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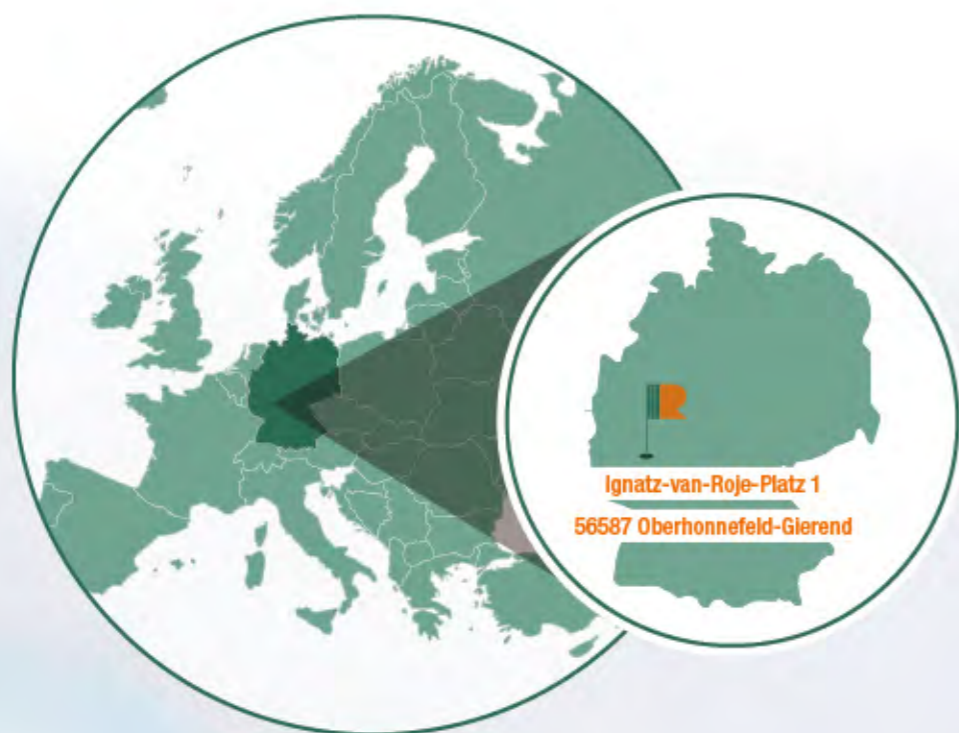
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“ **COMMITTED TO QUALITY AND TRADITION SINCE 1929.** ”

**Quality & tradition:**  
The foundations of our success

Our company history goes back all the way to 1929. That year, Ignatz van Roje established the company as a small pit prop trade. With this, he laid the foundation for one of the leading wood-processing companies in Germany.

**In the heart of Germany and Europe:** We are located at the foot of the Rhein-Westerwald Nature Reserve – one of the most beautiful green regions in the whole of Germany. The conditions are in place for efficient and punctual

logistics with direct access to the A3, which allow us to meetraw material procurement and the international distribution of our products.

**Traditionally, we are committed to efficiently using the raw material wood**, whereby ecological aspects always play an important role. As the raw material quality is natural, every production step demands an optimum use of resources – for corporate reasons and out of a sense of responsibility towards the next generation.

In addition to an **ecological sense of responsibility, highest quality has always been our top priority**. Our reward: Worldwide and long-term customer relations and partnerships. We invest a lot in our employees with solid training and continuous further training. This ensures a high level of qualification and a good working atmosphere. Our customers value the individual service and flexible, efficient production. They place their trust in the high quality of raw materials and finish at all times – this is our sustainable performance promise.





How it all began ...

In 1929, Ignatz van Roje established a small pit prop trade in Neuwied, Germany, thus laying the foundations for one of the leading wood-processing companies in Germany. Starting with an initial 3 employees, the company significantly developed further in 1961. The entry of son-in-law Hans Mühlmeil coincided with the installation of the first multiple blade frame saw amongst others, in order to process stronger coniferous wood. In 1995, a new location was starting to be set up in Oberhonnefeld, as more space was required for the expansion of the company.

“ **TURNING SMALL THINGS INTO SOMETHING REALLY BIG** ”



van Roje today

Today, the company van Roje is expanding further: Consistent investment in technology and product ensures innovation, a healthy and continuous company growth, as well as sustainable value creation – for our customers and for us.



