

Sustainability Policy Statement

Introduction

Walstead United Kingdom not only strives to be a high-quality printing company and provider of services to UK publishers and retailers - we also pride ourselves on being a responsible company. In partnership with our suppliers, vendors, clients, and employees, we have worked to find sustainable resources and more efficient technology, developed new processes and procedures, participated in a variety of environmental initiatives, and promoted and supported sustainability in the publishing and printing industry.

We have worked with and supported the PPA in the development of the Carbon Calculator and in support of the PPA Sustainability Action Group (SAG) developed and introduced to the Group an energy efficiency programme.

Continuous Improvement

Sustainability projects are monitored and directed by the Group Energy efficiency team which includes members of the Board, Commercial, Procurement, and Group HSEQ. The team is sponsored by the CEO. This team is tasked with researching and implementing sustainable initiatives for both the company and the employees. Past projects have included reducing energy consumption through thermograph, air leak detection, installation of heat management systems, power factor corrections on transformers, and the installation of LED lighting.

Waste management and recycling are key initiatives in reducing waste to landfill and this includes segregation of waste generated and the recycling of metal, aluminium plates, paper, cardboard, and plastic. We have begun a new project to replace overhead lighting in the press room, bindery, and warehouse with LED lighting.

As a printer, Walstead United Kingdom is concerned about the environmental footprint of paper and print production. While we have made significant progress in this area, it is an ongoing effort. In 2008 we sought and obtained Forest Stewardship Council™ (FSC®) certification and PEFC in order to ensure that paper bearing the logos and passing through our presses originates in forests that are responsibly managed to meet the social, economic, and ecological needs of present and future generations.

In further support and a demonstration of continuous improvement Walstead United Kingdom is certificated to the ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001 standards.

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Reduction, Reuse, and Recycling

Walstead United Kingdom seeks to use inks and solvents that limit damage to the environment. On an ongoing basis, we refine, reduce, and eliminate products that are proven to be environmentally unfriendly or unhealthy for our employees, our community, and our planet. Currently, the inks we use are preparations from resins, pigments, mineral and vegetable oils, fillers and additives. They are not classified as hazardous materials. The inks also contain other renewable raw materials such as fatty acid eaters and gum rosin-based resins. The content of aromatic hydrocarbons is less than 1%, fulfilling the requirements of the German “Blue Angel” eco-label. The ink we use also shows good de-inking properties and enables very good paper recycling results.

We are constantly testing new products in an effort to achieve the least environmental impact possible without sacrificing quality. We have introduced the recycling of solvents where possible in an attempt to reduce waste and usage. On the pre-printing side of the operation, a variety of online and digital tools allow us to provide paperless workflow alternatives for our customers.

Compliance

A full-time Group Health, Safety, Environment and Quality team oversees compliance with government regulations and local requirements.

Communication

We recognise the importance of communicating with internal and external stakeholders about on-going company sustainability efforts. Communication includes certifications received, audits passed, website updates, report and document updates, poster campaigns and newsletters and recycling events.

Paul Utting, Chief Executive Officer
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