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2018 was another successful year for GELITA. Despite challenging market conditions, we succeeded in expanding our business in line with our long-term commitment to sustainability.

In order to further strengthen our position as one of the world’s leading manufacturers of gelatine, collagen and collagen peptides, we invested heavily last year in modern technology, the maintenance of our production facilities, the expansion of our capacities, and the quality of our products. Our GO-BEST improvement program also helps us to improve in what we do every day. We are proud of our innovative products – the result of our culture of innovation. They increase the enjoyment of food, demonstrably promote health and the quality of life, and play an important role in the manufacture of pharmaceutical products. GELITA innovations received a number of awards in 2018. This validates our work and strengthens our mission: “Improving quality of life”.

We consider our mission – just like our more than 140-year tradition – to be an obligation: As a responsible company, it is our duty to assess the impact of our activities on the environment, employees, customers and suppliers, and to minimize negative consequences. In order to document our activities, we are publishing our fourth Sustainability Report. It provides information on the progress made in 2018, on projects to improve our environmental record, on safety measures for our employees, and on initiatives that benefit people in our surrounding communities.

GELITA is active in more than 20 locations worldwide. Large sections of our plant in New Zealand were destroyed in a fire on January 4, 2018. Since then, production has continued on a smaller scale. We are currently looking into the future of the facility closely. Customer requirements are being met by other GELITA plants.

Our strategic goal is the sustained and profitable growth of our global market share. We see sustainable solutions as a competitive advantage. Our objective is therefore to also consolidate our leading position in the industry when it comes to sustainability.

Dr. Franz Josef Konert  
CEO GELITA AG
Structuring production sustainably

What defines a good product? On the one hand, its high quality, but on the other, the corporate responsibility behind it. Our goal is to produce as environmentally friendly and as safely as possible worldwide. In doing so, we aim to surpass the legal requirements that apply in the respective regions.

**Reducing energy consumption – our vision**

We consider reducing energy consumption and thus improving our CO₂ balance to be at the core of our sustainability vision and as one of our most urgent priorities. In the short to medium term, investments in state-of-the-art technical infrastructure and continuous improvements will help us to exploit energy-saving potential and gradually reduce our consumption. To achieve significant improvements in our energy requirements and CO₂ emissions, we are focusing in the long term on innovative production processes and new manufacturing technology. The perspective of our sustainability vision is to shift the remaining energy requirements to the use of renewable energy sources.

We are currently conducting a large number of individual projects to reduce our ecological footprint. For example, GELITA has begun with the installation of modern spray towers in its own plants. In the past, spray drying – a process step in the production of collagen peptides – was often outsourced to suppliers using conventional technology. The relocation enables us to achieve energy savings of up to 10% while reducing the environmental impact of transport. GELITA operates spray towers in Brazil, China, Germany and the USA. Further plants are planned.

**Successfully certified**

We have made significant progress on the road to environmentally friendly production. One goal to be achieved by the end of 2020 is environmental certification in accordance with ISO 14001 (environmental management) for all sites. Last year, three further plants were certified, making us confident that we will reach our target. In addition, an energy management system complying with ISO 50001 has been introduced at all German locations. Furthermore, all our...
production facilities are certified according to ISO 9001 (quality management) and FSSC 22000 (food safety). Our plant in Memmingen has GMP+ certification (product safety for animal feed).

Exploiting digitization
Digitization also influences sustainability at GELITA. Particularly in the area of operations, we see promising opportunities to reduce the consumption of resources. In addition, digital technology helps us improve our employees’ working environments and address the challenges posed by demographic change.

Responsible employer
Our employees are a key factor in GELITA’s success. They integrate sustainability into their work processes and contribute new ideas, thus providing important inspiration. Our responsibility is to provide all the necessary foundations and optimal framework conditions for the safety, health and satisfaction of our employees worldwide. We do this through ongoing further development in areas such as work safety and health protection, training and further education, and a motivating workplace environment.

As a global player, we work together with people from a variety of cultures. Empathy and trust are therefore among our most important values. GELITA is committed to the standards of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) Base Codes. All our sites are also registered with the SEDEX (Supplier Ethical Data Exchange) collaboration platform. We place high demands on our suppliers and sales partners. Since 2018, our minimum requirements have been summarized in a Code of Conduct. The corresponding rules of conduct for all employees were drawn up last year and have been in place since the start of 2019.

