we are FCC

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125 years of FCC
in a unique exhibition

we are FCC



FCC opens an exhibition commemorating its 125-year history



Esther Alcocer Koplowitz awarded the 2025 Eduardo Barrachina Gold Prize



Aqualia renews its contract to manage the Abu Rawash wastewater treatment plant in Egypt for four years



FCC renews its commitment to the ONCE Foundation and will reach 1,200 contracts for people with disabilities



We announce the winners of "Do you watch or Take part?", the FCC Group's Instagram photography competition



FCC Znojmo (Czech Republic) celebrates 30 years of service and innovation



FCC Construcción completes the longest bridge in Chile

- Group
- Business
- People
- Diversity
- Sustainability
- Wellness
- Place
- Communities
- Innovation

125 years

FCC inaugurates an exhibition **commemorating its 125 years**

On 29 September, the chairwoman of the FCC Group, Esther Alcocer Koplowitz, and the company's CEO, Pablo Colio Abril, inaugurated an exhibition commemorating the company's 125-year history, bringing together for the first time in a single display its most notable milestones, achievements and the impact it has had over more than a century of activity.

Message from the chairwoman of the FCC Group

The chairwoman addressed those in attendance, highlighting the significance of this anniversary and what it means for the institution: "Today we proudly celebrate 125 years of history of the FCC Group, which since 1900 has been present in the life of cities and caring for the well-being of people. With more than 71,000 employees in over 25 countries, our talent is our greatest asset and reflects a legacy of more than a century of innovation and social commitment. We celebrate this anniversary with pride in being part of a unique history. Personally, I am very proud that my grandfather, Ernesto Koplowitz, founded Construcciones y Contratas, and later my mother promoted the company on which FCC is based today, under the leadership of Carlos Slim. This legacy fills us with pride and drives us forward with the certainty that we have a bright future ahead of us."



Opening ceremony of the FCC exhibition marking its 125-year history.



The exhibition brings together a careful selection of historical documents, photographs, emblematic objects and material resources such as vehicles, lorries, etc., which reflect the company's evolution

360º VIRTUAL TOUR

Since its foundation in 1900, FCC has successfully adapted to change, expanded internationally and established itself as a leader in environmental services, water management, construction and concession project development, with a firm commitment to innovation and sustainability.

The exhibition brings together a careful selection of historical documents, unpublished photographs, emblematic objects and material resources such as vehicles, lorries, etc., which reflect FCC's evolution and commitment to society since its foundation in 1900. Through a tour of five rooms, visitors have been able to learn about the most notable milestones, as well as the challenges and transformations experienced during these 125 years.

Visitors can see how, at the beginning of the last century, the company contributed to the construction of cities and played a very important role in making them more liveable thanks to its promotion of waste management and urban sanitation; and how, in the mid-20th century, the FCC Group understood the importance of transport and communications and participated in the construction of kilometres of motorways, railway lines and underground lines, while also becoming involved in the management and cleaning of parks and gardens.

In the exhibition, as you move through the rooms dedicated to the 1970s, you can see how the company began to execute large international projects, marking the beginning of a period of expansion and international projection. At this point in the tour, it also reveals how FCC was able to anticipate one of the great challenges of the future: the management of water as an essential resource. With strategic vision, it committed to efficient management of the entire water cycle, incorporating advanced technologies and innovative practices that guaranteed a sustainable supply to millions of homes.











Through a tour of five rooms, visitors were able to learn about the most significant milestones, as well as the challenges and transformations experienced over the last 125 years

In addition, FCC has been involved in major events such as the Seville Universal Exposition, which has left an indelible mark on many generations, where it built bridges that are now architectural icons and some of the most emblematic pavilions of the exhibition. But its commitment to progress did not stop there. It embarked on the adventure of building high-speed rail, a technological milestone that revolutionised the way we travel in our country and restored the prominence of the railway, consolidating it as a fast, efficient and sustainable mobility option. These milestones, which reflect its capacity for innovation and its commitment to development and social welfare, form part of its history and inspire it to look to the future with optimism and determination.

As you move through the rooms, you can see that, with the start of the new millennium, FCC continued to make a firm commitment to the environment with large and innovative projects in waste management and recycling, water and construction, in which society played a crucial role by adopting new habits in favour of sustainability and protecting the planet.

In the second decade of the 21st century, the rise of new technologies profoundly transformed the way we live, communicate and work. In this context, FCC's engineers and teams continued to focus on innovation, driving technological advances in all areas of the FCC Group's business and promoting their application, with the aim of maintaining the company's position as a benchmark in all its sectors over time.

This exhibition shows that FCC is facing the coming years with reasonable optimism, confident that it has a sufficiently solid foundation on which to build a business future in line with its brilliant track record.

The history of the FCC Group is one of constant adaptation and innovation. The company has been able to evolve to respond to the needs of society, and this anniversary encourages it to continue working with the same passion and commitment that has characterised the Group from day one and to continue to be a driving force for progress for present and future generations.

The history of the FCC Group is a story of constant adaptation and innovation















Nuestra historia en imágenes
Our history in pictures

1900 2025

We shape the world around us

125 years creating sustainable sets where life happens.

We are the



rhythm of the routine

125 years 2025



Esther Alcocer Koplowitz, chairwoman of the FCC Group, receiving the 2025 Eduardo Barrachina Gold Award.

Mrs. Esther Alcocer Koplowitz, presented with the **Eduardo Barrachina Golden Award 2025**

The award recognises the outstanding achievements of a Spanish company operating in the British market.

The Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK has presented its Eduardo Barrachina Golden Award 2025 to FCC, a world-leading construction company. The award was received by Mrs. Esther Alcocer Koplowitz, President of FCC Group, during a reception held at the Residence of the Spanish Ambassador in London.

FCC, ranked as Spain's fourth-largest construction firm and among the top 27 worldwide, is renowned for its expertise in transport infrastructure projects as well as residential and non-residential construction.

Operating in the United Kingdom for over 25 years, FCC has established itself as one of the country's leading construction companies. Its portfolio includes major projects such as the N6 and M50 motorways in Ireland, Grangegorman University in Dublin, the Mersey Bridge in Liverpool and the extension of the North Runway at Dublin Airport. FCC also played a key role in developing infrastructure for the London 2012 Olympic Games, specifically the International Broadcast Centre (IBC).

Formerly known as the Annual Golden Award, the Eduardo Barrachina Golden Award was recently renamed to honour the Chamber's late President, Mr. Eduardo Barrachina, who was renowned for his commitment to excellence and his pivotal role in fostering Spanish-British business relations. The accolade remains one of the Chamber's flagship corporate events, recognising the outstanding achievements of a Spanish company operating in the UK market, with previous winners including Indra (2024), RIU Hotels (2023) and Navantia (2022).

H.E. the Ambassador of Spain to the United Kingdom, Mr. José Pascual Marco, hosted the event at his residence in London and gave the institutional welcome, before congratulating FCC on its achievement.

Guests were then welcomed on behalf of the Spanish Chamber by Mr. Juan Carlos Machuca, who was elected President of the institution in July 2025, following the passing of Mr. Eduardo Barrachina. Mr. Machuca emphasised the importance of the award and FCC's commitment to the UK market, stating: "This event is one of the Chamber's most emblematic annual occasions, where we recognise the excellence, resilience and innovation of a Spanish company operating in the UK market. It is a tribute not only to business success, but to the enduring partnership between Spain and the United Kingdom – a relationship the Chamber has been promoting for nearly 140 years."

He added: "Our member companies continue to lead, grow and inspire, and the Chamber is proud to stand alongside them. FCC is a perfect example of this spirit – delivering complex infrastructure, pioneering environmental solutions and creating real social value in the UK," he continued, "These are values worth recognising. FCC is not only a business success story – it is a vital contributor to the sustainability and wellbeing of this country."

Mr. Machuca then invited Mrs. Esther Alcocer Koplowitz to collect the award. A distinguished leader in the international business community, Mrs. Alcocer Koplowitz's attendance highlighted the prestige of the award and FCC Group's significant role in the UK market. Upon receiving it, Mrs. Alcocer Koplowitz stated:

"Since the year 1900, we have participated in the development of some of the most important infrastructure projects on the planet, with the aim of improving the quality of life of the local communities in which we operate. Our leadership is measured not only by the number and scale of the projects we carry out, but also by the impact we generate on society, the environment, and the economy"

"The essence of the company has always been its employees. Passion, tenacity, and resilience are the values that best define us. These are the values I learned from my mother, Esther Koplowitz, who sustained this company through challenging times. Our teams are, without a doubt, FCC's greatest asset and the reason for our achievements. With our determination to do things well and the strength we possess as a group, based on the leadership that Carlos Slim provides, we will continue to move forward together, generating value for everyone, and especially for the people in the UK"

About the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK

The Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom is a key organisation promoting economic and trade relations between Spain and the UK. Founded in 1886, it provides Spanish and British companies with opportunities for networking, business promotion, training, advice and collaborative projects. The Chambers of Commerce of Spain abroad serve as consultative and collaborative bodies of the Spanish Administration.



Esther Alcocer Koplowitz, Chairwoman of the Board of Directors of FCC, receives the 'Professional Career' Award from Íñigo Fernández de Mesa, Vice-President of the CEOE and President of the Institute of Economic Studies; Germán Pastor, Managing Director of Ejecutivos; and Didier Lagae, Executive Chairman and Founder of MARCO and President of Ejecutivos.

