Sustainability at SCHÜTZ – a commitment since 1958

For over 50 years the successful growth of the SCHÜTZ Group has been guided and shaped by principles that are now grouped under the key concept of sustainability. Our aim, now and in the future, is to continue to embrace sustainable business principles in order to be a dependable and responsible partner for our customers, our employees, and for society – this is a core goal in our corporate philosophy.

Following the economic, environmental, and social demands of the markets, we strive to consistently develop and expand our company through the numerous initiatives in various areas of the company we constantly strive towards further development. We invest in advanced technologies, innovative products and services, and in the continued expansion of our global service and production network.

In addition to securing future growth for our company, at SCHÜTZ sustainability also encompasses the many advantages and services we offer our customers.
For SCHÜTZ sustainability is a permanent process which influences all areas of the company. Our sustainability programme identifies and targets specific activities and sets ambitious goals.

We have also initiated a number of cross-company schemes aimed at continuously improving the following:

- Environmental protection and resource conservation
- Customer service and satisfaction
- Safety and health at work
- Product quality
- Production efficiency
- Supply security
- Staff development and training

With our sustainability programmes we generate direct and tangible added value for our customers.
THE SCHÜTZ SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMME.

Within the framework of our sustainability programme we identify optimisation potential and use it to drive forward our continual improvement process. For us sustainability is directly linked to innovation and reliability.
WE SUPPORT OUR CUSTOMERS AND HELP THEM TO MASTER DIVERSE AND EVER-CHANGING CHALLENGES BY CONTINUALLY EXPANDING OUR SKILLS AND PERFORMANCE AND BY OFFERING A CONSTANT STREAM OF INNOVATIVE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES.

Comprehensive expertise
Our company’s innovative strengths are based on our expertise in plastic and metal processing that has grown and developed over five decades. Our competence is constantly being enhanced through in-house research and development, enabling us to offer our customers specific system solutions. These solutions are rounded off by competent support and comprehensive service. In addition to products, we also design and build the systems, machines and tools required for production.

Backward integration
To be able to guarantee our customers worldwide the very best SCHÜTZ quality and reliability we produce all key components ourselves and ensure the highest possible degree of vertical integration. This gives us complete control over our supply chain and allows us to respond swiftly and flexibly to changing market demands. This continual process helps us to drive forward economic and environmental optimisation.
Technology leadership
In our research and development departments more than 100 engineers, designers and specialists from across a wide range of fields work to enhance our products and processes, and design tomorrow’s innovations. The close co-operation between product and production development allows us to introduce and implement pioneering processes and procedures that make our products unrivalled anywhere in the world.

Highest productivity
By consistently applying the latest production technologies we sustainably secure the high efficiency of all SCHÜTZ production units. Intelligent, SAP-based production and logistics planning guarantees a perpetual security of supply for our customers. We collaborate with external specialists, including the Fraunhofer Institute, which enables us to integrate the very latest production management findings in our processes.

Cost leadership along the entire supply chain
We ensure the highest possible cost-effectiveness along the entire supply chain by continually improving the efficiency of all processes:
- Procurement and delivery of raw materials
- Production and internal material flow control
- Warehousing and distribution logistics
Innovation leadership
The invention of the IBC as a logistics tool, the introduction of a worldwide system for the collection and reconditioning of IBCs, SMP fluorination of fuel oil tanks, development of the high-tech, lightweight CORMASTER honeycomb – these are only some of the innovations developed by SCHÜTZ. As a technology company we have repeatedly proven in the course of our history that we can transform new ideas into efficient products and services which offer our customers tangible economic and environmental advantages.

We use our innovative drive to constantly improve the current SCHÜTZ portfolio of products and develop pioneering solutions which allow us to enter new markets and business areas.
Qualifiable and quantifiable added value

All the advantages and services that we offer our customers are united in our sustainability programme. Our top-quality, highly durable products possess unique features that make them the ideal choice for a wide range of applications. By combining them with efficient services, we can create full solutions that help our customers reduce costs, improve their eco-balance and offer their own customers additional benefits and value.
Example: the IBC as a logistics tool

The invention of the IBC by SCHÜTZ in 1975 saw the creation of a new packaging method that uses existing transport and storage space 25% more efficiently than conventional packaging and which makes packaging handling much easier and faster.

