



Sustainability at SWISSPACER

SWISSPACER
The edge of tomorrow.

A portrait of Francis Cholley, a middle-aged man with short, graying hair, smiling at the camera. He is wearing a dark blue blazer over a light blue button-down shirt. The background is a blurred office interior with large windows and vertical blinds.

FRANCIS CHOLLEY

MANAGING DIRECTOR SWISSPACER

"SWISSPACER HAS SET ITSELF THE GOAL OF ADDRESSING THE BIG CHALLENGES OF A MORE SUSTAINABLE WORLD AND CREATING REAL VALUE ADDED. WITH THE EXCELLENT CO₂ BALANCE OF OUR PRODUCTS, WE SUPPORT OUR CUSTOMERS IN IMPROVING THEIR SUSTAINABILITY BALANCE SHEET. ULTIMATELY, THE REST OF THE VALUE CHAINS ALSO BENEFITS FROM CO₂ SAVINGS WITH SWISSPACER."

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SUMMARY

SWISSPACER AT A GLANCE

SWISSPACER IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING MANUFACTURERS AND SUPPLIERS OF WARM EDGE SPACER BARS. THESE ARE USED BY INSULATING GLASS UNIT MANUFACTURERS AS WELL AS WINDOW AND FAÇADE MAKERS TO CREATE PARTICULARLY ENERGY-EFFICIENT DOUBLE AND TRIPLE GLAZING UNITS.

OUR PRODUCTS

SWISSPACER spacer bars offer a very simple and efficient way to reduce the carbon footprint of insulating glass units. They are the more sustainable option compared to aluminium or hybrid spacer bars.

OUR VALUES

- Health and safety
- Respect for our employees, customers and suppliers
- Open and engaged attitude
- Concern for the environment

8.6 %

SAVINGS ON
HEATING ENERGY
PER YEAR

180 kg

CO₂ SAVINGS PER YEAR

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.

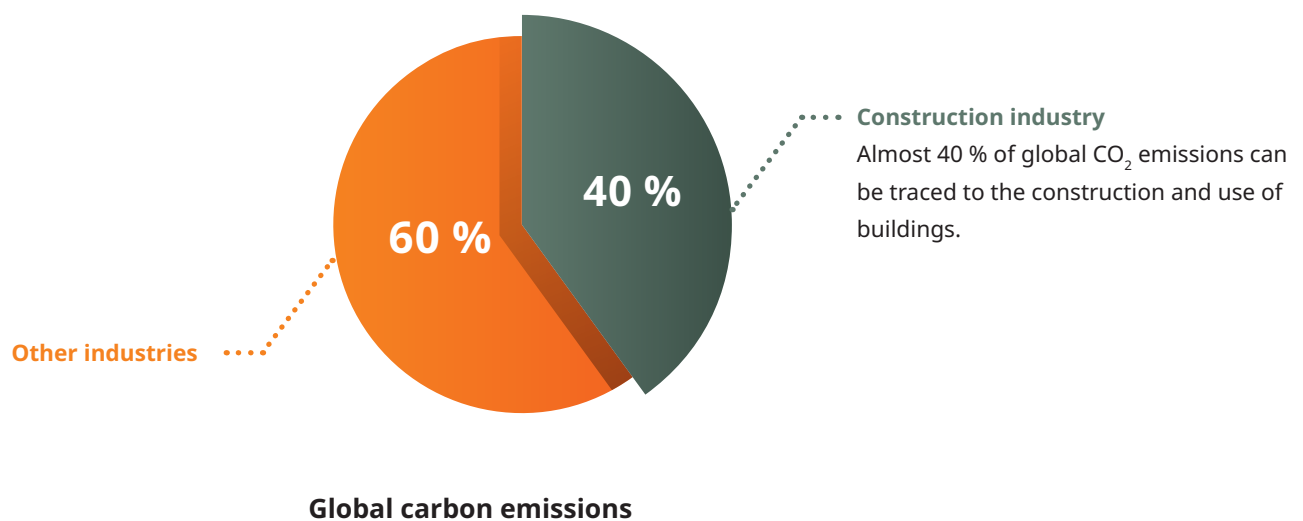


NEED FOR ACTION FOR A SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

Reducing carbon emissions and the need for resources – these issues are right at the top of the construction industry's agenda. With the help of provisions, guidelines and initiatives, governments and institutions are attempting to move sustainable development forwards. Green Building certifications also contribute to the trend of sustainability within the industry.

