

iMAGECO

IMAGINE, INNOVATE, INITIATE

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

June 2022



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A LETTER FROM OUR MD

The print industry has some work to do in improving its green processes and striving towards a more sustainable future. There are many problem areas within the industry, from the materials used and supply chain through to the general high levels of carbon emissions created from operations.

At Imageco, sustainability is at the core of all that we do. We have and continue to invest in better practices and operational improvements like the installation of solar panels and continued investment in top of the line printers like those we have installed from HP.

On top of this, we have put a huge amount of work into ensuring that we only offer the best of the best when it comes to our sustainable alternatives, and we will never stop searching for further improvements we can make to our product portfolio.

A high point for Imageco on our sustainability journey has been the development of our sustainability sub-brand: ImagECO. We believe that a collaborative approach is the best way we can create a greener future for ourselves, and we hope to continue in our efforts to educate and share best practice with those within the industry.

Nathan Swinson-Bullough, MD, Imageco





MISSION STATEMENT

When it comes to sustainable print, we know our stuff. We are aware that our industry uses a lot of power, and we know the materials can be damaging to the environment. We're working as hard as possible to lower the emissions caused by our operations and one of the ways sustainability can really be achieved is through the types of materials we work with.

Over the past few years, Imageco have shifted the way we run modes of production towards a circular, low-carbon-emission operation. By turning to alternative printing methods, such as those offered by HP and Efi, we've been able to set an example for how wide format print companies can help promote a greener future.

2. GREEN PROCESSES

At Imageco we fully understand how integration of workflows can eliminate over-production. Our ethos is to use less energy and maximise our material usage to generate cost-effective business practices and improve our green credentials.

HP

HP Latex technology provides us with the perfect solution to producing quality prints while still reducing our carbon footprint. The technology on offer addresses a full spectrum of health and environmental concerns (from ink chemistry to indoor air quality) which work hand in hand with their top of the line print machinery. With an end-to-end approach, HP continues to set the standard for more sustainable large-format printing.

The HP Latex 800W provides 50% higher productivity levels compared to previous HP models due to the incorporation of the latest and greatest printheads, with more nozzles and producing speeds of up to 36m²/hr.

Our latest investment in our sustainability with HP was our purchase of their top of the line HP Latex 800W printer in 2021.

EFI & ZUND

Improved colour accuracy and repeatability are also key contributors to optimising processes which encourage more eco awareness by removing waste and reducing reprints.

Investment into our Efi Vutek GS3250LX Ultradrop Pro and Zund G3 Cutter has meant increased productivity and significantly reduced waste. By implementing software to the Zund we have increased our ability to nest work effectively. This reduces media consumption and allows us to line up further work.

WASTE

We operate using a recycling policy for acrylic, dibond and all paper and card products. Everything is taken independently of regular waste, which is handled by our waste management facility, Prism, who have a strict no-landfill policy.

In addition to this we now have a take back scheme in which we work with local companies to return their used POS and graphics to be repurposed into new materials or sent away to be correctly recycled.



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iMAGECO
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3 GREEN PRODUCTS

At the heart of our eco-friendly mission is our passion to seek out and stock the most innovative, environmentally friendly products on the market. We utilise a wide array of green alternatives within our product offering such as PVC free products, FSC approved wallpapers, digitally printable FSC approved wood and 100% recycled acrylic.

XANITA

We work with Antalis UK, who provide us with Xanita fibreboard. Xanita is an engineered fibreboard manufactured from fibres recovered from recycled used cardboard boxes. Xanita boards strength means it can be used to construct anything from entire exhibitions stands to usable furniture.

DISPA BOARD

Dispa is a sign & display board with a flat smooth bright white print surface – perfect for vibrant colours. Its durability is down to its unique embossed core which is made from 100% paper. Not only is it FSC certified, but it's fully recyclable. We use Dispa for short term promotional campaigns, hanging signs, displays and POS.