Esther Alcocer Koplowitz, **honoured by Ejecutivos magazine** in recognition of her professional career

The chairwoman of the FCC Group, Esther Alcocer Koplowitz, has been honoured by Ejecutivos magazine with the 'Professional Career' Award, which recognises not only her role as chairwoman of the company, but also her ability to lead with vision, integrity, commitment and responsibility. The award was presented by Iñigo Fernández de Mesa, vice-president of the CEOE and president of the Institute of Economic Studies, during a ceremony held in Madrid on 18 September, which, as in previous years, was attended by prominent figures from the business, political and social worlds.

During the ceremony, Esther Alcocer gave an emotional speech thanking Ejecutivos magazine, her family, with a special mention to her mother Esther Koplowitz, a role model in her life and professional career, Carlos Slim and all the employees of the FCC Group who, with their effort, passion and commitment, have made it possible for FCC to be an international benchmark in services to citizens with more than 125 years of history.

Once again, Ejecutivos magazine recognises the good business practices carried out by executives, leaders, companies, corporations and associations throughout the year with these awards.

Esther Alcocer Koplowitz's commitment to excellence and business progress has been recognised by various institutions. In the last year, she has received the Henneo Group's Business Leader of the Year award and the AMMDE Construction and Architecture Award as a leading woman in the sector. For its part, the Spanish Federation of Female Managers, Executives, Professionals and Entrepreneurs (FEDEPE) recognised her career in 2024 for her decisive contribution to the transformation of FCC, her promotion of sustainability, her defence of equal opportunities and her modern vision of business management. She has become an inspiration for new generations of women who aspire to lead global companies with determination.



Group photo of the winners at the 34th edition of the Ejecutivos Awards.

FCC participates in **Downing Street in a multilateral meeting** with Spanish companies

FCC participated in Downing Street in the Spain-United Kingdom multilateral meeting. The CEO of the FCC Group, Pablo Colio, took part in a business round table in London with the Spanish and UK Ministers of Economy and a small group of Spanish and British companies. A debate was held to analyse opportunities for expanding bilateral trade and investment between the UK and Spain, and how we can take advantage of the agreement between the EU and the UK to deepen commercial collaboration between the two countries.

The meeting, held at Downing Street, the official residence of British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, was chaired by British Minister for the Economy Rachel Reeves and Spanish Minister for Economy, Trade and Business Carlos Cuerpo. The event was then closed by Starmer and Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez.







Technological innovation is also a key pillar of the new contract

FCC Medio Ambiente **launches new street cleaning service** in **Pamplona**

FCC Medio Ambiente has begun providing the new street cleaning service for the city of Pamplona, which the company has been providing continuously since 1989. The new contract is worth €108 million over the next eight years and will involve more than 160 people and a wide range of newly acquired vehicles and machines of different types, with the aim of providing a service that is specially adapted to the city.

In line with the commitment of the city council and FCC Medio Ambiente to sustainability and the fight against climate change, the incorporation of electric equipment such as tricycles, auxiliary vehicles with pressure washers and flushing vehicles is particularly noteworthy. Technological innovation is also a key pillar of the new contract, with the centralisation of the comprehensive management of services on the VISION digital platform, developed exclusively by FCC Medio Ambiente, which enables real-time interaction with incidents, requests from residents and the municipal team.

Keys to a more efficient service

One of the key objectives in the design of the service has been to reduce unproductive time in tasks, focusing on travel, waste disposal and machine cleaning. Among the most significant measures are: the provision of assisted carts and tricycles for some manual sweeping routes which, being self-propelled, facilitate travel, especially on routes with steep slopes; the incorporation of a park officer whose duties include the daily cleaning of sweepers, thus increasing the productive working time of the team on the street; and the introduction of new auxiliary facilities strategically located to house vehicles, machinery and changing rooms.

On the other hand, new services are proposed, such as washing with an auxiliary vehicle or equipment with a hydrocleaner van and scrubbing dome to support the scrubber-scraper. In addition, the mixed washing service increases significantly compared to the previous contract. The variable service, considered as a reinforcement in the months of September to January and April to June, will be greatly increased, especially in mechanical sweeping tasks during the leaf season and the removal of weeds and pollen in spring. This variable makes the service better adapted to the seasonal cleaning needs of the city.

In terms of social sustainability, in terms of equality and integration, the aim is to achieve a 50% female workforce, and collaboration agreements have been signed with local associations for the recruitment of people with disabilities or at risk of social exclusion.

The new contract represents a portfolio of €108 million over the next eight years

The **San Fermín Plan**



During the Sanfermines, the company FCC Medio Ambiente implements a thorough cleaning plan to keep the city spotless. The San Fermín Plan is organised in detail, adapting staff, materials, schedules and work areas to the daily programme of the festivities. To this end, the team is reinforced, with more than 300 people working almost 24 hours a day. This intensification of cleaning tasks ensures that Pamplona remains attractive, even at the peak of its busiest celebrations.

Aqualia renews the management of the **Abu Rawash wastewater treatment plant** in **Egypt** for four years

The Egyptian government and Aqualia have renewed the contract for the operation and maintenance of the Abu Rawash Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) in Cairo (Egypt) for an additional four years, until September 2029.

The Abu Rawash plant, the third largest treatment plant in Africa in terms of capacity, treats 1.6 million cubic metres per day and serves more than six million people. The agreement consolidates Aqualia's presence in Egypt and reinforces its commitment to improving sanitation services in this country.

The initial contract, signed in 2017, included the design, construction and operation of the WWTP in collaboration with FCC Construcción and Orascom. The project was put out to tender by the Egyptian Ministry of Urban Development and was part of the national programme to improve water and sanitation infrastructure.

This renewal is recognition of the quality of the service provided by Aqualia since it began operating in 2022 and guarantees the continuity of a key infrastructure for public health and sustainable development in the Cairo region.

The signing of this agreement coincides with the state visit of the King and Queen of Spain to Egypt, during which a Business Forum was held in Cairo with the participation of Aqualia's CEO, Santiago Lafuente, and José Enrique Bofill, the company's director for Africa and Asia, in his capacity as co-chair of the Spain-Egypt Business Council.

Abu Rawash is the third largest treatment plant in Africa: it treats 1.6 million cubic metres per day and serves more than six million people



From right to left, Santiago Lafuente, CEO of Aqualia, José Enrique Bofill, Area Manager of Aqualia, and the head of the Abu Rawash treatment plant.

Aqualia manages other strategic facilities for the development of the North African country, such as the New Cairo treatment plant and the El Alamein desalination plant

Projects in Egypt

In addition to Abu Rawash, Aqualia has developed other strategic projects in Egypt. The New Cairo WWTP, awarded in 2009 under a public-private partnership model and currently managed by the company for a period of 20 years, and the El Alamein desalination plant, commissioned by the Ministry of Defence in 2016. The latter, located on the Mediterranean coast, has a treatment capacity of 150,000 m^3/day and responds to the growth of tourism in the area, providing essential water resources for its development.

Through these initiatives, Aqualia is actively contributing to improving the quality of life in Egypt, supporting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through innovative water and sanitation solutions.

The Abu Rawash Wastewater Treatment Plant in Cairo serves more than six million people.

FCC Construcción wins contract to design and build phase 2 of the **Second Avenue Subway in Nueva York City**

The line will carry around 300,000 passengers per day

The contract, worth more than €1.5 billion, has been awarded to the Connect Plus Partners (Connect+) consortium, a joint venture between FCC Construcción and Halmar International. Connect+ has presented a cost-effective construction solution, with innovative and cutting-edge approaches for phase 2 of the project. The contract is to design and build two tunnels that will enable the development of two new underground stations in New York. These new stations in Harlem represent a key step in the extension of the Second Avenue underground line northwards, from the Upper East Side to East Harlem.

The contract includes the conversion of a 762-metre tunnel, built in the 1970s between 116th and 125th Streets, into a station as a cost-containment measure for the project. It also involves drilling a 2,560-metre tunnel to Malcolm X Boulevard and excavating the cavity for the 125th Street station, as well as excavating shafts for auxiliary buildings and future access points.

The tunnel will be excavated using two variable-density tunnel boring machines (TBMs) manufactured in Germany, weighing 1.5 million pounds, which can switch between soft soil and hard rock without needing to be dismantled.

According to estimates by the client, MTA, together with Phase 1, which runs from 72nd Street to 96th Street, the Second Avenue line is expected to carry around 300,000 passengers per day.

Leadership in underground infrastructures

FCC Construcción has extensive experience in the design and construction of major metro lines in world capitals such as Madrid, Barcelona, Málaga, Panama City, Lima (Peru), Toronto (Canada), Doha (Qatar), Riyadh (Saudi Arabia), Athens (Greece) and Porto (Portugal), among others.



Project rendering.

The contract is worth over €1.5 billion



Street cleaning service in Mérida.

The Mérida City Council, together with FCC Medio Ambiente, presents the **new communication campaign for cleaning services in Mérida**



FCC Medio Ambiente, the company in charge of street cleaning, waste collection and garden maintenance in Mérida, has launched a new communication and awareness campaign together with the Mérida City Council. This initiative seeks to highlight the importance of its work and citizen collaboration. The initiative, presented at a ceremony at the City Council, is complemented by a plan to reinforce services during the 2025 Festivities.

The event was attended by the Mayor of Mérida, Antonio Rodríguez Osuna, together with Óscar Zubelzu, Regional Director of Extremadura for FCC Medio Ambiente, and the Councillor for Equality, Festivities, Cleaning, Holy Week and Jubilee Year, Ana Aragoneses. During the presentation, the constant efforts of urban service workers, a task that often goes unnoticed, were highlighted.