Offering low-carbon products is therefore an important factor for the success of manufacturers and providers of construction products. Because this is the only way that investors, planners and architects as well as developers can fulfil the regulatory requirements and certification criteria.

An appropriate product portfolio therefore offers everyone involved in the value chain the possibility to play a key role in achieving the challenging targets. Consequently, the degree of sustainability of their construction products will increasingly influence the providers' market position – according to the forecasts of a wide range of institutes and trend researchers.



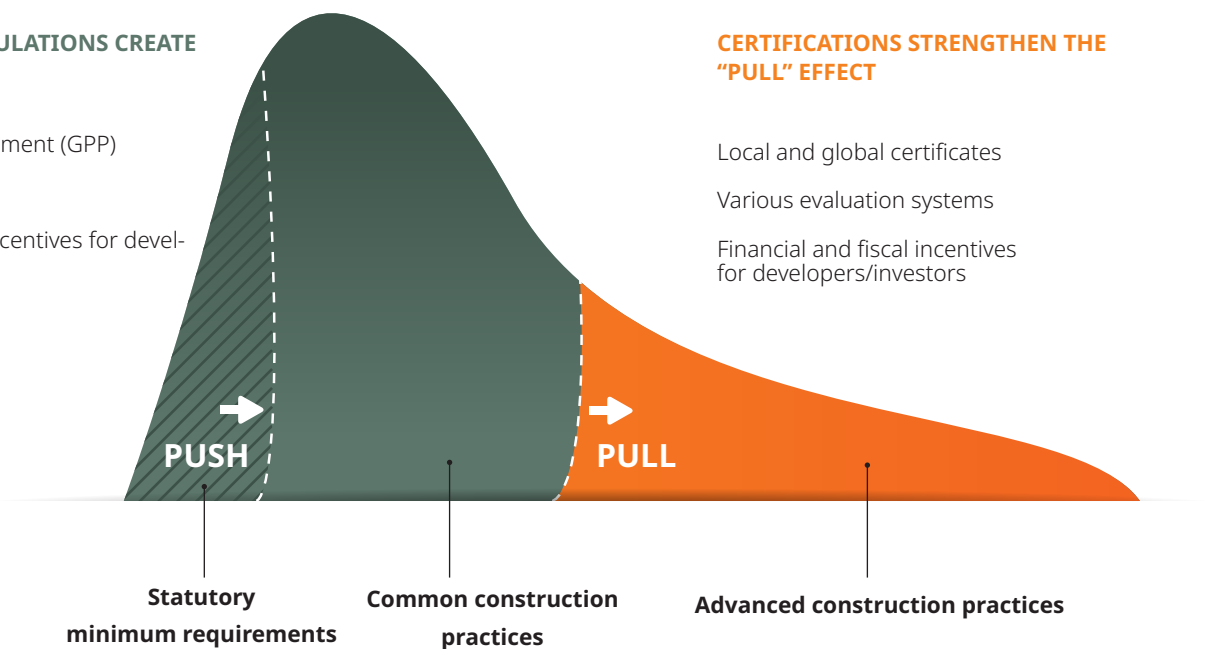
ARCHITECTS, DEVELOPERS AND INVESTORS EXPECT THE MARKET TO PROVIDE THEM WITH SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS WITH A LOW CARBON FOOTPRINT

GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS CREATE A "PUSH" EFFECT

Green Public Procurement (GPP)
Stronger regulations
Financial and fiscal incentives for developers/investors

CERTIFICATIONS STRENGTHEN THE "PULL" EFFECT

Local and global certificates
Various evaluation systems
Financial and fiscal incentives for developers/investors



SUSTAINABILITY AT SWISSPACER

OUR PERSPECTIVE

As a player in the construction industry, we see it as our responsibility to make urban development more sustainable and to reduce negative impacts on the environment and people. With our warm edge spacer bars, we make an important contribution to this: our products increase the energy efficiency of windows and façades, which has a positive impact on living comfort and well-being.

OUR EFFORTS

We support the approach of evaluating a company's performance no longer solely on the basis of business data, but also on ESG* criteria. This results in our clear commitment to including sustainability as a principle in our corporate strategy – thus considering it in all processes.

OUR COMMITMENT

Our commitment to protecting the environment stands at the centre of everything we do. We endeavour to continuously measure our impact on the environment and to improve our processes. We want to further reduce waste and emissions and promote the protection of resources in each phase of our products' life cycle. We thus assist in global efforts to fight climate change and protect natural resources.