Your advantage: compared with other packaging and logistics solutions SCHÜTZ IBCs reduce the total cost of the supply chain by up to 50% and play a key role in reducing CO₂ emissions.

Example: continuous development

By using innovative production methods, such as the 3 and 6-layer technology, SCHÜTZ has developed IBCs with completely new features: e.g. an integrated EVOH permeation barrier or inner bottles with a conductive or antistatic outer layer.

Your advantage: the most advanced transport packaging giving you maximum performance in a wide range of applications.
Example: value added through supply chain optimisation

SCHÜTZ offers customers a fully integrated overall concept for packaging and logistics. Together, we conduct a comprehensive, cross-enterprise review of the supply chain and develop packaging solutions that take all the individual filling good and logistics requirements into account and offer the greatest number of advantages.

Employing expertise that has been honed over decades, we evaluate all processes and stages in the supply chain in terms of their economic and environmental aspects.

Our goal is to identify and eliminate all unnecessary cost drivers while at the same time minimising raw material consumption and emissions.

Your advantage: SCHÜTZ helps you reduce costs and improve your eco-balance.
Example: R 50 underfloor heating system
The R 50 system was developed especially for retrofitting and building renovation. Even with integrated heat and impact sound insulation, the R 50 system is only 50 mm high.

Your advantage: an underfloor heating system that offers comfort and energy efficiency and can be installed in existing buildings without any compromises.

Example: fuel oil tanks with SMP
As the leading manufacturer in this segment, SCHÜTZ coats all fuel oil storage containers and accessories with the patented SMP anti-permeation coating.

Your advantage: fuel oil permeation is prevented, avoiding oil loss and unpleasant odours.

Example: AIRCONOMY®
The SCHÜTZ AIRCONOMY® system unites the advantages of a modern underfloor heating system with the additional functions "cool" and "ventilate". Heat recovery from waste air, low inlet temperatures and the absorption of excess heat with an heat exchanger using the principle of "silent cooling" all work together to make the system exceptionally energy-saving.

Your advantage: a pleasant indoor climate with lower energy consumption that saves costs and reduces CO₂ emissions – up to 420 kg per year in an average household compared with conventional split climate devices.
Example: CORMASTER lightweight structure

This advanced lightweight material developed by SCHÜTZ is based on a special aramide paper, shaped using a patented process and reinforced with resin. The honeycomb structure is the ideal material for the production of sandwich components to guarantee uncompromising quality even under the toughest conditions. CORMASTER also helps to save energy because of its exceptionally low weight.

For instance, a specially developed Kevlar honeycomb is used in the Airbus A 380, providing the same stability but weighing 15% less than conventional honeycomb materials. A 100 kg reduction in weight reduces annual CO2 emissions by 16 tons.

As well as in the aerospace industry, CORMASTER is also widely used in automotive and ship construction.

Your advantage: exceptional stability and security with only low material requirements and the highest processing flexibility.
FOR US SUSTAINABILITY MEANS BEING A LONG-TERM, HIGHLY COMMITTED AND DEPENDABLE PARTNER FOR OUR CUSTOMERS. AND THAT IS WHY SCHÜTZ FOCUSES UNCOMPROMISINGLY ON SUPPLY SECURITY AND PROVIDING THE SAME HIGH PRODUCT AND SERVICE QUALITY ALL OVER THE WORLD.

**Worldwide standard for products and services**

Wherever in the world customers choose SCHÜTZ products or services, they know that they can depend on the same high quality. Our uncompromising dedication to standardised high quality and our uniform global article and specification management make our products globally compatible and exchangeable. Backed by our competent support and advice, SCHÜTZ’s customers know they are receiving the best service and highest product safety.
Globally standardised technologies and processes
To implement our global product strategy we use fully integrated production processes. All central development work takes place at our Selters Competence Centre, including construction and approvals of all production systems, machines and tools. Our inhouse testing laboratory analyses and tests all the materials we use. All processes and parameters that are relevant for QM are centrally defined and their strict implementation in all SCHÜTZ factories is monitored. In addition to supplying key components and special products, the company headquarters in Selters also supports our international facilities with technical services, including maintenance and repairs for machinery and systems.