The campaign, under the slogan 'Caring for Mérida Has Its History,' highlights the importance of keeping the city clean, a challenge that requires dedication and citizen participation. The centrepiece of the campaign is the FCC Medio Ambiente workers themselves, who, through short videos, will share their daily lives and environmental tips on the service's new social media accounts @CuidamosMerida.

Reinforcement measures for the 2025 festivities

In addition to the awareness campaign, FCC Medio Ambiente activated a special reinforcement plan to cover the extraordinary cleaning needs during the Festivities. Every day, a team of more than 120 people and around 30 vehicles and machines is responsible for keeping the city in optimal condition.

The special plan for the Festivities included a daily average of 15 additional machines and vehicles dedicated to service at the fairgrounds and in the city centre. At the fairgrounds, waste was collected twice a day and around 45 large-capacity containers were installed. As for garden maintenance, cleaning and landscaping work was intensified, with the planting of more than 1,500 flowers.

All these efforts were carefully coordinated so that residents and visitors could enjoy a spotless city during the big week.

People who have participated in the campaign **'Caring for Mérida Has Its History'**



INTERVIEW



Trinidad **Veredas**

Head of the Occupational Risk Prevention Department at FCC Construcción's Central Delegation

Among my duties, the main one is to advise the different construction teams on preventive matters. I am in charge of a team of prevention technicians who work directly on site, reporting data to me regarding the monitoring and control of safety conditions there. I coordinate occupational risk prevention training for workers, visits to construction sites and permanent work centres, management and control of prevention documentation, planning of prevention activities, drafting of risk assessments and health and safety plans, coordination of business activities, investigation and monitoring of accidents, etc."

What is the impact of occupational risk prevention regulations and why is it crucial to comply with them?

Occupational risk prevention regulations are essential in a sector such as construction, because they enable us to create safe working environments, preserve lives and protect workers' health. Compliance with these regulations is crucial, not only to reduce accidents and occupational illnesses, but also to avoid legal penalties and improve productivity by reducing accidents and absenteeism, which also means avoiding delays. Occupational risk prevention regulations protect employees' rights and foster a culture of prevention that benefits both workers and the company itself.

How does the implementation of preventive measures by an OHS technician reduce accidents and absenteeism?

Accidents and absenteeism are reduced by implementing preventive measures focused primarily on training and raising awareness about prevention. OHS technicians create programmes of short talks in our workplaces, tailored specifically to the tasks being performed. In addition, we foster a good working environment by establishing clear rules and supporting our employees in prevention management. If a worker feels supported and listened to, we involve them in the process, which undoubtedly improves commitment and productivity, thereby reducing accident and absenteeism rates.

How does an OHS technician promote the creation of habits and a culture of prevention among workers?

Occupational risk prevention technicians promote habits and create a culture of prevention through constant training, educating each worker on prevention in relation to the work they do or the machinery they operate, promoting active participation and open communication among employees, implementing systems for recognising good practices, and ensuring safe working conditions. It is also important to carry out continuous evaluation to review and improve work procedures.

How are the most appropriate protection and prevention measures for the identified risks designed and implemented?

In order to design and implement protection and prevention measures, a risk assessment must first be carried out to identify the hazards to which the worker is exposed and assess their severity. The most appropriate measures will then be planned, taking into account a maxim in prevention, which is that 'collective protection is always better than individual protection', mainly because it protects several workers at once by eliminating or reducing the risk at its source.

In order to complete the process and continuously improve the system, it is necessary to periodically review the preventive measures applied and to evolve, both in construction processes and in the choice of materials used, the use of personal protective equipment and the training of workers.

What specific challenges does a female OHS technician face in a traditionally male-dominated sector such as construction?

My personal experience, after 25 years at FCC Construcción, and more than 20 years dedicated exclusively to occupational risk prevention, is that being a woman has not affected me in any professional aspect, at least not in a negative way. I have always felt respected and listened to by my colleagues, whether they are of equal or higher rank (production managers, site managers, department heads, branch managers, etc.) or production operators (foremen, supervisors, managers, etc.).

I would say that the biggest challenge has been finding personal protective equipment specifically designed for the female anatomy, from small-sized safety footwear to adapted workwear and warm clothing.

Fortunately, this has changed a lot in recent years, and we are now lucky enough to have a "women's line" of personal protective equipment, including some very important items such as safety harnesses specifically designed for women.



Have you noticed any differences in the perception of risk or compliance with regulations between male and female workers?

I think that differences in risk perception and compliance with regulations are not primarily based on gender, but on work and personal factors such as experience, training, family responsibilities and the work environment, as well as the objective conditions of each job. A person may have a subjective perception that differs from the objective reality of the risk, which influences their behaviour and compliance with regulations, regardless of whether they are male or female.

SOMOS FCC

Future Leaders Internship Programme – FLIP

The Future Leader Internship Programme (FLIP) is a strategic initiative aimed at students of Industrial, Electronic, Electrical or related Engineering, offering a unique international experience in the Waste to Energy (WtE) sector. For six months, participants are integrated into energy recovery plants in the United Kingdom, Spain, Portugal or Austria, where they receive advanced training in energy efficiency, emissions reduction and clean technologies. The main objective is to accelerate the professional development of young talents through high-level technical specialisation and immersion in multicultural environments that enhance their leadership and problem-solving skills.

In addition to acquiring technical skills, participants collaborate on strategic projects, receive personalised mentoring and have the opportunity to complete their Master's Thesis within the programme.

FLIP not only drives professional growth from day one, but also promotes real environmental impact by actively contributing to the energy transition towards low-carbon solutions. This international experience allows young talents to position themselves as leaders in the energy and environmental sector, broadening their professional horizons in a highly specialised environment committed to sustainability.

FLIP enviro
Future Leaders Internship Programme





Darío **Muñoz Hernández**

In my final year of my master's degree, I had the option of doing an international internship for six months and completing my Master's Thesis (TFM) at the same time. This is where the opportunity to participate in FCC Medio Ambiente's FLIP programme arose, as several engineering internship positions in the United Kingdom were posted on my university's (Universidad Pontificia Comillas) job board, which were perfectly aligned with both my skills and my future prospects.

During the six months I spent at the energy recovery plant in Lincoln (United Kingdom), I developed an optimisation project for part of the gas treatment process, which allowed me to test both my knowledge and my adaptability to technologies with which I had not had any contact until then. In addition, I was part of a team that welcomed me with open arms and provided me with everything I needed to integrate, learn all about the process and the resources to develop the project.

Finally, in terms of my professional development, this internship has been a huge leap forward in my career for several reasons. On the one hand, I was able to demonstrate my abilities by successfully completing a project with the potential to save more than £100,000 per year in operating costs. On the other hand, living in the United Kingdom for six months has allowed me to practise my English and prove myself to be an adaptable person on an international level. Last but not least, this experience has opened the doors for me to join FCC and continue to develop as a professional in a sector with great prospects for the future, both nationally and internationally, in an unbeatable environment and with excellent conditions.

Why do you believe that the waste-to-energy sector has a significant future or impact?

Firstly, because legislation requires landfill transfers to be reduced to a maximum of 10% by 2030, and energy recovery from non-recyclable waste is the most effective alternative for meeting this challenge. Furthermore, its environmental impact is much lower.

Secondly, because there is very little infrastructure, especially in Spain, and in order to achieve the established targets (and avoid future penalties), it will be necessary to have it.

Finally, it is very important to contextualise the current geopolitical framework in which energy sources in Europe are scarce and expensive. This makes energy recovery from waste a strategic technique for mitigating the effects on industry of the energy shortage at the continental level, as it is a non-intermittent energy source that is more environmentally friendly than others of the same nature.

What makes this company and this sector important to you?

The waste management sector is one that aligns with my goal of preserving the environment, and I believe that a country that is at the forefront of this sector will have a competitive advantage for its industrial development over others. Being part of FCC puts me in the best position to put my skills and knowledge to work for this purpose and contribute to technological, industrial and social development.

Would you recommend a graduate to join the FLIP programme or work in the waste-to-energy sector?

I would definitely recommend any graduate interested in working in this sector to participate in the FLIP programme because they will begin their development in a company that has great professionals and experience that will help them take giant steps in their career, as well as an international presence that will provide them with unlimited prospects.

Carlos **Larriba Rius**



I accessed the programme through my university's international internship portal, ICAI (Universidad Pontificia Comillas). My internship began in January and lasted for six months, until I finally joined the company in September. For me, it meant stepping out of my comfort zone, as I had never left home before. On a personal and professional level, it was a very enriching experience: it helped me prioritise what is really important and become more independent. In addition, thanks to this opportunity, I have been able to join FCC in a position that opens up a wide range of possibilities internationally, something that I consider extremely valuable for my professional future.

Why do you think the waste-to-energy sector has a significant future or impact?

I think it's very clear: waste will always exist, and its collection and treatment will always be valued and paid for. Waste-to-energy was a discovery for me when I joined FCC, and I think it's the most appropriate method of waste management. It allows by-products to be treated correctly, making use of what is useful and neutralising what is harmful. It also generates a double economic benefit: from waste management and from the energy obtained by using it as fuel. It is a profitable, sustainable model with great potential, as many countries are moving from landfills to incinerators of this type.

What makes this company and this sector important to you?