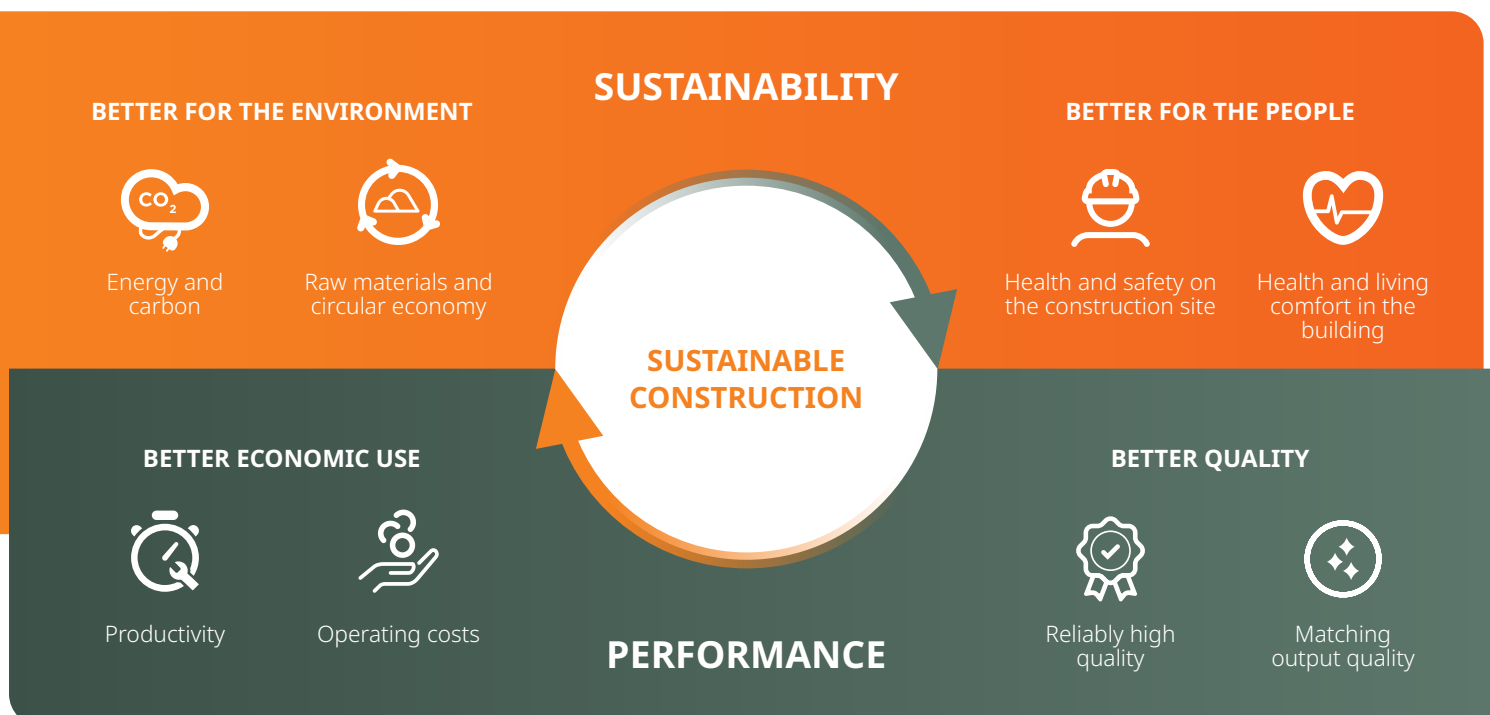


A HOLISTIC APPROACH PEOPLE AND PLANET



We stand for high-quality products that meet the requirements for function and performance without endangering the environment or people.

Sustainable construction has to consider many aspects, such as reducing the carbon involved, using more renewable energy and limiting the consumption of non-renewable energy to the greatest extent possible. It is also necessary to reduce water consumption and to reduce unused construction and demolition waste. A long service life and utilisation rate of building products supports sustainability, as does a high level of economic benefit.