Commitment to greater animal welfare
GELITA is committed to a more sustainable meat industry; since 2018 we have been supporting the “Tierwohl” animal welfare initiative as a sponsor. GELITA is also a member of the Chemie³ sustainability initiative.

Companies that act responsibly, thus making a positive contribution to improving people’s quality of life today and securing opportunities for future generations, will also be more successful in the long term. We are firm believers in this. Accordingly, sustainability is firmly anchored in our strategy.
GELITA has its roots and headquarters in Germany, but is active as a global company on every continent except Antarctica. With our more than 20 production sites and sales offices, we are represented in the world’s most important markets.

**GLOBAL PRESENCE**

**Our locations**

**USA**
- Chicago, Illinois
  - Pig skin
- Sioux City, Iowa
  - Pig skin
  - Beef bone
  - Beef hide

**SWEDEN**
- Stidsvig
  - Pig skin

**MEXICO**
- Leon
  - Beef hide
- Toluca
  - Beef hide

**BRAZIL**
- Mococa
  - Beef hide
- Maringá
  - Beef hide
- Cotia
  - Milling / blending

**FRANCE**
- Aix-en-Provence
  - Sales office

**GREAT BRITAIN**
- Holmes Chapel
  - Sales office

**THE NETHERLANDS**
- Ter Apelkanaal (two plants)*
- Functional proteins
  - Pig skin

**THAILAND**
- Bangkok
  - Sales office

**CHINA**
- Shanghai
  - Sales office
  - Liaoyuan
  - Bone
- Pingyang
  - Pig skin
  - Beef hide

**GERMANY**
- Eberbach
  - Beef bone
  - Beef hide
- Göppingen
  - Pig skin
- Memmingen
  - Bone preparation
- Minden
  - Pig skin
- Sinsheim
  - Central storage facility

**SOUTH AFRICA**
- West Krugersdorp
  - Beef hide

**AUSTRALIA**
- Beaudesert
  - Beef hide

**NEW ZEALAND**
- Christchurch
  - Beef hide

* JV minority share, ** JV majority share
GELITA has been a supporting member of the animal welfare initiative “Tierwohl” since August 2018. Why do you support the campaign?

As processors of animal by-products for the production of collagen proteins such as gelatine, collagen peptides and collagen, animal welfare plays an important role. Although the public debate largely concerns itself with the production of meat, by-products cannot be ignored. Responsible and fair animal husbandry is an essential building block for the general acceptance of animal products. We are convinced that the “Tierwohl” initiative is taking the right approach. It includes the entire value chain – agriculture, meat industry and trade – and thus approaches the topic in a target-oriented and broad-based way. It is important for us to actively support measures for animal welfare. Even though we as gelatine producers cannot directly influence the conditions in which animals are kept, the initiative offers the right platform with the possibility of a sponsoring membership.

Have there been any reactions to your commitment?

The discussion on the conditions under which animals are kept does not end at the slaughter-house. As processors of food of animal origin, we too are increasingly being asked to explain the measures we are implementing to improve animal welfare. Our decision to support the “Tierwohl” initiative was therefore positively received by our business partners.

As a processor of animal products, sustainability in the value chain is particularly important for GELITA. Could you tell us why?

On account of our ethical and social responsibility, we ensure that as much as possible of the animals’ components that are fit for human consumption are used sensibly when they are slaughtered for nutritional purposes.
By processing raw materials suitable for human consumption into high-quality, natural foods, GELITA makes a significant contribution to sustainability in the value chain.

Do you also source your raw materials from companies participating in the "Tierwohl" initiative?
Yes, we are already sourcing raw materials from companies that are also involved in the initiative.

GELITA is also active in the field of animal welfare at a European level. What does your concrete involvement consist of?
We are a member of the European Gelatine Association GME, which represents about 98% of the European and roughly one third of global gelatine production. It was and is correspondingly important that animal welfare be included on the association’s agenda. In 2018, a working group was established, and GELITA took over the chairmanship. On the basis of the legal requirements, we first drafted guidelines on how gelatine manufacturers can implement measures to promote animal welfare in their companies. In addition, at the association level we pursue the goal of promoting dialog throughout the entire value chain in order to promote common understanding and action.

