

Brenntag's history at a glance

2025 Corporate	Jens Birgersson new CEO Jens Birgersson takes over from CEO Christian Kohlpaintner in September 2025.
2023 Corporate	Sustainability management awarded gold status Brenntag ranks among the top 3% of companies and was awarded gold status in the latest EcoVadis assessment in June 2025.
2025 Corporate	Brenntag SE expands Supervisory Board to eight members In addition to serving members Richard Ridinger (Chairman), Stefanie Berlinger (Deputy Chairwoman), Ulrich Harnacke, Wijnand Donkers and Suja Chandrasekaran, Dominik de Daniel, Karl von Rohr and Susanne Wiegand are elected to the Supervisory Board in May 2025.
2025 Corporate	Thomas Reisten new CFO Thomas Reisten takes over from CFO Dr Kristin Neumann in April 2025.
2024 Corporate	150 years of Brenntag In October 2024, Brenntag celebrates its 150th anniversary, signifying an extraordinary milestone in the company's remarkable journey.
2023 Corporate	Richard Ridinger elected Supervisory Board Chairperson of Brenntag In June 2023, Richard Ridinger is unanimously elected new Chairman of the Supervisory Board.

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2023 Corporate	Michael Friede appointed CEO of Brenntag Specialties In April 2023, Michael Friede becomes Chief Executive Officer of Brenntag Specialties and a member of the Management Board.
2023 Corporate	Ewout van Jarwaarde appointed CEO of Brenntag Essentials In April 2023, Ewout van Jarwaarde becomes Chief Executive Officer of Brenntag Essentials and a member of the Management Board.
2023 Corporate	Achievement of platinum status for sustainability management for the first time After Brenntag once again improved its performance in the independent EcoVadis assessment, the company was awarded platinum status for the first time for its sustainability management.
2022 Corporate	Introduction of the new brand In November 2022, Brenntag launches its new brand. It stands for the company's successful transformation over the past years and Brenntag's ambition to shape the future of its industry as the undisputed global market leader.
2022 Corporate	"Strategy to Win": introduction of strategic growth plan At its Capital Markets Day on November 10, 2022, Brenntag announces its strategic growth plan including new mid-term targets until 2026. "Strategy to Win" comprises dedicated growth strategies for both global divisions, details and targets for the company's digital, data, and excellence transformation as well as its sustainability and M&A strategy.
2022 Corporate	Kristin Neumann new CFO The Ph.D. economist and former LSG manager Kristin Neumann takes over from CFO Georg Müller in April 2022.

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2021 Corporate	Member of the DAX In September 2021, Brenntag SE is included in the DAX of Deutsche Börse AG.
2021 Acquisition	Brenntag expands its Essentials business With the acquisitions of ICL Packed in the UK and Matrix Chemical in the United States, Brenntag further strengthens its Essentials business.
2021 Acquisition	Creating the leading food ingredients distributor in North America Brenntag acquires JM Swank, a large leading food ingredients distributor in the USA. This is an important step in becoming the leading full-line distributor of food ingredients and process chemicals in the North American market.
2021 Corporate	Brenntag commits to 100% green electricity by 2025 and joins RE100 initiative Brenntag commits to switching its electricity consumption completely to green electricity by 2025. In addition, Brenntag joins the global RE100 initiative that unites the largest and most successful companies in their efforts to a complete switch to renewable electricity.
2021 Corporate	New legal form: Change from AG to SE The conversion process from a German Aktiengesellschaft (AG) into a European Company (Societas Europaea, SE) has been completed.

