we are FCC

nº 30 / 2024



FCC holds its 2024 General Shareholders Meeting

we are FCC

nº 30 / 2024



FCC holds its 2024 General Shareholders Meeting



FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente agrees to negotiate the exclusive purchase from ESG of its business in France



FCC joins the Our Pride is Diversity campaign



Work begins on the Offham landfill solar farm in the UK



Cementos Portland Valderrivas' awareness campaign on the involvement of the human factor in workplace accidents



Talking to the General Services technical team



FCC Construcción, a benchmark in hospital construction



Water digitisation and planning, challenges for the sector to create a cascade effect of development

Annual Report
2023

FCC holds its 2024 General Shareholders Meeting



Esther Alcocer Koplowitz, Chairman of the FCC Group, and Pablo Colio Abril, Managing Director, during the 2024 General Shareholders' Meeting.

The General Shareholders' Meeting of FCC has approved at its session, held this afternoon in Madrid, all the items on the agenda, including the distribution of a flexible dividend, to be received in shares or in cash, for an amount per share of 0.65 euros; the proposal of the project for the partial financial spin-off of FCC in favor of a new company called Inmocemento, which will integrate the Real Estate and Cement business areas, as well as the annual accounts and management reports for the 2023 financial year.

The meeting was chaired by Esther Alcocer Koplowitz, Chairwoman of the FCC Group, who in her speech to the shareholders stressed that "in 2023 we have once again demonstrated our ability to turn every challenge into an opportunity". She also wanted to highlight that "the leadership of engineer Carlos Slim and Grupo Carso have once again been decisive in successfully managing and directing our Group".

View Executive Summary Annual Report

A year of success and positive developments

For his part, Pablo Colio reviewed the results obtained by the FCC Group and by its business areas in 2023, which endorse the company's high capacity to continue growing and reinforce its solid position of success and leadership, in addition to reviewing the main events that took place during the year. The CEO wanted to stop in his speech to explain the project of partial financial spin-off of FCC in favour of Inmocemento, whose operation will differentiate the strategy, management and valuation of the new group with respect to FCC and facilitate the perception and maximization of value separately of both groups by the markets.

At this annual meeting, both the Chairwoman and the CEO emphasized that 2023 has been a year of progress and positive results, and thanked the Board of Directors, the management team and all the employees of the FCC Group for the success of the good results; they also acknowledged the firm commitment and support received by FCC's shareholders, strategic partners, customers and investors to continue growing and building a more sustainable future.

Pablo Colio Abril

CEO of the FCC Group



Presentation Speech

Esther Alcocer Koplowitz

Chairwoman of the FCC Group



Presentation Speech

Appointments at the **General Shareholders' Meeting** and on the **FCC Board of Directors**

At its meeting held on 27 June, the Board of Directors of FCC resolved to make the following appointments:

- To appoint Ms. Esther Alcocer Koplowitz as Chairwoman of the Board of Directors of the Company.
- To appoint Juan Rodríguez Torres and Esther Alcocer Koplowitz as members of the Executive Committee.
- To appoint Juan Rodríguez Torres as a member of the Audit and Control Committee.
- To appoint Juan Rodríguez Torres and Esther Alcocer Koplowitz as members of the Appointments and Remuneration Committee.

General Shareholders Meeting 2024

Video tribute to the people who form part of the FCC Group presented at the GSM to thank the entire FCC team for the trust, effort and well-done work during the 2023 financial year.

Watch the video

FCC Group Legal Services holds its V Meeting under the slogan

"Let's talk about Artificial Intelligence"





Pablo Colio, Managing Director of the FCC Group, during the opening of the conference.

The FCC Group's Legal Services held its 5th International Meeting under the slogan "Let's talk about Artificial Intelligence". The conference was opened by the CEO of the FCC Group, Pablo Colio, who welcomed all attendees and stressed that FCC has a team of top-level lawyers and that they are a necessary instrument for identifying, assessing, mitigating and managing the legal risk of the company and its businesses. During his speech, Colio wanted to emphasize that everyone is a fundamental and essential part of the company's activity.

For his part, Pepe Cerro, general manager of the FCC Group's Legal Department, thanked the entire team for attending the meeting and his colleagues from the tax, labor and compliance units from different parts of the world where the FCC Group operates.

The first part of the conference was held at FCC's Corporate Headquarters in Las Tablas (Madrid), with the participation of experts from leading law firms who helped to understand Artificial Intelligence applied to the legal field and to analyze the impact it will have in the future on the practice of this profession. For this purpose, the conference counted with Écija Abogados, through Alberto Alonso Ureba, Cristina Villasante and Jesús Yánez.



Welcome address by Pepe Cerro, General Manager of the Legal Counsel.

This was followed by a round table discussion, moderated by Cristina López Barranco, director of Corporate Legal Counsel at the FCC Group, where they talked about Generative AI, specifically the challenges and impact it is having on the legal profession, with the participation of Idoya Fernández Elorza, from Cuatrecasas, Miguel Barroso, from Herbert Smith Freehills Spain LLP, and Mónica Represa, from A&OShearman.

The closing of the day was led by Aqualia, with the participation of Santiago Lafuente, CEO of Aqualia, who spoke about the water business; Miguel Perea, Director of Customers and IT, who detailed the company's customer management; and, finally, José Gabriel Lumbreras, Director of Operations, whose speech addressed the challenge of digitization in the water sector.

Visit to the water facilities in Ávila

In the second part of the meeting, which took place in Ávila, the attendees were able to learn about the operation of the complete water cycle, from catchment to drinking water treatment, passing through the water analysis laboratory where it is analyzed before consumption, and its arrival, once used in homes and industries, at the wastewater treatment plant to return it in perfect condition to its source. The final highlight of the day was a guided tour of the city of Ávila.



Alberto Alonso Ureba, Cristina Villasante and Jesús Yánez, from Écija Abogados, during their presentation.



Round table comprising Cristina López Barranco, director of Corporate Legal Consultancy for the FCC Group; Idoya Fernández Elorza, of Cuatrecasas; Mónica Represa, of A&O Shearman; and Miguel Barroso, of Herbert Smith Freehills Spain LLP.



From left to right, Santiago Lafuente, CEO of Aqualia, Miguel Perea, Director of Clients and IT, and José Gabriel Lumbreras, Director of Operations.



New Chief Executive Officer of FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente Holding



The Board of Directors of FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente Holding, at the proposal of FCC Managing Director Pablo Colio, has appointed Íñigo Sanz Pérez, who until now coordinated FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente's activities in the Americas as CEO of the US subsidiary FCC Environmental Services, as Managing Director of FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente Holding.

New CEO of FCC Aqualia



The Board of Directors of FCC Aqualia has appointed Santiago Lafuente Pérez-Lucas, who until now held the position of director for Spain after more than 30 years linked to the citizen services group, as CEO of FCC Aqualia.

Esther Alcocer Koplowitz, new member of the Jury for **the 2024 Princess of Asturias Award for Concord**

Esther Alcocer Koplowitz, Chairwoman of the FCC Group and Marquise of Casa Peñalver, is a new member of the Jury for the 2024 Princess of Asturias Award for Concord.

The jury examined the 38 candidatures from 19 nationalities submitted and decided to award the prize to the Magnum Photos photography agency, as "an example of freedom of the press and risk-taking", according to the minutes issued. In this edition, 38 candidatures from 19 nationalities were received.



In the picture, the jury of the 2024 Princess of Asturias Award for Concord. In the second row, in the centre, Esther Alcocer Koplowitz, Chairwoman of the FCC Group and Marquise of Casa Peñalver.

FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente agrees to negotiate the exclusive **purchase from ESG of its business in France**

The transaction would result in the entry of FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente into the French waste management market.

FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente has reached an exclusive agreement to analyse the purchase of the operating subsidiaries of Europe Services Groupe (ESG). The company had a turnover of 98.7 million euros in 2023 and employs around 2,000 people. Subject to obtaining all necessary approvals and customary conditions precedent, the transaction would be completed in the second half of 2024.

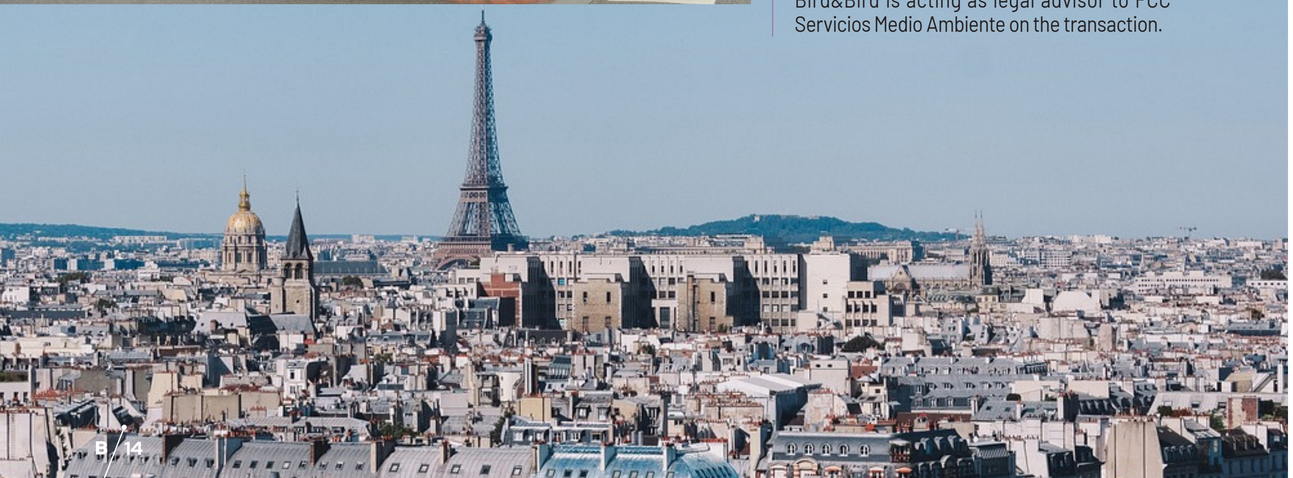
ESG concentrates its activity in two of France's most populated areas: the metropolitan areas of Paris and Lyon, through its four operating subsidiaries where it provides municipal waste collection, street cleansing, professional cleaning services, and maintenance services for public and private clients.

According to Iñigo Sanz, CEO of FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente, "the acquisition of the ESG's business would represent the entry into a key market for us and a significant step in FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente's growth strategy. In addition, we believe that the contribution that all the employees of the ESG group would make to our future in France would be particularly valuable for our company".

