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# **Statement - Sustainability at GGP Media**

We produce today and think about tomorrow. That is why GGP Media feels responsible for the careful use of raw materials, energy and the associated protection of the environment. Less is more! That is our focus. The most environmentally friendly use of resources is the one that is not used in the first place.

## 1. Business activities relating to sustainability

GGP Media continues to focus on designing sustainable and environmentally friendly processes. The topics range from printing ink and energy consumption to the recycling of excess paper.

- Use of electronic working papers
- Use of green IT (video conferencing, virtualization of server and storage systems, use of more energy-efficient computers and screens)
- Reduction of aluminum printing plates for short runs through digital printing
- Largely alcohol-free printing
- Upgrading to sustainable production processes (e.g. alternatives to UV drying)
- Avoidance of transport routes through centralization of production/logistics processes
- · Optimization of pallet packaging and thus saving packaging material
- Saving energy through heat recovery via the air compressors and afterburning systems as well as the use of LED technology
- Postal dispatch completely plastic-free

By signing the Healthy Printing Charter 2020, we are sending out a forward-looking signal. Together with you, we want to use recyclable and biodegradable materials and pursue the healthy printing principle. You can find more information at: <a href="https://www.healthyprinting.eu/">https://www.healthyprinting.eu/</a>

### 2. Climate footprint

As part of the BeGreen strategy of our Group company Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA, a Group-wide carbon footprint is compiled and published annually. In order to prepare this balance sheet, information on electricity, heat, fuels, paper, waste, water and other company data is requested and analyzed centrally from all Group companies.

You can find the carbon footprints of recent years at: <a href="https://www.bertelsmann.de/verantwortung/umwelt/klimabilanz/">https://www.bertelsmann.de/verantwortung/umwelt/klimabilanz/</a>

## 3. Environmentally friendly materials

In order to support sustainable and responsible forest management, we have been certified according to FSC (Forest Stewardship Council®) criteria since 2008 and according to PEFC (Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification SchemesTM) criteria since 2012. These two certifications stand for materials from sustainable forestry and the assurance of a fully audited production and trade chain that extends to the finished printed product.

Together with you, we want to produce healthy print products. We are therefore pleased to have been manufacturing products with Cradle to Cradle (C2C) certification since 2021. The basic idea behind the cradle-to-cradle principle is to design products from the outset in such a way that they





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are part of a closed cycle. The aim is to prevent waste from being produced in the first place by completely reusing all materials and raw materials after use or returning them to the production process.

#### 4. Waste management

The recycling of the materials we use is very important to us. We are always ambitious to optimize our waste management, which enables us to produce recyclable paper from 100% of our production-related paper waste. By consistently separating our waste, we are able to steadily reduce our residual waste.

Process optimizations, such as measures to reduce the waste rates on our machines, help us to reduce the amount of waste each year.

## 5. Climate neutrality

We cannot prevent CO2 emissions, but with your help we can offset them. That is why we have been making the entire range of GGP services climate-neutral since 2021. This offsets all site- and employee-related emissions and marks another important milestone on the way to becoming a "green print shop".

With us, you have the option of having your product manufactured in a completely climate-neutral way. If you choose this option, we determine the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of your product and offset unavoidable emissions by supporting certified climate protection projects.

Your print product can also be given the "climate-neutral" label - making the carbon offset transparent for you and your customers.

Our partner here is ClimatePartner, a leading provider of holistic climate protection solutions for companies.

## 6. Other environmental certifications

# DIN-ISO certifications: reliably tested, sustainably effective

Our management systems are certified in accordance with internationally recognized DIN ISO standards. Compliance with the requirements is checked annually as part of surveillance audits; comprehensive recertification takes place every three years.

Our ISO certifications: ISO 50001, ISO 14001, ISO 9001

The energy management standard "ISO 50001" (energy management) is our commitment to the continuous definition and implementation of efficient energy-saving measures. Consistent use of this tool enables us to identify energy flows, optimize them in a targeted manner and minimize environmental impact.

Since April 2024, we have been ISO 14001 certified (environmental management) following a successful audit. The internationally applied standard for environmental management systems is designed to help companies and organizations identify, assess, manage and optimize their environmental impact. The focus here is on improving a company's environmental performance,





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where environmental targets and the corresponding measures and procedures are defined. One exemplary measure is the separation of waste by a company's employees.

In July 2024, we acquired ISO 9001 certification (quality management) following a successful audit. It specifies how companies must structure their processes to ensure quality, customer satisfaction and continuous improvement.

EcoVadis gives us the opportunity to have the sustainability of our company assessed. The provider aims to improve the performance of supply chains using intelligent tools. The sustainability of a company along its value chain is assessed using 21 sustainability criteria from the areas of environment, labor and human rights, ethics and sustainable procurement.

We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded the silver medal by EcoVadis - placing us in the top 15% of all companies assessed worldwide.

If you have any further questions on the subject of sustainability, please get in touch with your contact person at GGP.