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2021 Corporate	Successful go-live of new operating model Brenntag implements its new operating model with two global divisions: Brenntag Essentials and Brenntag Specialties. This marks a decisive step within Project Brenntag, the comprehensive transformation program aiming to expand Brenntag's position as global market leader and to lead the company back to sustainable organic earnings growth.
2021 Corporate	Chief Transformation Officer (CTO) completes Management Board Ewout van Jarwaarde starts as Chief Transformation Officer (CTO) and member of the Management Board in January 2021.
2020 Acquisition	Further expansion of the market coverage Brenntag expands its business worldwide and acquires Oils 'R Us (Thailand), Comelt (Italy) and Alpha Chemical (Canada).
2020 Corporate	Doreen Nowotne elected Supervisory Board Chairperson of Brenntag In June 2020, Doreen Nowotne is unanimously elected new chairwoman of the Supervisory Board.
2020 Corporate	Achievement of gold status for sustainability management in sixth consecutive time For the sixth time in a row, Brenntag has improved its performance in the EcoVadis sustainability assessment and has been awarded Gold status for its sustainability management.
2020 Corporate	Christian Kohlpaintner new CEO The Ph.D. chemist and former Clariant manager Christian Kohlpaintner takes over from CEO Steven Holland in January 2020.

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2019 Acquisition	Expansion of global market coverage <p>In the USA, Brenntag acquires Marlin Company, Inc., expanding its value-added services portfolio, and B&M Oil, fostering its lubricants business. The acquisition of industrial and specialty chemicals distributor Quimisa increases Brenntag's market position in Brazil. In addition, Brenntag acquires the Taiwanese company Neuto Chemical Corp. and the South African Chemgrit Cosmetics. In addition, the acquisition of Tan International strengthens Brenntag's position in the UK.</p>
2019 Corporate	Joint Venture with TEEHAI in Singapore <p>Brenntag enters a joint venture with Tee Hai Chem Pte Ltd., a strategic market leader in providing supply chain solutions for the Life Sciences, Electronics manufacturing and Research & Diagnostics sectors in Singapore and Southeast Asia.</p>
2019 Acquisition	Expansion portfolio in the USA <p>With the acquisitions of the lubricants division of Reeder Distributors Inc., the specialty chemical distributor New England Resins & Pigments Corporation, Brenntag expands its coverage and offering in local US markets.</p>
2018 Corporate	Launch of Brenntag Food & Nutrition <p>Brenntag launches its global Food & Nutrition brand and strengthens its position as leading provider of food ingredients to the marketplaces around the globe.</p>
2018 Acquisition	Strengthening the specialty chemicals business <p>Acquisitions of the chemicals distribution business of Canada Colors and Chemicals Ltd. (Canada), Alphamin S.A. (Belgium), Desbro Group (Kenya) and Pachem Distribution Inc. (Canada).</p>

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2017 Acquisition	Continued international growth Brenntag grows through targeted acquisitions, including Petra Industries (USA), the pipeline and chemicals services segment of Greene's Energy Group (USA), Wellstar Group (China), Raj Petro Specialties (India), Kluman and Balter Limited (UK), A1 Cake Mixes Limited (UK), and Quimitécnica (Portugal and Spain).
2017 Corporate	Official formation of Brenntag South Africa (Pty) Ltd. Brenntag strengthens chemical distribution in South Africa with the official formation of Brenntag South Africa (Pty) Ltd.
2017 Corporate	Brenntag Headquarters move to Essen Brenntag AG, Brenntag Holding GmbH and Brenntag GmbH move into the new "House of Elements".
2017 Corporate	Sustainability Report for the Financial Year 2016 published Brenntag reports full-year figures for energy consumption, and emissions for the first time.
2016 Acquisition	Further expansion of the market coverage Acquisitions of ACU PHARMA und CHEMIE GmbH (Germany), Whanee Corporation (South Korea), Warren Chem (South Africa), Mayes County Petroleum Products (USA), the Lubricants Business of NOCO Inc. (USA) and EPChem (Singapore).
2016 Corporate	Towards greater sustainability Brenntag achieves Gold-Status in EcoVadis Sustainability Assessment and becomes full member of TfS initiative.
2016 Corporate	Brenntag on the move Official groundbreaking ceremony for the new Brenntag Headquarters, the "House of Elements" in Essen, Germany.

