



**Brussels, 2 February 2026
(OR. en)**

5883/26

**COMPET 131
MI 86
IND 86
INTER-REP 6**

NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations
Subject: Presentation by Elemental Battery Metals Sp. z o.o.(agenda item 2) at the Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth (High Level) on 29 January 2026

Delegations will find attached a presentation by Elemental Battery Metals Sp. z o.o., with a view to the discussion by the Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth (High Level) at its meeting on 29 January 2026.

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Project Polvolt – CRM strategic project

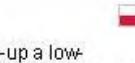
**Polvolt – A world-class e-waste and black mass
recycling facility in Europe**

January 2026

Strictly private & confidential

Elemental Holding at a glance

Largest recycler of PGMs globally and of upstream e-waste in Europe

Current operations		Ongoing downstream and BEV metals expansion		Project Polvolt	
PGMs	E-waste / non-ferrous	PGM smelter and refinery	Battery recycling	E-waste / Cu smelter and refinery	Black mass refinery
<p><i>Global</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Leading global recycler of PGMs from spent autocatalysts ("SACs") ✓ Among largest global sourcing networks of SACs ✓ Producing PGM monolith 	<p><i>Global</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Leading European recycler of E-waste ✓ US platform through Colt acquisition ✓ Large European non-ferrous business focussed on aluminium, copper, and lead ✓ Producing copper / gold concentrate 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ramping-up a low emission, high-tech PGM smelter / refinery ✓ Powered by renewable energy ✓ Processing Elemental PGM monolith as raw material 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Developing largest European LiB recycling platform in Poland (with shredders globally) ✓ Battery throughput: >50kt shredding ✓ Ramping-up capacity in Poland and FEED stage project in Germany 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Green secondary copper and precious metals smelter / refinery ✓ Fully devoted to processing Elemental E-waste as raw material ✓ Powered by renewable energy 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ NMC and LFP black mass refinery ✓ Captive feedstock from Elemental's subsidiaries, partners and broader network ✓ Powered by renewable energy 

Elemental's strong financial position

Elemental Holding Financials (US\$m)			
	2022	2023	2024
Revenue	1,533	948	983
EBITDA	98	34	92
EBITDA margin	6%	4%	9%
CAPEX	19	91	33

