

## **Competitiveness and ecological transition: Stellantis' Sept-Fons decarbonization**

### **Edited by industriAll**

The green light has been given to Stellantis' project aimed at decarbonizing the Sept-Fons foundry, which specializes in the fabrication of cast iron automotive parts, including critical components such as cylinder casings for diesel engines and various braking parts. This initiative marks a step in the company's efforts to address environmental challenges, with a key element being the development and implementation of a carbon-free cupola.

The transition to more sustainable practices has already been underway by shifting manufacturing operations on-site and facilitating direct deliveries to assembly locations. Additionally, new machine lines have been developed, further optimizing the production process.

One of the most important and impactful steps has been addressing the environmental footprint of the cupola, which has long been a significant source of carbon emissions. Responsible for emitting approximately 35,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year, the company has taken steps to reduce these emissions by investing in a new cupola that operates with 15% less coke, a key fuel source traditionally used in the process. This innovation promises to drastically cut down on the environmental impact of the foundry's operations and contribute to Stellantis' broader sustainability goals.

A good example in this transition has been the strong collaboration between the unions and the company. Working together, they have been able to avoid job cuts and redundancies, ensuring job security for the workforce while transitioning to more sustainable practices and highlighting the importance of engaging workers in the transition process. Additionally, investments in recruiting workers under permanent contracts and apprenticeships were made, providing a foundation for stability. These efforts have also been instrumental in attracting young graduates, offering them opportunities to build a career in the industry.

The project at the Sept-Fons foundry represents a good practice for how the automotive industry can evolve to meet the demands of a low-carbon economy while ensuring that workers and the local economy benefit from the shift.

For more details find linked the LeMonde article: [Le virage gagnant de la fonderie Stellantis de Sept-Fons, dans l'Allier : « On est devenu concurrentiel face à des très gros du freinage »](#)