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2015 Acquisition	Continued international growth <p>Continued growth through targeted acquisitions, including Lionheart (South Africa), Quimicas Meroño (Spain), Trychem (Dubai), Parkoteks (Turkey), TAT Group (Singapore).</p>
2015 Corporate	Together for Sustainability <p>Brenntag joins the industry initiative “Together for Sustainability”.</p>
2015 Corporate	“ConnectingChemistry” <p>Brenntag reinforces brand identity with “ConnectingChemistry” as its key strap line.</p>
2015 Corporate	Brenntag AG expands Management Board to five members <p>In addition to serving members Steven Holland (CEO) and Georg Müller (CFO), Brenntag managers Karsten Beckmann, Markus Klähn and Henri Nejade are appointed to the Board.</p>
2014 Acquisition	Expansion of the market coverage <p>Acquisitions of Gafor Distribuidora (Brazil), Philchem (USA), Chimab (Italy), SurtiQuímicos (Columbia), and Fred Holmberg & Co (Sweden).</p>
2014 Corporate	Brenntag joins the UN Global Compact <p>Brenntag joins the UN Global Compact, a worldwide initiative based on CEO commitments to implement universal sustainability principles and to undertake partnerships in support of UN goals.</p>

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2013 Acquisition	Further Growth <p>With the acquisition of Blue Sky Environment Pty Ltd. Brenntag increases its presence in Australia. Furthermore, Brenntag acquires the chemical distribution division of the Zytex Group (India) as well as the operational business of Kemira Water (Denmark).</p>
2012 Corporate	100 Years Brenntag <p>Brenntag looks back on 100 years of successful history in the chemical distribution industry.</p>
2012 Corporate	Brenntag opens new head office in India <p>Brenntag inaugurates its new head office in Mumbai, India. This new office represents Brenntag's continued commitment to invest in India and ensures that the company has ample room for its planned growth.</p>
2012 Acquisition	100 % free float <p>The free float of the Brenntag shares increases to 100 percent through the selling of the remaining shares of Brachem Acquisitions S.C.A.</p>
2012 Acquisition	International expansion <p>Continued growth through targeted acquisitions, including Amco Internacional S.A. de C.V. (Mexico), Petrolube (Italy), ISM/Salkat-Group (Australia and New Zealand), Delanta Group (Argentina, Uruguay, Chile), and TER Corporation and ALTIVIA Corporation (USA).</p>
2011 Acquisition	Brenntag gains market access to China <p>By acquiring Zhong Yung (International) Chemical Ltd. Brenntag achieves the strategic market entry in China.</p>

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2011 Acquisition	Expansion in North America <p>Brenntag announces the acquisition of G.S. Robins & Company (USA). The acquisition enables Brenntag to improve its presence in several of Brenntag's focus industries including the Food & Nutrition, and Water Treatment industries.</p>
2011 Acquisition	Expansion in Europe and Africa <p>Thanks to the acquisition of Multisol Group Ltd. (UK), Brenntag further develops its market position in the distribution of specialty chemicals with focus on lubricants and base oils including mixing and blending capabilities in Central and Eastern Europe and Africa.</p>
2010 Corporate	Member of the MDAX index <p>On June 21, 2010, Brenntag AG joins the MDAX index of Deutsche Börse.</p>
2010 Corporate	Prime Standard Segment <p>Since March 29, the Brenntag share is traded at the Frankfurt Stock Exchange in the Prime Standard Segment.</p>
2010 Acquisition	Acquisition of EAC Industrial Ingredients Ltd. A/S <p>With the acquisition of EAC Industrial Ingredients Ltd. A/S Brenntag significantly expands its presence in Asia Pacific.</p>
2010 Acquisition	Expansion in the USA <p>Brenntag agrees with Houghton Chemical Corporation (HCC) to acquire certain assets of the Industrial Chemicals & Solvents division of HCC, thus adding to its strong market position in North America. The high-quality business provides an important contribution to Brenntag North America's geographic and strategic position in New England.</p>

