

VIVESCIA
in Sommesous,
France.

Innovations for a **better world.**

BÜHLER



France's leading player in the farming industry, VIVESCIA Group, is owned by 11,000 farmers from the north-eastern region of the country. The farming and processing group employs 7,500 people in 25 countries, generating an annual revenue of € 3,39 billion*.

VIVESCIA is active along the entire grain value chain, from field to fork, linking cereal-producing farmers with the grain processing industries and end consumers. Most activities take place in the B2B markets and deliver a diverse product range including bakery ingredients and frozen bakery products, ingredients for breweries and distilleries, through to animal feed. It manages around 250 collection points with a turnover of 3 million tons a year. With the best interests of their farmer-members, consumers and local communities in mind, VIVESCIA advocates highest business standards, product quality and environmental performance.

*Numbers June 2019

The commission

VIVESCIA commissioned Bühler to design and build a new cereal reception and storage center with a total capacity of 43,500 tons on a Greenfield site in the commune of Sommesous in France. The plant design included 10 steel silos, uploading and conveying, and cleaning and filter facilities to receive and process wheat, barley, rapeseed and corn. It was installed and commissioned for the 2015 harvest.

Specific requirements and challenges

The first objective was to build a plant with the highest possible intake at reception to reduce discharging times to an absolute minimum. Preventive and curative maintenance is entirely internalized by VIVESCIA in order to keep downtime and maintenance cost as low as possible. The quality of equipment and materials used was essential to achieving this objective and total cost of ownership (TCO) was a decisive factor in the award of the contract.

VIVESCIA also had a very clear understanding of the local demands defined by the regional geography, crop volumes and the number farmer-members in the area. These were in addition to the stringent business requirements to reduce cost incurred by transportation, maintenance and energy consumption. Changing weather conditions and especially hot temperatures had had a detrimental effect for several successive harvests in the region putting additional emphasis on efficiency and performance.

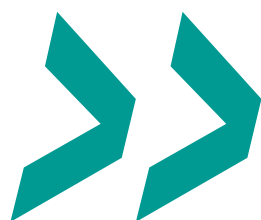
In line with VIVESCIA's declared commitment to sustainability, the plant had to comply with strict internal and external environmental requirements. The cooperative also required a flexible build allowing for future extensions.

Representing the interests of its members, the cooperative applied utmost diligence, contractual terms and set an ambitious deadline: the plant was to come into operation in time for the 2015 harvest.

The solution

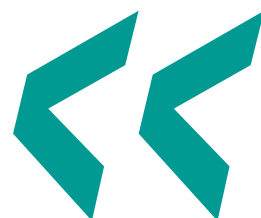
VIVESCIA recognized Bühler's exceptional expertise and rigorous precision engineering qualities. As requirements were very detailed and fixed, this demanded a high level of flexibility on Bühler's part. The Bühler team was fully committed to meeting these requirements and implementing the best solution within the very tight deadline. This commitment convinced VIVESCIA that they had found the right partner for the project. Bühler's approach not only met all the critical requirements but also met their price and quality expectations.

The project's ambitious goals, objectives, detailed specifications and deadlines posed a substantial challenge for all teams involved. Working closely in cooperation with VIVESCIA, Bühler developed a single pass concept, meaning that grain can be received, cleaned, upgraded and put in silos in a single process step, at a rate of 250 tons per hour. In order to keep maintenance time as low as possible, most ducts are lined with anti-wear and food-grade material.



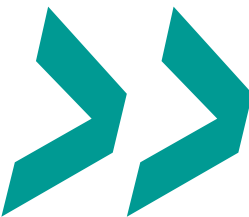
*With this 'one shot' concept,
we also control the breakage of grains
induced by handling.*

Denis Kesy, Project Manager
VIVESCIA, Sommesous



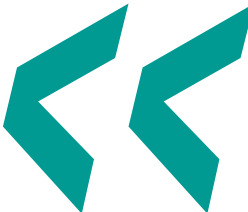
The plant's design met all the specifications laid out at the beginning of the project – including compliance with ISO 22000, VIVESCIA's general quality standard. And the project was successfully commissioned for the harvest in 2015.





With Bühler we found a true partner who really took into account our opinion and constraints and does everything possible to ensure customer satisfaction and success.

Denis Kesy, Project Manager
VIVESCIA, Sommesous



Strong partnership and strong results

The ambitious goals and objectives and the tight deadline put immense pressure on the teams at both VIVESCIA and Bühler. However, the excellent partnership, commitment and exceptional willingness to adapt to different approaches and learn from each other resulted in a very successful project.

Four years on, in the third harvest since commission, the plant has proven its outstanding quality and delivered on the defined goals. As VIVESCIA decided to keep maintenance inhouse, tools such as myBühler, the online portal for spares, helps the cooperative's technicians to operate the plant at highest performance levels.



Learn more about
the customer in
this video

Technical data.

	Type	Capacity
Storage	10x steel silos	total 43,500 tons
Processing technology	2x TAS 206A-6 1x TAS 210-1	each 250 t/h 40 t/h
Conveying technology	12x Trough chain conveyors 12x Trough chain conveyors 3x Elevators 2x Screw conveyors	250 t/h 200 t/h 250 t/h 5 t/h
Dosing	Volumetric feed gate MZDE	150 t/h
Round filter	2x LCAA-RA-110-4	629 m³/min
Intake	2x Truck	each 250 t/h
Outtake	1x Truck	200 t/h
Commissioning	July 2015	



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