Mainly the conditions we have been offered and, above all, the people who are part of the company. The working environment is excellent, and that makes all the difference when it comes to enjoying and being motivated to go to work every day. Although the sector itself is not the most attractive, the fact that FCC is a leader in Spain and an international benchmark makes me proud and satisfied. Being here motivates me and makes me eager to make the most of what I consider to be a great opportunity.

Would you recommend a graduate to join the FLIP programme or work in the waste-to-energy sector?

Yes, I would definitely recommend it. It is a booming sector, in full expansion, and those who join now will be able to make the most of it. It is a sector that offers good economic conditions, a great need to incorporate young talent and very attractive international opportunities. Furthermore, although it is not a particularly eye-catching sector, it allows for a good quality of life, with stability and opportunities for growth. I think it is a great opportunity for any graduate who wants to develop professionally.



Miguel **Martín Gil**



I discovered the programme through an offer posted on my university's job platform. After a series of interviews, I was assigned to the Eastcroft plant in Nottingham. During my time there, I was able to develop many technical skills, for example, by doing my master's thesis with them, as well as soft skills by working every day as part of a team with maintenance operators, plant engineers and other staff. I also discovered the world of incinerators, which was completely unknown to me until this experience, but it has turned out to be very interesting and a great solution for the future of waste treatment.

Finally, this programme has resulted in me being lucky enough to continue working at FCC and develop this new passion, as well as offering me the possibility of international mobility within the company with an offer to work in the United States.

Why do you think the waste-to-energy sector has a significant future or impact?

Three of the major problems we face today, all of which are related, are the ever-growing population, the lack of land to provide housing for everyone, and our environmental impact. In my opinion, among many other things, converting waste into energy helps us to tackle these problems.

As it is a process in which waste is collected and incinerated to generate energy to feed into the grid, it reduces the need for landfills, so that space can be used for other facilities. It is a very clean process as the emissions are highly controlled, and the price of the energy generated is very cheap, making it possible to increase the supply to the grid without increasing the price.

What makes this company and this sector important to you?

My main motivation for this project is my conviction that incineration is the future of waste treatment. I also think it is a field that very few people know anything about and it is a very interesting world, at least for my engineering side.

As for the sector and the company, waste treatment will always be a necessary industry and is fundamental to the world and its development. Being part of FCC offers the opportunity to take on projects that very few companies can due to their scale.

Would you recommend a graduate to join the FLIP programme or work in the waste-to-energy sector?

Since I started the programme in the UK, I have been a promoter of the programme and the sector. I think it is an industry that always goes unnoticed, yet it has a much greater growth and evolution potential than any other. That is why, whenever I can, I share my experience and my passion for the world in order to gradually gain more "affiliates" who can help us achieve all the objectives we set ourselves.



FCC renews its commitment to Fundación ONCE and will reach 1,200 contracts for people with disabilities



From left to right, Alberto Durán, Executive Vice-President of Fundación ONCE; Esther Alcocer Koplowitz, Chairwoman of the FCC Group; Miguel Carballeda, President of the ONCE Social Group; and Pablo Colio, Chief Executive Officer of the FCC Group, during the signing of the renewal of the Inserta Agreement.

The signing of this agreement is part of the measures promoted by FCC to contribute to improving the employment and social integration of people with disabilities.

FCC CEO Pablo Colio and Fundación ONCE Executive Vice-President Alberto Durán have renewed the Inserta Agreement they first signed in 2009. This time, the agreement sets a target of hiring 50 people with disabilities over the next three years, bringing the total number of hires since the collaboration began to 1,205.

The signing took place at the ONCE Foundation headquarters and was also attended by the chairwoman of the FCC Group, Esther Alcocer Koplowitz, who expressed her gratitude for the trust placed in the company and emphasised the value of renewing this agreement, as well as the chairman of the ONCE Social Group, Miguel Carballeda Pinedo, and executives from both organisations.

As explained by the CEO of the FCC Group, Pablo Colio Abril, "the signing of this agreement is part of the measures promoted by FCC to contribute to improving the employment and social integration of people with disabilities. This renewal is particularly significant for us, as it will benefit many people who are part of this group. For years, we have been collaborating with specialised entities that support us in the recruitment and monitoring of people with disabilities who join our organisation, ensuring that jobs are suited to their professional profiles and facilitating their normalised integration within our Group. Furthermore, talent for a sustainable future, diversity and equality are the cornerstones of our philosophy as a Group, and this agreement represents a firm step forward in that commitment,' concluded the CEO.

For his part, Alberto Durán assured that 'this renewal demonstrates that the commitment to the labour inclusion of people with disabilities can be real and sustained over time. The 1,155 jobs created are proof that, with determination and joint effort, it is possible to build fairer and more diverse working environments.' The executive vice-president of Fundación ONCE thanked FCC for its firm commitment to talent with disabilities and expressed his confidence in 'continuing to move forward with the company towards a more inclusive society".

FCC will continue to rely on Inserta Empleo, Fundación ONCE's training and employment entity, to fill new positions required by the company, pre-select the people who best fit the required profiles and provide tailored training to enable them to perform their assigned tasks.

The agreement also provides for the promotion of other actions that indirectly favour the integration of people with disabilities into the labour market, through the acquisition of goods and the contracting of services from special employment centres.

Background

In 2009, FCC's Environment division in Barcelona signed an agreement with Inserta Empleo that resulted in the hiring of 73 people with disabilities. Following the positive results obtained, both entities signed an agreement in November 2010, which incorporated all areas of the company's business and established a commitment to hire 150 people with disabilities over a period of three years.

Once the objectives of this agreement had been met, the collaboration was renewed in May 2014, incorporating a commitment to hire 125 people with disabilities over three years; on 13 March 2017, with the aim of achieving 125 hires within three years; and on 30 November 2021, with the aim of achieving hires within three years.

Fundación ONCE and Inserta Empleo

Fundación ONCE launched the organisation Inserta Empleo, which is a human resources entity specialising in assisting people with disabilities and focusing its activity on improving their training and achieving their inclusion in the labour market. It has more than 25 years of experience and a team of experts in guidance and mediation, spread across its 48 offices throughout Spain. It helps people with disabilities find employment, trains them if necessary, and offers companies the best candidates for the positions they need to fill. All of this is provided at no cost.



The FCC Group renews its commitment to the **Diversity Charter**

The FCC Group has renewed its commitment to diversity and inclusion in the workplace by signing the 2025-2026 Diversity Charter, an initiative promoted by the Diversity Foundation and supported by the European Commission in favour of diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

The Diversity Charter is a manifesto that promotes principles reflecting companies' commitment to equal opportunities for workers.

At the FCC Group, these principles are embodied in the prohibition of any form of discrimination. We firmly believe in the value of diversity and therefore carry out awareness-raising activities on equal opportunities and respect for all people. We also encourage diverse work teams.

All people, regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, identity or characteristics, culture, race or any other individual condition, represent the value of diversity, and the FCC Group will continue to work to ensure that work environments remain inclusive and safe for all workers.

More information



Driving Sustainability: New Electric Trucks and renewable Fuel for Our Fleet



We're proud to share some exciting developments from our operations fleet, as we continue to take big steps toward a more sustainable future.

Expanding Our Electric Fleet

Our fleet has been upgraded with five new electric trucks, including two tail lifts, two collection trucks, and a tractor unit. All of the vehicles have been deployed across Austria: Obertiefenbach (Styria) received a collection truck and a tail lift, Freistadt (Upper Austria) welcomed the other tail lift, and the second collection truck is now operating in Linz (Upper Austria). Our tractor unit supports our site operations in Halbenrain (Styria).

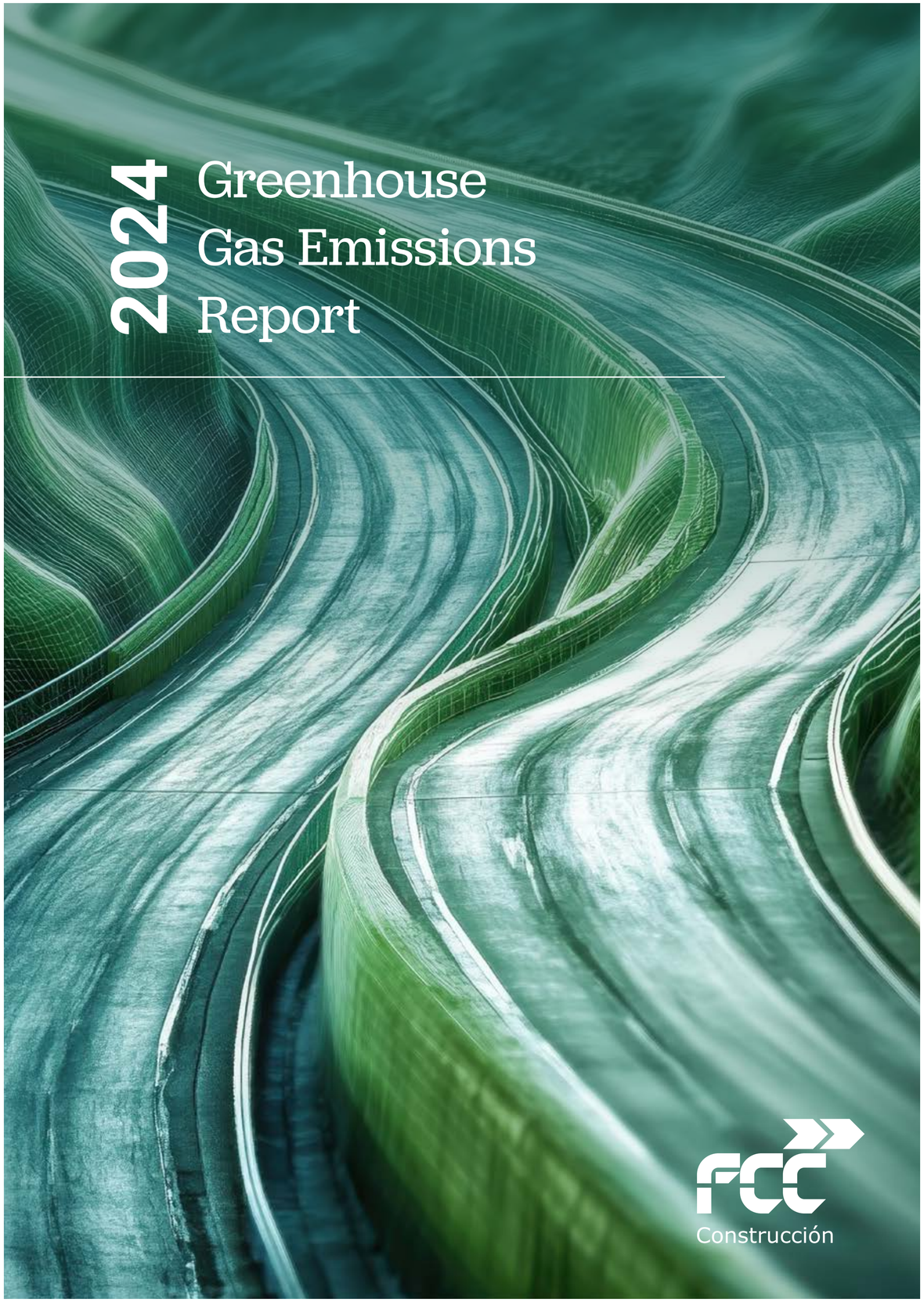
And we're not stopping there - four more electric vehicles are already on order, including another tail lift truck and a skip loader. By the time all of these vehicles have been delivered, we'll have ten fully electric trucks on the road, reducing emissions and improving energy efficiency across our operations.

