



**GRAPHITE
MATERIALS**

Environmental guidelines

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1 Purpose of the environmental guidelines

Environmental guidelines are essential to minimise environmental impacts in various sectors and to promote environmental protection. These GM policies set out our standards, regulations and guidelines to minimise environmental impacts, protect natural resources and improve environmental quality. Environmental guidelines aim to protect and improve the quality of air, water, soil and other environmental aspects.

They are crucial for improving environmental quality, the sustainable use of natural resources and the protection of biodiversity.

Environmental regulations also contribute to improving human health by reducing exposure to harmful chemicals and pollutants.

Despite implementation challenges and political change, they remain a fundamental building block of environmental protection in many countries.

2 Scope of application

These guidelines apply to all employees and the management of the Graphite Materials Group with its subsidiaries Graphite Materials GmbH and GME GmbH and are intended to serve as a guide for them and all parties involved in the supply chain.

Graphite Materials GmbH is sometimes abbreviated as GM in the following.

3 Environmental guidelines

Through the transport, production, use and even disposal of the products, we make an indispensable contribution to climate change. That is why Graphite Materials and every employee take care to limit the consumption of all resources to the minimum necessary. At Graphite Materials, residual materials are recycled and used as raw materials for other products. Waste is professionally recycled by certified waste disposal companies.

Our guidelines against environmental pollution are as follows:

3.1 Directives on air pollution

Environmental regulations set limits for air pollutants such as nitrogen oxides (NO_x), sulphur dioxide (SO₂) and particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) in order to improve air quality in urban areas, and we comply with these in full. We endeavour to contribute as little as possible to air pollution in order to minimise the impact on health and the ecosystem:

The exhaust gas values of our heating systems are checked once a year and maintenance is carried out annually.

We also have our extraction systems serviced once a year in order to comply with the applicable dust limits in accordance with TRGS 900.

By purchasing a paper press, we have been able to significantly reduce the number of journeys to and from the waste disposal centre.

3.2 Guidelines on energy consumption and greenhouse gases

Graphite Materials defines targets and key figures for its energy consumption and monitors and documents the results as part of an energy management system. This enables us to identify potential savings and thus minimise costs and pollution.

To this end, we want to fire the heating systems in production with biogas and thus reduce our Scope 2 CO₂ emissions by 75%.

The introduction of working from home has led to a reduction in Scope 3 CO₂ emissions of over 3 tonnes per year thanks to the travel savings, and we are determined to continue achieving this.

Some of our products also enable our customers to save energy.

We work together with 'Bayern Innovativ' and the Stifterverband 'Innovativ durch Forschung', are in the Bavarian Environmental Pact and were honoured in 2023 by the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Wärmebehandlung + Werkstofftechnik e.V. for our active participation in research projects.

We will continue to support these external initiatives on the subject of energy efficiency and further expand our commitment.

3.3 Guidelines on water

Richtlinien für den Gewässerschutz regeln die Einleitung von Abwässern in Flüsse, Seen und Meere, um die Verschmutzung und die Auswirkungen auf aquatische Ökosysteme zu reduzieren.

Das Abwasser von Graphite-Materials kann allerdings, nach dem Durchlauf eines Senkkastenfilters, in das normale Abwassernetz abgeleitet werden.

Trinkwasser ist eine begrenzte natürliche Ressource die es zu schützen gilt.

Darum schützen wir das Grundwasser und umliegende Gewässer durch Filter und haben zusätzlich unseren produktiven Wasserverbrauch verringert.

Den Wasserverbrauch pro Arbeitsstunde Wasserstrahlen konnten wir erheblich senken.

Wasser Produktiv pro Stunde Maschinenlaufzeit: Q1 2024 = 41,5% weniger als Q1 2023, das bestätigt das einsparpotenzial unser neuen Wasserstrahlmaschine.

Obwohl Graphite Materials nicht in einem Überschwemmungsgefährdeten Gebiet angesiedelt ist haben wir einen Wasser Notfallplan aufgestellt.

3.4 Guidelines on raw materials, chemicals and waste

The raw material for our products is expensive and associated with CO2 emissions.

For these reasons alone, we limit ourselves to importing only what is necessary.

This policy also promotes the sustainable use of natural resources such as forests and water resources to prevent their destruction.

We pack many of our products in wooden crates that can be used several times.

Other items are shipped in reusable plastic crates that circulate between the customer and us.

When these are no longer usable, they can be shredded and used for the production of new containers.

Graphite Materials is aware that the extraction of raw materials required for the production of synthetic graphite releases CO2 emissions. But we also make an indispensable contribution to climate change through the transport, production, utilisation and disposal of raw materials. This is precisely why we are working to reduce the consumption of resources.

Our residual materials are recycled and reused as raw materials for other products. Waste is professionally recycled by certified waste disposal companies. Packaging is used efficiently and packaging materials are replaced with more environmentally friendly ones.

The use of fossil fuels is to be further reduced and replaced in the future.

Not all waste in our company can actually be avoided. We reduce the amount of waste we produce as far as possible so that it can then be sorted by type.

We have also purchased a press for cardboard packaging to reduce the volume of waste.

We replace hazardous materials that are not absolutely necessary with non-hazardous products and have them disposed of properly.

3.5 Directive on end of product life

We supply our products exclusively to business customers. To ensure proper handling of our used workpieces, we send the delivery with a disposal notice.

We would like to offer our customers the opportunity to return used graphite parts to us so that we can reutilise them.

Some products are contaminated with harmful substances and are unfortunately no longer suitable for recycling. In these cases, it is the customer's responsibility to ensure proper disposal. Changes in political leadership or priorities can lead to environmental guidelines being weakened or cancelled, which can have a negative impact on the environment.

4 Documentation of the control procedures

Information on environmental pollution, water protection offences or waste offences can be provided in our whistleblower portal.

Reports of any kind of irregularities or violations of the law in the Graphite Materials environment will be investigated.

All reports can be made anonymously and will be documented until the offence is rectified. (see also point 3.7)

Our suppliers are contractually obliged to comply with our Code of Conduct.

5 Implementation

Graphite Materials promotes awareness of nature and environmental protection through targeted training in sustainability management.

This includes labour & health management, environmental management, energy management and supplier management.

6 Procedure for exceptions or violations

In the event of breaches of guidelines, the responsible persons in the respective department will be informed.

They will take disciplinary measures which may lead to dismissal.

Deviations from these guidelines require the written consent of the management with a justification as to why the guideline could not be adhered to.

A strategy with measures is then developed which leads to risk minimisation and is valid until the requirements are met.



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