OUR APPROACHES FOR MORE SUSTAINABILITY



MORE SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR OUR CUSTOMERS

- We focus on the development of sustainable products and packaging
- We work on new, closed-loop business processes
- We optimise our products in order to minimise the use of resources



SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY CHAINS AND PRODUCTION PROCESSES

- We reduce our carbon emissions (Scope 1/2/3)
- We reduce the proportion of new, non-recycled raw materials
- We avoid non-reusable production waste wherever possible
- We reduce our water consumption



ACTING MORE SUSTAINABLY IN THE COMPANY

- We inspire and sensitise our employees to the topic of sustainability
- We promote the well-being of our employees in the workplace
- We help our employees to reduce their carbon footprint when commuting and on business trips



SUPPORTING MORE SUSTAINABILITY IN THE MARKET

- We are open to changes in our supply chain and operating procedures – also in collaboration with our suppliers
- We mobilise our partners and suppliers to engage in more sustainable practices



EDUCATION AND INFORMATION ON SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

- We anchor knowledge in our teams and communicate this as our business activities
- We supply transparent data on the impacts of our products on the environment and health
- We sensitise our customers to aspects of sustainability

STRATEGIC GOALS

KEY ASPECTS

SWISSPACER counters climate change with measures that support a net-zero roadmap. We have analysed our approaches with internal and external stakeholders in order to identify key issues and prioritise these accordingly. We have verified our measures in accordance with the criteria of the net-zero Science-Based Target Initiative (SBTi). SWISSPACER also follows the Saint-Gobain Group's strategy for achieving CO₂ neutrality by 2050.

The sustainability strategy of SWISSPACER is linked to the corporate strategy and includes goals that cover the ESG key indicators. These goals support a total of seven of the 17 targets of the UN Agenda 2030 for sustainable development (UN Sustainable Development Goals).

The SWISSPACER Scope 3 emissions were determined and calculated in accordance with the acknowledged standard of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG Protocol). On the basis of this data recording and thanks to the special commitment of all suppliers, SWISSPACER is now working on continuously improving the data for the Scope 3 emissions. Thus a way has been defined that will contribute to the attainment of climate neutrality by 2050.



NET-ZERO

Greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 in Scope 1, 2 and 3

33 %

Absolute reduction of emissions in Scope 1 and 2 by 2030 ¹

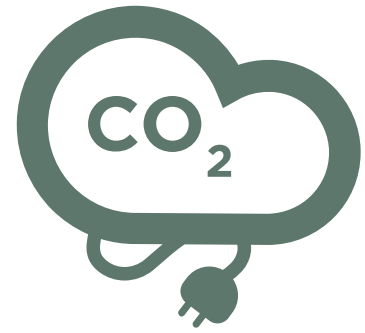
16 %

Absolute reduction of emissions in Scope 3 by 2030 ^{1, 2}

¹ compared to 2017

² with regard to categories 1, 3, 4, 6, 9, 12

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



We have committed ourselves to actively reducing our carbon footprint. We track our emissions in our production factories with the goal of continuously monitoring and, where possible, reducing emissions, waste, water and energy consumption. In order to continuously and systematically determine the emissions of the Scope 3 categories, we initiated a corresponding project in 2021.

The following Scope 3 categories were identified as being of special relevance for SWISSPACER:

Cat. 1: Purchased goods and services

Cat. 2: Investment goods

Cat. 3: Fuels and associated activities that are not included in categories 1 and 2

Cat. 4: Upstream transport and sales

Cat. 5: Waste in the production process

Cat. 6: Business trips

Cat. 7: Employee commuting

Cat. 9: Downstream transport and trade

Cat. 12: "End-of-life" disposal of sold products

The need for raw materials and delivery chains are of particular importance for most companies. This also applies to SWISSPACER: the biggest proportion of the carbon footprint is accounted for by purchased goods – i.e. Category 1 of Scope 3.

We have therefore committed ourselves to according a particularly high level of importance to the strategic alignment of our development and the responsible handling of unprocessed raw materials.

You can find further information on pages 17 to 18.

CO₂ EMISSIONS PROPORTIONS IN 2021



SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

AN OVERVIEW

In order to set the sustainability goals for the coming years, in 2021 SWISSPACER determined its position and analysed the expectations of the most important stakeholders. Corresponding goals for the three aspects of Environment, Social Affairs and Corporate Management were set for the roadmap.