Switching to HVO 100 Fuel

In another major step towards sustainability, our entire truck fleet has been converted to run on HVO 100 (Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil), a renewable synthetic diesel made primarily from used cooking oils and animal fats. This change reduces fossil CO₂ emissions by around 90%, helping us to make a meaningful impact on our environmental footprint.

Trial operations at three locations showed that HVO 100 performs on par with conventional diesel in terms of fuel consumption and mileage, while also lowering AdBlue usage by up to 20% and reducing engine noise.

These initiatives are part of our ongoing commitment to innovation, responsibility, and progress.



Aqualia and the Nueva Granada Military University create the Aqualia Chair on sustainable water management in Colombia



Astrid Rubiano Fonseca, Vice-Rector for Research at UMNG, and Francisco Jiménez Medina, Director of Aqualia for Latin America, during the signing of the agreement.

The Nueva Granada Military University (UMNG) and Aqualia Colombia have signed an agreement to create the Aqualia Chair – Sustainable Management of the Integral Water Cycle, a pioneering initiative in the country that will bring together academic, scientific and business efforts to research and promote innovative solutions in water resource management.

The Chair, with an initial term of four years, which may be extended, will focus on strategic lines of work such as wastewater treatment using nature-based processes; the regeneration and reuse of urban water; the use of wastewater for energy; the integration of renewable energies into the integral water cycle; the optimisation of supply and sanitation networks; and the production of drinking water through sustainable processes.

The agreement was signed by Dr Astrid Rubiano Fonseca, Vice-Rector for Research at UMNG, and Francisco Jiménez Medina, Director of Aqualia for Latin America. The event was attended by academic authorities, researchers and Aqualia executives, who highlighted the importance of this agreement as a benchmark for university-business cooperation on the major environmental and social challenges facing Colombia.

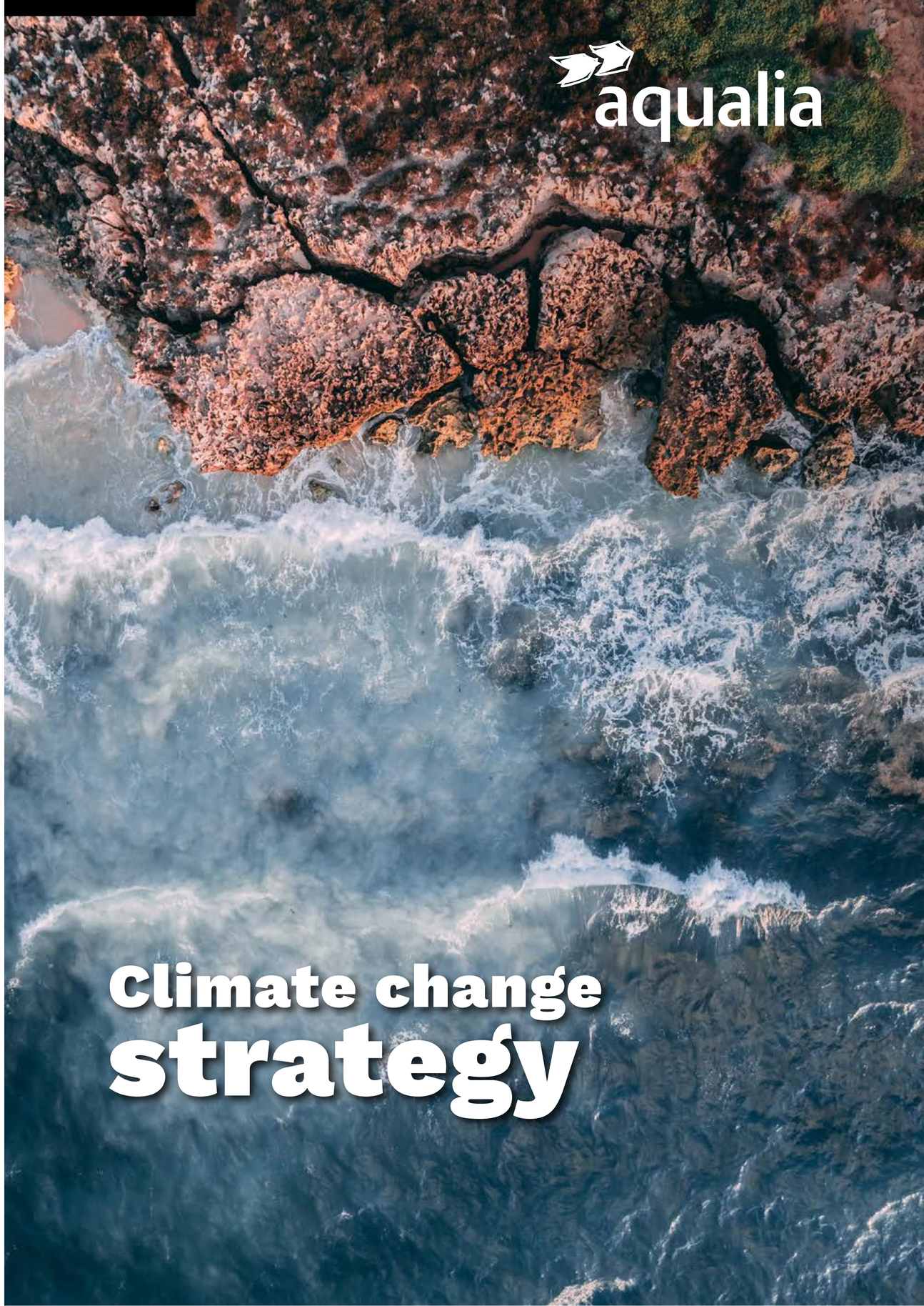
'The Aqualia Chair is a strategic commitment for the country,' said Francisco Jiménez. 'We want academic research and innovation to translate into real solutions that transform the way we manage water, always with a sustainable vision and at the service of the communities where we operate.'

For her part, Astrid Rubiano said, 'We would like to express our gratitude for the signing of this agreement. I am familiar with its scope, word for word, and I value those who have made this achievement possible. We are convinced that it will bear significant fruit in terms of research and scientific cooperation, strengthening ties between both countries and giving rise to high-quality products that contribute to academic and social development in Colombia.'

The Chair's working team will be made up of UMNG lecturers and Aqualia representatives who are specialists in different technical areas of the various phases of the integral water cycle, working in close coordination with the company's Innovation and Technology department.

Presence in Colombia

Since its arrival in Colombia in 2020, Aqualia has extended its services to more than 1.2 million users in 32 municipalities in eight departments. Its operation is characterised by sustainability, efficiency and commitment to communities. This year, Andesco recognised the company as a benchmark in access to drinking water in La Guajira and awarded it the Sustainability Award in the Employee Environment category, thanks to its innovative comprehensive wellness and mental health programme. The company has the international ISO 9001 certification in Quality Management and ISO 45001 in Occupational Health and Safety, which endorse the excellence of its processes and its commitment to continuous improvement.



Commitments to Energy Management, **Zero Waste and Universal Accessibility**

FCC, the parent company of one of Europe's leading citizen services groups, is an organisation committed to sustainable development and respect for the environment, promoting efficient resource management and the creation of healthy and accessible environments. Its desire for continuous improvement has led FCC's management to establish and implement an Energy Management, Zero Waste and Universal Accessibility System that provides the framework for setting and reviewing energy, environmental and universal accessibility objectives and targets.