Quality leadership
In all SCHÜTZ’s business divisions we aim to supply our customers with products of the very highest quality, products that surpass all legal and technical requirements and offer superior performance. The continual improvement of our products and processes is something that all SCHÜTZ employees are deeply committed to.

Our continual process of improvement includes:

- Daily customer feedback and regular satisfaction analyses
- Cross-divisional quality meetings
- Regular FMEA analyses
- Staff suggestions from the quality/efficiency initiatives
- Benchmarks and best practice
- Project-related collaboration with external specialists
Globally uniform quality and safety management

The integrated SCHÜTZ security, health, environment and quality management system (SHEQ) is fully certified in compliance with international standards. In addition to the certification of all sites in accordance with DIN EN ISO 9001:2008, other standards such as ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001 and numerous division-specific guidelines are either in the process of being prepared or have already been implemented; for instance, the global implementation of the FSSC 22000 standards for food packaging and EN 9100:2003 for CORMASTER. Additionally, regular audits and external controls are carried out by independent monitoring and certification institutions.

The SCHÜTZ SHEQ Policy outlines the implementation principles for our management system on the basis of four pillars:

- Customer satisfaction
- Corporate governance for all members of staff
- Cost-effectiveness
- Continual improvement

This policy is binding for the entire SCHÜTZ Group worldwide and the Group’s executives ensure that all employees are familiar with, understand and implement these principles.
Highest delivery flexibility and security

The global SCHÜTZ production network combined with our high degree of vertical integration and strategic capacity reserves allow us to respond swiftly and flexibly to short-term fluctuations in demand. SCHÜTZ also pursues a strategic purchasing policy to ensure that we always have ample supplies of materials at all our regional facilities.

To constantly maintain full working capacity and productivity at our facilities we ensure that the Group has access to extensive technical know-how. This allows us to carry out preventive maintenance and repairs at regular intervals and provide fast, flexible technical support for all SCHÜTZ sites worldwide.

Our comprehensive contingency plans additionally secure our delivery capacity with intelligent internal and company-wide resource control and reserve machinery capacity for all key systems and tools.
Example: comprehensive advice and support

The SCHÜTZ Technical Customer service provides full support for our customers, including:

- Product selection and optimisation
- Advice on filling products and suitability for hazardous goods
- Specification management
- Product portfolio optimisation
- Advice on applications, transport and load securing

Your advantage: SCHÜTZ’s extensive expertise across all divisions.

Your advantage: complete transparency in production for product quality you can rely on.

Example: quality assurance in IBC production

Our barcode system allows all components to be traced back as far as the raw material batches and the relevant process data. All SCHÜTZ IBCs used in the food industry fully comply with the guidelines of European Union Regulation (EU) No. 1935/2004.
Example: superior product performance

Compared with most other conventional PE drums, the F1 drum developed and produced by SCHÜTZ offers greater impact strength at low temperatures, increased chemical resistance and higher stress cracking resistance.

Our IBCs have a 300% compliance with the vibration test specifications in the latest version of the European Transport Agreement.

Your advantage: transport packaging that gives you the highest safety standards.
Example: vertical integration and secure material supplies
SCHÜTZ has its own Steel Service Centers in the three most important industrial regions in EMEA, Americas and Asia-Pacific. These centers give us greater procurement flexibility for our main material and allow us to produce primary products and key components close to our target markets. In addition to reducing supply chain costs, this also reduces exposure to exchange rate risks.

Your advantage: secure global supplies of SCHÜTZ products.
Example: SHEQ Management

To further improve occupational safety and productivity, we have initiated a 5S-initiative, a structured plan for workplace organisation. This scheme aims to optimise the working environment for SCHÜTZ employees in order to reduce the danger of accidents, reduce search times and make it easier and faster to detect production deviations.

