Press Release
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With Valoriise, Saur turns wastewater treatment plants into engines of the ecological transition for local communities

Paris, 18 November 2025 – The Saur group unveils Valoriise, a forward-looking model for the wastewater treatment plants of tomorrow, designed to maximise their potential and meet evolving regulatory requirements. The ambition: to transform these key infrastructures — today dedicated solely to wastewater treatment — into genuine multi-service platforms for local energy production, water reuse, and resource generation for territories.

This approach is inspired by Antoine Lavoisier's founding principle — "Nothing is lost, nothing is created, everything is transformed" — applied here at territorial scale. Valoriise does not offer a single, standardised solution but **a modular framework built on technological components mastered by the Saur group and its entities, including Stereau**, which can be complemented by other processes depending on local needs. Among these, **power-to-gas** plays a key role: by converting surplus renewable electricity into storable gas, it provides municipalities with a practical lever for energy flexibility and local autonomy.

In a rapidly evolving regulatory landscape – from the European reform on wastewater reuse to the updated Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive and growing energy-efficiency requirements – Valoriise provides an innovative framework to help municipalities anticipate obligations while controlling their investment levels.

Meeting elected officials' key expectations: reliability, sobriety, tangible results

As elected representatives are increasingly expected to maintain essential networks and modernise sanitation infrastructures, manage costs and deliver visible results for residents, Valoriise provides a pragmatic response:

- A plant that evolves by relying on existing installations whenever possible, and by integrating new processes where relevant to produce local energy, reusable water and resources for the territory.
- Local production of renewable energy from on-site biomass.
- Reuse of treated water (REUT) for irrigation, industrial cooling or firefighting when regulatory conditions allow.
- Recovery of nutrients to support local agricultural or landscaping sectors.

The approach prioritises the use of what already exists, in line with the growing demand for sober, useful solutions adapted to climate disruption.

An evolving platform without technological overreach

Valoriise is built around three operational pillars, which can be activated independently or together:

- **Energy:**
  - *Sludge methanisation*: production of biogas from organic matter, then purification to obtain biomethane injected into the grid or used on-site.
  - *Power-to-Gas (complementary)*: production of green hydrogen by electrolysis from renewable electricity, then potential conversion into synthetic methane via methanation. Integrating Power-to-Gas strengthens the site's energy flexibility and the territory's autonomy by valorising surplus renewable electricity.
- **Water:** increasing the proportion of treated water that can be reused for non-potable purposes.
- **Resources:** recovering nutrients, organic matter or residual heat to support local sectors.

Each municipality can select the level of ambition according to its needs and investment capacity. The objective is not to impose a single model but to enable what is useful, measurable and sustainable. This model applies equally to the design of new wastewater treatment plants and the deep transformation of existing infrastructures, depending on territorial needs.

Immediate economic and territorial impact

By optimising the use of existing infrastructures, Valoriise allows:

- Lower operating costs, notably through on-site energy production.
- Reduced heavy capital expenditure by prioritising the transformation of existing equipment.
- Reinforced energy autonomy for territories and stabilised long-term spending.
- Tangible, visible local benefits for residents.

This approach addresses rising citizen expectations regarding transparency and anticipation.

Patrick Blethon, Executive Chairman of the Saur Group, states: *"Often invisible in the public landscape, wastewater treatment plants are nevertheless one of the discreet pillars of the ecological transition. With Valoriise, we are evolving them from simple treatment sites into a model capable of generating energy, reusing water and valorising local resources. It is a concrete way to offer territories sober, useful and deployable solutions."*

About Saur

In 2024, Saur became the first water company to issue blue bonds, combining environmental responsibility with financial innovation to drive sustainable transformation in water management.

Operating in over 25 countries, the Group serves 20 million consumers and partners with 9,200 local authorities and industrial clients. It delivers high-quality services in drinking water distribution, wastewater treatment, and smart water management—supporting small towns and major cities alike.

Guided by its purpose — “advocating to restore water to its true value” — Saur is a committed player in the ecological transition. In 2024, the Group generated over €2.3 billion in revenue and employed 12,000 people worldwide, with operations in Cyprus, Finland, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

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