Carlos Afonso, Director of Development and M&A, commented "ESG's activity is part of our group's strategic services, and would constitute a platform for growth for FCC throughout France, both in the services currently provided by ESG and in waste treatment, thanks to the technical and financial strength of the FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente group".

Bird&Bird is acting as legal advisor to FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente on the transaction.







Javelin Park EfW, Gloucestershire.

The company completes the acquisition of Urbaser's UK subsidiary

FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente has completed the purchase of Urbaser's affiliate in the United Kingdom announced in December 2023. FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente has been present in the British market since 1989 through its affiliate FCC Environment UK. This acquisition strengthens the business' position as one of the country's leading waste management operators. The purchase of Urbaser's UK business will enable it to expand its product and service offer and enhance the value proposal for its customers.

Urbaser UK operates composting, material recovery, waste to energy and final disposal facilities in addition to household recycling centres. It also provides municipal waste collection, recycling centre management and street cleansing services.

Iñigo Sanz, CEO of FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente, stated 'This operation further strengthens FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente's leading position, at both European and global levels, in the comprehensive waste management and circular economy sector."

FCC Environment UK's Chief Executive Officer, Steve Longdon said "as one of the UK's most advanced waste management companies, this transaction is very positive for our business and strengthens our core services even further. We welcome the Urbaser team, with whom we will continue to do our job of delivering essential services to all our customers every day."

Santander Corporate & Investment Bank acted as financial advisor to FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente in the transaction and Linklaters acted as legal advisor.

New contracts in the USA

The awards mark the company's expansion in the US Midwest and North Carolina.

Saint Paul, Minnesota

The city of Saint Paul, capital of the state of Minnesota, has awarded FCC Environmental Services, a subsidiary of FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente in the United States, a new urban solid waste collection contract worth more than 115 million dollars (some 107 million euros). The service, which covers almost the entire municipality, is scheduled to run for seven years and will begin on 1 November 2024.

The service will employ around 60 local people and serve more than 300,000 inhabitants and involves a major investment of $25 million (23.2 million euros). This investment will go towards the acquisition of more than 30 new Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) powered collection trucks and the construction of a CNG refuelling station, as well as the purchase of all-electric inspection vehicles and a 100% electric refuse and rubbish collection truck, reflecting the commitment of Saint Paul City Council and FCC to sustainability and urban environmental protection.

The award of this contract is another example of the dedication and expansion of FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente in the American Midwest, where it began in 2020 providing waste collection services to 150,000 households in the city of Omaha (Nebraska).



Collection truck powered by Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) in the Midwest.

Buncombe County, North Carolina

The Buncombe County Board of Commissioners in North Carolina has awarded FCC Environmental Services the municipal solid waste collection contract worth up to $110 million (€101.4 million). The service has an initial term of seven years with a possible one-year extension and will commence on 1 January 2025.

The contract aims to provide collection services to some 175,000 residents in the county's "unincorporated communities", those areas that have a common social identity but are not organised as a local entity.

To deliver this new service, the company will employ 43 local staff and make a major investment of over $15 million (13.84 million euros), including approximately 70,000 new containers, 24 new collection vehicles and five auxiliary vehicles.

Bolsters its presence in Florida with the acquisition of Gel Recycling Holdings

FCC Environmental Services, a subsidiary of FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente that provides comprehensive waste management and recycling services in the United States, has taken a significant step in its expansion in North America with the acquisition of Gel Recycling Holdings, one of Central Florida's largest recyclable materials management companies. This strategic move includes the addition of three recycling facilities and a construction and demolition debris landfill to the company's Florida operations, as well as the integration of 120 people into the workforce.

Gel Recycling's facilities are located in Orange City, Daytona Beach, DeLand and Jacksonville. The company has multiple contracts in Florida that present numerous opportunities for potential synergies through the large number of collection services FCC Environmental Services already provides in the state. The acquisition not only strengthens FCC's presence in Florida, but will further strengthen relationships with existing customers looking to purchase recycled materials in the state's market.



Aqualia begins the modernisation of the water supply in Cabo San Lucas, the main tourist area of Baja California Sur, Mexico.

The contract, worth 53 million euros, has a duration of 10 years and contemplates an investment of approximately 32 million euros

Aqualia has started the first phase of the Integrated Management Improvement (MIG) project for the drinking water service in Cabo San Lucas, in the state of Baja California Sur (Mexico). The objective for the next 10 years is to maximise the efficiency of the water supply system, eliminate the current system of tandeos and reduce drinking water losses. In short, the physical efficiency of the water infrastructure will be comprehensively improved with the aim of increasing the efficiency of the network from the current 50% to more than 75%, as well as the execution of works in the main aqueducts and the renovation of networks, meters and household connections.

This first phase, which was completed in May, is the first of four, and comprises various actions, including: the preparation of the Cabo San Lucas user register and land registry, the design of a hydraulic model for Cabo San Lucas and San José del Cabo and the execution of a project to sectorise the Cabo San Lucas hydraulic network, as well as the replacement of household outlets in the community of Miramar in Cabo San Lucas, which will benefit more than 1,500 families.

Next, in phases 2 and 3, the operation and maintenance of the entire Cabo San Lucas drinking water network will begin, in addition to making investments in the sectorisation carried out in the first stage, through programmes for the replacement of outlets, micro and macro metering and telemetry, as well as the detection, repair and control of leaks and the necessary hydraulic infrastructure. Finally, during the fourth and last stage of the project, the function is to operate and maintain an efficient and fully sectorised drinking water system in the service area, thanks to the investments and improvements made in the previous three stages.



Digital transformation

In this way, the MIG project considers digital transformation as a key strategy in achieving the objectives of sustainability, efficiency and improvement of service management. The actions are focused on the development of new technological solutions aimed at obtaining real-time data from the different points of the water cycle, the centralised management and operation of networks, the automated regulation of pressures, the launch of work orders and the digitalisation of the micro-meters. To this end, Aqualia has developed various intelligent management systems that revolve around a single, centralised intelligent platform, called "Aqualia Live", capable of integrating all the processes involved in water management, incorporating new technologies such as IoT (Internet of Things), Big Data, Cloud Computing and AI (Artificial Intelligence), with the aim of achieving more efficient and sustainable technical water management.

A tourist region that demands more water

Los Cabos is one of five municipalities in the state of Baja California Sur (Mexico), at the tip of the California peninsula. It is made up of the entities San José and San Lucas, both of which are internationally recognised as one of Mexico's main tourist destinations.

Its predominantly dry climate poses a water management challenge for the social, tourism, environmental and economic development of the area. The demand for water far exceeds the volumes available in the current supply sources, forcing the operator to exploit the available sources to the maximum by means of a system of tandeos.

The development of the MIG Project will generate a substantial change and improvement of living conditions for its 202,694 inhabitants, as well as a boost for the economic activity of the municipality.

The MIG project is a public-private partnership contract with the Organismo Operador Municipal del Sistema de Agua Potable (OOMSAPAS Los Cabos), which provides a portfolio of 53 million euros and contemplates an investment of 32 million euros (nearly 600 million pesos) for the modernisation, equipment, operation and maintenance of the water infrastructure.

The Mexican government, through Banobras (Banco Nacional de Obras y Servicios Públicos), is financing 49 % of the total amount of the investment included in the project. The remainder, as provided for in the tender documents, will be financed by Aqualia.

The MIG project will promote the digital transformation of the management of the drinking water service in Mexico to meet the objectives of sustainability and efficiency

More representative positioning in Latin America

The MIG Project consolidates Aqualia's presence in Mexico and maintains its position in the Americas.

In Mexico, Aqualia was selected in 2018 to carry out the design, equipping, construction, commissioning, operation and maintenance of the Guaymas desalination plant in Sonora, for a total period of twenty years. The new facility, which has been in operation for more than a year, serves nearly 100,000 inhabitants. Since 2009, Aqualia has also participated in the concession of the El Realito aqueduct system for the piping and purification of water from the dam of the same name, in San Luis Potosí. The company is also part of the consortium of the Acueducto II System, which supplies 700,000 people in the state of Querétaro. Since June 2020, it has been managing and operating the wastewater treatment plant in the city of Cuernavaca, in the state of Morelos.

FCC wins the contract to build the Pape Tunnel and several Ontario Line underground stations in Toronto (Canada)

FCC Construcción Canada has won a new contract to develop sustainable mobility in Canada. ("FCC Canada"), forming an international consortium with Webuild Civil Works Inc ("Webuild"), has signed a contract to design and build the Ontario Line Metro's Pape Tunnel and Underground Stations. This is one of many contracts to develop the Ontario Line, a 15.6 kilometre-independent rapid mobility line through the city that will connect the Eglinton Crosstown LRT (Line 5) at Don Mills Road and Eglinton Avenue in the northeast of the city to Exhibition Place in the southwest, with 15 stations along its entire route.

40 connections

The new line will provide more than 40 connections to other metro, bus, tram, light rail and regional rail services, saving time for suburban passengers and decongesting the city's entire transport network.

This project is being implemented using a Progressive Design-Build (PDB) model. Key features of a PDB model include the opportunity for greater collaboration between the client and contractor. Prior to entering into a target price contract, both parties will work together to define the requirements, design, price and risk of the project through a development phase. The development of the project will take approximately 24 months, after which construction is expected to begin.

The contract calls for the design, construction, supply and operation of three kilometres of twin tunnels under Pape Avenue, between the Gerrard Tunnel and the Don Valley Bridge; two underground stations (Pape and Cosburn); two parallel tunnels; three emergency exit buildings and a railway crossing in the tunnel section near Sammon Avenue. The Pape station will be connected to the Toronto Transit Commission's underground Line 2, as well as other related works.

The project will be carried out collaboratively under the Progressive Design-Build model







Presence in Canada

FCC has been present in Canada for more than 25 years. In 1998 it won the project to build, operate and maintain the Fredericton-Moncton highway. In 2011, it was awarded a section of the Toronto-York Spadina Subway extension, the city's first modern underground infrastructure project. This project was completed in 2018.

This contract, along with the GO Rail Corridor Extension Project and the Scarborough Subway Stations, Rail and Systems Extension Project, strengthens FCC Construction's presence in the Canadian market.

