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# **2024 Results**

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## **Today's presenters**





## Ignacio de Colmenares

**Chairman & CEO** Ence Energía y Celulosa



## **Alfredo Avello**

**Chief Financial Officer** Ence Energía y Celulosa

# **Results Summary**



2025 Outlook	FY2024 Operating	FY2024 Financial	Growth, Efficiency and
	Highlights	Results	Diversification Projects
<ul> <li>BHKP price bottomed out in 4Q24. Price increases of up to USD 1,220/t gross (approx. USD 645/t net) announced from March</li> <li>Expected cash cost reduction during 2025 as temporary factors are expected to end in 1Q25</li> <li>Sale of Energy Saving Certificates for €30m, expected to be cashed and registered as revenue in 1Q25</li> <li>Higher energy production expected in 2025, supported by the restart of one of our two 16 MW power plants</li> <li>Lower biomass plant operating costs expected in 2025, favoured by higher biomass availability and higher fixed cost dilution</li> <li>Higher energy prices in 1Q25</li> <li>Expected improvement in the contribution from new renewable businesses, following the acquisition of La Galera biomethane plant</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>12% net sale price YoY increase, up to 647 €/t and 6% YoY reduction in cash cost, down to 493 €/t in 2024</li> <li>521 €/t cash cost in 4Q24 due to temporary factors which are expected to end in 1Q25</li> <li>Ence Advanced pulp sales accounted for 23% of total pulp sales in 2024 with an operating margin approximately 30 €/t higher than our standard pulp</li> <li>16% YoY pulp production increase in Pontevedra in 2024 boosted by its new water recovery solution</li> <li>23% YoY higher energy generation and 15% YoY lower biomass plant operating costs in 2024</li> <li>La Galera 50 GWh/yr biomethane plant acquisition in Dec.24.</li> <li>Second industrial heating contract awarded for 85 GWh/year, 15-year term</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Pulp business EBITDA x3 in 2024 up to €138m, driven by higher pulp prices and lower cash cost</li> <li>50% YoY EBITDA improvement from the biomass energy business. €26m Renewables EBITDA includes new business development costs</li> <li>€101m FCF before working capital change and growth capex in 2024</li> <li>€66m WC outflow driven by higher pulp inventories and higher Ro</li> <li>€34m dividend payments to shareholders, implying a 5% dividend yield</li> <li>Low leverage position with €321m Net Debt at the end of 2024 and a cash balance of €287m</li> <li>Successful Magnon Green Energy corporate refinancing in July 2024</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Building a large biofertilizer and biomethane platform in Spain aiming to produce 1 TWh by 2030 and contribute &gt;€60m to EBITDA</li> <li>Our Thermal Energy business aims to produce 2TWh by 2030 and contribute &gt;€40m to EBITDA</li> <li>Ence Advanced pulp sales should reach 50% of the total by 2028 with an operating margin approximately 30 €/t higher than our standard pulp</li> <li>New 125 Kt Fluff pulp line commissioning in 4Q25 with an expected operating margin approx. 60 €/t higher than our standard pulp</li> <li>Production of renewable packaging solutions to start-up in 2025</li> <li>Navia decarbonization and cost reduction project launched in 1Q25</li> <li>Progressing with the Pontevedra Avanza and As Pontes engineering</li> </ul>

# 1. 2024 Highlights

# Pulp prices bottomed out in 4Q24

### BHKP price increases of up to USD 1,220/t gross announced from March





- BHKP demand reached a new record high in 4Q24 and producers inventories ended the year at low levels (39 days)
- Bankruptcy of a major integrated Chinese P&P producer now generating a BHKP supply gap of >0,2 Mnt per month
- BHKP conversions to other grades and significant downtimes scheduled for 1Q25
- Record price gap with NBSK is strengthening demand for BHKP

# Ence Advanced pulp accounted for 23% of our pulp sales in 2024

Operating margin approximately 30 €/t higher than our standard pulp



powercell
+
maturcell
+
decocell
+
closecell

- ✓ High strength pulp aiming to substitute softwood pulp
- Minimizes the energy consumption during the refining process
- First unbleached hardwood pulp in the market
- Certified CO<sup>2</sup> footprint during the product life cycle
- Increases tissue softness
- Low wet-expansion cellulose suitable for decor paper applications
- ✓ Narrow range of porosity
- ✓ Plastic alternative in packaging for food & beverage industry
- Low porosity material