Your advantage: improved efficiency secures the high quality and cost-effectiveness of our products.
FOR SCHÜTZ SUSTAINABILITY MEANS CONSISTENTLY ALIGNING ALL STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES TO ENSURE THAT ECONOMIC SUCCESS HARMONISES WITH ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

**Responsible care**

For SCHÜTZ responsible care means optimized processes and solutions, right down to the finest detail. This key target unites the responsible use of materials and care for the environment with the creation of added value across our customers’ entire supply chain. This is why we are constantly working to minimize waste and emissions and are committed to adding intelligent product cycle and recycling systems to our portfolio. One of the best examples is the SCHÜTZ TICKET SERVICE, launched in 1993, which stands for the professional collection and reconditioning of millions of IBCs.
Ambitious environmental goals

In keeping with our responsible care concept, we have set ourselves environmental goals which are constantly monitored and refined:

- Reduction of resource and energy consumption per produced unit
- Further increase the proportion of recycled materials we use
- Increase the amount of energy from renewable sources
- Waste avoidance
- Reduce water consumption and emissions, especially CO₂
Scorecards are used to rate and monitor the environmental, ethical, and social practices of suppliers and business partners.

More than 20,000 businesses (including SCHÜTZ and many of its customers) already use this collaborative platform for reporting and monitoring sustainability.

For example: EcoVadis – sustainability rating platform

EcoVadis operates a CSR performance monitoring platform for global supply chains to help suppliers boost their environmental and social performance and support them in improving their sustainability.
SCHÜTZ Scoring

Sustainability traditionally plays an important role within our company, which is why SCHÜTZ voluntarily reports to EcoVadis. We have implemented a wide range of measures which enable us to continually improve our scoring. In the environmental performance category we are already one of the top 5% of rated producers of plastic products.
Added value for our customers and environmental protection

The SCHÜTZ TICKET SERVICE has set a global standard for free returns and reconditioning of used IBCs. With over 40 national and international sites, we collect even small quantities of used IBCs for reconditioning. This gives our customers the flexibility to distribute their filling goods to all the world’s markets, regardless of volume.

Your advantage: by using our system you can save costs and help to reduce CO₂ emissions per IBC by up to 50%.
The collected IBCs are reconditioned in our own reconditioning plants, all of which are equipped with the same high standard of environmentally friendly, resource-saving technology. For example, water is processed in closed cycle systems. By reusing steel components, recycling the inner bottle material and using all the recycled material for new IBC components, for example pallets, we are able to reduce our consumption of valuable natural resources.

Each reconditioned SCHÜTZ IBC saves approx. **100 KG CO\textsubscript{2}**, compared with a new IBC.
Example: material reductions

Since the original version was launched, SCHÜTZ has reduced the weight of the IBC by over 30 kg, while at the same time greatly enhancing product safety and stability. By constantly improving the design of our products and using innovative materials, we have considerably reduced the amount of steel needed. This has a dual positive effect on the eco-balance of our packaging: firstly, steel production requires a lot of energy and produces high emissions; secondly, lighter IBCs mean fuel savings for every transport.

WEIGHT

-35%
Efficient green
production/processes/products/services

One of the key aims of our environmental and climate protection schemes is to keep reducing resource and energy consumption per produced unit. All systems, machinery and processes are rigorously assessed for their environmental impact, for example energy consumption, emission and waste avoidance, and they undergo a constant process of improvement. The development and use of innovative technologies allows us to reduce our primary raw material consumption and also enables us to increase the proportion of reused and recycled materials in our new products. The intelligent control of material flows within the company and our facilities and the implementation of multimodal logistics concepts help us to improve our eco-efficiency.
CO₂-EMISSIONS PER YEAR

-10,000 tons
Freight and logistics optimisation

For every trucking kilometre we manage to avoid, we are reducing our CO₂ emissions by an average of 0.75 kg. This is why we use the latest, most advanced load planning programmes for maximum efficiency and optimised routing in all inbound and outbound logistics. By using more and more XXL trucks, we aim to further improve our efficiency in this field.

Wherever possible, we use alternative methods of transport, such as rail and river boats. In Europe, our facilities have their own railway sidings, which has enabled us to shift approx. 20,000 truckloads of steel deliveries from road to rail.