The Ontario Line will be a 15.6-kilometre underground line that will make it faster and easier to travel in and out of Toronto

Cementos Portland Valderrivas in Morata de Tajuña (Madrid)

Innovation and resilience

The Cementos Portland Valderrivas factory in Morata de Tajuña, Madrid, has a rich history linked to its big sister, the Vicálvaro factory, going back more than 100 years.

The factory, known as "El Alto", started its activity in 1972 as an expansion of the existing plant in Vicálvaro, which had been in operation since the beginning of the 20th century and which was supplied with limestone from the quarry located in the municipality of Morata de Tajuña, southeast of the capital. The Vicálvaro factory ceased to operate at the end of the 1990s, and all cement production was transferred to El Alto.

In 1972, work was completed on the installation of the factory and clinker production began with just one kiln, the so-called "VI kiln", continuing the numbering of the Vicálvaro kilns.

El Alto is the factory with the largest cement production capacity in Spain

Between 1990 and 1992, production was expanded with the construction and commissioning of a new grey clinker kiln, "kiln VII".

In the following years of the last century, work continued on the construction of a new coal park, a new white cement line and the extension and modernisation of the grinding and dispatch of cement.

Finally, in 2005, a modern dry mortar plant was started up.

It currently has quarry facilities capable of processing up to 1,500 tonnes per hour. It has two grey cement production lines, each with a capacity of 3,500 tonnes per day, and one white cement production line with a capacity of 1,000 tonnes per day. It is equipped with specific facilities for grinding and bagging cement, obtaining an annual production capacity of close to three million tonnes of cement, the largest production capacity in Spain.

Annual cement production is three million tonnes

Emblematic projects

El Alto has supplied cement and mortar for emblematic projects such as the Royal Collections Museum in Madrid, the Picasso Tower, the airports of Barajas and Ciudad Real, and the Third Millennium Bridge in Zaragoza, among many others.



In its more than 50 years of history, the El Alto factory has been modernising and adapting its installations to the best available techniques, thanks to significant investments that demonstrate the company's commitment to ensure that this factory continues to be a fundamental pillar in the economic and social development of the region.





Talking to the FCC Group's **General Services Technical Team**

The main function of the General Services Technical Department is the comprehensive management of corporate buildings, which includes any technical or administrative task, the well-being and safety of users, as well as relations with properties or public administrations.

How is the Technical Department structured?

The department is made up of three parts: the technical part, which is in charge of everything related to the services and installations of the buildings; the administrative part, which centralises and processes all the procedures derived from the activity and competencies in the development of the asset management of the FCC Group's leased and owned buildings; and the maintenance staff.

The technical area is in charge of the integral maintenance of the installations, both preventive and corrective, legal inspections, refurbishment work, investments, etc.; the cleaning and security of the buildings, as well as the different certifications of universal accessibility, environmental, energy and health and safety.

The administrative area is in charge of invoicing rents and common expenses to external and intercompany tenants in six corporate buildings, as well as monitoring and updating assigned surfaces, parking spaces, identifying income and costs per building, monitoring and managing tenant, landlord and supplier contracts, treasury, taxes, drawing up corporate budgets and monitoring the Investment Plan.

On the other hand, the maintenance staff takes care of the day-to-day running of the building, attending to the needs of users, breakdowns, maintenance work, etc.

What is the most complicated part of your job?

We take care of more than 2,000 employees, but the most important thing is safety and comfort at work, two essential factors for increasing productivity. We put a lot of effort into all of this, but also into making the buildings fit for purpose and legal compliance, always with a view to increasing people's safety and well-being.

What value do you bring to the business areas?

I think the main value we bring is our transversal vision of the company and our ability to attend to, support and provide service to the different companies that make up the FCC Group.

We collaborate and have frequent contact with all the company's departments and business areas, which allows us to detect problems and solve them in real time, as well as putting the different areas in contact with each other, many of which have points in common and have clear synergies.

Is there any project of which you are particularly proud?

For us, the most outstanding project has been the refurbishment of the ground floor of the Corporate Headquarters in Las Tablas, Madrid. Working only with companies from the Group (FCCCO and FCCIIE) we managed to turn the floor around, creating a company canteen and different multi-purpose rooms that we use for numerous events, meetings and training sessions. We believe that they have added a lot of value to the daily life of the people who work in the building.

Other projects have been the refurbishment of the ground floor of the Balmes headquarters, the recovery of the work of the sculptor and painter Pablo Palazuelo, in Torre Picasso, or the adaptation of the new Aqualia offices in Vigo (Pontevedra).

We are currently collaborating with Aqualia on an R&D project for the recovery of grey water in buildings and working on another to rearrange spaces in our buildings in order to maximise the available office space.

Today, the FCC Group has different corporate buildings that support the FCC Group's Central Services. In Madrid, there are the corporate headquarters in Las Tablas and Federico Salmón, the offices in Camino de Hormigueras and the Medical Services in Madrid. In Barcelona, there are the headquarters on Calle Balmes, the Medical Services, located in El Prat, and the Carriage Museum. And in Seville, the company has some offices on Kansas City Avenue.

Certifications in corporate buildings

Las Tablas building has a triple certification. The oldest is the energy management certification, which has been in place since 2014. Broadly speaking, in these 10 years, there has been a saving of 410 MWh in electricity consumption and 67 MWh in natural gas consumption for heating, in 2023 compared to 2014.

In 2022, we achieved Zero Waste certification, reducing the amount of waste going to landfill by 10,000 tonnes.

The most recent, last year, is Universal Accessibility, which aims to guarantee equal opportunities in the access and use of environments, buildings or facilities to ensure their universal accessibility to all people.

The idea is to extend this triple certification to the rest of the buildings.

Finally, mention should be made of the occupational health and safety management system, which, in general terms, seeks to prevent occupational risks and promote health.



FCC's corporate headquarters in Las Tablas, Madrid.



Offices in Kansas City, Seville.



FCC headquarters in Balmes, Barcelona.



Award winners together with Lucas Díaz, Aqualia's Director for Spain, during the prize-giving ceremony.

The awards for the 8th Aqualia Journalism Prize highlight the management of all the phases of the water cycle

With these awards, Aqualia recognises the journalistic work that reflects the importance of the management of the complete water cycle in the daily lives of the citizens of Spain and Colombia, countries where Aqualia provides services.

The eighth edition of the Aqualia Journalism Awards recognised the work of three journalists in the categories of written press, radio and television, whose awards were presented at an event held on 28 May at the headquarters of the Madrid Press Association (APM).

In the first category, Ana Pobes, a journalist with La Tribuna de Ciudad Real, received the award for a series of three reports entitled "La autovía del agua" (The Water Highway). The journalist received the award from Lucas Díaz, Aqualia's Spanish Director. In its decision, the jury valued "the contextualisation of the water problem in the La Mancha plain by the author and the message that can be extracted from the article".

The winning work selected in the television category was the report "Recovering the mud", written by Mercedes Ros for the programme "In depth", by Castilla La Mancha Media (CMM Noticias). Miguel Ángel Noceda, president of the Federation of Spanish Journalists' Associations (FAPE), presented the prize, awarded by the jury for its "explanation of the circular economy in water through an understandable, impartial and close approach".

The prize in the radio category went to the work "Will we drink reclaimed water?", a radio piece by Javier Bolaños broadcast for the first time on his programme 'Cambio climático', on Canal Sur Radio. María García, president of the Association of Environmental Information Journalists (APIA) presented the corresponding award. In this case, the jury valued the fact that this work "teaches the public, in an ingenious and dynamic way, the processes of water regeneration, the possibilities of this resource and the truths and myths surrounding its use".

Lucas Díaz, Aqualia's Director for Spain, presided over the ceremony held at the APM headquarters and highlighted "the important work of journalists in transmitting rigorous information to the public on the management of the water cycle and all its challenges, bringing them closer to a reality that is inherent to the development of their daily lives". The awards ceremony was conducted by Aqualia's Director of Communication, Brand and Public Affairs, Juan Pablo Merino. During the ceremony, María García, president of APIA, gave a talk entitled "What a journalist is for".

Three special mentions

The jury also awarded three special mentions. One of them went to the journalist Luis Cano, for the report "Four million Spaniards live in a flood zone: are you one of them?", published in the newspaper ABC. The article "La pobreza hídrica también existe y podría duplicarse en 2050" (Water poverty also exists and could double by 2050), by Mamen Lucio and published in Cinco Días, received another mention. Finally, the El Mundo report "La escasez de agua en España, en gráficos: 'Gastamos más de la que podemos permitirnos'", ("Water scarcity in Spain, in graphs: 'We spend more than we can afford'") written by Teresa Guerrero, and completed with interactive charts by Elsa Martín and Juliana Suárez received the third of the mentions.

In addition to the six works selected as finalists, the jury awarded an extraordinary mention to the report "In Colombia, a machine works that converts the humidity in the air into water", written by Paola Vega, Juanita Gómez and Juan José Parga and published in the Colombian newspaper Semana.

Juan Pablo Merino encouraged journalists from all over Spain and Colombia to participate in the 9th edition of the competition, the rules of which will be announced in October. The Aqualia Journalism Award aims to highlight the importance of the management of the integral water cycle in the daily lives of citizens and is a recognition of the informative work of journalists who contribute with their work to increase the culture of water as a scarce and precious resource. The 8th edition of these awards had 9,000 euros in prizes, of which 2,000 euros went to each of the winners in each category (written press, radio and television), and 1,000 euros to each of the special mentions.

Record year for participation

La 8ª edición del Premio de Periodismo de The 8th edition of the Aqualia Journalism Award received 109 entries, a record number that far exceeds the fifth edition which, with 65 entries received, was, until now, the one with the highest participation. This milestone is evidence of the growing importance of the water cycle and its management in the media. The written press category received the highest number of works (86), compared to 14 for television and 9 for radio/podcast. A total of 72 authors from 54 media participated in this edition.

Over the eight editions of the award, 449 journalistic works have been submitted and 293 authors from 172 media outlets have participated.



Family photo with all the award winners.

FCC joins the **Our Pride is Diversity campaign**

LGTBI Pride Day is celebrated on 28 June to highlight the importance of promoting safe and trusting environments free of rejection and discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, sexual identity, gender expression or sexual characteristics.

This year, FCC has joined the campaign launched by REDI and the Diversity Foundation under the slogan "Our Pride is Diversity", recalling the company's commitment to the inclusion of people and in which members of all business areas of the FCC Group have participated.