+ Others such as photocell, high white, softcell and porocell

23%

% of total pulp sales in 2024

We aim at reaching 50% of our pulp production by 2028 (>500,000 t) with approx. 30 €/t higher operating margin than our standard pulp

## **Diversification projects in the Pulp business are on track**

These will deliver higher operating margins





<sup>1</sup> ROCE = EBIT / Equity + Net Debt (including leases) <sup>2</sup> Based on Fluff pulp prices in Europe during 2024

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# Efficiency and growth projects in the Pulp business

These will deliver higher operating margins



### Status: Started ROCE<sup>1</sup> target: >15% NAVIA DECARBONIZATION **13 €/t cash cost reduction** and 60% reduction of Navia's scope 1 emissions by reconditioning the wood yard and replacing natural gas with biomass in its lime kiln Navia cash cost 13 €/t (8 €/t in reduction target: the Group) Net estimated capex: €35m in 2025-26 **Exp.** commissioning 4Q 2026



Status: Engineering and permitting ROCE<sup>1</sup> target: >12%

### **PONTEVEDRA AVANZA**

An integral project to boost the efficiency and flexibility of Pontevedra biomill

Pontevedra cash cost reduction target:	50 €/t (20 €/t in the Group)	
Estimated capex:	€120m in 2025-30	
Investment decision:	2025	



Status: Engineering and permitting ROCE<sup>1</sup> target: >12%

### AS PONTES

To produce bleached recycled pulp in As Pontes (Galicia) using recycled fibers, without increasing the consumption of wood

Production target:	+ 100 Kt
Estimated capex:	>€125m
Investment decision:	2025



<sup>1</sup> ROCE = EBIT / Equity + Net Debt (including leases)

# Sale of Energy Saving Certificates for €30m

Expected to be cashed and registered as revenue in 1Q25





Energy efficiency projects undertaken imply annual energy savings equivalent to 191 GWh, which have been verified by AENOR. An Energy Saving Certificate (CAE) is an electronic document which guarantees that, after carrying out an energy efficiency action, a new final energy saving equivalent to 1 kWh has been achieved.

These Energy Saving Certificate (CAE) may be acquired by energy companies to fulfill their energy saving targets. Ence sold Energy Saving Certificates (CAE) for €30m in February 2025. They are expected to be cashed and registered as revenue in 1Q25.

# Ence Biogas has acquired a 50 GWh/yr biomethane plant in La Galera

15 year biomethane sale agreement signed with a major energy merchant





La Galera estimated EBITDA generation (€m)



La Galera estimated biofertilizer production (K tons)



La Galera estimated biomethane production (GWh)



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# First step towards the creation of a biofertilizer and biomethane platform

Target: 1 TWh of biomethane production by 2030 and over €60m contribution to EBITDA





16 biomethane plants already in their permitting phase, with a required ROCE<sup>1</sup> >12%

# Second industrial heating contract awarded for 85 GWh/year, 15-year term

Target: 2TWh thermal energy supply by 2030 and over €40m contribution to EBITDA





1 contract in operation, 1 contract under construction and 3 projects expected RTB in 2025, with a required ROCE<sup>1</sup> >11%



# Pulp business EBITDA x3 in 2024 up to €138m

Driven by higher pulp prices and lower cash cost





€6m EBITDA in 4Q24, including a one-off cost of €10m due to lower energy cogeneration at Navia

576 €/t net pulp price in 4Q24

€/t.

2024, down to 493 €/t

520 €/t cash cost in 4Q24 affected by temporary factors

- to 968 Kt
- 29 Kt inventory increase in 2024

# 50% YoY EBITDA improvement from the biomass energy business

€26m Renewables EBITDA includes new business development costs





- 2024
- New methodology to update quarterly the Ro cashed by biomass plants as from 2024

# YoY in 2024

- Lower biomass costs
- Higher fixed cost dilution on back of higher energy output

- Favoured by the new regulatory framework approved in 2024

### from the biomass energy business, up to €32m

• €27m contribution from the sale of two PV projects in 2023

# €165m consolidated EBITDA in 2024

€32m net income



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2024



### +€47m consolidated revenue growth YoY in 2024

- +€60m in the Pulp business boosted by 12% higher net pulp price
- -€12m in the Renewable business driven by the elimination of the regulatory collar in 2024

