



STATEMENT AWS – Marc du Bois

The protection and sustainable management of water resources have always been in Spadel’s DNA. For us, water is a precious common good that needs to be protected in order to guarantee its quality and purity today and also for future generations.

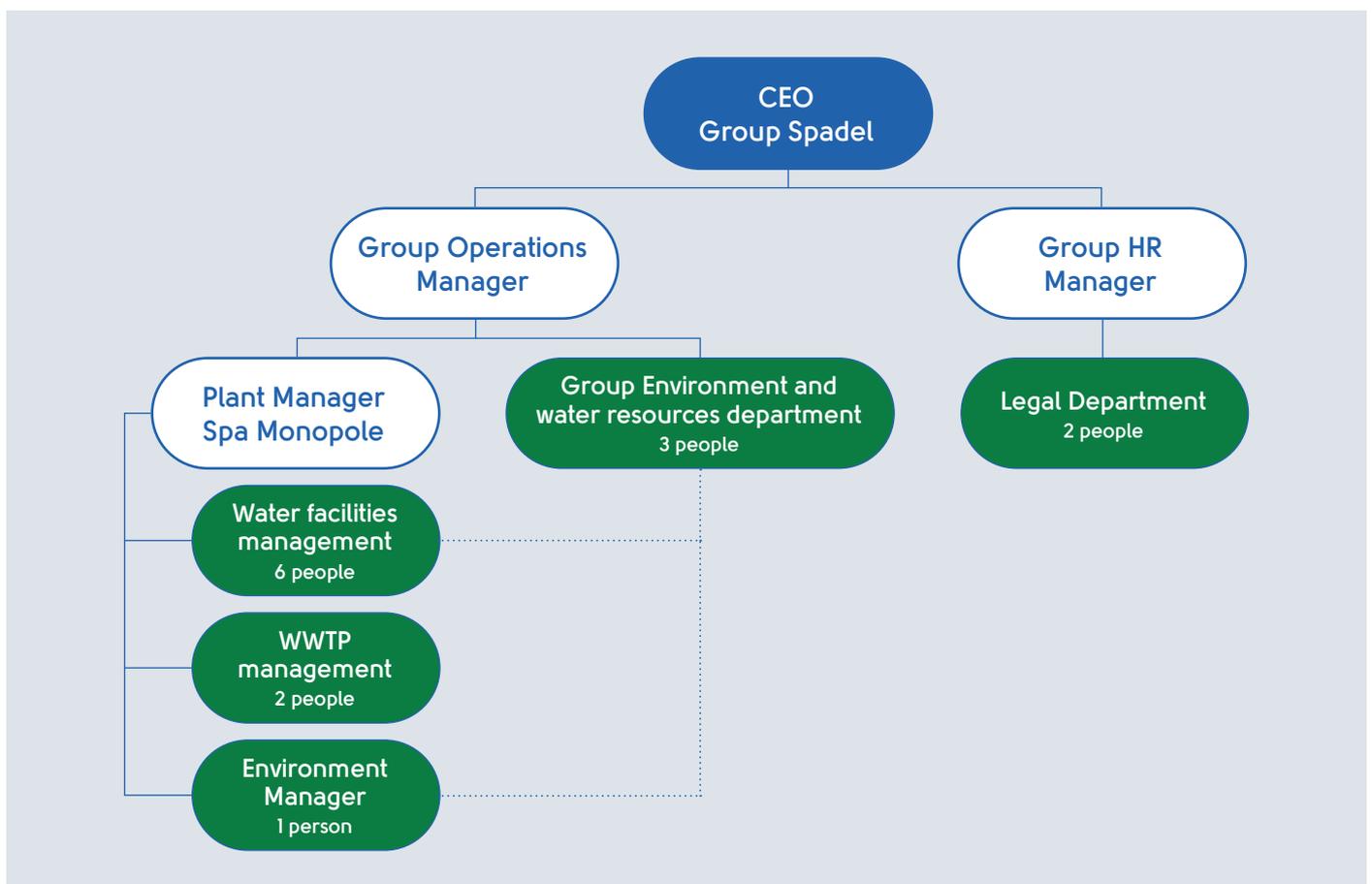
With Spa Monopole (bottling plant of the Spadel Group), we were able to benefit from the effects of the first water protection laws put in place as early as 1772. The protection went a step further in 1889 with the setting up of a protection area for Spa natural mineral and thermal waters, *a first in Europe*.

Spadel has positioned itself as a pioneer and has continuously pursued the implementation of measures to protect Spa’s water resources through projects and partnerships with local, regional and national stakeholders. Some examples are: Modus Vivendi 1967, Establishment of a Regional Environmental Initiation Centre, Source Emergency Plan, Support for the European Life project “Ardenne Liégeoise”, and the Creation and support of the Parc Naturel des Sources.

Our objective is to protect and valorize this exceptional regional patrimony.

Thanks to this experience, which has been recognized and awarded several times (CERAM 2009 Prize, EWS GOLD level certification, ...) and inspired by all the good practices implemented on other sites throughout the world, Spadel continues to improve the protection of the water resources and their environments.

The importance of sustainable water management to Spadel is reflected in the multitude of people throughout the organization that are involved, as reflected in the below organigramme.



It is within this framework that Spadel has committed to certify all production sites to the highest level (Platinum) of the [Alliance for Water Stewardship \(AWS\)](#) standard by 2025.

Committing to AWS certification means:

- To have your management methods evaluated by an independent external body and
- To engage in a process of continuous improvement.

To implement the standard, each of Spadel's sites commits to following points:

- Implement and disclose progress on water stewardship program(s) to achieve improvements in AWS water stewardship outcomes
- implementation will be aligned to and in support of existing catchment sustainability plans
- site's stakeholders will be engaged in an open and transparent way
- allocate resources to implement the Standard.

In this way, our consumers and stakeholders can be assured that the Spa waters are managed and bottled sustainably: without overexploitation, within the limits set by the local legal framework, and in all transparency and trust with other local actors using this water.

As a water user and a pioneer in water resource protection measures, we encourage all organizations that use water to commit themselves to the application of these best practices and certification (such as AWS). Because it is all together that we will succeed in this enormous challenge of preserving our water resources and guaranteeing them for future generations.

For any questions, do not hesitate to contact Spadel at info@spadel.be.

"When man protects water, water protects man".

Marc du Bois
CEO Spadel



The AWS International Water Stewardship Standard

The AWS standard (Alliance for Water Stewardship, www.a4ws.org) describes good methods of the sustainable use of water in the production of various products (agriculture, industry, etc.). It is jointly developed by companies, NGOs and the public sector.

It achieves this by engaging water-using sites in understanding and addressing water basin challenges as well as site water risks and opportunities in terms of five outcomes:

