BERNDORF BAND GMBH

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT 2025
& GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REPORT

Environmental Statement

according to
REGULATION (EC) No 1221/2009 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 25 November 2009
on the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS)
in the current consolidated version 12/07/2023

taking into account
COMMISSION DECISION (EU) 2021/2053
of 8 November 2021
on the sectoral reference document on best environmental management practices, environmental performance indicators and benchmarks of excellence for the fabricated metal products manufacturing sector

of the organisation

Berndorf Band GmbH

Leobersdorfer Straße 26
2560 Berndorf, Österreich

for the site
Leobersdorfer Straße 26,
2560 Berndorf, Österreich

NACE-Code 28.99

EMAS-Reg. No AT-000444

Berndorf, November 2025

This Environmental Statement is a translation of the validated document "Berndorf Band GmbH Umwelterklärung 2025". This English version is not validated by the environmental verifier.

FOREWORD
BY THE MANAGEMENT

"Being economically strong as an industrial company and at the same time producing in an environmentally friendly way means a demanding transformation of corporate processes. The Berndorf Band Group wants to drive this transformation process forward by further developing its sustainability strategy with investments in research and innovation.

Together with our employees, we want to contribute to preserving the environment for future generations and create awareness for sustainable action. Our high environmental standards are anchored in our corporate philosophy and policy, and treating people and nature with respect constitutes the basis for our actions. Employees as well as suppliers and customers are being involved in the strategic and operational environmental objectives, and the implementation of the achieved objectives is regularly evaluated and adjusted.

We have implemented an environmental management system to drive forward our progress.”

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword By the Management
The Company Berndorf Band GmbH
- The Berndorf Band Group
- Products and Services
- The Berndorf Site
- Corporate Policy, Environmental Policy

Environmental Management System
- Environmental Management and Occupational Health and Safety Management System
- Safety and Environmental Management Team
- Organisational Roles
- Certification, Registration, Audits
- Legal Compliance, Legal Register
- Task Management System

Environmental Aspects and Impacts
- Assessment of the Significance of the Environmental Aspects and Impacts, ABC-Analysis
- Direct Environmental Aspects and Impacts
- Indirect Environmental Aspects and Impacts

Data on the Environmental Performance
- Input/Output Table
- Explanation to the Reference Value
- Core Environmental Performance Indicators
- Information to Selected Data

Environmental Programme, Environmental Objectives and Targets
- Success Stories – Previous Environmental Objectives
- Status of Environmental Objectives for 2025
- Environmental Objectives for 2026

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report
- Data Collection
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions - Scopes
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions - Data
- Conclusion

Sustainability Assessment
Update Interval
Validation by the Environmental Verifier
Editorial Information

THE COMPANY BERNDORF BAND GMBH

THE BERNDORF BAND GROUP

The Berndorf Band Group has attained the position of global leader in the production of steel belts and steel belt systems thanks to their over 100 years of experience and sales ranging around 150 million euros.

Operating worldwide and employing a staff of approximately 500, the group consists of the parent company Berndorf Band GmbH, based in Berndorf, Austria, eight subsidiaries in Asia, Europe, and North and South America, and partner companies all over the world.

Technical innovation combined with sustainability and quality – this is what the Berndorf Band Group stands for.

For more information, visit:
www.berndorfband-group.com

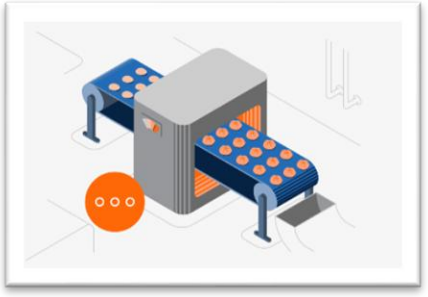
OUR MISSION IS TO CREATE EFFICIENT, ECONOMICAL, AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES WITH OUR PRODUCTS.