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2008 Acquisition	Brenntag enters the Southeast Asian market With the transfer of Rhodia's chemical distribution operations in Australia, India, Taiwan, and the ASEAN countries of Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam, Brenntag enters the Asia Pacific region and substantially extends its global distribution network.
2007-09 Acquisition	Continued international growth Continued growth through targeted acquisitions, including St. Lawrence Chemical (Canada), Ulrich Chemical (USA), Natural World (Italy), Abaci (Turkey), Schoofs (USA), Dipol (Ukraine, Latvia, and Russia), Schmidt (Netherlands), Inquimex (Argentina), and Austro Corp. (Mexico), as well as distribution rights in Sweden, and Belgium of Yara International ASA (Norway).
2006 Acquisition	Expansion in the USA, Switzerland, UK, and Canada Continued expansion with focus on achieving leading market positions including acquisitions of LA Chemical (USA)), Schweizerhall Chemie (Switzerland), Albion Chemicals Group (UK), and Wil-Chem Specialty Chemicals (Canada).
2005 Corporate	Expansion in Poland and the USA Brenntag opens a facility in Poznan, Poland, as well as an integrated distribution center in Lancaster, Texas.
2005 Acquisition	Acquisition of U.S. business of Quadra Effective October 31, 2005, Brenntag has acquired 100% of the outstanding shares of Quadra Chemicals Inc., distributor of industrial and specialty chemicals in the USA.

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2004 Corporate	Development of facilities in Germany and Brazil Brenntag records significant progress in the development of facilities, including the fully automatic high-bay warehouse in Duisburg, Germany, and the expansion of a key hub facility in Sao Paulo, Brazil.
2004 Acquisition	Expansion in Poland and Turkey With the acquisition of Orlen Polimer (Poland) and the founding of a new subsidiary in Turkey, Brenntag Kimya, Brenntag continues to expand its activities.
2004 Acquisition	Expansion in the UK Brenntag acquires the specialty chemicals distribution business from Aquacryl Ltd./Chemacryl Ltd. (UK).
2002 Acquisition	Purchase of 50% of Biesterfeld Chemiedistribution Brenntag acquires an initial 50% stake in Biesterfeld Chemiedistribution, significantly expanding its distribution capacity in Germany. The stake in the company is gradually increased until it is almost completely taken over.
2000 Acquisition	Acquisition of Holland Chemical International Brenntag acquires Holland Chemical International, the then fifth-largest chemical distributor worldwide, with large market shares in Scandinavia, Eastern Europe, and the United States, and a leading market position in Latin America, where Brenntag previously had not been represented.
1998 Acquisition	Acquisition of Milsov Brenntag continues expansion in U.S. market.

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1993 Acquisition	Acquisition of Southchem Brenntag acquires Southchem (USA), thus continuing its expansion in the U.S. market.
1990 Acquisition	Brenntag continues to grow in Europe Brenntag continues to grow in Europe through acquisitions (including Wülfing, Rühl, and Schuster & Sohn (Germany), GDC, Orchidis and Bonnavé-Dubar (France), and Sepic and Bombardieri-Cambiaghi Group (Italy) and joint ventures (including Staub & Co. and CVH (Hannover in Germany)).
1990 Acquisition	Market entry in Central and Eastern Europe Brenntag's takeover of the Neuber Group (Austria) allows the company to enter the Central and Eastern European markets.
1989 Acquisition	Brenntag acquires Crown and PB&S Chemicals Brenntag continues its expansion by taking over the U.S. distribution companies Crown and PB&S Chemicals.
1980-86 Acquisition	Expansion in the USA Brenntag's U.S. expansion includes acquisitions of distributors Western Chemical (1980), Textile Chemical (1981), and Delta (1986).
1970-79 Acquisition	U.S. business established, acquisitions in Europe Brenntag establishes its U.S. business and continues acquisitions in the European and North American chemicals distribution business.
1966 Acquisition	Brenntag becomes multinational Brenntag becomes multinational, acquiring Balder in Belgium.

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1950-59 Corporate	Expansion in Germany Brenntag expands its warehousing network and product lines, including inorganic and organic chemicals, solvents, plastics, resins, and specialty chemicals.
1943-44 Corporate	Relocation of the headquarters The head office is relocated from Berlin to Mülheim an der Ruhr.
1938 Corporate	Renaming to „Brenntag“ “Brennstoff-, Chemikalien- und Transport AG” becomes “Brenntag”.
1912 Corporate	Entry into chemical distribution business The company enters the chemical distribution market.
1874 Corporate	Brenntag is founded in Berlin Philipp Mühsam founds an egg wholesale in Berlin, which later will be renamed “Brenntag”.