ENVIRONMENT

SOCIAL AFFAIRS

CORPORATE MANAGEMENT



ENVIRONMENT



CONSISTENT ENERGY MANAGEMENT

- Efficient use of energy and reduction of emissions
- Performing energy audits and implementing energy saving measures
- Limiting energy losses through retrofitting, more energy-efficient machinery, process optimisation and building renovations
- Significantly increasing the proportion of renewable energy through the procurement of environmentally friendly energy
- Promoting the development of renewable and “clean” energy



Reducing the annual energy consumption per linear metre of spacer bar produced



Increasing the proportion of electricity from renewable energy sources

FOCUS ON GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

- Responsible business and operational management
- Mitigating climate change
- Installing systems to monitor and document greenhouse gas emissions
- Systematically recording and monitoring the company's direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions
- Achieving company growth that is decoupled from CO₂ emissions

-33 %

(baseline year 2017)

Reduction in CO₂eq emissions in absolute figures (Scope 1 and 2)

-16 %

(baseline year 2017)

Reduction in CO₂eq emissions in absolute figures (Scope 3)

RESPONSIBLE USE OF WATER

- Efficient water management
- Exploring the potential for rainwater collection systems and treatment
- Reducing water consumption by introducing the latest technologies

-50 %

(baseline year 2017)

Reduction in industrial water withdrawal per linear metre of spacer bar produced

LIMITING WASTEFULNESS

- Efficient waste management
- Introducing a closed-loop value model and re-using internal and customer waste

-80 %

(baseline year 2017)

Reduction in non re-used waste

100 %

Re-usable packaging

TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

- Strengthening a sustainable procurement and sales policy
- Using greenhouse gas emissions as a criterion for future tenders
- Optimising logistics and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from internal and external transports
- Collaborating closely with strategic suppliers and customers

SOCIAL AFFAIRS



CORPORATE CULTURE

- Creating a common understanding of the sustainability goals
- Promoting low-carbon growth by supporting measures and initiatives for reducing greenhouse gases

RULES FOR SUPPLIERS

- Maintaining open dialogue with suppliers, in order to uphold high standards with regard to business ethics and respect for people and the environment
- Procuring specific data for improving the LCA analysis

EMPLOYEE TRAINING AND QUALIFICATION

- Implementing sensitisation and training programmes for promoting the sustainability principles across the entire company
- Sustainability as an opportunity for collaboration and innovation
- Promoting an active dialogue with the employees, in order to exploit the full potential and entrepreneurial spirit of the diverse workforce

CORPORATE MANAGEMENT



INTEGRITY IN BUSINESS LIFE

- Consistently pursuing business activities in line with the established sustainability values
- Optimising the performance of our products with additional sustainability advantages
- Product innovations with improved resource efficiency
- Expanding research and development



Sustainability as a key pillar of the corporate strategy and of research and development

RAW MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

- Responsibly using and designing existing and new products
- Ensuring the availability of materials without any compromise for people and the environment

30 %
(baseline year 2017)

Reducing the use of new raw materials

100 %

recycled or organically based content in packaging

CUSTOMER RELATIONS

- Cooperating closely with customers, in order to understand needs and anticipate market trends
- Optimising the performance of our products
- Developing appropriate solutions

