Lactalis reports solid growth in 2024 amid global challenges

23 April 2025 | News

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Lactalis, the worldâ??s largest dairy group, has announced strong financial and operational results for 2024, reaffirming its resilience and leadership in a volatile global environment. The group posted revenues of â?¬30.3 billion, marking a 2.8 per cent increase compared to 2023.

Despite geopolitical and economic instability, demand for Lactalis products remained high worldwide, led by flagship brands PrÃ©sident, Galbani, Kraft, and Parmalat. The groupâ??s commitment to providing healthy, tasty, and affordable dairy products has continued to win over consumers across the globe.

Operating income for the year reached â?¬1.4 billion, while consolidated net income came in at â?¬359 million, representing 1.2 per cent of revenue. The dip in net income reflects the financial impact of a tax agreement reached with the French tax authorities in late 2024. At the same time, Lactalis continued to reduce its debt, bringing it down to â?¬5.038 billion.

The group invested heavily in its future, allocating over â?¬1 billion towards enhancing its manufacturing capabilities and reducing its environmental footprint. Major projects included facility modernisations in Larceveau (France) and new production lines in Italy, the United States, and Australia. These moves support Lactalis' long-term strategy of preserving artisanal traditions while elevating product quality standards worldwide.

In parallel, the group accelerated its environmental transition, investing nearly â?¬200 million in energy efficiency and sustainability initiatives. Notable achievements included water recycling upgrades in India and Brazil, the installation of solar panels in Spain, and the expansion of biomass boilers in France. These initiatives contributed to a 13.7 per cent reduction in the groupâ??s carbon footprint since 2019, with a 50 per cent cut targeted by 2033.

Recognising its progress, Lactalis received SBTi certification in 2024, confirming the credibility of its climate goals and corporate social responsibility (CSR) strategy.

On the external growth front, Lactalis acquired Portuguese cheese producer Sequeira & Sequeira, expanding its presence in the Iberian market with the popular Paiva brand. The acquisition strengthens Lactalisâ?? position while preserving the local character of beloved regional brands.

Finally, Lactalis reported sustained organic growth, with over 650 product innovations launched in 2024. New products like Lactel Vitaâ??Vie in France, Stay Strong vitamin-enriched milk in Denmark, and ProBio2 yoghurts in Brazil reflect the groupâ??s commitment to meeting evolving consumer tastes.