



# CCA findings – Flat glass sector

30 October 2017 – CEPS workshop

# Flat glass: essential to an innovative, circular and low carbon economy

- **Energy efficient** glazing solutions for **buildings**
- Always **stronger and lighter** security glass for **cars**
- Extra clear glass to capture more **solar energy**
- Innovative **IT integration** in flat glass for touch-screen, smart mirrors, solar-heat modulation, invisible sensors and radars for cars, acoustic glass, etc.
- **Recyclable** product with potential for enhanced collection



Savings



Winter  
comfort



Daylight



UV  
Protecting



Acoustic



Design



Privacy

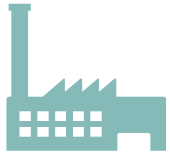


Security



Maintenance

# Glass for Europe and the flat glass sector



## 5 member companies

Produce **9 million tonnes** of float glass annually

Above 90% of the EU production



## 6 national partners

National associations representing **flat glass transformation and processing** in major producing countries



FÉDÉRATION DE L'INDUSTRIE DU VERRE  
VERBOND VAN DE GLASINDUSTRIE



**1 Corporate partner:** automotive glass processor



# Scope of the study: primary float glass

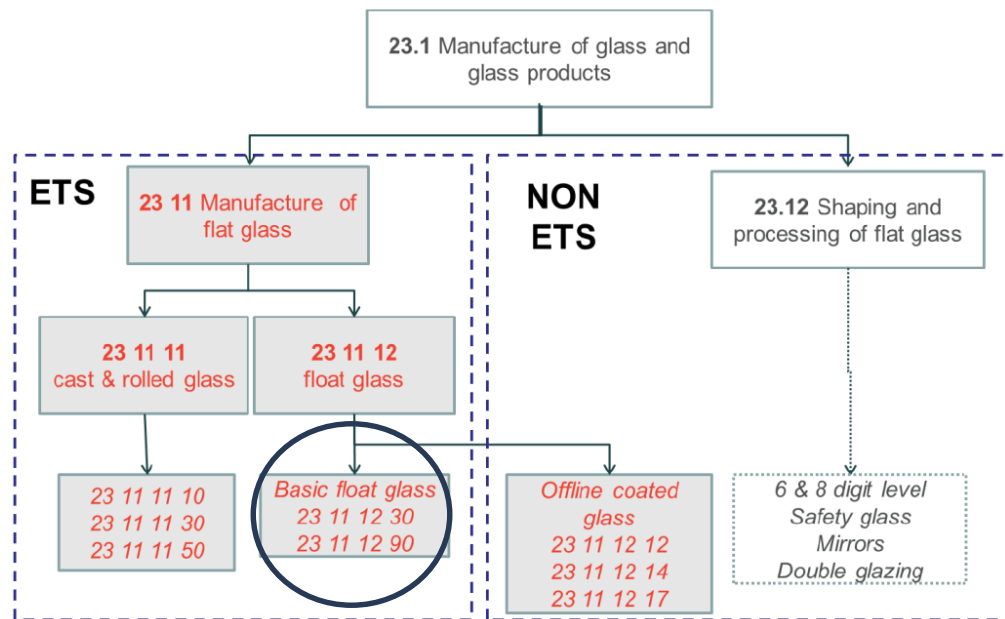


Figure 1. Structure of NACE & PRODCOM codes for flat glass.

## Primary float glass ONLY

*As manufactured in a float plant*

*Identifiable at PRODCOM8: 23.11.12.30 + 23.11.12.90*

***Homogenous product group***

**BUT no transformation, i.e. not an end product**

*De facto excludes / limits impact of legislations applicable to end-products: CPR, Automotive safety regulations, etc.*



# Float glass melting in the European Union

15 to 18 years

Lifetime of a float line with continuous production 24 hours, 365 days a year

46 float glass installations  
in the European Union (52 lines)