To achieve this, FCC has made the following commitments:

- To comply with all applicable legal and regulatory requirements and others to which it subscribes, particularly those relating to the environment and energy efficiency and energy use and consumption, as well as those relating to DALCO universal accessibility criteria.
- Ensure the availability of the information and resources necessary to achieve the objectives and targets for energy efficiency, waste prevention and reduction, and universal accessibility for people to guarantee equal opportunities in accessing and using the environment where it carries out its activity.
- Promote the acquisition of energy-efficient products and services that minimise the impact on energy and environmental performance and favour an accessible environment.
- Support the design of activities that consider improving energy and environmental performance and that promote an accessible environment.
- Involve users through the necessary training and awareness-raising actions to achieve efficient and responsible consumption, the recovery and reduction of waste generated, and improved accessibility.
- Promote the use of renewable and surplus energy from own or third-party sources.
- Improve user satisfaction with the environments where they carry out their activities.
- Continuously improve the effectiveness of the Management System through processes to identify opportunities for improvement, set objectives and implement actions that lead the organisation to excellence.



We shape the world around us

125 years creating sustainable sets where life happens.

We are the rhythm of the routine



125 years 2025

FCC

We announce the winners of

Do you watch or Take part?

the FCC Group's **Instagram photography competition**

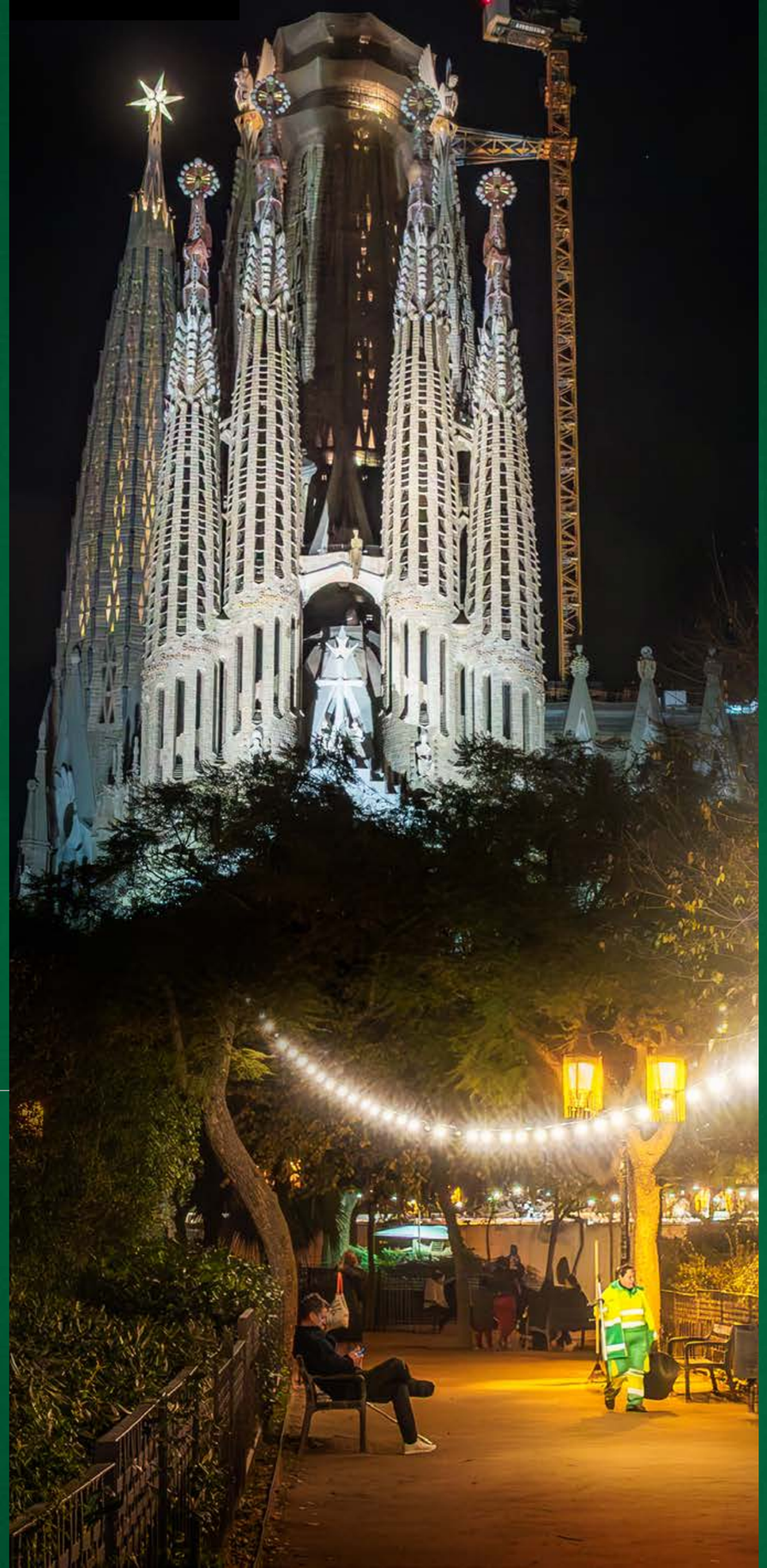
FCC has announced the winners of the international Instagram photography competition "Do you watch or Take part?", launched for the second consecutive year to mark SDG Week.

The aim of this awareness campaign has been to encourage employees to commit to the Sustainable Development Goals through photography.

The aim of this awareness campaign was to encourage employees to commit to the Sustainable Development Goals through photography.

First prize: Jorge **León Alonso**

With his photograph 'When the eternal meets the humble'. The image captures a street cleaner in the Sagrada Familia park in Barcelona. This cleaning service for parks and green areas is essential for keeping one of the busiest places in the city clean. This photograph is linked to SDG 6 'Clean Water and Sanitation' and SDG 8 'Decent Work and Economic Growth'.





Second prize: Fabián **Montalvo Buitrago**

His photograph 'El Heaven on Earth' captures the sunset in an urban space, seeking cohesion with nature and showing the contrast of architecture that transforms an industrial site into a cultural place. This image is linked to SDG 9 'Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure' and SDG 11 'Sustainable Cities and Communities'.



Third prize: Lydia **Fernández Estaire**

With the image 'The Breath of the Earth,' Lydia reminds us that the Earth, in addition to challenging us with its power, offers solutions. The heat emanating from inside the volcano represents a source of renewable and clean energy, linked to SDG 7 'Affordable and Clean Energy.' At the same time, the volcano and its ecosystems represent the need to protect terrestrial life, reflected in SDG 15, 'Life on Land,' and its imposing presence urges us to act in the face of the climate crisis, in line with SDG 13, 'Climate Action.'

Thank you all very much for participating!

Committed to the SDGs

The company is committed to continuously addressing the challenge of the 2030 Agenda and has adopted the Sustainable Development Goals as its own. The FCC Group's Sustainability Policy provides it with the ESG focus necessary to meet the growing demands of its stakeholders and contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, as well as to promote innovation. Since 7 May 2007, FCC has been a member of the United Nations Global Compact, the largest global initiative in corporate sustainability.

Once again, **FCC runs with its heart**



FCC participants in the 2025 Popular Heart Race.

The FCC Group has once again participated in the Popular Heart Race, an initiative promoted by the Spanish Heart Foundation and the Spanish Society of Cardiology that seeks to raise awareness about the prevention of cardiovascular disease.

FCC's participation was a success, with more than a hundred employees registered. This figure represents a significant proportion of the 5,000 total runners and demonstrates the Group's commitment to initiatives that promote an active and healthy lifestyle.

The aim of this race is to promote physical activity among the population, from the youngest to the oldest, and to enjoy a festive, family-oriented day where sport takes centre stage, instilling the importance of adopting healthy lifestyle habits to improve people's physical condition.

Committed to health and well-being

This initiative is part of FCC's VIVE Saludable (Live Healthy) project, which aims to facilitate and promote actions that promote health and well-being. The money raised in this race will go towards promoting cardiovascular research and generating a campaign to educate people about good healthy habits.



FCC Znojmo (Czech Republic) **celebrates 30 years of service and innovation**

FCC Znojmo, the joint venture owned equally by FCC and the city of Znojmo (Czech Republic), is celebrating its 30th anniversary. Over the course of these three decades, the company has stood out for its constant expansion of services and its commitment to innovation.

Founded in 1995 under the name .A.T.S. Znojmo, the company was created with the aim of providing high-quality waste management and maintenance of public spaces for its citizens and surrounding areas. In its early days, the company operated in modest conditions with only eighteen employees. However, today, the company has evolved to offer comprehensive waste management, year-round road maintenance and parking system operation. With its wide range of services, FCC Znojmo not only serves the city, but also 49 other municipalities in the region, thus consolidating a solid position in the market.

Implementation of the D2D system

With the aim of facilitating waste management for the community, the company has implemented the D2D (door-to-door) system in the city and nearby municipalities, which consists of collecting waste directly from people's doorsteps. This initiative, which includes containers for paper and plastic located next to homes, seeks to promote more efficient sorting.

Over the past 30 years, the company's coverage area has expanded significantly. Various waste collection systems have been introduced and the company has obtained important quality and environmental protection certifications.

Looking ahead, FCC Znojmo has plans to continue expanding its services to further support citizens and contribute to a cleaner environment for future generations.



The hidden gem of **Moravia**

Znojmo is a city that holds a treasure beneath its streets and a story in every corner. It is the wine capital of Moravia and a place where history, wine and architecture intertwine in a unique way.