Commitment to equality and diversity

In the FCC Group we are equal and at the same time diverse, we value talent regardless of sexual orientation, sexual identity, gender expression or sexual characteristics. Attention to diversity and equality is a business, ethical and social imperative for all FCC Group companies, as set out in its Code of Ethics and Conduct. All employees, regardless of their job position and responsibilities, have the right not to be discriminated against for any reason, including the above, as well as the obligation to promote a safe, diverse and inclusive work environment.

As part of our commitment to equality and diversity, FCC has the You_diversity platform, which encourages and promotes a corporate culture of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion through important content and training activities. We invite you to visit the portal and subscribe through this **link**.



DIVERSITY INCLUSION EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

Inclusion, diversity, equal opportunities, and safe working conditions for all employees are concepts that have gained significant momentum within companies worldwide, especially alongside the development of ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) strategies. While some organisations may view these principles as new or burdensome, for others, like our FCC group, they are deeply embedded in our core values.

With our international footprint and diverse ownership structure, national and linguistic diversity is not a novel concept for us; it's a way of life. Operating across seven countries, the FCC Environment CEE group boasts a workforce comprising 36 nationalities. From Czechs and Austrians to Cameroonians, Ukrainians, Indians, Israelis, and Cape Verdeans, our team collaborates seamlessly, reflecting a rich tapestry of backgrounds. You'll also find individuals from Iran, Moldova, Tunisia, Italy... and beyond, among us.

Gender equality

A Gender equality holds genuine significance within our organisation. Despite the waste management industry's historical association with men, women constitute 25% of our workforce overall and hold 44-75% of office positions. In celebration of International Women's Day, we've spotlighted eight remarkable women in another article of this publication.

Across the generations & loyalty

While youth may bring vitality and offer fresh perspectives, we equally cherish experience, loyalty, and wisdom. At our company, we embrace newcomers for their energy and enthusiasm, while also valuing seasoned professionals for their expertise and invaluable insights. The average age of our workforce is 46 years, reflecting a balanced blend of generations. Our commitment to employee well-being is evident in the fact that 20% of our staff have been with FCC for 15 years or more.

Different Capacities

At FCC Environment CEE Group, we champion skill and talent in all forms. Understanding disability as merely one aspect of diversity, we are committed to fostering an inclusive environment where all individuals have equal opportunities. We welcome individuals with disabilities, who currently comprise 3% of our workforce, affirming our dedication to diversity and inclusion.

FCC's Equal Opportunity and Safe Environment, Diversity, and Inclusion Policy

At FCC CEE, we take pride in our adherence to rules and practices that may seem extraordinary to many companies, but which are ingrained in our standard operations. Our commitment to these principles is further reinforced by the inclusion of a dedicated policy within the FCC Group. This policy underscores our unwavering dedication to fostering diverse work teams and upholding core values such as loyalty, professionalism, well-being, and community development, as outlined in the FCC Group Code of Ethics and Conduct.

The Equal Opportunity and Safe Environment, Diversity, and Inclusion Policy, integrated into our Code of Ethics and Conduct, aligns seamlessly with the Human Rights Policy, and Sustainable Development Policy, following the guiding principles of the UN Global Compact and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This integration serves as a testament to our holistic approach towards fostering an inclusive, equitable, and sustainable workplace environment.

Programa Explora

development of female talent at FCC



The main objective of the Explora Programme is to improve skills for professional development and to prepare women for new professional opportunities that may arise, whether in positions of equal or greater responsibility, through professional promotion, internal mobility or even within the same job by expanding skills and competences for the future.

What value does this programme bring to participants?

- Acquiring greater self-knowledge and confidence in themselves and their goals, as well as adopting tools to strengthen their skills, achieve their goals and take control of their professional career. Participants will establish their own Individual Development Plan.
- Increased well-being and effectiveness in the performance of their jobs.
- Generate a context of professional networking and valuable relationship building to support their long-term careers.
- Share and learn from the life experiences of other female colleagues and continue to acquire skills and capacities to consolidate successful and sustained leadership.

Explora Programme Participants

This year, 15 women from the FCC Group's Corporate Services department took part, all of whom met the requirements of having a minimum of ten years' work experience, with no team under them and with a motivation to grow within their own job or others of equal or greater responsibility.

The Explora Programme has been an enriching and transforming experience for the participants, who highlight the positive impact this training has had on their personal and professional development.

Personal empowerment and mutual growth

During this programme, participants report that they have lived this experience as a journey of self-discovery, deepening their self-knowledge and unlocking their potential for personal growth.

Through a dynamic and enriching process, they have identified key areas for their development and developed concrete action plans to achieve their goals.

In addition, they have received a set of practical and effective tools to transform their habits, improve their communication skills and optimise their productivity. These guidelines have enabled them to take control of their own growth and move towards a fuller and more satisfying life, both personally and at work.

This training has fostered a safe and trusting environment where members have been able to share their experiences, create mutual support networks and strengthen their self-esteem.

At the end of the course, they all agree that the Explora Programme has been a transforming experience that has empowered them to take charge of their own personal growth and reach their full potential.



From left to right, Ana Redondo, Minister of Equality; Luis Suarez, FCC Medio Ambiente Human Resources Manager; and Isabel García, Director of the Women's Institute.

FCC Medio Ambiente receives the **Equality in Business Distinction** from the Ministry of Equality

FCC Medio Ambiente has received the Seal of Equality in Business from the Ministry of Equality, through the Women's Institute, awarded for the first time in 2020. The ceremony took place on 13 June at the headquarters of the Real Fábrica de Tapices in Madrid, where Luis Suárez, FCC Medio Ambiente's Human Resources Manager, collected the award from Ana Redondo García, Minister for Equality. This distinction, which has been extended to its subsidiaries, has been renewed annually as it meets the ministry's demanding requirements, and it is recognition of the policies and programmes that the company has been developing since 2008, aimed at promoting equality in all areas of the organisation.

The Equality in the Company Distinction recognises all types of actions aimed at facilitating the reconciliation of personal, family and professional life, through the design of general objectives and the articulation of flexible measures that allow for their adaptation to the diversity of situations and needs that may arise for the company's personnel.

Assessment criteria

In order to obtain and maintain the award, the criteria for the implementation and results of the measures contained in the company's equality plans have been assessed; the adoption of agreements at the highest level through their approval by the Management Committee; the establishment of procedures and criteria for the periodic evaluation of these plans; the application of positive action measures that actively promote equal opportunities between men and women; the policy for the prevention of harassment; the dissemination of campaigns on gender violence and the integration of women victims of gender violence into the labour market, as well as training actions, both for access to employment and those aimed at promoting women to positions of responsibility.

During these years, new subsidiary companies, as well as other subsidiaries of FCC Medio Ambiente, have joined the Equality Plan negotiated and agreed with the Federations of Employees of Public Services and Services and Mobility and Consumption of the General Union of Workers (UGT) and with the Federation of the Habitat of Comisiones Obreras (CCOO).

The awarding and annual renewal of the badge represents the strengthening of the strategic equality and diversity policies of Human Resources at FCC Medio Ambiente, as well as the express commitment of its management team to promote the development and professional performance of its staff under the guarantee of equal opportunities and the promotion of effective equality.



Family photo during the signing of Matinsa's 2nd Equality Plan.

Matinsa signs its **2nd Equality Plan**

Matinsa has signed its 2nd Equality Plan with the aim of raising awareness, protecting and promoting people's individual rights, including the right to equal opportunities for women and men. With the signing of this plan, the company is committed to protecting personal dignity by establishing guidelines for healthy conduct and eradicating behaviour that could be considered illegitimate intrusions into personal privacy or that violate people's dignity.

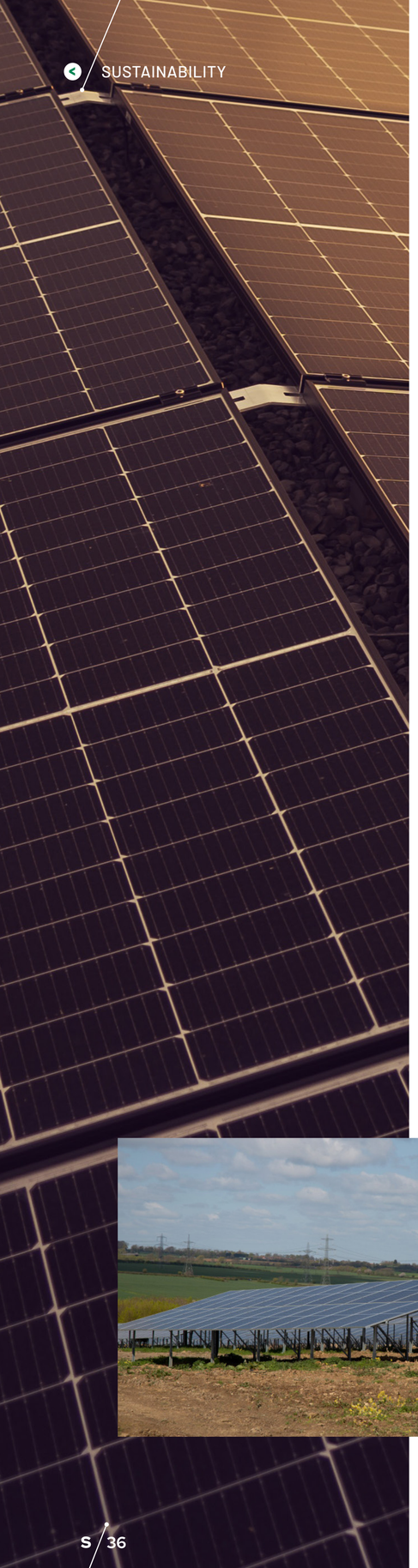
Its first Equality Plan was signed in 2019, and with this second plan it continues its commitment to equality between women and men. The approved Equality Plan thus constitutes an ordered set of measures that, really and effectively, will make it possible to achieve the objectives of equal treatment and opportunities between women and men in the global sphere for which it has been designed, and to eliminate any hint of discrimination on the grounds of sex.

To this end, the Equality Plan contemplates and develops a series of measures and actions that will be applicable to: improve the presence of women at functional levels where they are under-represented, continue with actions aimed at making operating personnel aware of the need to report updates to their academic records, as well as reinforcing training on equality issues. In addition, awareness-raising actions will be carried out to raise awareness of family care; job interviews will be held for people taking voluntary leave in order to detect needs associated with retaining talent.