650 tonnes

Average daily melting capacity per site

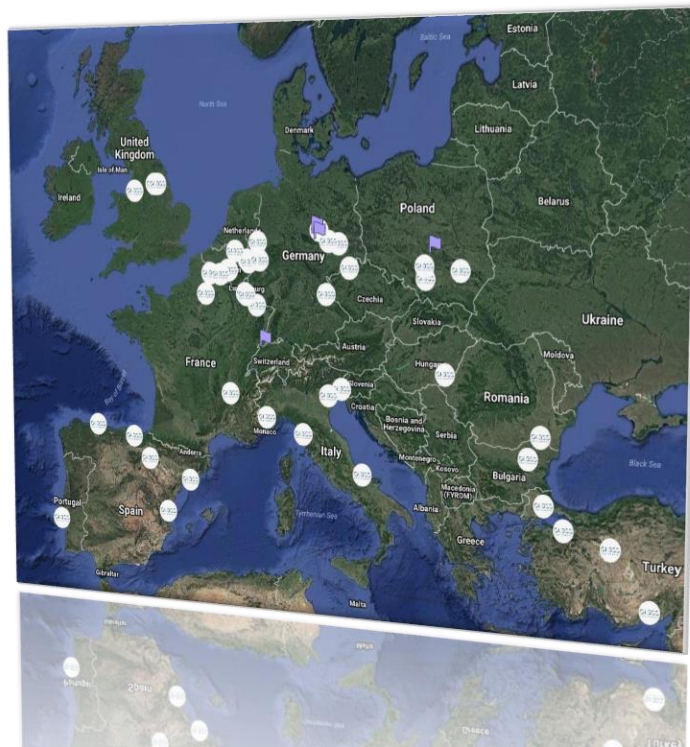
6 float glass producers

**Participation to the CCA:**

*5 Glass for Europe companies*

*15 EU sites (+3 Russian sites)*

*Above 30% of production volume*



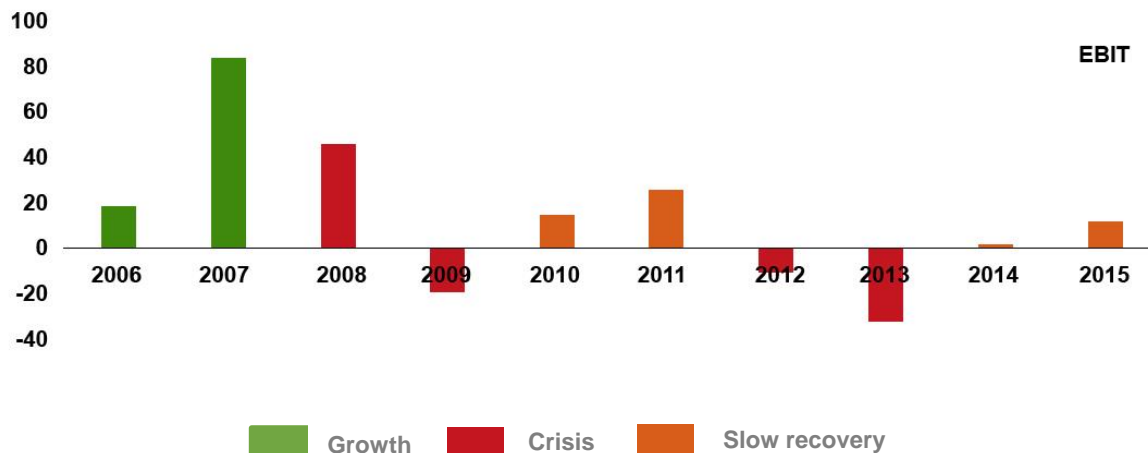
# Conclusions from preliminary findings

1

## High volatility in economic performance

Primary float glass is a **commodity product**: competition on prices, limited margins, swift reaction to downturn

Capacity adjustment limited: high volume continuous production



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## Growing regulatory costs impactful at times of crisis