The heart of the city beats underground, in a vast network of underground labyrinths and catacombs that stretch for 27 kilometres, making them the largest in Central Europe. These galleries, which served as shelters in times of war and wine cellars, reflect the importance that wine has had in this region. Its wine-making heritage dates back to Roman times, a tradition that is celebrated every year with the famous Historical Grape Harvest, a wine festival that attracts visitors from all over Europe.

FCC Construcción completes

Chile's longest bridge

Between tradition and modernity, Chile continues to build bridges that not only connect territories, but also histories and cultures. FCC Construcción recently completed construction of the Puente Industrial de la Concepción, Chile's longest bridge and the fourth to cross the BioBío River.

The Industrial Bridge is a 6.5 km urban motorway in the Biobío Region and is a strategic project in terms of logistical connectivity, as it will increase the road capacity across the Biobío River by 33%, linking the municipalities of San Pedro de la Paz and Hualpén and significantly reducing travel times in the area.

The bridge in operation becomes the first urban motorway concession outside the Metropolitan Region and will reduce daily driving times by 20%.

In recent years, the province of Concepción has seen a considerable increase in traffic congestion. To address this situation, both local authorities and the Chilean government proposed solutions aimed at reducing congestion, improving traffic flow to industrial areas, securing logistics routes in the region and reducing the risk of accidents. This led to the creation of the 'Puente Industrial Road Concession,' a project developed by the Ministry of Public Works that aims to improve the roads associated with productive areas in the Bío Bío region.

The project is divided into three sectors:

- **Sector A**, located north of the bridge, connects the flows of the municipalities of Concepción, Talcahuano, Hualpén, and San Pedro de la Paz.
- **Sector B**, is the Industrial Bridge itself. It consists of a long structure that connects both banks of the Biobío River and crosses the Los Batros estuary. It is 2,520 metres long.
- **Sector C**, south of the Industrial Bridge, is a link connecting the new motorway with Route 160.

Environmental Qualification

The project has received an Environmental Qualification Resolution, which includes mitigation measures related to the protection of flora, fauna and cultural heritage, as well as mitigation measures related to the community in the area of direct influence. It has also included voluntary commitments, in which the communities of the municipalities involved have collaborated. The Concepción Industrial Bridge project is a socially, environmentally and economically responsible project and a pioneer for the country.

Leader in bridge design and construction

FCC Construcción has extensive experience in the design and construction of bridges around the world, having built more than 1,650 bridges and viaducts of all types.

We would like to highlight the Vidin-Calafat bridge in Bulgaria, Romania; the viaduct over the Almonte River (Spain), the longest railway bridge in the world; the Vidin-Calafat bridge in Bulgaria, Romania; the viaduct over the Almonte River (Spain), the longest railway bridge in the world; the Vidin-Calafat bridge in Bulgaria, Romania; the viaduct over the Almonte River (Spain), the longest railway bridge in the world; the Vidin-Calafat bridge in Bulgaria, Romania; Notable examples include the Vidin-Calafat bridge in Bulgaria and Romania; the viaduct over the Almonte River (Spain), the longest railway bridge in the world; Gerald Desmond Bridge (Los Angeles, USA), the first cable-stayed bridge in California; Mersey Bridge (Liverpool, UK), one of the 100 most important works in the world according to KPMG, and currently under construction, Sotra Bridge (Norway), one of the country's largest infrastructure projects.

Chile and its bridges: engineering, history and beauty in every structure

Although Chile is not world-renowned for its bridges, the country is home to a number of structures that stand out for their technical significance, historical value and visual appeal. From modern structures that defy geography to viaducts that marked milestones in 19th-century engineering, Chilean bridges are much more than simple connections: they are symbols of progress, identity and culture. Below, we explore some of the most emblematic ones, each with its own character and legacy.



Malleco Viaduct: 19th-century legacy

Opened in 1890, the Malleco Viaduct was once one of the tallest metal structures in the world. This railway viaduct allowed the integration of the south with the centre of the country, and today it is considered a national monument for its historical and architectural value.

Treng Treng Kay Kay Bridge: beauty and functionality

This cable-stayed bridge connects the municipalities of Padre Las Casas and Temuco. Its modern design and lighting system have made it an urban icon, nicknamed by many as 'the most beautiful bridge in Chile.'

Cal y Canto Bridge: great heritage value

Chile has also had structures of great heritage value, such as the now-defunct Cal y Canto Bridge in Santiago. Built in the 18th century and demolished in 1888, it was an emblematic work that marked the urban development of the capital.

Wooden bridges:

In rural areas and small communities, wooden bridges remain essential. These structures, often built by the inhabitants themselves, blend into the landscape and reflect the relationship between functionality and tradition.

Bridges in the capital:

The Mapocho River, which runs through Santiago, is crossed by several bridges of cultural value. One of them is the Vicente Huidobro Bridge, which now houses a theatre, demonstrating how infrastructure can be transformed into an artistic and community space.

Cantabria uses **Artificial Intelligence in its PERTE** water to optimise consumption

With an investment of €10.8 million, the PERTE water digitisation project will benefit 47 municipalities in Cantabria.

Cantabria, with its traditionally humid climate and no historical water shortages, must not relax under any circumstances, as the latest "Statistics on Water Supply and Sanitation" published by the National Institute of Statistics (INE) show that this region must begin to prepare to combat water stress.

The data show that it is necessary to preserve every drop of water to ensure its future availability. This is one of the main objectives of the PERTE water digitisation project that has been underway since January 2025 in Cantabria under the name "CantabriControl: Flow control and resource optimisation in the Cantabrian basin".

The initiative, presented by Aqualia in partnership with the Government of Cantabria at the second call for proposals for the PERTE 'Digitalisation of the Integral Water Cycle', has a total budget of €10.8 million and will improve the efficiency of the urban water cycle in 47 municipalities in Cantabria, representing 64% of the Autonomous Community's surface area and 41% of its population.

By digitising the processes of the integral water cycle (supply, distribution, sanitation and treatment services), the aim is to improve knowledge of water uses, the efficiency of systems and optimise energy consumption, among other things.

Technology implementation

The development of the project is 35% complete in the part corresponding to Aqualia, and its objective is to advance the digitisation of water processes and prevent any leaks in advance thanks to data analysis, pressure control and network automation. This level of control is supported by Aqualia's technological platform, which, based on artificial intelligence, reduces water losses and optimises water consumption. One of its tools is the adoption of remote reading in household meters, which is already 60% complete of the total planned. 'The award of this project will allow us to comprehensively monitor all services through our Water Analytics platform,' explains Leofredo Pellón, head of Aqualia in Cantabria. 'The PERTE is allowing us to make progress in months that would have taken years,' he points out.

Some of the actions being carried out include the development or improvement of strategies, studies or projects that promote compliance with regulations, the efficiency of the urban water cycle and adaptation to climate change in any territorial area; the implementation of specific interventions related to the digitalisation and efficiency of the urban water cycle; and the development or improvement of information systems and digital tools.

Aqualia, as the operator of water supply and sanitation services in Comillas, Corvera de Toranzo, Reinosa, Santa Cruz de Bezana, Santa María de Cayón and Santander, and the Government of Cantabria, is planning actions in 41 small municipalities at risk of depopulation.

Thanks to public-private collaboration, Aqualia has been able to form an alliance with the Government and local administrations to develop and implement these new technologies that enable sustainable water management. Aqualia also points out that 'the PERTE allows us to adapt our water supply and sanitation systems to the new royal decrees on the water cycle, which are much more demanding, as well as continuing to renovate infrastructure to further improve the efficiency of our systems'.

The Strategic Project for Economic Recovery and Transformation (PERTE) for the Digitalisation of the Water Cycle is part of the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan (PRTR) - Funded by the European Union - NextGenerationEU.

The CantabriControl project, which seeks to improve the efficiency of the urban water cycle by digitising supply, sanitation and treatment processes, has already installed 60% of the remote reading meters included in the project



The company has already completed 35% of its part in the project, which will help to preserve water in the face of future water stress scenarios

The **new WAVE Innovation Centre** puts **Adeje** (Tenerife) at the **forefront of sustainable desalination**

The WAVE (Water Added Value European Centre) innovation centre has been launched at the La Caleta desalination plant in Adeje. This initiative is a project by Aqualia-Entemanser, with the support of Adeje Town Council (Tenerife). It is a European benchmark in the development of research into new forms of desalination, the recovery of brine to recover resources such as critical raw materials, and the use of renewable energies as a step towards sustainable desalination that allows the true value of seawater to be extracted.

The event coincided with the 14th International Congress of the Spanish Association for Desalination and Reuse (AEDYR), which was held in Santa Cruz. Around 100 people, including several international delegates, attended the opening event of the WAVE centre, which was presided over by the mayor of Adeje, José Miguel Rodríguez Fraga, and was attended by various authorities, as well as representatives from Aqualia-Entemanser: Higinio Martínez, Regional Director for Southern Spain; Pedro Rodríguez, Director of Strategic Development and Sustainability; Enrique Reina, Director of the Canary Islands Delegation; and Víctor Monsalvo, Head of the Eco-efficiency Area in the Innovation and Technology Department.

In his speech, the Mayor of Adeje thanked Aqualia for the strategic collaboration established with the City Council for this important project, 'which places the municipality at the forefront of sustainable management of the integral water cycle and responsible use of water resources, making us an international benchmark'.

Rodríguez Fraga also emphasised the importance of the centre being located in the municipality of Adeje because it serves to "ratify our firm commitment to all projects related to sustainability and the use of resources, especially, as in this case, those related to water', recalling that in Adeje, circular tourist communities, energy communities and the development of the first productive forest, among others, are currently being implemented, 'all examples of projects that aim to consume as few resources as possible and commit our society to the values of sustainability", he said.