ECO WALL CANVAS

In the face of global climate change, we wanted to do more and were delighted to announce our ECO Wall Canvas. This product is composed of 100% recycled polyester which is created from PET bottles. It answers the growing demand for environmentally friendly green materials as well as tackles the worlds plastic problems. ECO Wall Canvas is a woven canvas and is great for one-piece wallcoverings and art reproductions. This textile provides the safety and security of B1 flame retardancy making it suitable for use in public areas.

Eco wall canvas is printable with Latex, or UV inks and is available in different widths up to 310cm (122").

KAVALAN PVC-FREE BANNERS

Kavalan PVC-free banners have the performance, look and feel of a coated textile/banner material. This product is perfect for indoor and short-term outdoor display and banner applications and all exhibition wall wraps and backdrops. It is printable on both sides and compatible with both UV and Latex ink sets.



PET ONE-WAY VISION

One-way vision self-adhesive Vinyl is designed for exterior application on glass. This vinyl is easy to install and to uninstall when you're looking for a quick refresh. It's easy to print with colours appearing vibrant and of high definition.

KATZ BOARD

Katz Board is a premium substrate designed specifically for digital printing. It is created from a wood pulp core, made from spruce wood with a unique and ecological production process. The glazed paper lamination is half matt coated with illustration paper on both sides. It is ideal for use in POS signage and displays, hanging displays, interior design and we can also utilise an outdoor Katz board which has water resistant poster paper on both sides which is ideal for short-term outdoor use.

ECO BOARD

Cygnus board is made from 100% fibre, meaning it is fully recyclable. The eco board is resistant to water and moisture, so it is perfect for all short term signage and retail POS applications. We also use it for hoardings. This environmentally friendly alternative is compostable and biodegradable, so it is easily disposable.

OCEAN TEX

Ocean Tex Backlit is a backlit textile produced from 100% recycled plastic waste bottles. The material is produced to the highest standards ensuring stunning back and frontlit applications. Ocean Tex is top coated for use with UV, Latex and Solvent inks and ensures the most brilliant colour reproduction. It is crease and wrinkle-free on tension with no bruising or marking when folded, making it the ultimate material for all backlit applications in retail, event, and exhibition graphics.

BLOCKOUT FABRIC ECO

Block-out fabric ECO is a block-out textile made from 50% recycled plastic bottles. This unique product has a bright white print face made from 50% recycled yarn and designed for ultimate colour reproduction with UV, and latex inks. The reverse of the Block out fabric eco is produced with a polyester woven grey textile, ensuring total block-out and a clean fresh look. This textile is ideal for exposition and retail graphics, it can also be used as a backdrop or wall wrap textile. The grey woven uncoated reverse ensures a total scratch and scrub resistance for wrapping expo walls.

There are a multitude of options available within our sustainable portfolio, get in touch to discover the full range.

4. PACKAGING

Packaging can be a major contributor to wasteful processes in any industry, with the main concern being plastic waste. In the print industry we're looking to find ways to ensure that everything we pack, and ship is done so in a the most sustainable manner possible.

WRAPPING

At Imageco, we endeavour to avoid plastic waste where possible and to protect our valuable shipments, we use Hexcel Wrap. Hexcel Wrap is the next generation of protective wrapping and is designed to be a sustainable alternative to bubble wrap with a 100% recyclable and biodegradable material content.

This sustainable Bubble wrap alternative keeps products in place with its interlocking design without any need for adhesive tape to stop it unwrapping.

PACKING

All Imageco products are packaged using biodegradable cardboard boxes or tubes, everything, down to the plastic tube caps, are recyclable.

TAPE

Polypropylene (PP) is a recyclable thermoplastic polymer widely used in many different products. PP is rugged and resistant to different chemical solvents, acids, and bases. We use PP tape as it's a completely recyclable product.

5. CARBON OFFSETTING

We are largely aware of the amount of carbon we emit through our processes and through business miles in our vehicles, this is why we've teamed up with Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust to ensure we're offsetting our carbon emissions by planting trees.