## From company foundation to the new millennium

The company history demonstrates high dynamics. In addition to the further development of the core business, the production of sawn timber, the use of renewable energies and the production of regenerative energy sources are increasing in importance after the turn of the millennium.



**1929 |** On 1 February 1929, Ignatz van Roje signs the business registration, thus laying the foundation for today's internationally operating company.



**1948 |** The company has its origin in the production and transport of wooden posts for surrounding clay pits and ore mines.



**1961 |** In Neuwied, the first sawmill with log yard and gantry crane is put into operation for the production of timber.



**1970 |** The first mechanised gang saw system is installed on newly acquired business premises spanning 2.5 ha. 50 fm/day can now be produced. The first mechanised log yard is established in 1971. The business is growing and creating ever more job opportunities.



**1976 |** Once the old gang saw system reached its maximum capacity, the installation of a new multiple blade frame saw doubles the production volume to 100 fm/day. The new mechanisation significantly facilitates the workflow.



**1988 |** The company premises in Neuwied is expanded once again by a 1.5 ha area for the installation of a chipping-saw line. The gang saw and chipping-saw line now process 150,000 fm coniferous wood per year altogether.



**1996 |** The development of ever more powerful production systems by the plant manufacturers and the lack of expansion options at the Neuwied site prompt the company management to invest in a completely new site in Oberhonnefeld.



**2000 |** The building of the first drying chamber enables a diversification in the area of sawn timber. The company is opening up new customer groups and markets. Additional drying chambers are built to meet demand. Up to 150,000 m<sup>3</sup> of sawn timber is dried in 2019 in 14 drying chambers.



**2007-2008 |** Significant investment is made in renewable energies with building the pellet plant and the biomass heating plant. The sawdust being generated is dried directly on site and pressed into pellets. Only green energy from the heating plant on site is used for this. Van Roje utilises 100% of the raw material in the plant without producing any waste.



**2014 |** The demand for wood pellets is growing, so that investment is made into a bagging unit. Filling into sacks also enables independent sales via an online shop.



**2015 |** The company expands its vehicle fleet and invests in four of its own round timber vehicles. In 2019, seven of the company's own round timber vehicles are already used in the adjacent forests to supply the sawmill.



**2018 & 2019 |** Since May 2018, two new silos with a storage capacity of 5,000 t wood pellets adorn the pellet plant. Modernisation of the two pellet presses and installation of two wood chip crimpers in 2019 increases production capacity of the pellets to 90,000 t wood pellets per year.



**The spruce – Of huge importance for forestry**

The spruce is the bread tree of the German forestry and is one of the most important tree species in managing forests. With a log diameter of up to 1.2 m and usable tree heights of 20 metres, growth is straight and solid.

The core colour is bright-yellowish to reddish-yellow. This tree species with its straight growth in combination with fast growth and few demands of the tree on location and climate make it predestined for use in forestry.

The excellent and universal usability of the spruce wood round off the profile of the raw material. Spruce wood is frequently used for building and construction as well as in the wood material industry, and is available as beams, planks and boards amongst others.



“ **EVERY LOG IS UNIQUE LIKE A FINGER PRINT.** ”

**The Douglas fir – A universal talent**

The Douglas fir was introduced at the beginning of the 19th century from Canada and has been cultivated in Central Europe and Germany ever since. It is characterised by the strong structure pattern and the red-brown colouring of the wood – similar to larch wood. With a log diameter of up to 1.5 metres and natural heights in Europe of 25 metres, the Douglas fir is very solid and at the same time has a particularly high elasticity.

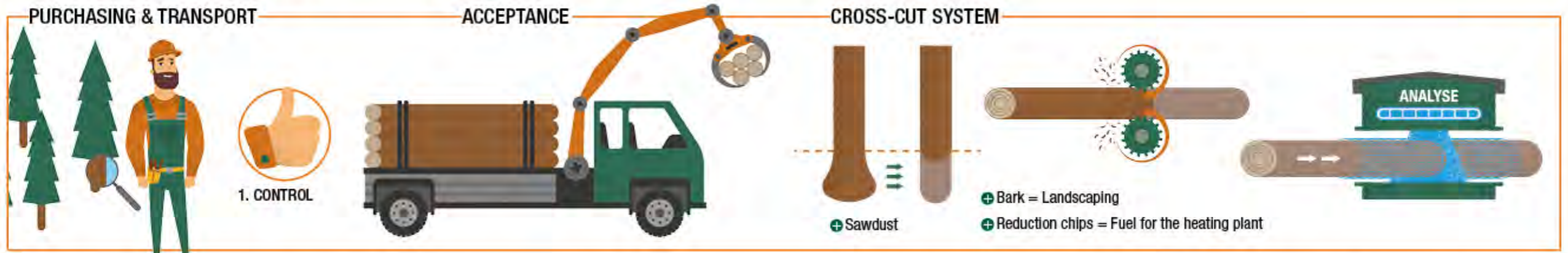
The demand for the highly versatile Douglas fir wood has been steadily growing in past decades.

