

The Swisspacer perspective on sustainability and our commitment

# Sustainability at Swisspacer

Better quality and economic use. For the people and environment.



the edge of tomorrow





## The Swisspacer perspective on sustainability and our commitment

In the construction industry, reducing carbon emissions, conserving resources, and embracing a circular economy are essential for a sustainable future. As sustainability becomes a key market driver, Swisspacer offers a product portfolio designed to meet these evolving demands.

Aligned with Saint-Gobain's 2050 goal of climate neutrality, we are committed to delivering energy-efficient solutions that help reduce carbon emissions throughout a building's lifecycle. Our focus is on continually improving manufacturing processes and maintaining high-quality standards, ensuring we balance performance with environmental responsibility as part of our journey towards a carbon-neutral future.

Our holistic approach reduces carbon footprints during both product use and manufacturing. By maximizing renewable energy, minimizing waste, using resources efficiently and being able to return recyclables into our production process, we limit our environmental impact. Externally verified EPDs ensure transparency, while our durable products promote sustainable construction, economic value and health protection.

## Key targets and achievements



Scope 1 & 2: -33 % Scope 3: -16 %



#### Water conservation

Reduction of water use. Implementation of rainwater recovery systems.



## Transparent & verified CO<sub>2</sub> data

Most products have Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) from cradle to grave.



### **Green energy**

Full transition to renewable energy for production processes.



### Recyclables recovery/recycling/circular economy

Comprehensive recycling strategy with focus on maximized reuse of materials & minimized use of virgin raw materials.



### **Continuous innovation**

Constant work of our R&D department on new sustainable products, solutions for recycling and other sustainable offerings.



## Energy and CO<sub>2</sub> savings with Swisspacer spacers bars

If Swisspacer is used instead of aluminium spacer bars, 8.6 % of the total heating energy and 180 kg of  $CO_2$  per year can be saved.



The example is based on a low-energy house with triple glazing with Swisspacer spacer bars in a cool-temperate climate. The precise assumptions and calculations can be taken from the study undertaken by the Passive House Institute.



Read more about the study by the independent Passive House Institute in Darmstadt.



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## **Efficient production processes**

At Swisspacer, sustainability is at the core of our production processes. We focus on optimizing energy usage and conserving water. Here's a concise overview of our efforts and goals.

### **Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

To reduce our carbon footprint, we have fully transitioned to energy from renewable resources at our Gliwice facility and adhere to ISO 150001 standards. By systematically enhancing energy efficiency, we have significantly cut emissions and continue to do so with new initiatives.

### **Energy Management Practices**

We consistently perform energy audits, upgrade machinery, and optimize processes to limit energy losses. We are also committed to expanding renewable energy use and promoting clean energy solutions across all operations.

### **Responsible Water Use**

We are implementing advanced technologies to reduce water consumption and implementing rainwater collection and treatment systems. At our Kreuzlingen facility, we have already achieved an 70 % reduction in water use.

### Goals

Our sustainability and recycling goals are ambitious. By 2030, we aim to reduce  $CO_2$  emissions by 33 % in Scope 1 and 2, and by 16 % in Scope 3, compared to 2017 levels. To further contribute to a circular economy, we are committed to reducing non-valorized production residue by 80 %, avoiding the use of 30 % virgin raw materials and cutting industrial water withdrawal by 50 %, all in reference to 2017. In addition, we will ensure that all our packaging is 100 % recyclable, with at least 30 % coming from recycled or bio-sourced content.



## |swisspacer|

# Optimized use of resources through the circular economy

The principles of the circular economy comprise access to re-usable raw materials with suitable specifications on the one hand, and focusing on improved production processes and a design that is gentle on resources on the other hand.

Swisspacer works actively to reduce waste by fully integrating unused materials into the production cycle. This circular mindset also guides our approach when developing new product ideas, ensuring sustainability from concept to execution.





## **Circular economy**

Swisspacer is dedicated to promoting the circular economy in the building sector by reducing waste and optimizing resource efficiency. Our products not only lower energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions but are also designed with sustainability in mind.

Sustainable construction requires a holistic approach, which includes reducing carbon footprints, increasing renewable energy use, and minimizing non-renewable resource consumption. Efficient water usage and reducing construction and demolition waste are also essential.

Aligned with Saint-Gobain's goal of  $CO_2$  neutrality by 2050, we continually enhance our processes. By embracing circular economy principles—such as recycling and producing long-lasting, high-performance products—we help create a more sustainable construction industry.





# Publication of environmental data. Understanding EPDs and LCAs

An Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) is a standardized document that offers transparent and comparable information about a product's environmental impact throughout its lifecycle. It includes essential data on energy use, resource consumption and emissions, adhering to international standards such as ISO 14025 and EN 15804.

A Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), on the other hand, is a systematic analysis of the environmental impacts associated with all stages of a product's life—from raw material extraction (cradle) to disposal or recycling (grave). This assessment quantifies critical factors like energy usage, resource depletion, and emissions.

The dependence between EPDs and LCAs is crucial: EPDs rely on the detailed analysis provided by LCAs to quantify a product's environmental impacts accurately. The LCA supplies the comprehensive data necessary to compile an EPD, ensuring the information is precise and trustworthy.

Swisspacer is proud to be the only warm edge manufacturer with an EPD that covers the entire cradle-to-grave lifecycle, demonstrating our commitment to comprehensive transparency and sustainability.







Swisspacer

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