



Environmental Statement

At Boss, our commitments to society and the environment constitute who we are and what we do. They influence our behaviour and decisions, they shape our identity and they are deeply embedded in every aspect of our business. We have a truly 'cradle-to-grave' approach to sustainable manufacturing.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

It is our established policy to be committed to and responsible for the environmental impact of the company and, in particular, with regard to:

- Compliance with regulatory and legislative requirements.
- That polluting releases are eliminated or minimised.
- That raw materials, water and energy are used efficiently.
- Where practical only environmentally responsible Suppliers and Sub-Contractors are used.
- Environmental performance of the Company is regularly monitored and audited.
- Environmental impact of the Company's distribution is reduced where practicable.
- Waste minimisation programme by implementing recycling schemes and provide segregation of wastes in order that only a minimum level of waste requires disposal.
- Company personnel understand the environmental goals and Policy and are trained to implement Environmental Management effectively.
- Company's environmental objection and progress towards these objectives will be regularly published and made available internally and to the public, and will be reviewed and updated at the Company's annual Management review meeting.

ISO14001:2004

We are in our fourth year of our ISO14001 accreditation, which recognises our continual commitment to improving our Environmental Management System. The sustainability of our manufacturing is measured, monitored and improved via our ISO14001 accredited system. A number of sub-groups - comprising voluntary employees - meet on a regular basis and report directly to the Management on the following issues: electricity consumption; waste from office, fabrics and leather off cuts; local exhaust ventilation; heating; vehicle fuel usage; and supplier waste management. A detailed and thorough audit trail of waste is produced and monitored.

SUPPLIERS

Our suppliers understand our strong environmental stance and we seek new and sustainable materials to replace existing ones in order to reduce our environmental legacy. Therefore, Boss selects components from suppliers who are seeking to minimise adverse environmental effects.

CARBON NEUTRALITY

Boss has recently obtained Carbon Neutral Status by working with the Carbon Neutral Company and the Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Management. Having already undergone a rigorous carbon reduction plan, we subsequently made the decision to off-set all unavoidable emissions against quantifiable projects. This comprises all business processes - from design and administration to manufacturing to transport and waste management - from the moment components leave the supplier to the delivery and installation of products. Even air-conditioning, taxi journeys, hotels stays, and our company cars have been taken into consideration.

We are also in the process of off-setting the carbon emissions of individual chairs. This involves measuring the processes relating to obtaining raw materials, manufacturing the component parts and all activities involved prior to arriving at the Boss factory. Chairs that we are seeking to off-set initially are Kruze, Sona, Key, Move and Sonatec.

However we know that carbon off-setting in itself is not the be all and end all. For this reason the ECCM has been helping us to lay a 3 year plan to reduce our footprint even further. A number of initiatives will be established, including - to name but a few - a Cycle Scheme for factory-based staff, investing in an on-site turbine to run part of the production area, and the installation of passive lights in low-use areas.

BOSS AND GREEN STANDARDS

We believe that companies need to do more than simply off-set their carbon debt. Our commitment to the environment goes deeper than that, and is based on actions rather than words.

We know that no matter how recyclable a chair is, too often the product will end its life in landfill. In order that landfill is totally avoided, we are working with Green Standards Ltd. to change and redefine how our clients perceive 'waste', by extending the life-cycle of redundant assets.

Green Standards is a professional service that will collect redundant workplace items and redistribute them through their Charitable Trust to benefit school and charity projects in the UK and the developing world. This process is aptly named 'Waste to Wonder'.

When involved in a fit-out, we offer the option of up-lifting the existing unwanted chairs on site, which Green Standards will collect from us to take to the Waste to Wonder Warehouse. From here redistribution occurs in a variety of ways.

- They could be sold directly from the W2W shop with the profits going to the GS Trust
- They may be donated to UK Schools, Libraries and Hospitals
- They may also be used to form a 'School in a box' or 'Doc in a box', which is a container filled with all the equipment needed to set up a school or health clinic and sent to support communities in developing nations.

All items unfit for redistribution are put through a stringent recycling process. Last year, Boss stopped 130 tonnes of customer waste going to landfill and this year's target is 200 tonnes.

Our relationship with Green Standards has developed so deeply that we were offered the opportunity to sponsor our own 'School in a Box' in Limbe, Cameroon. This is essentially a 40ft container packed with all the desks, chairs, cupboards and computers needed to make a modern educational facility, for a new orphanage that has been built there.

Green Standards asked us if we would put forward the sponsorship to ship the container to Cameroon - approximately £5,000. The fund raising initiatives were entirely driven by Boss employees.

The strength of our involvement in the W2W process has achieved us an Accredited Partnership with Green Standards.