Douglas fir wood shows its greatest strength in the construction sector: The high strength and weather resistance ensure varied applications, particularly outdoors, e.g. as construction timber. But the visually attractive Douglas fir is also very versatile indoors.

Compared to the spruce, the technical properties of the Douglas fir are largely superior, as the wood is more resistant against fungi and insects, and has a higher tensile, compressive and flexural strength.



# JOURNEY OF THE LOG THROUGH THE PLANT



During round timber acceptance in the forest, the purchaser carries out the first quality check.

The round timber is transported from the forest to the sawmill with our own special vehicles to some extent.

The logs are electronically recorded by batch according to supplier.

This is followed by butt log reduction (the bottom part of the log is milled) and debarking.

After debarking, the logs are measured fully automatically on the calibrated system with a 3-D scanner and also checked for quality defects.



Creation of log sections: The measured log is compared digitally to the order data in the cross cut system, and cut to the required length.

The log sections are sorted and collected by customer orders, until the target quantity is reached.

The log sections are transported from the cord to the sawing line by means of a gantry crane or a dredger.

In the saw line, the log sections are scanned once again to rule out any mix-ups. The sections are then screwed in at an optimum angle and pass through several chipping and circular saw units. Our system operators monitor the process, and at the end, the finished products (square timber, planks, boards) are buffered in a sorting system.



The products are latted, dried and further processed and graded as desired by the customer. Depending on the cross-section, drying in the chamber takes between 3 and 10 days.

The packages are then wrapped in foil and stored accordingly, until the customer order (usually a complete lorry load) is complete.

Delivery usually occurs by lorry on a prearranged date, whereby transport by train or boat can also be used in intermodal traffic.



**Our production:  
Certified and labelled**

Optimum quality and compliance with standards of sustainable forestry are certified regularly by FSC, PEFC™, DIN 4074 or EN 14081. Not only does the high automation ensure a high level of efficiency, but also flexibility and precision. The incoming round timber is scanned and measured, barked and cut and sorted. Our cutting technology is our competitive advantage over competitors: It combines extremely low dimensional tolerances with the highest surface qualities. Consequently, dimensions of 14 m length and cross-sections of 35 cm are entirely possible.

When it comes to sustainable forestry, our requirement for ecological responsibility is equally strong.



“  
**ENERGY FROM BIOMASS.  
REGENERATIVE,  
SUSTAINABLE AND  
CO<sup>2</sup>-NEUTRAL.**  
”

**Measures in production:  
Heat recovery**

Our energy-saving drying plants are used for the fast drying of the timber products cut to size. Innovative heat recovery systems are used to harness the energy of the exhaust air. This means the immense process heat does not escape, but is reused.

We create valuable energy in our biomass heating plant from timber by-products through thermal recycling.

In addition to residual wood from the sawmill, which cannot be used as material due to its quality, wood from landscape conservation is also used as fuel. The flue gases produced during combustion are filtered, and the residual heat of the flue gas is also reused. In this way, we also ensure a responsible approach to nature in energy production.



**More vertical integration with wood finishing**

The timber achieves a higher grade as a result of wood finishing after being cut to size. An additional service, which is increasingly required by our customers. For this reason, our finishing capacities are expanding further. Today, more than half of the products are finished on site, which comprises drying in chambers and planing in particular.

Our task is meeting the product requirements of our customers, for every use and application. Today, we manufacture individual products for many different customers from any industry. From cut-to-size products for the construction of low-energy houses, timber frame and half-timbered buildings, pallets or raw material for crates and heavy goods packaging to products for interior design.





Sustainability and premium quality

EPO Energiepellets Oberhonnefeld GmbH is a subsidiary of van Roje, specialising in the production and distribution of premium wood pellets. Since 2007, high-quality wood pellets have been produced at the Oberhonnefeld site exclusively from the residual wood (wood shavings, wood chips and sawdust) from the sawn timber production in the sawmill. This way it ensures that 100% of the tree is used in the plant, without waste and additional transport costs. Renewable energy from our biomass heating plant is used for the entire production process.