Inauguration of the WAVE innovation centre at the La Caleta desalination plant in Adeje (Tenerife).







WAVE, a key example of public-private collaboration

Víctor Monsalvo explained that WAVE is a centre open to all stakeholders, where joint research initiatives are developed in the areas of desalination, brine recovery and the use of renewable energies. 'The centre has the material and human resources necessary to transform the scientific knowledge generated into innovative solutions and apply them directly to the water cycle,' he explained. In fact, WAVE has already developed solutions that are being implemented on a real scale both in Tenerife and on the mainland: tertiary treatment at the La Orotava wastewater treatment plant and several water purification systems for Cantabria, Castilla-La Mancha and Andalusia.

With a surface area of more than 3,000 m^2, the centre's configuration provides a flexible and versatile platform, ideal for tackling new challenges and developing future solutions in seawater desalination. WAVE's diverse facilities and highly qualified staff provide a unique infrastructure for R&D, evaluation, demonstration, training and technology transfer initiatives in desalination.

The centre has common areas (offices, laboratory, workshop) and areas equipped with services for the reception and operation of innovative technologies. The permanent staff residing at the WAVE Centre consists of four researchers with a floating staff of seven other employees, which has attracted talent from Tenerife and abroad thanks to the creation of highly qualified direct employment, as well as indirect opportunities for suppliers of materials and services.

Those attending the event learned about the centre's capabilities and the national and international projects currently underway. Afterwards, the mayor unveiled a plaque commemorating the event. Everyone then had the opportunity to toast with desalinated water from La Caleta's own desalination plant and taste the high-quality 'Alma de Mar' gourmet salts, created by Aqualia from brine using a sustainable process that exclusively uses solar and wind energy.

The WAVE centre is a space for the development of new desalination systems, brine recovery and the use of renewable energies

More than **€42 million in R&D** since 2019



Aqualia's innovation and technology initiatives in Tenerife began in 2019, and since then, eight projects have been carried out on the island, with an investment of €42.4 million, co-financed by European funds and the participating entities. The intense R&D activity highlighted the need for a centre where innovative solutions could be developed, hence WAVE. Since then, four projects have been completed, with an investment by Aqualia of €4.1 million, to which must be added investments by associated entities in these projects, totalling €6.6 million for the period 2019-2025.

Four projects are currently being developed with a planned investment of €3 million to be executed in the period 2026-2029.

INTERVIEW



Pilar de **Vicente**

Head of Data and Artificial Intelligence DSTI at FCC Group

Artificial Intelligence is transforming the business landscape, although its adoption varies depending on the sector and the degree of digital maturity. At FCC, its potential as a strategic lever for improving efficiency and strengthening competitiveness is recognised. However, its implementation brings challenges such as change management, governance and ethical alignment. The Technology Department is actively working to integrate AI into key business processes. This transformation goes beyond technology: it is also cultural and operational.

How would you describe the current landscape of Artificial Intelligence implementation in businesses?

The current landscape of Artificial Intelligence adoption in the business world is diverse and depends largely on the sector. Although a significant percentage of companies have already incorporated some form of AI, figures from recent studies reveal that the real impact on productivity is still limited. Only a few sectors—such as technology, media and banking—are experiencing a truly disruptive transformation thanks to AI. These industries, due to the nature of their activity and their digital maturity, have taken the lead in adopting advanced solutions.

In other sectors, even with the incorporation of AI among their priorities, effective transformation is still in its infancy. In many cases, AI has been implemented on an experimental or ad hoc basis, without deep integration into key business processes.

How can AI transform and enhance the strategies of the FCC Group's business areas?

Artificial Intelligence, on its own, does not transform. Its true potential is realised when we manage to integrate it effectively into our processes and strategies. In this sense, AI can be a key lever for improving operational efficiency, reducing errors through automation and supporting decision-making.

In the Information Technology Area, we seek to integrate new technologies, particularly Artificial Intelligence, through two complementary lines of action:

On the one hand, we identify initiatives in which the use of AI-based technologies can generate improvements in efficiency, productivity and, therefore, competitiveness. For example, applying machine learning techniques and predictive models with the aim of optimising costs and improving production.

On the other hand, and in view of the emergence of new technologies such as generative AI, we promote the identification of use cases applicable to our businesses. This approach not only allows us to explore new opportunities, but also arouses internal interest and fosters a culture of innovation and continuous learning.

What are the specific needs or challenges that the company seeks to address with AI?

It is clear that the application of AI opens up a world of possibilities. We mentioned earlier examples of productivity improvement, optimisation... but it also invites us to rethink how we do things and how we can add more value from our roles.

A comment we often hear when we present the capabilities of generative AI is: 'This would be very useful for me to...!' And it's true: the fields of application are manifold. But with these opportunities also come significant challenges. To maximise the potential offered by this technology, we are addressing three key areas that are closely related.

Firstly, managing expectations: we are experiencing a real media boom around AI, which is generating a lot of expectations. In the Technology area, we are working to support businesses with a realistic vision: AI offers great possibilities, but it is not magic or an immediate solution. Each case requires analysis, adaptation and effort to truly add value.

Second, change management: In an organisation with 125 years of history, where people are the driving force behind our activity, the incorporation of AI can generate uncertainty. That is why it is essential that our professionals see AI as an ally, not a threat. And this is where, with technology playing a very important role, expert knowledge takes on fundamental value, hence the need to involve business experts in the design of use cases from the outset. When this happens, AI becomes a tool that adds value to their work.

And finally, governance: from the earliest stages, we work to establish an AI governance model. Issues such as ethical principles and frameworks, risk analysis and the establishment of certain controls in accordance with applicable regulations are fundamental to laying the foundations for secure, responsible growth that is aligned with the Group's values.

In short, AI is not just a technological issue: it is a cultural, organisational and strategic transformation. And at FCC, we are taking firm steps to ensure that this transformation is sustainable and people-centred.

Do you think AI can improve operational efficiency and productivity within the company?

Without a doubt. Artificial Intelligence has great potential to improve both operational efficiency and productivity, although that does not mean it is an easy or immediate process.

In our personal lives, we all use AI-based tools, sometimes without even realising it. Applying it to the professional sphere requires carefully identifying the use cases that really add value and return. Tools such as Copilot, for example, are proving useful for our individual productivity for tasks such as summarising documents, writing emails or generating content. The challenge ahead of us is to transfer that impact to our work processes.

What is the most significant long-term benefit you expect AI to bring to FCC?

At FCC, we are experiencing a very interesting moment: Artificial Intelligence has aroused great interest throughout the organisation, and more and more areas are exploring how to apply this technology in their activities.

As a group focused on designing and providing smart services for citizens, we believe that AI can become a key tool for strengthening our value proposition. From the Corporate Department, we work with the different business units to identify specific opportunities that directly impact the quality and efficiency of the services we offer. In the long term, the benefits will result in:

- Improved productivity. AI allows us to be more efficient in operational tasks, such as searching for information, generating content or automating functions that provide less added value. This frees up time and resources to focus on strategic activities

- Improved competitiveness: incorporating AI into our processes can help improve our competitiveness and, consequently, strengthen our position.

Considering the framework of the Artificial Intelligence Act in Europe, what policies and procedures are essential to ensure the ethical and safe use of AI in our company?

The Group has a solid framework for the development, use and deployment of AI in the organisation, created on the basis of the minimum requirements established by the Artificial Intelligence Regulation. FCC is a pioneer in developing an AI Policy, recently approved by the Board of Directors, to guide the development of use cases.

When we develop or implement an AI system, we do so under clear rules: to drive innovation and efficiency, always with safe, ethical and responsible use. Our commitment is that every system must be transparent, reliable and comply with current regulations.

Furthermore, the Technology Use Policy sets out the rules for the safe and responsible use of technological tools and AI on a day-to-day basis: we seek to ensure that the Group's technological resources are used correctly, protecting confidential information, intellectual property and the security of the organisation.

Is AI secure? What measures will be implemented to ensure data confidentiality and compliance with current privacy regulations?

Within the Group, we have an obligation to use AI safely, ethically and in line with current regulations. We have therefore defined internal policies that establish the principles and rules for the responsible use of this technology, including:

- Data privacy and management, verifying that systems incorporating AI comply with data protection regulations, giving individuals transparency and control over the use of their information.
- The principle of minimisation, so that only strictly necessary data is used.
- Protection, ensuring security and privacy from the design stage of the AI system.
- And cybersecurity, allowing only the use of AI solutions that have been previously evaluated and approved by the Group, thus ensuring a secure and controlled technological environment.

Guidelines for **minimising cybersecurity risks**

Do not open any attachment from a suspicious email or from an unknown sender.

Nor click on a link in a suspicious email.

Before entering your credentials, always check how and in what form they are requested and never enter them on unknown sites.

Do not transport sensitive information on removable devices. If you do, encrypt the information.

Never leave your devices unattended in public places or in your vehicle.

Lock your computer when you leave your workstation.

Do not modify the settings of your corporate device or install unauthorised applications.

Avoid using non-corporate equipment to access company services.

When travelling, do not send sensitive information over untrusted WIFI networks.

Passwords should be secret and should not be shared.

Let's pay attention and be careful!

If you have any doubts or detect anything suspicious, please report it immediately to InfoSecurity@fcc.es.
Thank you very much for your cooperation!

125 years