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# **Environmental Policy**

Department:	ESG
Policy owner:	ESG Manager
Approved date:	August 2023
Date for renewal:	January 2024
Version number:	1.2



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#### 1.1 Purpose:

In today's world, environmental issues such as climate change, pollution, and depletion of natural resources have become critical global challenges that require urgent attention. SMI believes that businesses are responsible for mitigating the negative impact of their activities on the environment and operating in a sustainable manner.

We are proud to implement our ESG 2030 Strategy, demonstrating our commitment to minimising the potentially harmful effects our business operations can have on the environment. Continually improving our environmental performance and management as an integral and fundamental part of our business strategy and operating methods.

#### 1.2 Statement of Intent:

Our policy is to meet or exceed all environmental regulations, laws, and codes of practice. We focus on proactive work to ensure we can react to changing sustainability legislation and climate challenges. Through our strong policies, procedures and strategy SMI manages risks and safeguards our long-term sustainability growth. Our work to review our challenges and acting on new opportunities, ensure we exceed expectations from our stakeholders. Ensuring we have strong policies, procedures, and strategies in place to manage risk and safeguard long-term sustainable growth.

We fully acknowledge the importance of taking responsibility for our impact on the environment, creating a positive and innovative environmental impact. In response to this we are proud to have implemented our ESG 2030 Strategy, set our sustainable goals and committed to the Net Zero Target by 2050.

#### 1.3 Principles of the Policy:

Our commitment is to:

- Continuously improve our environmental performance and align the best environmental business practices into our business operations.
- Comply as a minimum with all relevant environmental legislation and codes of practice.
- Maintain our certification to ISO 14001 through continuous monitoring and review.
- Minimise waste generated from our business operations by incorporating re-use, recover and recycle in accordance with the principles of the waste hierarchy to meet our published objectives and targets.
- Manage energy and water usage in our buildings, vehicles, and processes to conserve supplies, and minimise our consumption of natural resources, especially where they are non-renewable.
- Measure and implement practices to reduce the carbon footprint of our business operations to meet our published objectives and targets.

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- Apply the principles of continuous improvement in respect of air, water, noise, and light pollution from our premises and reduce any impacts from our operations on the environment and local community.
- Operate and maintain company vehicles regarding environmental issues as far as reasonably practical and encourage the use of alternative means of transport and car sharing as appropriate.

To meet our commitments, we will:

- Monitor our environmental commitments, objectives, and strategies at least annually and engage stakeholders in the monitoring process.
- Assess the environmental impact of any new processes or products we intend to introduce in advance.
- Purchase products and services that focus on reducing environmental impact where possible.
- Communicate the importance of environmental issues, the impact our business operations have on the environment and the steps being taken to mitigate the negative impact of our activities.
- Work together with our people, suppliers, customers, and community to understand our environmental policy and encourage improved environmental performance.
- Review our environmental policy regularly.

# 1.4 Sustainable Targets

- 1. Greenhouse gas emissions: Reduce our operational greenhouse gas emission by 45% by 2030.
- 2. Renewable energy: Generate 100% renewable energy at our Head Office by 2025.
- 3. Waste consumption: Reduce water consumption by 15% by 2035 across business operations and supply chain.
- 4. Plastic consumption: We aim to be 90% plastic free by 2030.
- 5. Zero to landfill: Recycle 70% of municipal waste and reduce waste by 30% by 2035.

#### **1.5 Environmental Measures**

#### 1.5. 1 Energy Use

We are committed to increasing the use of renewable energy sources; we will purchase or generate green electricity to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and lower emissions associated with energy consumption.

# 1.5. 2 Product

We will consider the effect our products have on the environment looking at all stages of the products' life

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cycle including design to manufacturing, transportation and end of product use. We will continue to improve our eco product range and explore innovative methods to minimise the ecological impact.

#### 1.5.3 Recycling

We will promote in-house recycling and the recycling of our products once they reach their end of life. We will encourage our staff to search for alternative lean management strategies for reducing our waste where possible.

#### 1.5. 4 Waste Disposal

We will minimise waste across our business operations and dispose of all waste through safe and secure methods.

#### 1.5. 5 Carbon Footprint

We have set a commitment to reach Net Zero emissions by 2050, implementing specific targets for reducing carbon emissions by 45% by 2030. These goals have been aligned with international initiatives like the Science -Based Targets, the IPPC, and the UK government.

We are committed to regularly measuring and reporting businesses' greenhouse gas emissions both direct (Scope 1) and indirect (Scope 2 and 3) working with recognized bodies. Calculations will be based on the guidelines of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard.

#### 1.5. 6 Supply Chain Management

We will work with our suppliers to encourage sustainable practices, reducing the environmental impact of their products, packaging, and transportation. Promoting the use of eco-friendly materials and lowering and reporting emissions throughout the supply chain.

Evaluating the environmental practices and performance of our key suppliers by monitoring their alignment with our Supplier's Code of Conduct and compliance with laws and regulations.

#### 1.5.7 Transportation

We will work with our couriers encouraging the implementation of electric vehicles to reduce emissions. Focusing on applying environmentally friendly practices, lowering the carbon footprint associated with our deliveries and collections, through consolidating orders and implementing coordinated route planning.

#### 1.5.8 Pollution Prevention

We are dedicated to preventing pollution including emissions, air, land, and water associated with our business activities. We will monitor appropriate emissions and assess, if necessary, action is needed to be taken to reduce pollution or the risk of pollution.

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#### 1.5.9 Training

We are committed to providing our employees with training and education to raise awareness about environmental issues, practices, and strategies. Fostering a culture focused on environmental, social and governance initiatives.

#### 1.5. 10 Communication and Transparency

We plan to communicate the organisations carbon reduction plan, targets, and progress to our stakeholders on a regular basis.

#### 1.6 Monitoring and Review

This environmental policy will be reviewed annually and if necessary revised to reflect the up-to-date developments and ensure we comply with all relevant laws and regulations.

# 1.7 Signature:

Elizabeth Mellor

Elizabeth Mellor Environmental, Social and Governance Manager August 2023

# 1.8 Further information:

- ISO 14001 accreditation: continue to maintain the environmental management system and undergo recurring audits to ensure ongoing compliance.
- Maintain our certifications and accreditations with SEDEX, SA8000, WRAP and STeP.
- SMI carbon neutral operational emissions tracking page with ClimatePartner: https://fpm.climatepartner.com/tracking/18366-2209-1001/en
- Science based targets: <u>https://sciencebasedtargets.org/</u>
- Ecovadis sustainable rating: continue to maintain our Ecovadis business sustainable rating. <u>https://ecovadis.com/</u>

#### 1.9 Version Control:

Version:	Detail:	Approved by:	Date:
1.0	First Issue following policy introduction and annual reviews	Blake Prisgrove	May 2019
1.1	Annual review	Blake Prisgrove	Last approved 2022
1.2	Implemented new ESG Strategy and Environmental practices	Elizabeth Mellor	August 2023
1.3	Annual review	Elizabeth Mellor	January 2024

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