Raw material



Process control



Quality Control / Sampling



Bagging

Production and the product.

The fresh sawdust from the sawing line goes directly to the pellet plant via conveyor belts for further processing. Under high pressure and by adding natural wheat starch as a binding agent, the fine sawdust is pressed through dies. Due to the fresh quality and the consistent moisture content of the sawdust, artificial binding agents need not be added. This also means that no undesirable, harmful exhaust gases are produced by additives during combustion. Dimensional stability is achieved through the binding agent lignin contained in the wood itself, which naturally occurs in the raw material. The diameter of our pellets is approx. 6 mm and the length is 10 – 30 mm. As a leading premium manufacturer of wood pellets, it is our ambition to always meet the highest quality demands. This is documented by the certifications of the manufacturing process according to the current EN and DINplus quality standards. Van Roje pellets are characterised by an above-average calorific value and a very low dust content. The certificate Blue Angel not only guarantees a quality-assured fuel, but also the use of timber from sustainable forestry, and the energy-efficient use of renewable energies.

The advantages of wood pellets are obvious:

- **Cost-saving:** Compared to fossil fuels, there is large potential for savings in the short- and medium-term
- **Environmentally-friendly:** Combustion is CO2-neutral and regionally available and sustainable raw material is used
- **Convenient:** The fully automatic pellet boilers take the required amount of fuel from the store itself, and the heating settings can be managed via the smartphone



**Wood: Energy source of the future**

200 years ago, wood was still the primary energy source. Industrialisation rendered fossil fuels increasingly important, and the proportion of wood has decreased to approx. 11%. But times are changing: The availability of fossil fuels is limited, and their combustion brings with it negative climatic changes. As a result of the energy revolution, the local raw material wood is increasingly gaining in importance as a renewable source of energy. Not least because of the CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral and climate-friendly combustion.

With heat supply contracting to an environmentally friendly heating system: We support you in the planning and financing of a state-of-the-art wood combustion plant, which will be perfectly tailored to your requirements. This offer is aimed specifically at property developers or sponsors of public institutions such as schools or administrations who like to set a good example and heat their buildings with a modern wood combustion system.



Example Loftpark Andernach (www.loftpark-andernach.de)

**Heat supply contracting: convenient, sustainable and regenerative energy supply**

Heat supply contracting is a contractual agreement, where the contractor pre-finances the investment costs for the commercial customer or the public institution and takes on the building and operation of the combustion plant. Consequently, this renders the plant liquidity neutral for the contract partner. Furthermore, he secures an environmentally-friendly, cost-effective fuel supply over a long-term period, a reliable maintenance service for the plant and a flexible and fast technical 24 h support for all eventualities.

Case study Loftpark Andernach: 21 terraced houses and 2 multiple-family dwellings were to be heated with wood pellets. With the support of van Roje regarding the planning, financing and implementation of the wood pellet heating system required for this purpose, all residential units are now sustainably and CO<sub>2</sub>-neutrally supplied with warmth. Following successful commissioning, we reliably take care of the regular fuel supply with our own delivery logistics.

More information can be found on the Internet at [www.vanroje.de](http://www.vanroje.de)



**Holzwerke van Roje: Timber industry with ecological responsibility**

We purchase approx. 400,000 fm of round timber annually in the neighbouring federal states and EU countries, 85% of which is spruce and 15% is Douglas fir. The use of native timber is an important measure here in order to support sustainable forestry, which takes the future generation into account. Because a sustainable timber industry maintains and protects the forest, which also means giving any raw material that was taken an opportunity to regrow. This truly makes the timber industry an important air-conditioning system for our ecological system: Trees absorb a lot of CO<sub>2</sub> during their growth, binding it long-term in the wood. Thus the decision for wood as a raw material is an ecological decision for a climate that is intact.

Careful handling of the factors soil, as well as flora and fauna is relevant in order to operate economically in harmony with nature.

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**TIMBER INDUSTRY WITH ECOLOGICAL RESPONSIBILITY: EVERY END MEANS A NEW BEGINNING**  
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**Our maxim:  
 No economy without ecology**

We have known about the huge responsibility since the company foundation: The economical use of the raw material wood must always consider ecological aspects as well. A responsible handling of available resources is extremely relevant for all our entrepreneurial efforts. This ecological awareness not only forms the basis of our future venture, but is also the foundation of any economic activity.

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