From 5,6 (2006) to 10,3 EUR / tonne (2014) = **almost x 2 in 10 years**

Up to 78% of EBIT in 2015 – 50% of EBIDTA in 2014

EU costs higher than EBIT during four years: 2009, 2012, 2013 & 2014



# Conclusions from preliminary findings

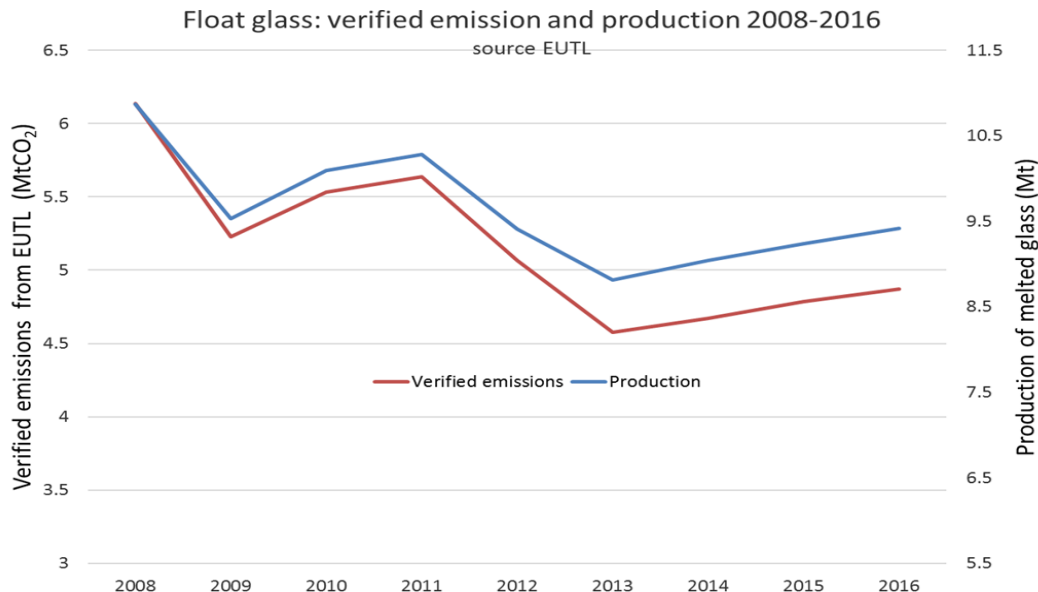
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## Rising cost of climate policy & EU ETS

**Regulatory costs from climate policy doubled** between 2013 & 2015: joint effects of ETS phase III & production recovery

ETS over-allocation due to the sector's crisis ended in 2013.

**Source of cost expected to continue growing:**  
ETS reforms.





# Conclusions from preliminary findings

3

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4

## High regulatory costs linked to electricity consumption

**Nearly 40% of regulatory costs** linked to electricity production vs. +/- 20% for gas while primary energy source is natural gas

An economic disincentive to further electrification?

# International comparison: Russia



## Comparison with Russia made possible

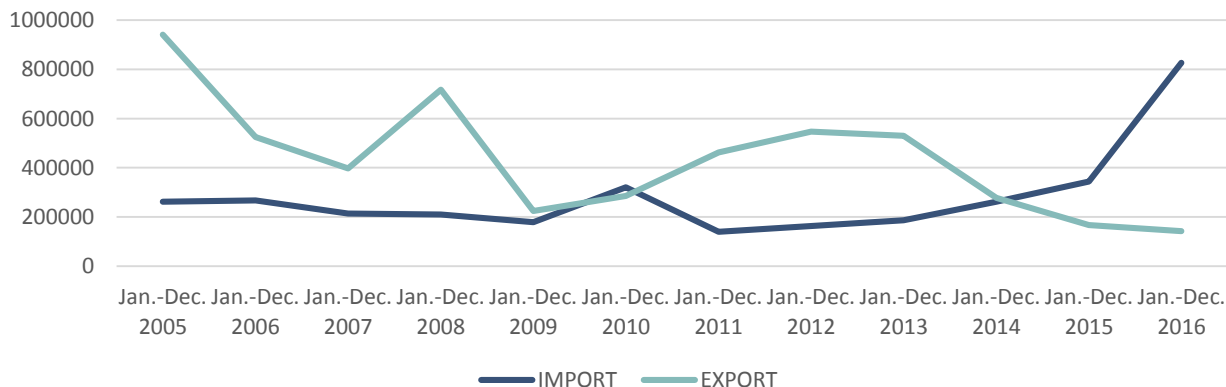
**Twice lower production costs:** EUR 150/t versus 300/t