More and more people are opting for a vegan-vegetarian lifestyle. As a result, gelatine in food has come under fire. How is GELITA reacting to this trend?
Despite the current trend, we are firmly convinced that our products will continue to be in demand in years to come. The basic precondition for this, however, is that there will continue to be a social consensus in the future that farm animals are raised under favorable, species-appropriate conditions for food production. And it is precisely for this reason that we are actively involved in promoting animal welfare.
People’s life expectancy is increasing and so is their desire to grow old healthily and remain fit for a long time. The megatrends of demographic change and health are affecting all levels of society. They are important growth drivers for GELITA and inspire numerous product innovations. GELITA also participates in the “active nutrition” trend, which aims to transfer the principles of sports nutrition to consumers.

**Collagen peptides promote the quality of life**
Collagen peptides in nutritional supplements, foods and beverages increase the performance of muscles, tendons, ligaments, joints and bones. As such, they support an active lifestyle and contribute to the quality of life. The collagen peptide market is growing throughout the world. GELITA has successfully specialized in this growth market and developed numerous specific collagen peptides.

FORTIBONE® is one of them. It promotes healthy bones, increases bone density, and slows down bone loss. The potential of FORTIBONE® has also been demonstrated in a clinical trial. According to the study, GELITA’s bioactive collagen peptide offers an interesting opportunity to counteract osteoporosis or osteopenia, the early phase of osteoporosis, and at the same time to counteract a globally increasing health problem.

**International awards**
The success of our work and GELITA’s innovative strength have also been confirmed by international awards. FORTIBONE® received no fewer than three awards in 2018, including the Fi South America Innovation Award in the category “Most Innovative Functional Ingredient”.

Another successful GELITA product was equally worthy of an award: The cleaning additive NOVOTEC® CB 800 received the Gold German Innovation Award. “A revolutionary innovation that sets new standards in the field of cleaning,” was the jury’s verdict.
Gelatine, collagen and collagen peptides are natural products. In order to produce our natural, high-quality products, we need healthy animals, clean air, clear water and unpolluted flora. GELITA produces new products from by-products of the meat industry, which are in turn further processed by our customers. Our modern manufacturing processes make it possible to almost entirely recycle the raw materials used. In the interests of sustainable recycling management, we are constantly on the lookout for new applications for our by-products. The minerals produced in gelatine production, for example, serve as phosphate suppliers for fertilizers. These can then be used to grow animal feed.
GELITA’s wastewater treatment plant in Eberbach has a capacity equivalent to that of a town with 100,000 inhabitants. The energy required for its operation and the effect of cost-cutting measures are correspondingly high. Since 2008, GELITA has progressively optimized the plant for more efficient and effective wastewater treatment.

**More oxygen for microorganisms**
The greatest amount of energy in the wastewater treatment plant is used for aeration during nitrification – the bacterial oxidation of ammonia to nitrate – and thus for the generation of compressed air. For this reason, GELITA completely converted the aeration system in several phases from 2013 to 2018. Instead of feeding the nitrification reactors with large air bubbles, the microorganisms are now treated with small air bubbles. The advantage: The compressors require less energy and the air volume deployed is used more effectively by the microorganisms.

**A silicone membrane makes the difference**
The most important technical innovation consists of aeration discs at the bottom of the reactors that are equipped with a finely slotted silicone membrane through which the small bubbles exit. The membranes are easy to clean; the two-yearly inspection is significantly faster. In the course of the project, the compressors were also replaced. The new nitrification stage requires more than 30% less compressed air and consumes over 70% less energy.
NEW TANK IN MEMMINGEN

Harmonious wastewater treatment

At the GELITA plant in Memmingen, the company has adapted the wastewater feed to the municipal water treatment system. The aim of the project is to balance the wastewater discharge to the local treatment plant, i.e. to harmonize the supply over all weekdays. For the municipal plant, the output quantity is small, but the pollution load is disproportionately high on account of the processes. In particular, with regard to BOD5 (biochemical oxygen demand within five days), phosphorus, and chloride.

Compensation at weekends
In order to be able to buffer partial volumes and relieve the strain on the municipal water treatment plant, GELITA has built a wastewater holding tank in Memmingen with a capacity of approximately five hundred cubic meters, including a piping system and automatic operation. The Memmingen plant can now retain wastewater from Monday to Friday and release it over the weekend break in production. In so doing, GELITA has shifted the inflow of polluting load to the sewage treatment plant from periods when many companies are delivering such loads to periods when the load is low.

Both sides benefit
The harmonized wastewater feed creates a win-win situation: it enables the municipality to operate the treatment plant more effectively, while the harmonized discharge fulfills the prerequisite for significantly reducing the wastewater treatment charges for the GELITA facility.
WASTE MANAGEMENT

Using all raw materials and process aids as completely as possible avoids waste and conserves resources. Between 2016 and 2018, it was possible to continue the positive development of recent years and reduce the volume of waste in relation to production by more than 10%.