Therefore, all this will promote favouring a corporate culture that permeates all areas of the company; ensuring equal access to employment for women and men; facilitating access for women and men to all categories and departments; training and raising awareness of equal treatment and opportunities for the entire workforce; guaranteeing equal pay for jobs of equal value; facilitating work-life balance and co-responsibility; ensuring the use of inclusive language in internal and external communications; preventing sexual harassment and harassment of women and men in the workplace and in the workplace; and ensuring the use of inclusive language in internal and external communications; preventing sexual and gender-based harassment; ensuring specific working conditions for women victims of gender-based violence; guaranteeing the inclusion of the gender perspective in the assessment and prevention of occupational risks; convening specific team management training for all managers so that they can exercise leadership based on equal opportunities, diversity and inclusion; raising awareness of unconscious gender bias among all staff involved in internal and external selection processes.

Matinsa is a pioneering company in equality within the sector, and with the signing of this second equality plan, it is positioning itself as a responsible, sustainable and inclusive company.





Work begins on landfill solar farm in Offham, UK

FCC Environment, a subsidiary of FCC Servicios Medio Ambiente and a leader in recycling and waste management in the UK, and Infinis, a company dedicated to low-carbon energy generation, have begun construction of a new solar farm at Offham Landfill Site, Kent (UK).

The farm will generate around 11,000 megawatt hours of renewable energy per year, enough to power around 2,700 homes.

The project envisages a range of biodiversity enhancements including:

- Increasing grassland species and height to improve grassland condition.
- Encouraging the growth of lesser flowering species.
- Planting 16 new trees.
- Planting of around 200 metres of hedgerows and improvement of existing hedgerows.

The planned improvements to the park also include the construction of a path for public use.

The Offham Landfill solar farm is scheduled to be operational in the second half of 2024. Ethical Power is the main contractor for the project and the National Grid Electricity Distribution will be responsible for the grid works.

This is the third solar farm on which FCC Environment and Infinis have collaborated, following the success of the Winterton project and the Boston solar farm.

New life for landfills

The reuse of former landfill sites gives new life to land that would be unsuitable for housing and other uses, ensuring that the activity has a positive impact on the country. In addition, by supplying renewable electricity to the local grid, the park will contribute to the UK Government's achievement of its Net Zero targets, as well as its goal to increase solar power generation fivefold by 2035.

aqualia



REGENERACIÓN
para un futuro en positivo

Informe de Sostenibilidad 2023

FCC holds a conference on **Taxonomy of sustainable activities**



Fernando Gutiérrez del Arroyo, Director of ESG Internal Control at Banco Sabadell and analyst at EsadeEcPol, during his presentation at the Taxonomy conference.

FCC has held its first conference on the European Union's Environmental Taxonomy, where it examined the current situation, implications, future development and potential impact of this regulation that defines and orders which investments and economic activities are sustainable in the context of the European Green Pact, thus favoring the transition towards a greener economy in relation to climate change mitigation, the sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources, the transition to a circular economy, the prevention and control of pollution and the protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems.

The meeting, opened by Jesús González, director of management control and taxonomy of the FCC Group, included the participation of Fernando Gutiérrez del Arroyo, director of ESG Internal Control at Banco Sabadell and analyst at EsadeEcPol, who addressed the adoption of green taxonomy by companies as a strategic imperative.

During his presentation, Gutiérrez del Arroyo stressed that the Taxonomy is a necessary and decisive classification system to combat climate change and contribute to the rest of the environmental objectives as it establishes a common language and favors market credibility and transparency. In addition, during his speech he provided information and tools to understand this framework and the importance of transition plans based on taxonomic standards to evolve towards a more sustainable economy. Taxonomy, as an indicator of the degree of environmental performance of companies, will be the benchmark for obtaining quality financing on advantageous terms, both for aligned activities and for those that become aligned thanks to transition plans.

Conference on the growing **impact of the European legal system** and the rulings of the ECJ on the Spanish labour framework

FCC has held a seminar at its Las Tablas Corporate Headquarters in Madrid on the growing impact of the European legal system and the rulings of the European Court of Justice on the Spanish labour framework.

The conference was attended by three leading experts in labour law: Federico Durán López, doctor of law from the University of Bologna and former chairman of the National Consultative Commission on Collective Agreements and of the Economic and Social Council; Yolanda Valdeolivas García, doctor of law, professor of labour and social security law at the Autonomous University of Madrid and former secretary of state for employment; and Elisa Caldeiro Ruiz, partner in the labour law practice at the Garrigues law firm. The session took the form of a round-table discussion and was moderated by Laura Rodríguez Mejías, manager of the FCC Group's Employment Law Department.



During the meeting, which was attended by members of the Human Resources Departments of all the business areas, the latest pronouncements of the European Court of Justice were analysed, which have had an influence on Spanish labour regulations in matters of great labour relevance such as conciliation, equality or working time, and the community regulations pending transposition in these and other matters were commented on.

FCC Construcción obtains the **"Calculo" seal of the carbon footprint**, offsetting and carbon dioxide absorption projects register for yet another year



FCC Construcción has once again renewed its registration in the MITECO Carbon Footprint, Offset and Carbon Dioxide Absorption Projects Register for another year since 2012, positively renewing its registration in the MITECO Carbon Footprint, Offset and Carbon Dioxide Absorption Projects Register, by which the 2021-2025 Emissions Reduction Plan for the national territory is presented, thus obtaining the "Calculo" seal. The year calculated was 2022, the year in which, for the third consecutive year, 100% of the activity was verified under the ISO 14064-1 Standard, which corresponds to the verification of GHG emissions produced in 22 countries.

It is important to point out that, despite the increase in activity with respect to 2021, the total emissions of scopes 1, 2 and 3 in Spain have experienced a 12% reduction compared to the totals for 2021, which shows FCC Construcción's commitment to directing the entire value chain towards the same objective of reducing emissions.

It is also worth noting that this year, 2022, has been a very good year as, in addition to having been marked by the recovery of normality in terms of the production curves of the works, which have reached and even exceeded pre-pandemic levels of activity, the company's commitment to establish a roadmap towards neutrality in 2050 has materialised through the publication of its Climate Change Strategy 2023-2026, based on the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD). This Strategy sets ambitious objectives for the short (2026), medium (2030) and long term (2050).

FCC Construcción was the first construction company in Spain to carry out this transparency exercise, thus repeating its participation since the Registry was established, and to submit its emissions to external verification by AENOR. It was also the first Spanish company and the first construction company in the world to join the Sustainable Finance Working Group of the United Nations Global Compact, clearly marking the company's commitment to continue collaborating with the United Nations on these objectives against climate change.

Continuing with this exercise in responsibility, in 2023, FCC Construcción also approved and published its 2050 Sustainability Strategy, which defines the environmental, social and governance (ESG) lines along which the company wants to work in the coming years, including the fight against climate change and its objective of becoming carbon neutral in 2050. As a result of this, it should be noted that FCC Construcción is positioned as one of the benchmark companies in terms of sustainability in the sector, thanks to its ambition to seek continuous improvements and promote innovation and sustainable development in all its projects.

Allive Factor Humano 80.0

Cementos Portland Valderrivas' awareness campaign on the involvement of the human factor in workplace accidents



Mataporquera factory, Cantabria..

The human factor is key to the prevention of occupational risks, as it is directly involved in 80% of fatal or incapacitating accidents, and exclusively in 43% of them. For this reason, the Cementos Portland Valderrivas Group has launched the Allive 80.0 awareness campaign aimed at factory employees, under the slogan "We trust in the people who save lives".

Objectives of Allive 80.0

1. **PDeepen** the perception of risk, avoiding conflict with idealised self-perception.
2. **Raise** awareness of the incidence of the human factor in the generation of accidents, and the importance of complying with safety rules and protocols.
3. **Raise awareness** of the "8 Elements in Safety" to prevent accidents, and the reasons why they should be respected.
4. **Detect and correct** unsafe actions that may occur due to ignorance, overconfidence, recklessness or negligence.
5. **Develop** the chain of collective awareness, fostering the culture that we all take care of each other, and that safety is everyone's responsibility.

How will we achieve the objectives?

The campaign will be carried out in two phases, the first one between April and July and is aimed mainly at internal staff involved in manufacturing tasks, such as production, maintenance, logistics and bagging; and a second phase, between September and December, aimed at external staff.

The tool for raising awareness is training, through training, informative and participative actions, which will include talks, workshops, posters and videos. The aim is to raise awareness of the importance of maintaining good behaviour in order to keep our own lives and the lives of those we work with safe.

The main purpose is to eliminate unsafe behaviour that can lead to accidents. We trust the people who save lives, and we want everyone to feel part of this mission.

Prepare your car

Check the cooling system, oil level, and tire condition.

Luggage

Place heavy items at the bottom to lower the center of gravity.

Emergencies

Prepare the vests and emergency triangles or lights.

Speed

Respect speed limits and pay attention to signage.

Neither hot nor cold

The ideal cabin temperature is between 21 and 23 degrees Celsius.

Plan your journey

Avoid peak days and hours, and take a break every two hours.

Documentation

Don't forget to bring personal documentation, including your ID card and driver's license, as well as insurance and vehicle inspection papers.

Adequate clothing

Wear comfortable shoes and light clothing. Do not wear flip-flops or high heels.

Cell phone

Keep your mobile phone away or turned off to avoid distractions.

Eyesight

Wear sunglasses, and prescription glasses if needed.

Eyestrain: what is it and how to combat it?

Eyestrain is a condition suffered by a large part of the population. Staying for hours in front of a screen can cause adverse effects such as itchy eyes, redness, dryness..., and can even lead to other symptoms such as headaches or cervical contractures.

When we work with a computer, we can carry out some actions that will help us to avoid this problem. Also, don't forget that our daily habits and other factors such as diet also play a crucial role in eye health.



How do we define eye fatigue?

Eye fatigue can be defined as a condition, also known as asthenopia, which is characterised by the following manifestations:

- Burning and stinging sensation in the eye.
- Redness and sensitivity.
- Watery eyes.
- Visual problems. For example, problems with focusing, blurred vision, sensitivity to light, etc., may occur.
- Headache.
- Dizziness.
- Cervical contracture and pain.

What causes it?

In most cases, this is due to excessive eye strain and unhealthy habits.

It is true that for some users it is difficult to reduce the number of hours they spend in front of the computer, as it is an integral part of their work. However, there are tricks to make this exposure less harmful to the eyes and prevent it from triggering negative effects.

What is the treatment?

The treatment for asthenopia basically consists of changing certain daily habits. Some people require special treatment or the use of eyeglasses to reduce eye fatigue.

These types of solutions must be prescribed and monitored by a professional in this field.

