

# Press release

## La Rochette Cartonboard continues its ascent “Towards New Summits”

Valgelon-La Rochette (Savoie), December 15, 2025.

La Rochette Cartonboard SAS – a specialist since 1873 in virgin fiber cardboard and a trusted partner for the food, pharmaceutical, and premium sectors – confirms its **growth and transformation momentum** in 2025. Following its strategic plan ‘Towards New Summits’ launched last April, the company **reviews 2025 as a year marked by major achievements.**



### 1 - A strengthened partnership dynamic

#### Support from the shareholder Mutares and backing from the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region

Mutares has continued to provide **strategic and operational support** to La Rochette Cartonboard. Its backing has helped strengthen operational excellence, improve working conditions and the site environment, and enhance agility, versatility, and performance across all departments.

The **Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes** Region also supports the company.

#### New major qualified accounts

In line with its strategic plan, which aims to strengthen the company’s presence in its niche markets – pharmaceutical, premium, and food – while accelerating its expansion into new countries and with new customers, La Rochette Cartonboard reached a key milestone in November by **successfully completing a sector-specific audit and partnership visits for particularly demanding, multi-country customers.**

This achievement confirms the work carried out throughout the year to implement and consolidate the best practices required for regulated end markets. In a consolidating and competitive market, La Rochette Cartonboard positions itself as a **strategic industrial partner of choice.**

## 2. A confirmed trajectory toward achieving a new certification

The company is also embarking on **a new certification cycle, closely tied to its future development**, focusing on Good Manufacturing Practices for packaging in the pharmaceutical and food sectors, including ISO 22000 certification. La Rochette Cartonboard has already received **a favorable preliminary assessment following the ISO 22000 certification audit** conducted in early December 2025 and now eagerly awaits the final decision from the Commission, which will officially grant the certification.

## 3. Mobilising collective energies to strengthen agility and efficiency

This transformation program is built on cross-functional collaboration and team spirit, harnessing an unprecedented collective and cultural energy this year:

- Over **113 employees trained in Lean Management** as part of the continuous improvement program;
- **18 certified as “Yellow Belt Management”** and more than **30 currently undergoing** certification;
- **182 employees trained in Good Manufacturing Practices or HACCP**;
- **125 cross-departmental projects** rolled out, with over **51** initiated directly by employees;
- **4 collaborative working groups launched with clients or suppliers.**

This momentum will continue in 2026, aiming to involve 75% of employees in the improvement loop and achieve 40% of the improvement actions proposed by the teams.

In addition, the company strengthened its team with **the recruitment of 38 employees, despite a tight labor market.**

It is also continuing to **develop its employer brand** by joining the **Alp'paper collective**, a network of industrial partners who produce, transform, and innovate in the paper and cardboard sectors. The initiative aims to promote recruitment, training, and the recognition of paper and cardboard professions in the Auvergne Rhône-Alpes region, while sharing best practices on HR and beyond. This collective was initiated by AFIFOR (Association Filière Formation de l'Industrie Papier Carton).

In line with this approach, the HR team participated in **seven major events in 2025** to connect with the talents of tomorrow, promote its professions, and strengthen partnerships with France Travail, UIMM Savoie, and Industrie Papier Carton. The company also continues to open its doors to students and teachers from the region, with five visits organized this year and more planned for 2026.

For Béatrice Jacquet: “La Rochette Cartonboard is fully aligned with its three-year strategic plan ‘Towards New Summits’ — its trajectory and cascading objectives. Our teams and partners are committed to becoming a high-performing and sustainable partner for major European private accounts, offering an agile alternative amidst the consolidation of vertically integrated groups and providing a responsible, invested Made-in-France solution. What we launched in 2025 goes beyond an industrial plan: it is a collective strategic project focused on development, performance, engagement from all, and trust. Today, we stand at a crossroads. In 2026, there are still milestones to reach to fully mobilize our teams and stakeholders alongside us.”

### **About**

La Rochette Cartonboard SAS is an industrial producer of virgin fiber cardboard, serving French and international clients in the food, pharmaceutical and cosmetics sectors. Located in Valgelon-La-Rochette (Savoie) since 1873, the company employs 280 people.

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