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

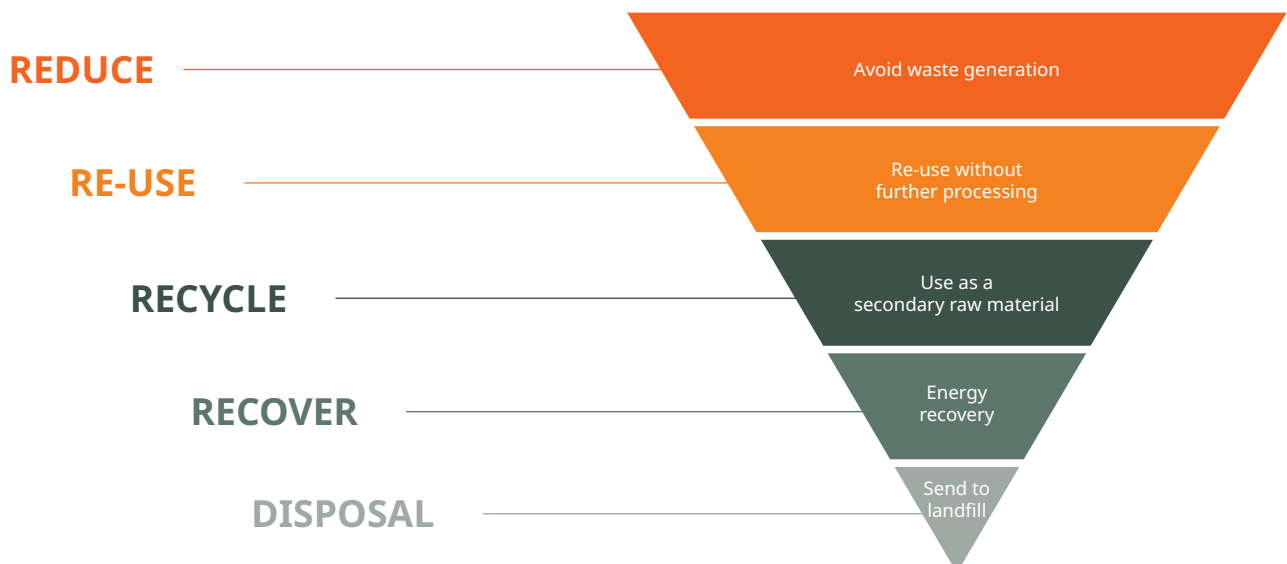


The principles of the circular economy comprise access to re-usable raw materials with suitable specifications on the one hand, and focusing on improved production processes and a design that is gentle on resources on the other. SWISSPACER works actively to reduce waste by using re-usable, internal waste. These principles are also considered when evaluating new product ideas.

How the proportion of recycled raw materials will develop in future depends not only on availability and economic efficiency. It will also be necessary to abide by certain technical specifications for the formulation of the plastic, in order to ensure the quality of our products. The SWISSPACER development department therefore researches possibilities for manufacturing products from low-carbon materials and with a higher proportion of recycled material.

How SWISSPACER approaches the circular economy

- Leaner design that saves on materials
- Waste-free solutions
- Researching ideas for separating product components at the end of their service life
- Increasing the lifespan and flexibility of the products
- Researching possible waste management services
- Using recycled materials for the packaging



PRODUCTS AND INNOVATION

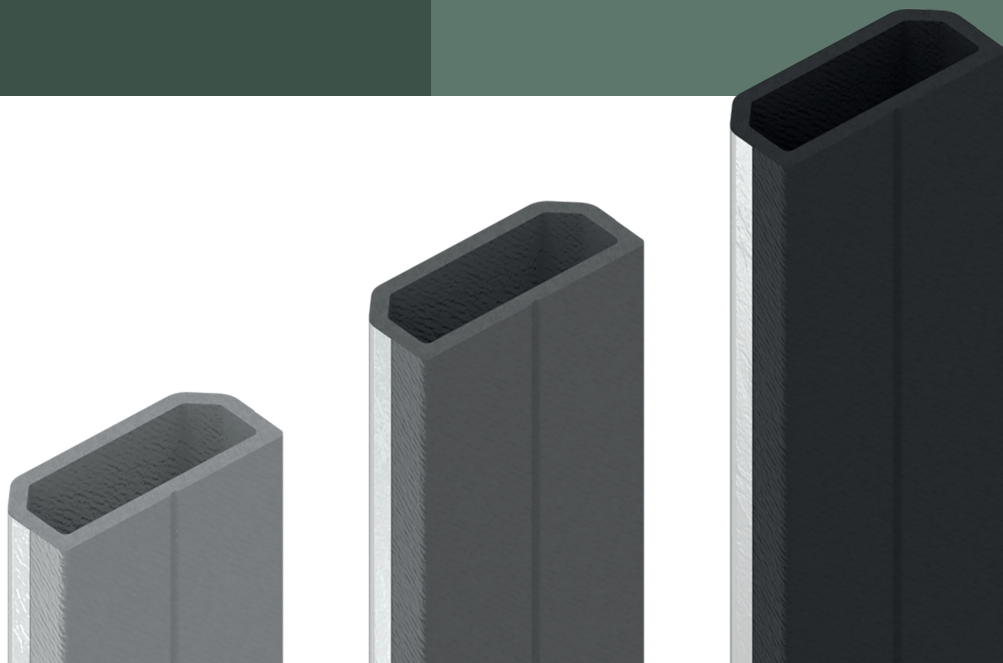
Our approach to sustainable innovation focuses on energy, waste management, environmentally friendly product design, the development of organically based plastics, research into recycling potential and the search for ways to fully close the loop. Our measures are aimed at promoting the manufacture and introduction of circular products and solutions.

USE OF RECYCLATES FROM WASTE

Given the dwindling supply of raw materials and their impact on the environment, it is critically important for SWISSPACER to find ways of using waste materials in production in the form of recyclate.