Tips to avoid **eye fatigue**

Adjust the lighting: We must adjust the lighting of both the environment and the screens. When working at a desk, place a light behind you and focus it on the document. This way, the glare does not shine directly into your eyes. It is also important that the lighting on computer, tablet or mobile screens is not too bright.

Keep your distance: The computer screen should be about 60 centimetres away from your eyes. If you use your mobile phone frequently, try to place it approximately 35 centimetres away.

Protect yourself from light: Blue light is highly damaging to our eyesight. Fortunately, there are prescription and non-prescription lenses that block this type of light.

Take breaks during work: Work for periods of about 20 minutes and take a short break. During the work break, however, avoid picking up other electronic devices such as mobile phones. You can use this time to do some back stretches.

Pay attention to the hours of sleep: Ideally, you should sleep about eight hours a day, but you should also make sure that you get a good night's sleep. Create a pleasant environment in your bedroom before going to bed.

Use artificial tears: You can buy artificial tears in any pharmacy to relieve dryness. If the drops you use have preservatives, do not use them more than four times a day. If you have red eyes, it is better not to use them.

Blink frequently: Another trick to refresh your eyes is to blink your eyes repeatedly. This action produces tears to moisten the inside of the eye.

Take up hobbies that take you away from screens: Enjoy your free time away from screens. Choose to do some sport, for example, go for a run or go hiking.

Information from Fundación Mapfre

Successful participation in the **Madrid March Against Cancer Race**

This Sunday, April 14, FCC concluded its first corporate participation in the emotional 11th edition of the Madrid Race in March Against Cancer, a race organized by the Spanish Association Against Cancer, which surpassed the figure of 23,000 participants in the center of the Spanish capital, a record for this event that continues to grow year after year. This figure reflects the growing support and awareness of the importance of this disease.

FCC's first participation could not have had a better result. More than 100 employees from all business areas of the FCC Group were present in the two categories (4.5 and 10 kilometers) and, in addition, our Running Club took first place on the 10-kilometer club podium and fourth place on the 4.5-kilometer podium.

Congratulations to all of you for your solidarity and your enthusiasm.



Participants of the FCC Group Running Club.

Thanks to this initiative, the Spanish Association Against Cancer will be able to continue funding quality cancer research, promoting cancer prevention, providing free support to people with cancer and their families, and fighting against the inequalities caused by the disease. The real goal is to achieve a 70% survival rate by 2030.



FCC Construcción, **a benchmark in hospital construction**

The FCC Group has participated in the building, renovation and refurbishment of more than 20 hospitals in Spain and abroad, in which nearly 1,500 million euros have been invested.

At present, the FCC Group's construction area has become the main reference in the design and construction of hospital infrastructures in Spain. More than eight hospital infrastructures are being built in our country.

To carry out these large-scale projects, which have been designed by prestigious architects, we have had a great team of professionals who have been able to direct, execute and make the necessary decisions for the correct development of these projects.

Puertollano Hospital, Ciudad Real

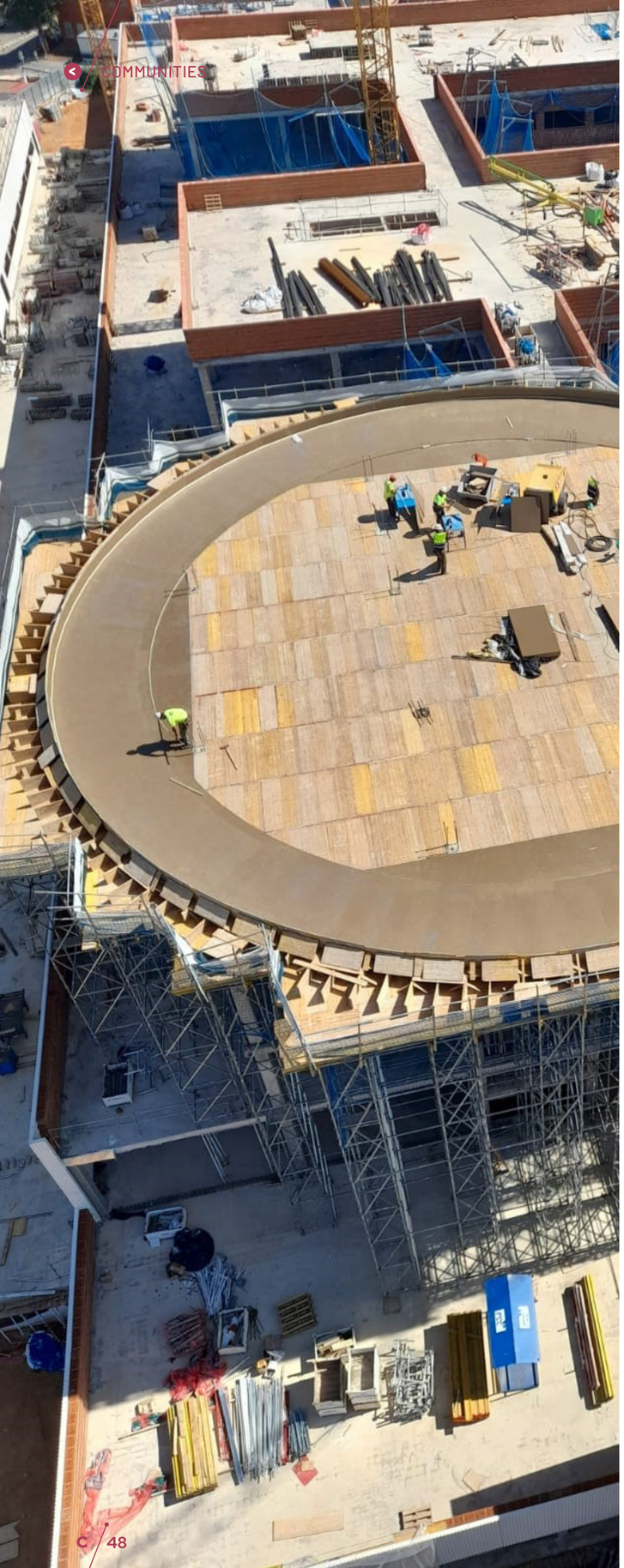
FCC Construcción was in charge of the work on this hospital, which has a total built-up area of over 49,500 square metres, to which a further 28,000 square metres have been added for car parks and landscaped areas.

Thanks to this expansion project, the Hospitalisation Area now has capacity for 170 beds, 11 of which are ICU beds, compared to the current 139, with six ICU beds. In addition, the hospital's emergency department now has 28 boxes, compared with eight previously. In addition, the Day Hospital Area now has 50 places, compared to 14 before this work, among other advances.

In short, an expansion and improvement project that has allowed these new facilities to increase the areas and services offered by the Puertollano Hospital.



The new centre will have more than 64,000 square metres built, in which a therapeutic infrastructure will take shape, with open spaces, landscaped areas, plenty of light and unified care areas to favour patient comfort.



INTERVIEW



Juan José **Monterrubio Ortiz**

Construction Project Manager of the Puertollano Hospital, Ciudad Real, Spain

What is the key when designing a hospital? What steps have been taken in the Puertollano hospital?

A hospital must be designed in such a way that it can accommodate both the patients and the healthcare staff working in it, and it is in this daily coexistence between the two that the design of functional spaces in a hospital is born.

There is no hospital without a good facilities project, both in terms of design and operability, which is why the facilities in these buildings have become a vital part of them.

The Puertollano Hospital has been built on the same plot of land next to the existing hospital, physically separated from each other, so that the healthcare activity practically does not interfere with the construction of the new hospital. Once the work on the new hospital has been completed and the transfer from the old hospital has been carried out, the latter will be dismantled until it is completely demolished and the entire urban development will be completed, including surface car parks and new roads.

The key to the Puertollano Hospital is to design a new open health centre, with independent and well differentiated accesses, with plenty of natural light, where the different health areas and hospital services can be clearly located, in a phrase, it is a "hospital that is easy to understand".

What would you highlight about this hospital? Will it become a benchmark?

In this project we have managed to create a hospital that is markedly horizontal, with plenty of natural light and landscaped interior courtyards, where it is easy to find one's way around and with clear circulations and very accessible services.

It consists of a base on the ground and ground floor where the outpatient units are located and three towers of greater height where the hospitalisation is located. At the top of one of the towers is the heliport, which communicates quickly with the emergency area, operating theatres and radiodiagnosis.

The Puertollano Hospital is a Regional and University hospital and will serve Puertollano and all the nearby towns in the region.

What do you value most in this type of infrastructure?

Each project must be assessed as a whole, with the study and the solution given to the facilities being key and of vital importance. I believe that in this type of building, which is in operation 24 hours a day, it is essential to have a good facilities project that serves the operational needs of the hospital and that is energy efficient over time.

What is the biggest architectural challenge in hospital infrastructure?

Hospitals can be considered as buildings of intensive use, therefore, the circulations, the accesses, the stay of health personnel and patients must be very carefully studied, so that it is a polite, friendly and comfortable building so that the main objective, which is the care of people's health, is as close and efficient as possible.

On the other hand, from the point of view of energy consumption, these buildings are very demanding in terms of safety and comfort. The centralised technical management of these buildings has more and more control points and, given the current period of very high energy prices, it is important that the design and construction of these buildings is oriented towards improving the environmental and energy sustainability of these buildings, looking for renewable sources.

Are new technologies influencing hospital architecture?

I think that sooner or later, new technologies will change the design of the interior spaces of hospitals, as communications will be different.

I believe that artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics, once the patient has been tested, will give healthcare staff more tools to diagnose possible illnesses and apply the necessary treatments. All this implies new designs of the spaces dedicated to MRI, CT, radiodiagnostic tests, laboratories, etc.

New technologies change the way people communicate and will therefore change the spaces that accommodate them.

On the other hand, over time in any medium/large hospital, if we add the control elements of the installed machinery plus all the equipment that will be included once it is finished, it will mean that there will be platforms that integrate all this and strong companies and skilled people to be able to manage it.





FCC Environment in Madrid: artificial intelligence applied to street cleaning

The solution developed allows proactive and automatic detection of abandoned waste next to the bins

FCC Medio Ambiente has incorporated a new project into its street-cleaning service in Madrid that will enable inspection vehicles to carry out visual recognition work using artificial intelligence (AI) to detect waste that is deposited outside the containers. This initiative, a pioneer in Spain, has been developed by the Information Technology Department and the Madrid branch of FCC Medio Ambiente, which is responsible for the street cleaning contract for lot 6 in the capital, in collaboration with a company specialising in AI, Advisory Experts, which has activated the project in Carabanchel, Villaverde and Usera, districts in which an average of 2,100 abandoned waste collection actions are recorded every day.