Source: Company Information

Established customer base & trading partners



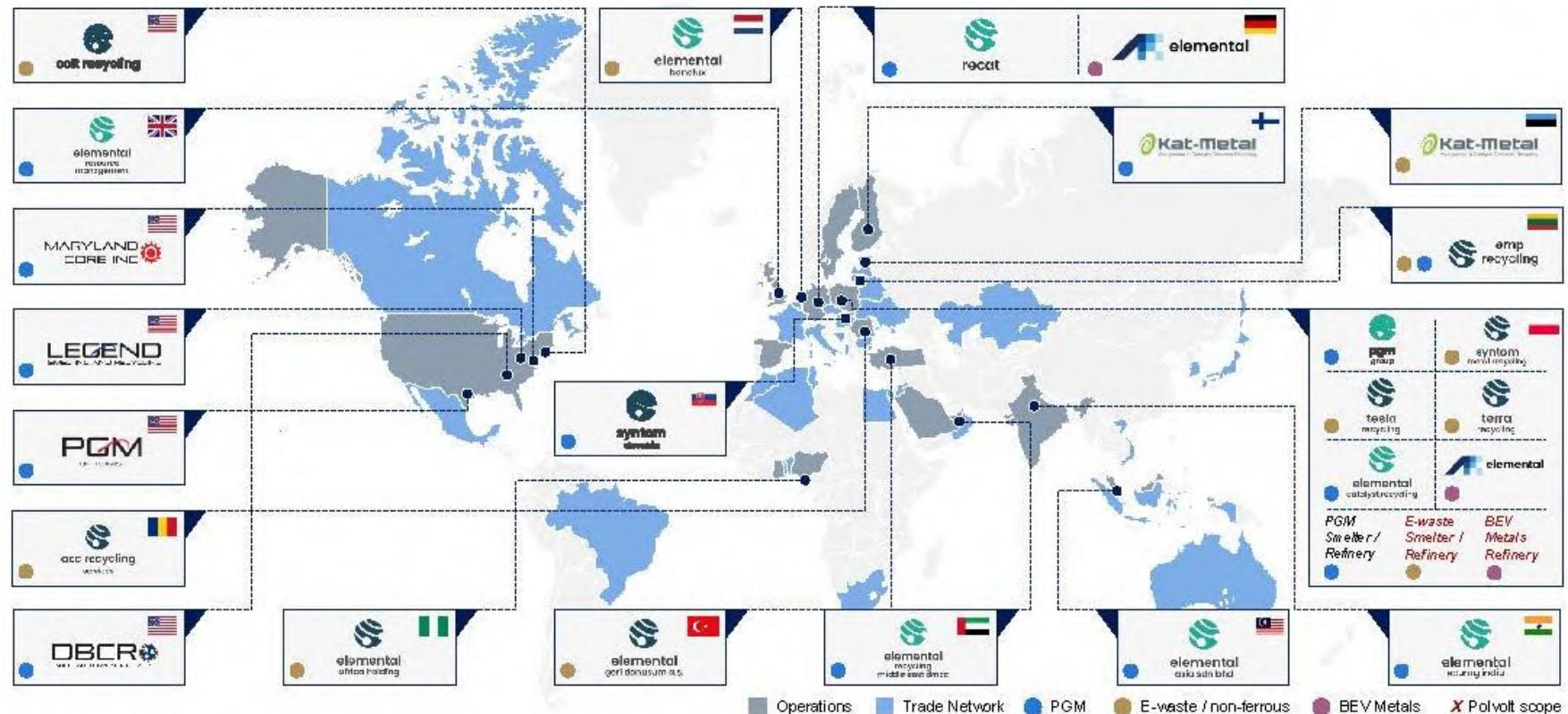
Transforming the metals recycling industry

Largest ever equity raise in metals recycling	US\$400m
Substantial grants awarded (Europe and PL)	
Largest recycler of PGMs globally	>0.5 Moz
Strongest M&A track record in the sector	20 deals
Clear path to becoming a large copper producer	>50 kt

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Elemental has a unique global footprint in metals recycling

“Urban Mine” with ~80 collection and processing locations globally, 20 acquisitions, 5000 suppliers, present in 35 countries



Source: Company Information

Note: AE Elemental is a JV between Ascend and Elemental, facility in Germany is at an early development stage

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Accelerated development from an urban miner into a large-scale integrated recycler

Experienced project developer, building and commissioning a EUR200m PGM smelter / refinery, black mass shredder and solar PV farm on time and on budget at Elemental's Zawiercie site in Southern Poland

Equity capital raised	Strategic partnership established	Execution of M&A pipeline	Demonstrated project delivery expertise
 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Total US\$400m equity capital raised from four institutional investorsIFC (World Bank), EBRD, PFR and Silk Road Fund together own a minority stake	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Strategic partnerships and joint ventures across broader PGM value chain (Mitsubishi Corp) and battery recycling (Ascend Elements)⁽¹⁾Partners will accelerate Elemental's growth	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Number of complementary M&A transactions executed across PGM and e-waste recyclingSignificantly strengthened US footprint	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">c.EUR200m PGM smelter / refinery built and commissioned in Poland on budget and within 11 monthsBlack mass shredder and solar PV farm also built on time and on budgetDemonstrated knowledge of Polish permitting and planning procedures
US\$400MM Largest metals recycling raise ever			10ktpa smelting 2Moz refining

Source: Company Information
Note: (1) Collaboration with Ascend Elements on battery recycling does not extend to Polott. As such, Ascend Elements has no pre-emptive rights towards Polott

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Elemental completed in 2023 CRM project - PGM smelter&refinery and first battery shredder in 2024

Collection and processing of spent autocatalysts into PGM monolith – Strong track record demonstrated by Elemental's PGM smelter / refinery constructed on time and budget in 2024 and successfully ramped up