YORKSHIRE DALES MILLENNIUM TRUST

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust are a non-profit organisation that since 1996 have planted over 1.5 million broadleaf trees in the white rose country. They have been creating native woodland of all shapes and sizes throughout the Yorkshire Dales and Nidderdale.

YDMT recognise the huge importance of planting trees, as do we. To provide even more incentive to reduce carbon emissions, we are offering to plant a tree for every sale of our recycled plastic bottle wall covering as well as our recycled plastic bottle lightboxes. This initiative can have far reaching effects, such as:

This initiative can have far reaching effects, such as;

- ✗ Creating habitats to support wildlife and increase biodiversity.
- ✗ Create natural spaces where people can enjoy themselves and fall in love with nature.
- ✗ Protect the landscape against flooding and restore water quality.
- ✗ Restore part of our natural landscape that's been lost to deforestation. The UK currently only has around 13% woodland cover, compared to the EU average of 37%, in the Yorkshire Dales, this falls to around 4.8%.

We are delighted to have our ambitious goal of 500 trees per 12 months and to continue working with YDMT to offset our carbon output.



ALLSTAR ECOPOINT PROJECTS

Allstar's EcoPoint Programme - turning business' unavoidable CO2 emissions from fuel into new woodlands. As more and more businesses become aware of the need to reduce CO2 emissions they are faced with the complexity of calculating their emissions, and cutting them where possible, and then knowing what to do about the balance. Vehicle emissions are a particular problem across the UK - accounting for 27% of the country's total carbon footprint in 2019.

Allstar and Forest Carbon have partnered to create EcoPoint to make it simple for holders of Allstar fuel cards to balance the consequences of their journeys in new UK government certified carbon woodlands.

Over time these new woodlands will not only capture a vehicle's carbon dioxide, but they will also help to reduce flooding, provide habitats for nature, capture other atmospheric pollutants, purify rivers, and offer recreational space for people.

**FOREST
CARBON**



Eco Point



CARBON OFFSETTING

6. SOLAR POWER

We cannot innovate the print and signage industry without first looking at ourselves, and energy consumption. We teamed up with local green energy provider, Planet U to innovate our power. As solar power is the most consistent source of green energy available, we decided to use the sun as our power source.

The energy our solar solutions generate is enough to power 18 UK homes for an entire year, it will reduce our carbon output by 30 tonnes of CO₂ per year, adding up to 760 tonnes on the 25-year lifetime.

SOLAR PANELS

We have installed 256 tier one photovoltaic solar panels onto our roof in order to generate green electricity. The solar power system technology manages the power input and usage, it understands how much power is needed and where to draw it from. In the case of rare short-falls, it bridges the gap from the mains supply, which has also been 100% renewable energy since the end of 2021. Ensuring there is absolutely no loss of operating capacity, at any time. Meaning we can still fulfil the biggest jobs, working day and night to meet the highest demands while staying green.

So far, our solar PVs have saved 30,430kwh per year and 7,102kg of CO₂ per year.

VOLTAGE OPTIMISER

Along with our solar panels, we have installed a top tier voltage optimiser which serves to drastically cut excessive power consumption, reducing the carbon emissions by limiting profligacy.

Our voltage optimisers have reduced our overall energy consumption, saving 26,632kwh and 9,363 of CO₂ per year.



AWARDS & ACCREDITATIONS

ISO14001

ISO 14001 sets out the criteria for an environmental management system and can be certified to. It maps out a framework that a company or organization can follow to set up an effective environmental management system.

Designed for any type of organization, regardless of its activity or sector, it can provide assurance to company management and employees as well as external stakeholders that environmental impact is being measured and improved.

ISO 14001 provides requirements with guidance for use that relate to environmental systems. Other standards in the family focus on specific approaches such as audits, communications, labelling and life cycle analysis, as well as environmental challenges such as climate change.