CHANGE OF FILTER TECHNOLOGY

Double bag reduces waste

At GELITA’s Chicago site, a pad filter was previously used as a safety filter at the end of the production process. Its task was to remove small impurities from the product after the evaporator before it was passed on during the production process to the pasteurizer or separator. Pad filters are disposed of after a single use and can no longer be used. This results in considerable amounts of waste.

Study result

The employees responsible at the Chicago site performed a study and found that it would make economic and ecologic sense to replace the pad filter with a double bag filter system.

Less waste, less water consumption

This change reduces the total waste generated in the plant and also reduces water consumption. In numbers: The replacement of the filter system saves the annual consumption of more than 10,000 pad filters. At the same time, only 180 additional filters per year are required for the double bag system. In total, GELITA’s Chicago plant reduces the amount of waste by 8 tons per year and water consumption for the filter system by 2%.

WASTE (kg per tons produced)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waste</td>
<td>17.80</td>
<td>17.70</td>
<td>15.90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| |</p>
<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Filter change to double bag system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 tons less waste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced water consumption</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE OF VOLUNTEERS

New initiatives on track to success

In 2018, an environmental committee was formed at GELITA in Sioux City by volunteers from different departments. Their mission: to motivate and train employees to work together to reduce the ecological footprint of production and administration. Their activities therefore focus on environmental education and waste prevention.

**Paper and glass**

The first two projects of the committee focus on paper usage in offices and glass recycling. By raising employee awareness, paper consumption is to be reduced by 10% by the end of 2019. The committee is also working on the implementation of a recycling program for glass waste in the quality assurance and development laboratories. The aim is to recycle 150 to 600 kilograms of glass annually.

**Switching off and bypassing**

In addition to the activities of the Environmental Committee, a project in the new collagen production facility has advanced the site's energy efficiency. The team responsible identified all the equipment that could be temporarily dispensed with during production and, by switching it off, reduced energy consumption in this production phase by 65% and the total consumption of the plant by 7%. Furthermore, in another project, a team experimented with optimizing pumping processes in pipeline systems in the liming process. The result: the quality of the products is consistently high despite the optimization; the omission of the step saves a good 40 million liters of water per year.

**CO₂ EMISSIONS**

The increase in the carbon dioxide (CO₂) content of the Earth's atmosphere is the main cause of climate change. The temperature rise caused by the greenhouse effect endangers the livelihood of everyone on earth. GELITA aims to use fewer and fewer fossil fuels and has reduced CO₂ emissions per ton of product by almost 15% between 2016 and 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CO₂ EMISSIONS (kg per t product)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>709.67  646.85  605.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016  2017  2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

-14.69 %
GELITA is continuing its path towards low-emission production. Between 2016 and 2018, for example, the company was able to reduce carbon monoxide (CO) emissions per ton of product by more than 14%, and nitrogen oxides (NOx) by more than 10%.

### CHINESE SITES REDUCE EMISSIONS

#### Smart energy recycling

At the Pingyang site in China, GELITA operates a chamber filter for the manufacture of by-products. Because pressing the filter cake requires temperatures of almost 100 °C, the source material needs to be at this temperature. The liquid phase therefore leaves the chamber filter at approximately 90 °C. The hot liquid is not favorable for wastewater treatment.

**Heat exchangers on the chamber filter**

The efficiency project initiated in Pingyang uses heat exchangers to recycle the energy in the hot liquid after the chamber filter. As a result, hot water is once again made available for the extraction production step. In addition, the wastewater temperature drops by almost 50 °C. The new solution saves 4.7 megawatt hours of energy every production day and eliminates the emissions resulting from its generation. In total, the new process achieves annual energy savings of around 1,540 megawatt hours – roughly as much as required by 4,000 average German households per year.

**Optimum air circulation**

In Liaoyuan, GELITA modernized the dicalcium phosphate (DCP) drying plant and increased capacity. The team has installed a recycling unit that recirculates the exhaust air into the supply air inlet. This project reduces coal consumption and CO2 emissions by approximately 30%.

