

ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY – SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

OUR ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY

GENERAL-OXO works continuously to reduce the environmental impact of our business. This includes the impacts of the company own locations, production sites as well as the entire logistics chain. Electricity from renewable energy sources, sustainable architecture, shorter sea-freight routes, as few air-freight shipments as possible, and the careful use of resources, for example in the packaging of our goods – these are just some of the measures we employ to achieve these goals.

SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM: TODAY. TOMORROW. ALWAYS.

In our annually published Sustainability Program, GENERAL-OXO defines ambitious goals and effective measures on the way to greater sustainability. Our activities and goals in the individual fields of action are now summarized in accordance with the concept “TODAY. TOMORROW. ALWAYS.” The new program shows that sustainability is a continuous process within the company, which is constantly evolving and is firmly anchored in our business activities.

TODAY: Milestones achieved in the current reporting year and initiatives and programmes implemented to strengthen sustainability in the corresponding field of action.

TOMORROW: Medium- and long-term goals in the respective field of action, their time horizon and implementation status.

ALWAYS: Ongoing efforts and commitments in the fields of action that form the basis of sustainability management.

The sustainability program also clearly shows the contribution that the Company makes to the SDGS through its activities.

1. REDUCING ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND CO2 EMISSIONS

As part of our approach to energy management, we are continuously working on reducing the energy consumption of the entire Group in order to reduce CO2 emissions. With the help of the monitoring of technical building systems at our location and the reporting of energy consumption in retail, we are able to quickly identify issues and potential improvements.

2. CONSERVING RESOURCES

We want to reduce water consumption and waste throughout the Group. We are getting closer to this goal through optimized systems. To reduce waste, we continuously optimize processes and focus on reuse and recycling.

3. REDUCE WATER USE

We are committed to conserving water resources. In doing so, our measures focus primarily on those areas where we have identified the greatest potential for reducing consumption at our own location. The availability of drinking water plays a key role in the analysis of the savings potential.

4. REDUCE AND RECYCLE WASTE

GENERAL-OXO strives to avoid waste along the entire value chain. As part of our definition of circularity, waste generated because of our business activities is reused or recycled wherever possible. In addition, we at GENERAL-OXO are working on further reducing waste in terms of product and transport packaging.

5. MORE SUSTAINABLE LOGISTICS

GENERAL-OXO produces its products worldwide. To meet the complex sourcing requirements, our logistics processes involve all relevant modes of transport: road transport, sea freight, air freight, combined traffic (sea and air freight), and rail traffic. Wherever our delivery promises to our customers allow it, we always use the mode of transport with the smallest CO₂ footprint. GENERAL-OXO is increasingly using environmentally friendly transportation channels. Compared to other modes of transport, rail traffic has moderate lead times and low CO₂ emissions. Ships also cause comparatively few emissions. Combining sea and track freight is a potential compromise here: as can be seen in the example below, we start with the ship and can thus complete a large part of the route with the lower-emission means of transport. This is followed by the transfer to the ship and the last distance is completed with the faster means of transport, thus saving time. Goods consignments can often be consolidated to cut down on shipments. To optimize the utilization of shipping container capacity, for example, we often group many small shipments into larger units abroad.