

Press release

Success Stories of NAE Members: WEEECycling Revolutionizes the Supply of Critical Metals

Rouen, on June XX, 2025 – WEEECycling produces critical metals through the recycling of industrial waste and production scraps. Rooted in circularity, this production addresses the challenges of sourcing critical metals from dwindling mining resources, the extraction of which has a significant environmental impact. To meet growing international demand, WEEECycling is making substantial investments to increase its production capacity and accelerate the diversification of the metals it produces.

Based in Tourville-les-Ifs (Seine-Maritime France), WEEECycling produces high-purity metals, indistinguishable from primary metals, exclusively from waste containing critical metals—both liquid and solid—sourced from all industrial sectors.

Its hydrometallurgy and pyrometallurgy processes enable the production of various metals, including silver, copper, and platinum group metals, for markets such as aerospace, space, defence, and others.

An Alternative to Traditional Mining, Reducing Environmental Impact by Over 98%

Primary critical metals are scarce, often located in conflict or high-tension zones (Russia, China, Congo, Latin America, etc.), and derived from depleting resources. Moreover, their extraction accounts for 2% of global human-related carbon emissions.

WEEECycling's recycling technologies enable industries to secure their supply of critical metals while contributing to the decarbonization of their production by reducing emissions by over 1,000 times.

WEEECycling offers a two-level circularity model for industries: transforming their own production scraps into the desired form and recovering their end-of-life products to manage treatment, decontamination, and the extraction and refining of critical metals. This approach allows some industries to reduce their reliance on raw material sourcing by 50%.



Strong International Demand

Currently, WEEECycling processes 15,000 tonnes of industrial waste annually. To address growing demand, particularly from Europe and Asia, the company, which generates €40 million in revenue, has launched a major €85 million investment program at its Tourville-les-Ifs site.

The objectives are to increase production line capacity fivefold and to further diversify critical metals through R&D efforts focused on the valorisation of Gallium, Germanium, and Niobium. Launched in 2023, the expansion of its production lines is expected to be operational in the first quarter of 2026.

This project is accompanied by significant recruitment: 50 new employees have already joined the team this year, bringing the total workforce to 150. Recruitment is set to continue at a similar pace in 2025–2026.

A Position that Inspires Ecodesign

A winner of the France 2030 “Critical Metals” call for projects, WEEECycling is involved in the European EECONE and GENESIS (European Consortium of Semiconductor Industries) projects, as well as the AIR’UP think tank, led by Airbus and Sopra Steria, which brings together French and European aerospace industries. These initiatives aim to further circularize critical raw materials and increase the adoption of eco-design principles.

Download a visual:

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About NAE:

NAE is the dynamic network of professionals in aerospace, space, defence, and security in Normandy. Founded in 1998, this cluster, chaired by Philippe Eudeline, brings together 184 entities, ranging from major industrial groups to innovative startups, as well as airports, a military base, SMEs, mid-sized companies, research laboratories, and higher education institutions. Representing over 25,000 employees and generating €4.7 billion in revenue, NAE stands as a pillar of excellence in the Norman economy. NAE is also a member of national networks such as GIFAS, GICAT, and GICAN, reflecting its commitment and significant contribution to the key sectors it represents.