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**Air Emissions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO (kg per ton product)</td>
<td>0.48</td>
<td>0.43</td>
<td>0.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOx (kg per ton product)</td>
<td>0.937</td>
<td>0.848</td>
<td>0.839</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<td>0.937</td>
<td>0.848</td>
<td>0.839</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Substantial energy recovery
- Reduced strain on wastewater treatment
- Decrease in CO2 emissions
Environmental performance

The environmental performance indicators collected for 2018 take all the plants and total production volumes into account. We work continuously to improve the quality of our environmental performance data across the company. In isolated cases, this may require retrospective adjustments. In 2018, for example, we modified the basis for calculating emission values – with the exception of CO₂ – and subsequently recalculated the values for previous years on the same basis.

New technologies improve life cycle assessment

In 2018 we once again succeeded in increasing our production volume. At the same time, we further reduced our energy consumption, thus also improving our CO₂ balance. In addition, we were able to significantly reduce water consumption and the volume of wastewater and waste as well as other emissions in relation to the production volume. Investments in new technologies continue to help us improve our ecological performance. Together with the company-wide increase in sustainability awareness, our culture of innovation and in an intensive dialogue with our stakeholders, we will succeed in continuing to drive the process forward.

### Key Performance Indicator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Performance Indicator</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2018 vs. 2016 in %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Energy input (MWh/t product)</td>
<td>4.93</td>
<td>4.37</td>
<td>4.24</td>
<td>-14.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh water input (l/kg product)</td>
<td>56.14</td>
<td>54.61</td>
<td>53.37</td>
<td>-4.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wastewater (l/kg product)</td>
<td>51.84</td>
<td>50.12</td>
<td>49.33</td>
<td>-8.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water balance (l/t product)</td>
<td>4.30</td>
<td>4.49</td>
<td>4.04</td>
<td>-5.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste for disposal (kg/t product)</td>
<td>17.80</td>
<td>17.70</td>
<td>15.90</td>
<td>-10.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous waste (kg/t product)**</td>
<td>0.39</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>0.26</td>
<td>-33.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air emissions (kg/t product)***</td>
<td>709.67</td>
<td>646.85</td>
<td>605.40</td>
<td>-14.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO₂</td>
<td>0.95</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>1.04</td>
<td>9.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO₂</td>
<td>0.937</td>
<td>0.848</td>
<td>0.839</td>
<td>-10.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOₓ</td>
<td>0.48</td>
<td>0.43</td>
<td>0.41</td>
<td>-14.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO</td>
<td>0.031</td>
<td>0.029</td>
<td>0.029</td>
<td>-6.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH₄</td>
<td>0.0104</td>
<td>0.0078</td>
<td>0.0065</td>
<td>-37.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N₂O</td>
<td>0.0104</td>
<td>0.0078</td>
<td>0.0065</td>
<td>-37.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total production (t)****</td>
<td>273,440</td>
<td>335,880</td>
<td>345,685</td>
<td>26.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This value does not include rainwater.
** Several projects and 5S activities in the plants led to slightly higher hazardous waste compared to the prior year.
*** The emission values are based on the GRI scope 1 standard. The values stated do not include emissions generated by biogenic energy sources (e.g. biogas, wood). The values for SO₂, NOₓ, CO, CH₄, and N₂O were calculated using emission factors of the German Federal Environment Agency, in particular the ProBas database. As a result of the conversion of the Pingyang plant’s energy supply from gas to coal, the SO₂ value has increased.
**** In 2016 and 2017 not all plants have been reported.
GLOBAL HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

Improving a little every day

The goals of GELITA’s Health and Safety Policy, which we introduced at the end of 2017, are to implement all the necessary measures for a safe working environment, and to observe the legal requirements at the sites as minimum standards. In the meantime, several other measures have been introduced. The improvements are tangible on a daily basis.

Starting the day safely

In the production area, every working day kicks off with a shop floor meeting. This is mandatory for all locations. Work safety is a top priority at these meetings. GELITA has introduced a comprehensive safety reporting system that is available to all employees. In addition, a safety alert system ensures that all plants are informed of any accidents within 24 hours so that the entire plant workforce can focus on current hazards.

An orderly working environment also provides safety. GELITA employs the 5S method. The result: safe and waste-free working. In Europe, GELITA has begun analyzing and improving transport routes in production and on the factory premises. Worldwide, a color coding standard ensures that potential hazards and safety equipment are uniformly visually represented. This popular initiative enables employees to orient themselves wherever they are. GELITA encourages employees to question their own behavior and how it impacts their personal safety. Managers serve as role models in this respect – each and every day.