USING RECYCLED OR ORGANICALLY BASED RAW MATERIALS

SWISSPACER endeavours to make maximum use of new raw materials and to reduce their consumption. Research and development focus on using recycled materials or organically based alternatives.

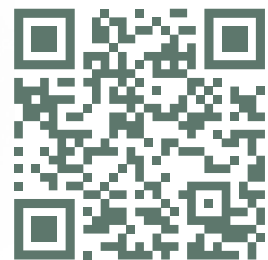


PUBLICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATIONS

Environmental product declarations (EPDs) are based on a life cycle analysis (LCA) and supply detailed information about a product's environmental impacts. Using the transparent and verified data provided by the EPDs makes it possible to select low-emission products.

EPDs help to achieve the highest environmental standards for buildings, such as LEED, BREEAM and DGNB, and therefore give you, as a manufacturer of insulating glass units, additional sales arguments.



Scan QR code and
download EPD directly

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health and safety have always come first at SWISSPACER – for our employees, customers and suppliers as well as for the people who live and work around our sites. We always work to avoid any negative impacts of our business activities. We also aim at achieving a positive effect with our products: warm edge spacer bars ensure a high degree of living comfort.

To ensure the health and safety of our employees, we always keep an eye on eliminating unsafe actions. At all sites, safety inspections are organised according to the SMAT standard (Safety Management Tool). Potentially hazardous actions and conditions are eliminated with immediate measures or integrated into action plans. By continuously analysing our practices and processes, we are able to constantly reduce the number of accidents in the workplace.

EMPLOYEES

Promoting a healthy working environment through the avoidance of occupational risks with the aid of action plans that are monitored in accordance with the standards and guidelines of the Saint-Gobain Group.

CUSTOMERS AND USERS

Guaranteeing the safe use of our products and solutions throughout their entire life cycle

NEIGHBOURS AND COMMUNITIES

Protecting the health and well-being of neighbours by complying or over-complying with the applicable regulations

We are certified for: ISO 45001:2018/
ISO 50001:2018.



0

Accident rate since 2017*



4.5

Average number of safety inspections at the workplace in 2021

OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

SWISSPACER contributes to the global efforts for sustainability. We will shape our further growth so that we actively support the leading global frameworks, such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations. As a company in the construction industry, we can influence seven of these goals.



The United Nations have defined 17 development goals which follow the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for the period 2000 to 2015. The SDGs are more ambitious than the MDGs, and take both industrialised and developing countries into account. The goals are intended to steer the global economy towards sustainable economical, ecological and social development, thereby raising living conditions around the world. The SDGs entered into force on 1st January 2016 and remain valid until 2030.

3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



7 AFFORDABLE AND
CLEAN ENERGY



8 DECENT WORK AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



13 CLIMATE
ACTION























SUMMARY

OBLIGATIONS

In order to achieve the goals for the year 2030, SWISSPACER has developed a detailed sustainability roadmap that was implemented at all sites in 2021. Goals and measures are regularly evaluated, questioned and modified to take current developments into account.

2030 GOALS AND STIPULATIONS

We support the approach of evaluating a company's performance no longer solely on the basis of business data, but also on ESG criteria. This results in our clear commitment to including sustainability as a principle in our corporate strategy.

MEASURE	GOAL	SDGS
Greenhouse gas emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 33 % reduction in CO₂eq emissions in Scope 1 and 2 in absolute terms* • 16 % reduction in CO₂eq emissions in Scope 3 in absolute terms* 	 
Energy management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal for reducing energy consumption per linear metre of spacer bar produced year on year • Maximising the proportion of electricity from renewable energies • Promoting the use of renewable energy generated on site 	  
Waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80 % reduction in non-utilised production waste in absolute terms* • 100 % recyclable packaging 	 
Water management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 % reduction in industrial water withdrawal per linear metre of spacer bar produced* 	 
Transport and logistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing internal and external transports • Increasing the proportion of rail and ship transport 	 
Circular economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoidance of 30 % of new raw materials* • Recycling and re-using all internal waste (excluding foil) • Increasing the proportion of recycled or organically based materials in the existing product range • Using 100 % recycled or organically based packaging material 	   
Materials		
Product innovation and sustainable solutions		
Health and safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual targets for observations concerning occupational health and safety in the workplace 	
Publication of environmental information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing EPDs for the entire product range 	 

* with reference to baseline year 2017

SWISSPACER

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