

PRESS RELEASE

Montea opens first energy hub in Willebroek in event attended by the Minister-President of Flanders Matthias Diependaele



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MONTEA
SPACE FOR GROWTH

Willebroek, March 17, 2025

Montea has officially opened its first energy hub today in Willebroek, marking a significant milestone in the logistics real estate company's sustainability strategy. Minister-President Matthias Diependaele, who was in attendance at the opening, emphasized the importance of this large-scale initiative.

Driving Flemish energy goals

This project aligns with the energy targets set in the Flemish government's new coalition agreement, which prioritizes the acceleration of electrification through smart grid management. Montea is demonstrating that the logistics sector can play a leading role in achieving these goals.

"Flanders is a premier region for logistics, and securing that leadership requires strategic infrastructure investments. Our Flemish coalition agreement prioritizes strategic autonomy and smart energy infrastructure as the key pillars of economic resilience in an increasingly turbulent geopolitical landscape. This battery park embodies the vision set forth by the Flemish government. Montea exemplifies how businesses can take the lead in pioneering innovative and competitive solutions."

– Matthias Diependaele, Minister-President of Flanders



From left to right: Eddy Bevers, Mayor of Willebroek; Matthias Diependaele, Minister-President of Flanders; Jo De Wolf, CEO of Montea; Céline De Keersmaeker, Country Director for Belgium at iwell; and Tom Verheyen, Country Manager Belgium at Dachser.

The innovative battery energy hub in Willebroek boasts a total storage capacity of 15.05 MWh, allowing Montea to store solar energy and deploy it efficiently during peak hours.

But we go beyond this location: the implementation of the first phase, in which we install 32 MWh of energy storage across 13 sites in Flanders, is in full progress. By the end of 2027, this will result in an energy storage capacity of more than 100 MWh spread across the various countries where Montea is active. To achieve this, Montea will invest €50 million.

Addressing our clients' energy challenges

Our motivation is to support our clients in their energy challenges: there is often a shortage of available capacity, or peak demand does not coincide with solar energy production. This leads to a surplus during low demand and a shortage during high demand.

Montea's energy hubs provide an effective solution by storing solar energy and deploying it precisely when it is needed.

“With this investment, we are taking groundbreaking steps to future-proof our sites and support our clients in their energy transition. We are not just building for today, we are above all building for future generations,” said Montea CEO, Jo De Wolf. “Here in Willebroek, this means lighting our buildings with solar energy, heating our warehouses with heat pumps, and charging electric vehicles – including e-trucks used by our client, Dachser – with solar energy generated on site.”

Meeting Track27 targets

The launch of the energy hub aligns with Montea's strategic sustainability plan, Track27, which aims to reduce the company's carbon emissions by 45% by the end of 2027. By investing in battery storage and smart energy solutions, Montea not only supports its clients in their energy transition, but also contributes to a greener, more efficient logistics sector.

Emission-free transport

The energy hub is located on a site leased by logistics provider Dachser, which will use the stored energy as a stepping stone towards zero-emission transport in Belgium. After the summer, Dascher will install its first 180 kW fast charger to power its e-trucks. Globally, Dachser already operates 100 fully electric trucks in major European cities, but this year the company plans to expand this to routes connecting Willebroek, Brussels, Antwerp and Mechelen.

“Rome wasn't built in a day. The logistics sector is making tremendous progress towards zero-emission transport and we want to play a leading role in spearheading this transition. Our goal is to install our first fast charger here after the summer to power our e-trucks. We have already laid the underground pipework for the project. This will save us €16,000 a year in electricity costs, while ensuring the use of green energy.”

– Tom Verheyen, Country Manager for Belgium at Dachser

Collaboration holds key to success

The success of this project relies on close collaboration with clients, the Flemish government and partners such as Arcade and iwell. At Willebroek, iwell supplies the energy storage systems that capture surplus solar energy when it is not immediately consumed. The advanced Energy Management System (EMS) cleverly optimizes these reserves, releasing stored power when demand rises and feeding surplus energy back into the grid when market conditions are favorable.

*“It is inspiring to work with a partner like Montea, who shares our vision of supporting businesses in their transition to net zero and driving the acceleration of electrification,” says **Céline De Keersmaeker, Country Director for Belgium at iwell.** “By combining our battery solutions with an advanced EMS, we ensure that renewable energy is efficiently stored and strategically deployed. This empowers companies to maximize their own energy use, alleviate grid congestion and reduce reliance on fossil fuels.”*

OVER MONTEA “SPACE FOR GROWTH”

Montea NV is a listed real estate company under Belgian law (GVV/SIR) that specializes in logistics property in Belgium, the Netherlands, France, and Germany. The company is a leading player in this market. Montea offers its clients the space they need to grow, providing versatile and innovative property solutions, allowing Montea to create value for its shareholders. At December 31, 2024 the property portfolio comprised a total lettable area of 2,132,243 m², spread across 118 locations. Montea NV has been listed on Euronext Brussels (MONT) and Euronext Paris (MONTP) since the end of 2006.

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