La razón más grande de tener seguridad en el trabajo, puede ser la más pequeña.

Te estamos esperando.

EMPLOYEES

Work safety and the health of all employees are top priorities for GELITA. The introduction and consolidation of measures to further reduce the number and, particularly, the severity of work-related accidents therefore remains an ongoing process.

INJURY RATE (work-related accidents per million working hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9.99</td>
<td>11.43</td>
<td>8.94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SEVERITY RATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21.35</td>
<td>13.78</td>
<td>20.47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 10.50 %
- 4.12 %
In 2018, GELITA had an average of 2,492 employees worldwide. As of December 31, 2018, there were 2,586 employees.*

This represents a slight increase over the previous year, which was mainly due to an increase in the number of employees in administration, hydrolysate production at the new plant in the USA, and the expansion of production in the Netherlands. It was offset by staff reductions at the plant in New Zealand (see also page 3).

* The average headcount represents the average number of employees (excluding trainees) in the period from 1 January to 31 December 2018. The reporting date headcount states the number of employees on 31 December 2018.

** In 2016 China was not included.
Social commitment is an essential part of GELITA’s sustainability activities. As a good corporate citizen, we assume responsibility wherever we operate. We are particularly committed to young people. It is important to us to promote education and thus equal opportunities, especially for socially disadvantaged children and young adults. GELITA is furthermore active as a sponsor in recreational and professional sports. Here, too, the focus is on the younger generation. We demonstrated our commitment in 2018 in more than 100 projects and initiatives that GELITA supported throughout the world – financially or with the active help of our employees. Long-term commitment is important to us in this respect: we have been supporting numerous projects for several years already.

Education as an opportunity
In the Brazilian city of Mococa, two institutions provide education and healthy nutrition for children and young people from socially disadvantaged families. Among other things, the Projeto Artesanato offers leisure activities with sports, dance and music, but also courses for future farmers and mechanics. The Projeto Ana Lúcia promotes the development of elementary school children, for example through sporting and artistic activities. GELITA supported both charitable institutions with donations.
Learning languages during holidays
The charitable Harald Stoess Memorial Foundation was founded in 2002 by Gerda Koepff, née Stoess, wife of GELITA company founder Heinrich Koepff. Its activities include promoting the education of intellectually, technically, musically or artistically gifted children, adolescents and young adults. Among other things, scholarships have made it possible for students from Eberbach to travel to Brighton (England) during the summer holidays to learn English.

Endurance race with sightseeing factor
One of the toughest trail runs in Germany is not held in mountainous regions, but instead passes through idyllic Heidelberg and its surroundings: the GELITA Trail Marathon. In 2018, the starting signal was fired for the sixth round of the extraordinary endurance race with a sightseeing factor. On uneven tracks, the athletes have to overcome some 1,500 vertical meters and three peaks over a total distance of 42 kilometers.

A platform for young football talents
Spectators at the GELITA U12 Cup in Eberbach were treated to top-class junior football. German Bundesliga youth teams also compete in the tournament. The GELITA U12 Cup is considered to be one of the most star-studded football youth tournaments in Germany, and offers spectators the chance to see the national players of tomorrow today.

All-round success
People who are severely restricted in their mobility have a lot of fun with indoor boccia. With the help of GELITA in Christchurch, the local boccia team for people with disabilities was able to develop as a team and participate in competitions.
Better equipment for schools
GELITA has been supporting Eberbach schools for many years with material and financial donations. In 2018, the funds were used for new software licenses and the purchase of ski equipment.

Green island in the city
A natural boundary between the Brazilian city of Mococa and the industrial zone, and a leisure and recreation area - that best describes the “Bosque Engenheiro João Trombinii” today. At its inception, GELITA provided tree seedlings for reforestation and has since taken joint responsibility for the upkeep and maintenance of the more than 44,000 square meter site.

Boosting self-esteem
Australian football is one of the most popular sports “down under”. The male-dominated national sport is becoming increasingly popular with women. With the help of GELITA’s sponsorship, the U15 girls’ team of the Jimboomba Redbacks Australian Football League will be able to participate in regional and national competitions. The positive side effect: success in sports also increases the girls’ self-esteem.

Education for victims of abuse
Girls who are victims of abuse and violence receive help in the Hogares Providencia in Toluca, Mexico. The non-profit organization provides education for the girls so that they can have an independent future. Together with other companies, GELITA helped with material and financial donations and organized a small celebration for the girls.