and technological innovation, Air Liquide provides scalable solutions that enhance industrial efficiency, accelerate decarbonization, and strengthen value chains. Strategically exposed to growth markets and megatrends, the Group accompanies major industrial and societal transformations to create long term added value and build a sustainable future. Air Liquide is listed on the Euronext Paris stock exchange (compartment A) and belongs to the CAC 40, CAC 40 ESG, EURO STOXX 50, FTSE4Good, and Dow Jones Best-in-Class Europe Index indexes.

About Nijhuis Saur Industries (NSI) | www.nijhuissaurindustries.com

Founded in 1904, Nijhuis Saur Industries provides solid and adaptive solutions for sustainable and resilient water use, energy- and resource recovery. Since the inception of Saur’s Industrial Water platform in 2020 more than 14 companies have been successfully acquired and integrated into a global operating company supporting municipal and industrial clients in over 140 countries with engineering and consultancy services, EPC / DBFOM project execution, mobile water solutions and O&M site services. With an extensive portfolio of innovative technologies and game-changing solutions, Nijhuis Saur Industries deliver local, scalable, and circular water-on-demand solutions to more than 7.000 references around the world and contributes to a more sustainable and resilient future.

Our purpose is to be an advocate for water, ensuring everyone gives water the value it deserves. With our unique Customer for Life approach, we protect water resources, contribute to the water-, energy-, waste- and food transition, and help to restore and close the water loop. We call it #MissionWater.