#### +€76m consolidated EBITDA YoY growth in 2024

- + €92m in the Pulp business boosted by the improvement in pulp prices and the reduction in cash cost
- €16m in the Renewable business due to the comparative effect with the sale of PV projects in 2023

#### + €57m Attributable Net Income YoY improvement in 2024

# €101m FCF before working capital change and growth capex in 2024

WC outflow driven by higher pulp inventories and higher Ro in Renewables



Cash Flow Statement 2024 (€m)



# €321m Net Debt at year end 2024, following a €34m dividend to shareholder Low leverage position vs. our Group average cycle EBITDA of €175m<sup>1</sup>



1) Average consolidated EBITDA 2015 – 2024, excluding the impact in 2021 of one-off pulp and energy price hedges arranged in 2020, during the pandemic

ENERGÍA & CI

# Successful Magnon corporate refinancing in July 2024

La Galera biomethane plant project financing closed in January 2025





### **ENCE:** industry leader in sustainability Highlights 2024









Safe and Eco-

**Protecting Health and Safety of** employees and contractors

- $\checkmark$  34% reduction of accidents with leave vs. 2023
- ✓ **57% reduction** in Severity rate vs. 2023

Water use reduction

✓ -8% Pontevedra (vs 2023), increasing resilience to climate risks related to droughts

**Odour reduction** (vs. 2023)

✓ - 40% Navia and -35% Pontevedra

Advancing towards a circular economy

✓ 100% sites ZERO WASTE certified

**Committed to mitigate climate change** 

✓ **New decarbonization plan** with GHG emission reduction targets for 2030



Differentiated pulp products with higher added value

- ✓ **23% of total sales** of Products with higher and growing margins
- ✓ 1<sup>st</sup> Carbon neutral product (Naturcell Zero)

**Forestry bioproducts and ecosystem** services

- ✓ Improved plant material, better adapted to climate change: 3 new Eucalyptus clone in commercial phase
- ✓ >3.700 ha Forest sinks registered in voluntary carbon markets



PLATINUM

2023 ecovadis

Sustainability

#### **Certified supply chain**

- ✓ 90% of managed land certified
- ✓ **79%** of wood certified
- ✓ 100% sites SURE System certified (Sustainable biomass)

#### Supply chain supervision

- ✓ Deployment of the new Third Party Due Diligence Procedure, in order to minimize human rights violations and negative environmental impacts risks along the supply chain
- ✓ Implementation of tools to comply with the **EUDR Regulation** against deforestation



Talent as a competitive advantage

- ✓ 27,2% female employees
- ✓ 29,4% females in managerial positions
- ✓ Great Place to Work certification (5<sup>th</sup> year in a row)
- ✓ **Top Employer** certification

**Creating positive social impact in local** communities

✓ New edition of Ence's **Pontevedra Social Plan** (up to3M€), with more than 500 applications

**Promoting professional development in** rural communities

- ✓ New edition of the **Forestry** machinery training program
- ✓ 1,000+ technical advice sessions with Forest owners

# 3.

# 2025 Outlook and Closing Remarks

# 2025 Outlook





## **Closing Remarks**





- We are building a large biofertilizer and biomethane platform in Spain which aims to produce over 1 TWh by 2030 and contribute over €60m to EBITDA.
- Our Thermal Energy business is developing well. It aims to produce 2TWh by 2030 and contribute over €40m to EBITDA.
- Our Ence Advanced pulp sales are expected to reach 50% of the total BHKP sales by 2028, with an operating margin approximately 30 €/t higher than our standard pulp.
- Our first 125 Kt Fluff pulp line in Navia will be commissioned in 4Q25 with an expected operating margin approximately 60 €/t higher than our standard pulp
- We expect to start the production of our renewable packaging solutions in 2025
- Navia's cost reduction and decarbonization project has been launched and we are making good progress with the engineering of the Pontevedra Avanza and As Pontes projects
- Reaching these goals should allow us to more than double the Renewable business EBITDA over the next 5 years, whilst the transformation of Ence into a producer of special pulp products will significantly improve the business operating margin
- The execution of these projects will be adapted and aligned to our cash flow generation, to maintain a prudent leverage and an attractive remuneration for shareholders





# Delivering value Delivering commitments

