

# SPECIALIZATION AND GROWTH: MODERNIZATION OF BRONS MENGVOEDERS IN FULL SWING

*Brons Mengvoeders in Voorthuizen, the Netherlands, which was taken over by VanDrie Group last year, has been working hard for quite some time. Recently, the renovated outloading line and premix department were put into operation. The preparations for a new grinding/mixing line are in full swing. With these innovations, the company is ready for the future.*

One year ago, the fact that Brons Mengvoeders had been taken over by VanDrie Group was big news in the animal feed sector. "An obvious next step in our development", says director Jan Brons. "We strive to specialize and grow, because it will provide more perspective for our customers and our staff. This is difficult for a relatively small company, because in such a situation you are very self-dependent, and you always must go out there to gain knowledge and advice in order to get the necessary expertise. Now all it takes is a phone call to get the information we want; within the Group there is a broad team to support us. VanDrie group saw us as a market and knowledge enabler and they achieved that with this acquisition".



*Rijk Melissen, team leader en directeur Jan Brons.*

## INNOVATIONS

A great deal has been invested in the factory in recent years. A process that had already started well before the acquisition by VanDrie. "The obtained permits offer space to grow. The most recently completed renovations to the production facility, that has a height of 30 meters, are the outloading line and the premix department", Brons says. Both provide space for the existing and new process lines. "Because this building is on the site of the previous office, a new office building was also built."

The newly installed premix plant contains 24 circular stainless-steel cells, each with an 11-ton capacity. The truck loading line has been modernized. The second one is new with 4 pre-loading bins, each consisting of 11 bunkers with 6-tons capacity.



Currently, a new grind/mixing line is being prepared. The line will be equipped with a Van Aarsen frequency-controlled hammer mill of over 300 kW with automatic sieve change. The grinding line is fed by two pre-mixers. "With a mixing possibility above the mill we are better able to get a homogeneous product. Under the hammer mill, a new 4-ton ribbon blender will be installed, so we will soon be able to easily produce 30 tons per hour," Brons says.

The main contractor for the projects is Machinefabriek en Constructiebedrijf Jan Heij from Wekerom. The factory automation is provided by AuteQ from Ederveen and KSE from Bladel.

The milk powder factory was recently shut down. This facility has been taken over by Tentego in Mijdrecht and Schils in Sittard, two specialized milk powder manufacturers of the VanDrie Group.



*Fallpipes under the pre-loading bins.*

## LOGISTICS

Significant steps have been taken to make the transport process more efficient. The four new pre-loading bins ensure a truck is loaded in a matter of minutes. The transport process is also coordinated with other production companies within the VanDrie Group.

Brons says that with the new investments, the foundations have been laid for further development of the company. "With the modernized factory and now being part of a larger player in the animal feed sector, we are well placed to further develop our business. We are ready for it."



*Loading bellows with dust-extraction.*



## **HISTORY**

Brons Mengvoeders is located in Voorthuizen. The company started at the edge of the existing residential area. Over the years, more houses have been built near the company. The company is now located in the middle of a residential area and, partly because of this, there is regular consultation with the surrounding area to make agreements about the business activities of Brons Mengvoeders. The acquisition by the VanDrie Group offers continuity to Brons' long history. The family business started in 1929. All jobs at Brons have been retained, as has the companies' name and location. The Brons family has remained involved in all business activities.

## **FACTS AND FIGURES**

Brons Mengvoeders belongs to the group of medium-sized compound feed manufacturers. The company produces 100,000 tons of compound feed per year, 40 percent cattle feed and 40 percent pig feed. In addition, poultry feeds and specialty feeds are produced. Production takes place in two-shift operation during a 5-day week. An important component in the company is feed for young animals.

*Source: De Molenaar*