Your advantage: more efficient transport improves our and your eco-balance when you use SCHÜTZ products.
Respect, inclusion and advancement of our employees

Despite our passion for technology we know that our greatest assets are the expertise, motivation and performance of our employees. This is why we focus on the recruitment and training of skilled employees and their professional development by offering:

- Training in a broad range of technical and commercial vocations
- Trainee programmes for young executives
- Dual study programmes in cooperation with Technical Universities
- Apprenticeships with lessons within the company
- Programmes to identify and foster high-potential candidates
- In-house training courses
- Language classes

The number of employees at SCHÜTZ
One of our most important concerns is to protect our employees against accidents and health hazards. In addition to comprehensive occupational safety and health regulations and measures, specially appointed SCHÜTZ safety officers provide regular workplace safety training courses at all SCHÜTZ sites and for all employees. As part of our health programme all staff are offered regular check-ups to examine their individual work situation, work load and work place with the aim of identifying any potential health hazards.

Social responsibility / corporate citizenship
In many regions SCHÜTZ is one of the biggest and most important local employers. In recognition of this responsibility this entails we are committed to working with national and international associations. For example, for decades we have collaborated closely with the IHK (Chamber of Industry and Commerce), especially in all matters concerning employment and training. We also put a great effort into building and maintaining local infrastructure at our sites and are involved in many social and charitable projects that go far beyond our business responsibilities.
Sustainable management

As an established family company, the SCHÜTZ Group is fully committed to a corporate and management culture that continually strengthens the company's ability to compete and generates long-term value. On average over the past ten years, the Group has re-invested more than 10% of its turnover in the company. Our strategy focuses rigorously on the needs and success of our customers.

A solid financial foundation and efficient risk management

In addition to the strong market position, the SCHÜTZ Group’s healthy capitalization is a key factor in the company’s enduring success. Our consistent focus on results and sustainable financial management provides the Group with a solid capital structure which gives us a high degree of financial flexibility for further growth.

A risk evaluation and control system is an integral part of our corporate management. This enables us to minimise liquidity, capacity, supply and diverse other risks and effectively prevent them from impacting on our operations.
Good corporate governance and business integrity

The strategic and operative management of the SCHÜTZ Group is overseen by the management board. The company is a limited partnership with a codetermined supervisory board comprising of three members.

Our management guidelines and code of conduct follow the principles of compliance: all activities the SCHÜTZ Group engages in, comply strictly with, international, national and local regulations. Our membership in the Compliance Initiative founded by the German Association of Materials Management, Purchasing and Logistic (BME) documents our uncompromising commitment to fair, responsible and ethical principles as the key foundation in all business relationships and transactions.

The BME Code of Conduct is binding for all SCHÜTZ employees and all our suppliers are required to comply with this code.

The Code of Conduct lists all fundamental rules and principles regarding:
- Elimination of corruption and all forms of discrimination
- Compliance with anti-trust laws
- Abolition of child and forced labour
- Compliance with ethical principles in all dealings with suppliers
- Observance of human rights
- Environmental and health protection
Example: training at SCHÜTZ

We offer young people a wide choice of professions, allowing them to take that first, all-important step into a new career.

Example: promoting a healthy lifestyle for our employees

For the more than 2,500 employees at our headquarters in Selters we have provided a sports hall plus gym as an attractive incentive to actively promote their health and fitness.

Your advantage: qualified and competent specialists to secure your supplies, now and in the future.

Your advantage: active and healthy SCHÜTZ employees ensure greater productivity.
Example: corporate citizenship

SCHÜTZ supports the US aid organisation Water Missions International. WMI uses the IBCs we provide to build drinking water treatment plants which are used to bring clean, safe water to people in conflict and crisis zones all over the world.

We also regularly donate IBCs as drinking water containers as immediate aid when natural disasters occur.
SCHÜTZ CONTINUES TO DEVELOP AND EXPAND ITS GLOBAL PRODUCTION AND SERVICE NETWORK, WHICH HAS OFFICES AND FACILITIES ON ALL CONTINENTS. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE OUR CUSTOMERS ALL OVER THE WORLD WITH COMPLETE AND PERMANENT SUPPLY SECURITY AT THE LOWEST PRICES, WE ARE CONTINUALLY INVESTING IN EXPANDING AND IMPROVING OUR PRODUCTION FACILITIES, SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGIES.

As an elementary part of our corporate philosophy, sustainability plays a key role for our company. This brochure only describes a small fraction of the many and diverse sustainability initiatives, schemes and facts at SCHÜTZ.

If you have any questions or require more information about the SCHÜTZ Sustainability Programme, please get in touch with us. We will be glad to help!

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