An intelligent solution for the detection and proactive removal of abandoned waste

With a data feed device through artificial vision, and through the use of visual sensors and the development of algorithms based on AI and Machine Learning, the solution developed allows the proactive and automatic detection of waste abandoned next to the containers. The project seeks to eradicate a problem that greatly affects the quality of the service, causing sources of dirt, significant aesthetic problems in the urban landscape and numerous complaints from citizens.

Optimisation of the waste collection service

This service reduces the average response time for this type of incident by more than 50%. It also contributes to reducing the energy consumption of the vehicles, which increases efficiency and, consequently, the useful life of the equipment. The activation of this innovative project was possible after intense training and calibration of the sensors and the RGB camera to achieve high precision in detecting waste, during which data analysis, algorithm training and parameter adjustment were key to achieving the best possible results. This training was completed with recording sessions with the vehicle in the real environment of the streets of Madrid so that the system could adapt to different scenarios and lighting and weather conditions. In order to meet the requirements of data protection legislation, the system also pixelates people and vehicles that may appear in the images.



Imagen del sensor visual del vehículo. Fotografía de Abraham Blázquez.

Incidents are processed immediately, as all the information arrives in real time at the Service Monitoring Centre of cleaning lot 6, set up by the Madrid branch of FCC Medio Ambiente following the award of the last street cleaning contract in November 2021 to centralise the comprehensive management of the service and carry out the control, analysis and transmission of the information generated. This immediate communication speeds up the assignment of the incident to the nearest vehicle or the most appropriate team to collect each type of waste.

The system classifies the information based on the identification of the anomalies detected around the containers, communicates each case to the data centre and generates a record in the digital platform that includes the type of incident, the street and number, the GPS coordinates and a photograph. This information, in addition to resolving the incident, is used to organise all the records in a dashboard that shows the locations, neighbourhoods, as well as the days or periods with the highest volume of anomalies.

This service reduces the average action time for this type of incident by more than 50%.



Vehicle that visually recognises waste left outside the container using artificial intelligence (AI). Photograph by Abraham Blázquez.

Digital ormation at FCC

We are living through a few years full of instability and conflicts that alter the slow evolution required by the business context. But this situation does not prevent technological changes from continuing and accelerating at a dizzying pace. Our organisation has understood that to transform disruption into opportunity we must rely on the most innovative technologies.

There is no longer any doubt that investing in digital transformation is key to the survival of companies. Improving productivity, reducing costs, gaining efficiency, differentiating from the competition, automating processes or responding to customer needs are just some of the key points for which it is essential to have technology as an ally. When we refer to digitalisation, we are not only thinking about incorporating new technologies, which is a crucial aspect, but also about facing a cultural and business process change in which all levels of the organisation are involved. A third fundamental pillar in this transition process is talent, as there is a structural deficit of professional profiles with the skills to take advantage of the adaptation of new digital tools to our productive environment. On all these fronts, FCC is acting proactively to ensure our competitiveness.

GenAI represents a generational milestone in the technological era, offering FCC the opportunity to transform the business

Roota intrapreneurship Project

One of the aspects that has been most worked on in the cultural sphere has to do with innovation. Through DI Lab and with the help of all the leaders of our company, we have launched the Roota intra-entrepreneurship initiative, which aims to achieve the capillarity that allows innovation to permeate all levels of the organisation, finding driving agents and connections between different areas and units.

The transforming power of GenAI

Undoubtedly, one of the great transformational forces that have emerged in 2023 as a historic milestone is the advent of generative artificial intelligence. GenAI will soon become a generator of productivity and efficiency like never before, achieving the automation of simple and repetitive tasks. According to experts, most of the value potential will be realised in four business functions: customer operations, marketing and sales, software engineering, and R&D. To gauge this realisation, we at FCC have conducted proofs of concept of different use cases, working with external technologists of these technologies and with the help of our business specialists. Today, and less than a year after the technology was marketed, we already have use cases in production in documentary support for tenders and in the search for unstructured information. In short, GenAI represents a generational milestone in the technological era, offering FCC the opportunity to transform the business. GenAI not only automates tasks, but also redefines the role of professionals, demanding a critical and expert approach, capable of interpreting and making full use of the data generated. Successful GenAI will push the boundaries of business, improving information for business decision making and optimising the relationship with our customers.

In parallel to this development of new capabilities, it will be necessary to assess our risk landscape, establishing new protocols for risk management, data privacy and, crucially, data access and securitisation. New technologies mean that our level of exposure to cyber threats is also much higher. Our

Digital transformation is key to business survival

cyber adversaries in turn use AI capabilities to exploit vulnerabilities very efficiently, and as a result, our response window is getting smaller and smaller and the volume of incidents is multiplying.

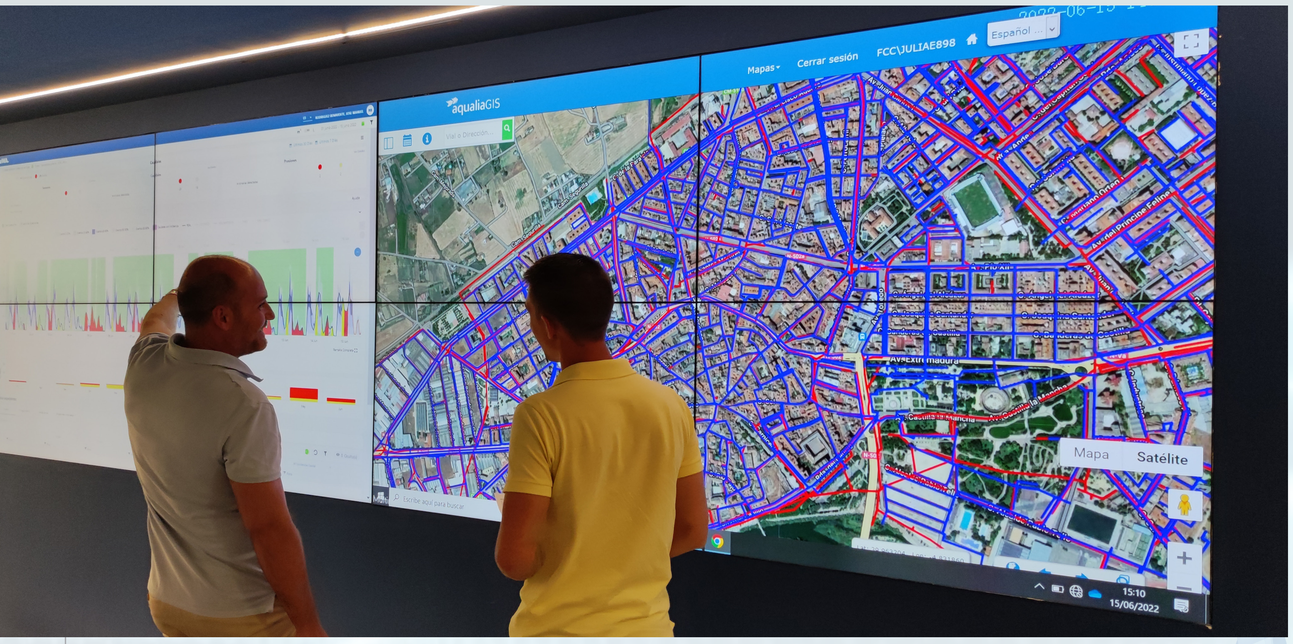
Technological progress and ethical implications

At the same time, this speed of technological advancement is confronted with an ethical consideration. While we celebrate the potential of artificial intelligence, we must contemplate the ethical implications arising from its integration into our society. In this sense, the journey towards the AI of tomorrow must combine technical ingenuity and ethical awareness. The journey will not only be measured by technological capability, but by the integrity of the principles that guide our path towards the intelligence of the future. That is why at FCC we are paralleling the development of our GenAI skills with the standards of use and management principles of this technology.

Although AI is already a reality, the environment is still far from ready and, as we always do at FCC with the adoption of disruptive technologies, our approach is always pragmatic and long-term. Therefore, our current work consists of being better prepared for when the market reaches maturity, developing four lines of action: creating our basic AI principles, training the team and the organisation with a combination of pilot tests and traditional teaching elements, implementing the necessary security and adapting our data so that the maximum value can be extracted; in short, humanising the digital transformation so that its impact is effective and long-lasting.

Alfredo García López
Systems and IT Manager of the FCC Group.

Digitalisation of water and planning, challenges for the sector to promote a cascade effect of development



The Toledo technology centre

Digitalisation has become one of the company's strategic lines, vital for making progress in efficient and sustainable water management. In 2023, 17 million euros have been invested in digital transformation.

The climate emergency and population pressure have increased the consequences of drought and highlighted the need to coordinate to protect water. According to the OECD, the world's population will exceed nine billion by 2050 and UN projections indicate a 40% decline in available water resources by 2030. In other words, there are more people and less water available.

Seven of the ten most water-stressed river basins in the European Union are in Spain, according to the European Environment Agency. Water stress has become a major issue, and to tackle it, the way forward is to improve efficiency and sustainability in water management. Efficiency implies sustained water planning and efficient infrastructure, incorporating new technologies and renewed from time to time. Investing in infrastructure ensures continuity of service, with lower operating and maintenance costs.

Driver for development and efficiency

The planning and strategy of the administrations must be accompanied by the efforts of the operators that manage the water service. Specialised companies can provide technology, innovation capacity and investment to offer specific solutions. In the specific case of Aqualia, digitalisation, which has become one of the company's strategic lines of action, is vital for making progress in the efficient and sustainable management of water. So much so that in 2023 alone, its investment in digital transformation was 17 million euros.

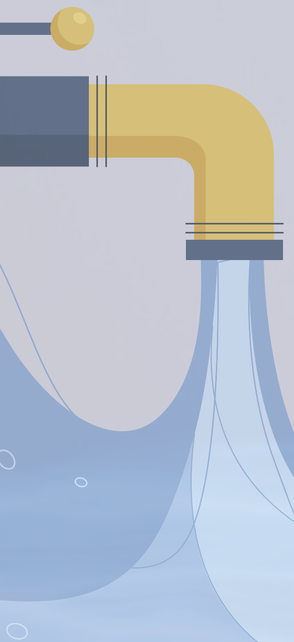
Increasing the performance of networks, detecting anomalous consumption in real time and reducing water losses due to leaks or warning when no consumption is recorded in homes inhabited by the elderly are some of the new features that are already being enjoyed thanks to new technologies. One example is in the city of Almeria, where Aqualia has been managing the service since 1993, a period in which the population has grown by 23% to 198,000 inhabitants. However, water consumption has been reduced by 47%, from 30 hm3 in 1993 to 16 hm3 in 2020. In that period, investments in the city's water service have totalled nearly 85 million euros.