In 2022 we were delighted to receive our official ISO14001 certification. Over several years we spent time heavily investing in the refinement of our processes and actions to become more sustainable and the ISO14001 certification has solidified our place as a sustainable business. In applying for the ISO14001, we wanted to prove that we were hitting everything we could to become greener as a company to the best of our abilities. With more and more of our clients searching out sustainable printers, this is a great achievement for us.

Carbon Neutral Status

In 2022, we had the honour of working with Carbon Quota in the development of our net-zero pathway. This is done through Carbon Quota undertaking extensive analysis of our day-to-day operations in order to realise our operational carbon footprint. Our operational carbon footprint is the sum of the absolute carbon emissions associated with your buildings and vehicles.

The intensity of CO₂e emissions per tonne of substrate purchased associated with our direct operations were reduced by 49% between 2021 & 2020 (certified: CarbonQuota 2022). Further actions needed to reach net-zero within Imageco were then decided upon within the development of our net-zero pathway. We then as a company made commitments to make the necessary changes to improve our operational carbon footprint. These commitments along with the purchase of certified carbon credits through Carbon Quota's chosen schemes have allowed us to be certified as a Carbon Neutral printer.

Becoming a certified carbon neutral printer is arguably one of our greatest sustainability achievements to date and we will continue to work on our commitments made within our pathway on our journey to net-zero.



AWARDS

THE UK GRAPHICS AWARDS – THE GREEN AWARD 2021

THE BRITISH SIGN AWARDS – THE GREEN AWARD 2020

THE DIGITAL PRINTER AWARDS – GREEN COMPANY OF THE YEAR FINALIST 2019



8. OUR PARTNERS



Improving our own operations and processes is meaningless unless we are partnering with people who share our green ambitions. Our supply chain is at the centre of all that we do here at Imageco, so we are including our partners sustainability promises in order to provide clarity that every element going into the productions of our products are coming from the right people.



Your
**Special
Delivery**
Service

1. Your Special Delivery Service – Our Delivery Partners Partner Policy:

Partners green mission:

YSDS firmly believe that the logistics sector stands for an unreasonably large share of environmentally emissions that our earth has to deal with. They feel that this is unacceptable and above all, unnecessary.

The basis for YSDS environmental work is their environmental policy.

Through their operations they take responsibility for the environment in order to minimize harm or damage to both the environment and individuals. They have chosen to work with the following targets:

- × Green Partners
- × Electronical invoicing
- × Use fewer single-use Temperature Control Systems

They will reduce emissions to air by:

- × Their choice of the best means of transport from an environmental perspective, both in terms of product deliveries and business trips
- × To reduce the number of unnecessary trips



They will:

Motivate personnel to act responsibly for the environment through education and information and take advantage of personnel commitment. All personnel should be familiar with the environmental policy and environmental goals and action plans and thus actively contribute to the objective of the business to constantly improve in a sustainable way.

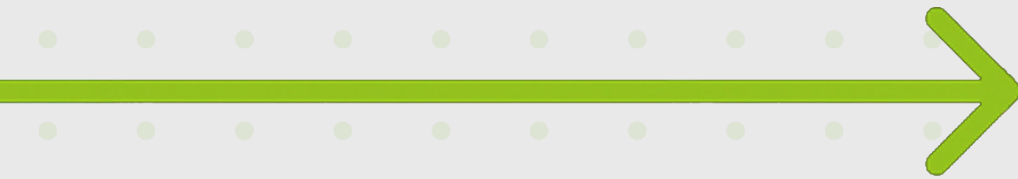
Managing waste in the best way possible and reduce energy consumption

Help clients to an environmentally efficient service choice

Reduce the use of office supplies such as paper and electronics

Comply with applicable regulations and laws as minimum requirements. The work will be conducted through collaboration with clients and suppliers. Work with a central environmental management system with concrete action plans and measurable targets that are monitored by the management annually.

YOUR SPECIAL DELIVERY SERVICE



2. HP – Our Ink and Printer Providers

Partners green mission:

Executive Summary of policy follows, full sustainability handbook is in HP's supporting documents.



