

Agristo is investigating new production site in France.

Belgian potato processor Agristo is planning the construction of a new production site in northern France. Agristo announced, in the presence of French industry minister Roland Lescure, that it will carry out a feasibility study on **a site in Escaudoeuvres.**

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- Hannelore Raes, co-CEO Agristo





The site has been on the market recently. In March, sugar producer Tereos closed its facilities there. **"We see a lot of potential, but there are still some technical and administrative challenges,"** says Hannelore Raes, co-CEO at Agristo. "We're fully aware of the symbolic value. This site has a 150-year history in the agri-food industry. We are happy to continue this with a modern, sustainable production site where we will call on the expertise of French potato growers."

For the producer of frozen potato inspired products, expansion just across the border is a logical choice. France is already showing itself as an important market for the family business. Moreover, the northern French region lends itself perfectly to potato cultivation. The convenient location near Cambrai and the future Seine-Nord canal also proved important. Thanks to the proximity of Agristo's Belgian sites in Wielsbeke, Harelbeke and Nazareth, the company also foresees smooth cohesion and great complementarity with its other production facilities.

"This investment fits within Agristo's growth plan," explains Hannelore Raes. "We want to continue to develop in a growing market. That's why we are continuing to invest in the existing production sites at the same time." Besides the 3 current Belgian sites, the potato processor is also located in the Netherlands (Tilburg) and in India.

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