**Higher profitability:** both EBIT & EBIDTA significantly higher than in the EU

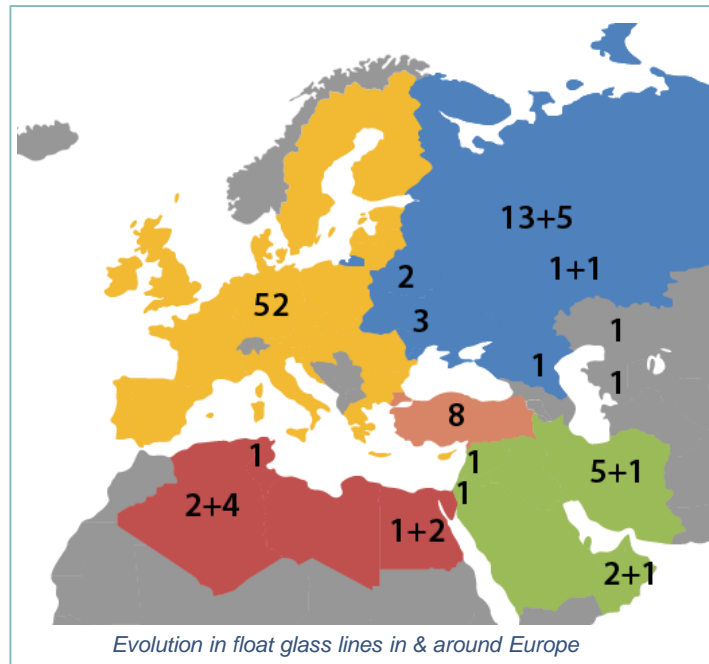
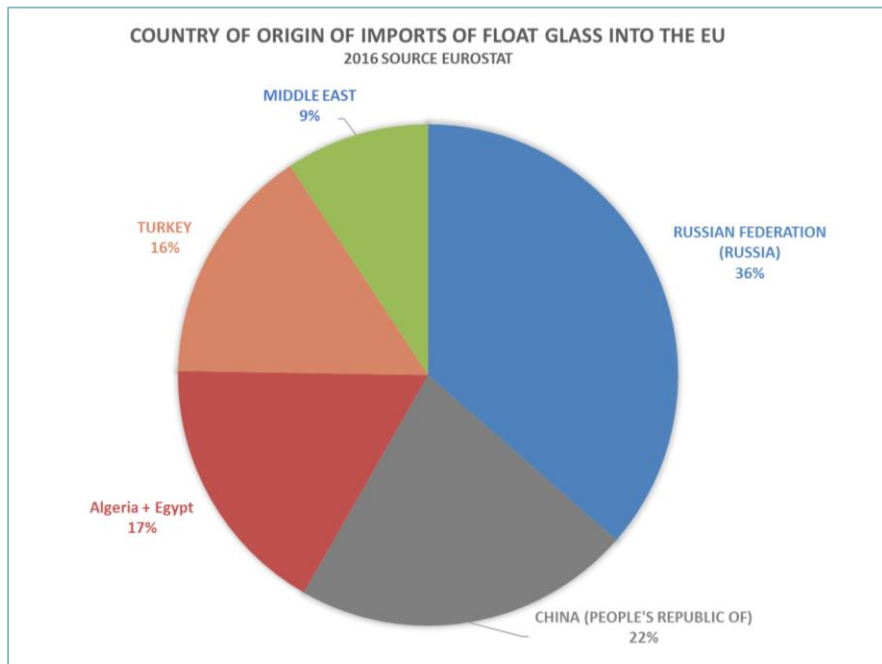
## Russia is a major float glass trade partner

Imports and Exports of primary float glass from Russia

Source Eurostat



# Increased competition from outside EU



- 15 new float glass line projects in countries surrounding the EU with an estimated extra capacity increase of 35%
- Main objectives of the new projects are to target the European market



THANK YOU  
Bertrand Cazes – Secretary General