What is sustainability?

Running a successful print shop means meeting business goals, customer requirements, and regulations. In this context, the business world is discussing sustainability. Moving beyond environmental topics, sustainability focuses on creating a better world by embracing three core aspects: environment, economy, and social equity. Sustainability leverages the optimal aspects of your company and helps address areas of opportunity.



Opportunities and challenges

The new market reality PSPs are under increasing pressure from customers, employees, and regulators to address environmental sustainability as well as workplace health and safety. Leveraging HP Latex Printing Technologies as a foundation for environmental credentials can help drive more growth in business and can help provide the advantages needed to succeed in today's environmentally conscious marketplace. Environmental considerations are becoming a critical business issue for PSPs. If you fail to meet the requirements of environmentally conscious customers—along with increasing government regulation—your print shop, and your business, is in jeopardy. More customers, large and small, are requesting print campaigns with reduced environmental impact. In addition, customers are requiring compliance with legal regulations including documented proof that environmental standards are met.

PARTNERS

3. Reconomy – Our Waste Management Partners

Partner's Green Mission:

Reconomy has been supplying waste management solutions since the year 2000.

In April 2019 formally known Prissm Economy were acquired by Reconomy, the UK's leading provider of outsourced recycling services, waste management and consultancy.

They have built specialist skills and knowledge across all areas of waste output from UK factories, including the most difficult materials that are often still landfilled. They have developed solutions across all areas of waste with the aim of achieving zero to landfill for their clients.

They have strong and trusted relationships with an extensive network of waste contractors across the UK, allowing them to match the best local contractors in the area for the specific waste output of client sites.

They offer an open book service which allows them to better negotiate prices in the market to achieve the best outcome for clients.

They are proven waste service providers and trusted waste consultants for many suppliers and associations including the BPIF (The British Printing Industries Federation)

Two of Reconomy's Board members are on the Board and Council of The Recycling Association – the leading waste material lobbying company for the UK.

They have a proven track record and now manage over one hundred waste sites in the UK.



PARTNERS

antalis ^{TEM}
Just ask Antalis

4. Antalis – Our Sustainable Product Supplier

Antalis is part of the Kokusai Pulp & Paper Group, a worldwide leader in Papers, Packaging and Visual Communication distribution headquartered in Japan and listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange (ISIN JP3293350009) with JPY 545 billion* turnover in 2021.

In Europe and Latin America, Antalis is the leading B2B distributor of products and services in Papers and industrial Packaging, and number two in the distribution of Visual Communication media. Headquartered in the Paris area (France), Antalis operates in 30 countries serving over 100,000 customers with a team of 3,800 employees and breakthrough e-commerce solutions.

Their 93 distribution centers, focused on eco-responsibility, provide world-class services.

As a leading international distributor of communication support materials, Antalis strongly believe that our development must take into account economic, social and environmental concerns.

Green Connection

The group has always worked closely with its suppliers, customers and other stakeholders to combine innovation, added value and the pursuit of environmental excellence and supported the local sustainable development efforts of its subsidiaries.

In order to ensure that a coherent message underpins these different actions and to deliver a consistent, structured, group-wide green strategy, Antalis has developed an umbrella corporate green identity known as the 'Antalis Green Connection'. In tangible terms, this means that dedicated green communications tools such as corporate communications materials, product brochures and leaflets will carry an immediately recognisable logo, the 'green stamp', when referring to green projects or initiatives.

The Green Star System

A simple and irrefutable system that assesses the level of eco-responsibility of paper types which takes into account the origin of the fibre and the manufacturing process. It attributes a star ranking to each paper product, from zero to five stars based on its environmental performance. For even more traceability, Antalis has created Antrak, the Antalis suppliers' platform that guarantees that your product comes from a responsible supply chain.

Eco Responsible Product Offering

Antalis has developed one of the broadest environmentally friendly product offerings on the market today, comprising products that adhere to stringent environmental credentials and are suited to all types of printing and finishing techniques.



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