Thanks to the implementation of projects for the early detection of leaks in the networks, unnecessary water losses and damage to the systems are avoided, something applicable to municipalities of any type. In cities such as Talavera de la Reina (Toledo), the digitalisation of the water service, initiated in 2010, has improved the efficiency of the network by 20 percentage points, which means a saving of approximately 1.8 million m3 per year, an amount of

Water stress has become a major issue



water that would fit in 720 Olympic swimming pools. Also municipalities with less than 5,000 inhabitants, such as Villasequilla (Toledo), already have 100% remote metering. In the Region of Murcia, the improvement of the infrastructures has achieved an average improvement in the performance of the supply networks of 7.5 percentage points in the municipalities where Aqualia manages the concession, which, during the year 2022 alone, made it possible to save more than 2.5 million cubic metres of water.



Investment in digital transformation was 17 million euros in 2023

Data and analytics tools and technologies continue to evolve at an unprecedented pace and their analytical capabilities are invaluable to the water sector. One of the latest efforts in this regard is the recent alliance between Aqualia and Vodafone to digitise the water sector in Spain. The two companies have signed a five-year agreement that will enable the digitisation of one million water meters in Spain. Another success story is the pilot project that Aqualia has carried out together with SDG Group, a consulting company specialising in Data, Analytics and Artificial Intelligence, based on advanced analytics to prevent water leaks. The towns of Talavera de la Reina (Toledo) and Dénia (Alicante) were the first pilot municipalities to adopt this initiative, thanks to which they are managing to improve water efficiency by between 5% and 8%.

Putting the SDGs at the heart of business strategy

Water can have a positive cascading effect. Working across borders and sectors on water will accelerate progress on all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For Aqualia, the first company in the sector to be certified by AENOR in the achievement of the SDGs, water is fundamental for development. Companies such as Aqualia are integrating the SDGs into the heart of their business strategy to promote the global change promoted by the United Nations and thus generate solutions, measures and concrete actions.

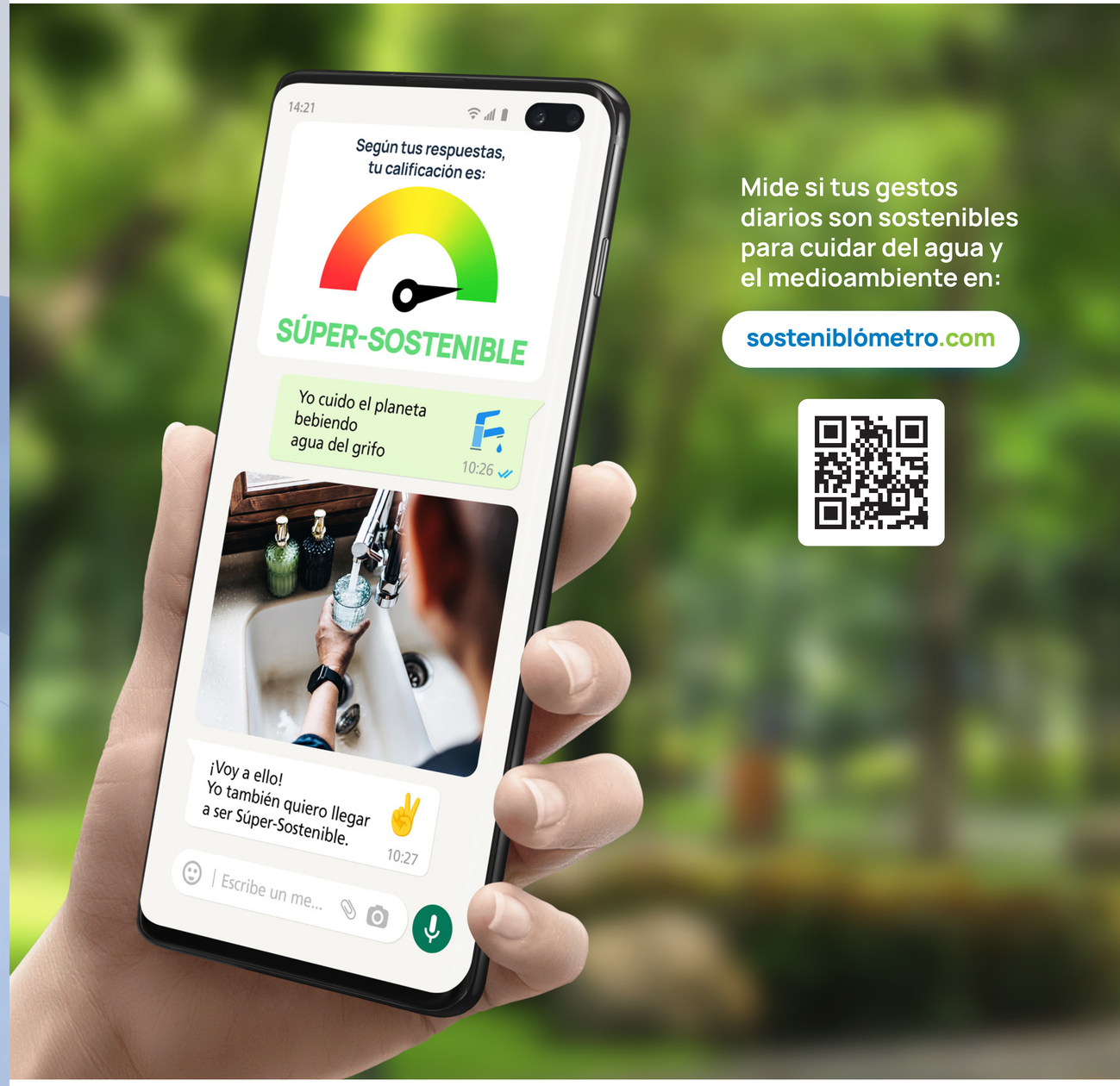
Implementation of early leakage detection projects has reduced water losses and system damage

Use of **alternative resources**

Along with digitalisation, it is also necessary to promote the use of alternative resources, such as the use of reclaimed water and desalination, which can become strategic, especially in areas of water stress. In this sense, Aqualia is developing lines of research aimed at the reuse and exploitation of reclaimed water for the recovery of ecosystems or the transformation of effluents into water suitable for irrigation, among others.

¡TÚ LA LLEVAS!

PORQUE ERES ESENCIAL PARA EL PLANETA



Mide si tus gestos diarios son sostenibles para cuidar del agua y el medioambiente en:

sosteniblómetro.com

Y cuéntanos en X (Twitter) e Instagram tus acciones con el hashtag #Sosteniblómetro

aqualia.com

aqualia
Tu compañía del agua



Family photo at the Pitch Day at FCC's corporate headquarters in Las Tablas (Madrid).

FCC announces the **five finalist teams of the roota project**, the FCC Group's intra-entrepreneurship programme

Five innovative ideas have reached the final phase of the roota project, the FCC Group's intrapreneurship programme, which will be decided next November. A total of 68 proposals from Spain, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Canada and Chile, covering all of the FCC Group's business areas and Corporate Services, were submitted.

At the end of phase 2, 17 ideas were selected, refining the concept, drawing up a value proposal and proposing the necessary components to carry out the idea and validate the problem detected with the user. All of them were presented to an evaluation committee made up of the top management of the FCC Group and its business areas.

After the teams presented each of the innovative ideas, the evaluation committee selected the five proposals that will advance to the final phase, which will focus on the development of prototypes with a minimum viable product approach to validate the solutions identified.

The five proposals that will advance to the next phase are: Digital Twins: Our Window to the Future; Sustainable Modular Design of Electromechanical Installations; Migration and Benefits for the FCC Group (PTFMIGRAFCC); EfFiCienCy - Empowering Our people to grow; Digitise Production, Increase Productivity.

During the day, it was demonstrated that there is a lot of talent in the FCC Group, teams that are eager to carry out innovative projects, to share experiences and to learn, and above all, the effort, creativity and conviction to participate in this type of programme stood out. Projects linked to digitalisation to implement tools to improve certain processes in the company, with a special focus on data management, had a strong presence.

The evaluation committee highlighted the quality of the proposals submitted and expressed its willingness to continue developing those proposals which, although they have not reached the final phase of the competition, represent opportunities for improvement for the FCC Group. The Digital Innovation Lab will also accompany the development of these proposals.

Last pase

The last phase will begin on 9 July and will last until November, when the "Demo Day" will take place, where a winning proposal and a finalist will be selected.

The members of the winning team will receive advanced training in innovation methodologies and will enjoy a trip to visit an innovative project of the FCC Group in a location to be determined by the Evaluation Committee.

roota project

The roota initiative was created as an international intra-entrepreneurship programme open to all employees of the entities that make up the FCC Group and which aims to enhance the value of their internal talent in order to promote the generation of ideas and the creation of solutions in their work and professional environment.

This programme is designed to respond to challenges through collaboration in teams that can be multidisciplinary, made up of professionals who, following a process inspired by innovation methodologies and with expert accompaniment, make it possible to develop tangible and innovative solutions that benefit the FCC Group within the framework of its activities, either by promoting proposals that are aligned with the challenges faced by the FCC Group entities in their activity, or by evaluating the visibility, sustainability and viability of the proposed solutions, so that they can be carried out in a challenging and changing environment.

we are FCC

The **finalists**



Digital twins: Our window to the future.



Digitise production, increase productivity.



EfFiCienCy - Empowering Our people to grow.



Migration and benefits for the FCC Group (PTFMIGRAFCC).



Sustainable modular design of electromechanical installations.

you_you_you_you_you_you_
you_you_you_you_you_you_
you_you_you_you_you_you_
you_you_you_you_you_you_
you_you_you_you_you_you_
you_you_you_you_you_you_
you_you_you_you_you_you_
you_you_you_you_you_you_
you_you_you_you_you_you_
you_you_you_you_you_you_
you_you_you_you_you_you_
you_you_you_you_you_you_
you_you_you_you_you_you_
you_you_you_you_you_you_
you_you_you_you_you_you_
you_you_you_you_you_you_