Elemental has built a state-of-the-art PGM smelter & refinery in Europe		EUR72m EU grant	Q4 2022 Start of construction	Ramp-up Status
Location				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Situated in Zawiercie, Poland, within the Special Economic Zone, benefitting from existing infrastructure and utilities
Status				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction commenced in Q4 2022 and completed on schedule in Q1 2024 Successful ramp up of smelter and refinery over the course of 2024
Capacity				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smelting 10 ktpa PGM monolith Refining 2 Moz PGMs
Development CAPEX				~US\$200m (including battery shredding and solar power)
Funding Mix				NCBR grant, EBRD loan and equity
Key Partners				  



Source: Company Information

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SECTION 2

Introduction to Project Polvolt

A world-class e-waste and black mass recycling
facility in Europe

Overview of Project Polvolt

Polvolt Project combines a large-scale black mass refinery, and an integrated e-waste smelter with feedstock secured from Elemental subsidiaries

- 1 of 47 EU strategic projects under the CRMA and one of only two in Poland
- ensuring local access to critical raw materials: battery metals, Ag, Pd, Cu
- recycling Eol batteries & battery scrap and e-waste as main feedstock
- investment value – approximately EUR 700 million
- strong grant support: TCTF Polish grant EUR M 238; EU Innovation Fund grant EUR M 150,6 M
- over 250 new jobs in an innovative, future-oriented industry in a region affected by the impact of economic transformation



Source: Company information

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Overview of Project Polvolt

Existing battery shredder & PGM smelter&refinery



Facility after realization of Polvolt



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Source: Company information



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SECTION 3

**Takeaways from developing industrial projects
within CRM and recycling field**



High-Level: Industrial Policy Paradox

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- European companies struggle to compete with Asian firms.
- European regulations (ETS, ESG, BAT, REACH, OELs) significantly raise operating costs compared to other regions.
- Absence of customs and market barriers means open competition with nations having lower costs and standards.
- **Consequence:** Even with 100% capital expenditure subsidies, investments remain unprofitable, resulting in a shortage of black mass and PCAM refineries in Europe.



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- CRM projects face long conversion cycles and require high working capital and inventory levels.
- Key issues:
- Conversion cycles are longer due to CRM's specialized, non-commodity nature, impacting logistics and accumulation.
- Geopolitical risks disrupt supply chains.
- Market volatility risk is high due to limited hedging options.
- **Result:** Working capital requirements often exceed what developers can manage with banks.
- **Solution:** Implement public tools or guarantees to facilitate access to working capital for CRM projects.



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Industry-Specific Issue: Cross-Border Movement of EoL Batteries, Black Mass, and E-Waste

- Strict export regulations (mainly targeting non-OECD countries) hinder intra-EU movement of CRM-containing materials, classified as hazardous.
- EU companies often wait 9–12 months for approval to import basic feedstock from another EU country.
- **Consequences:**
- Chemically active and fire-prone materials are stored for months awaiting clearance.
- Exporting black mass to Japan/Korea is easier than shipping within the EU.
- EU recyclers face capacity underutilization and financial losses due to prolonged stockpiling.
- **Solution:** Restrict CRM-containing waste exports and **streamline intra-EU** transfers among licensed operators—using mechanisms like the “green list” or equivalent.



Industry-Specific Issue feedstock leakage to Asia

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- CRM-containing waste (black mass, e-waste, Cu/Al scrap) leaks to Asia, incentivized by lower processing costs abroad.
- **Recommended Action:** Enact export restrictions on CRM-containing waste and metal scraps to keep materials within Europe.



General Conclusion

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- Europe's high regulatory costs and open competition undermine the profitability and sustainability of strategic investments in the CRM and battery materials sector.
- Without protective industrial policies, increased operational costs will cause project failures.
- **Key Requirements:**
- Release (ETS, ESG, BAT, REACH, OELs) related cost and/or adopt market protection tools against Asian low cost markets
- Adopt working capital support tools.
- Streamline procedures for intra-EU CRM waste transfers.
- Restrict exports of CRM-containing waste, scrap, and e-waste as part of broader industrial policy reforms.



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