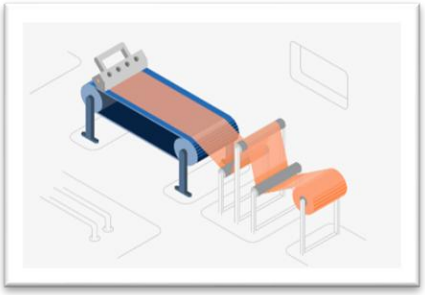
PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

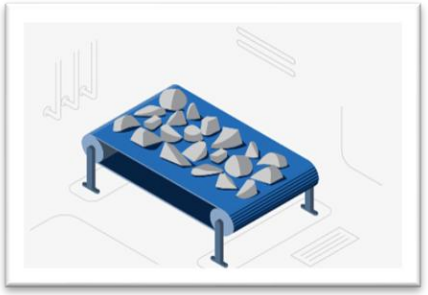
The Berndorf Band Group produces premium-grade steel belts and offers comprehensive solutions for steel belts and steel belt systems that encompass engineering, services, and customer care. Our wide-ranging solutions are incorporated in production and conveying processes found in every industry.

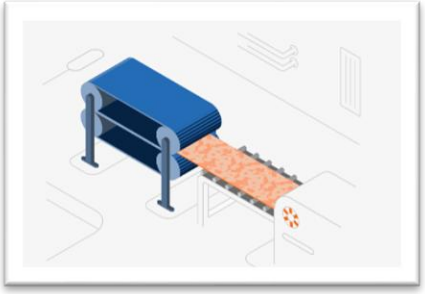
Thanks to our long-time experience and the close cooperation among the companies of the Berndorf Band Group and the constant coordination with our customers, we can make and deliver process systems on a global scale that are both all-inclusive and fully customized.

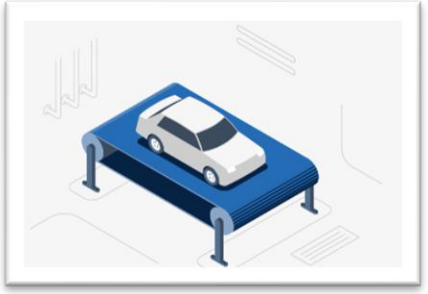
Made from stainless steel, carbon steel or titanium, our belts reflect their supreme quality in every detail – both in terms of their mechanical and physical properties and their geometric characteristics. They have become an important element in continuous industrial processes including pressing, drying, cooling, baking, conveying as well as a host of other applications.





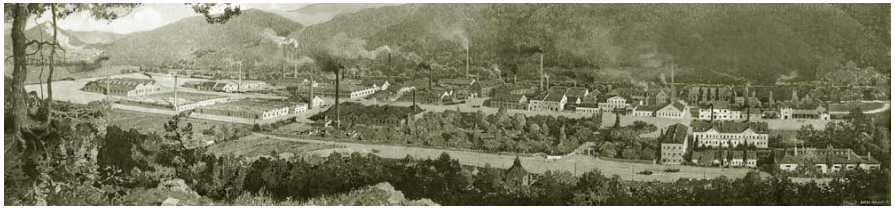






THE BERNDORF SITE

Berndorf Band GmbH has its headquarters on the Berndorf industrial area in Berndorf, Austria. Berndorf has a long tradition as an industrial location. The industrial enterprise of the same name, today's BERNDORF AG, has existed at this location for about 180 years. Berndorf Band GmbH is one of several subsidiaries of BERNDORF AG.



The industrial area is located in the Triesting valley between the town of Berndorf to the west, St. Veit to the east, the road B18 to the north and the river Triesting to the south. The Leobersdorf – St. Pölten railway line runs along the south side of the river Triesting. An area bordering the industrial area has been designated as "Natura 2000" area particularly worthy of conservation.

The areas and buildings used by Berndorf Band GmbH are the property of Berndorf AG and are rented by Berndorf Band. There are about 20 companies located on the industrial site, with all the infrastructure owned and managed by Berndorf AG, and many facilities, such as roads, parking lots, scrap yards, etc., are shared.

CORPORATE POLICY, ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The **corporate policy**, the **quality policy**, the **safety and environmental policy** and the **code of conduct** are structured as two documents, the "Corporate Policy - Berndorf Band Group" and the "Code of Conduct - Berndorf Band Group". However, these two documents are to be understood as one single work, which is reproduced here in *italics*.

Corporate Policy
Berndorf Band Group

Berndorf Band Group, a global leader in the production of steel belts and steel belt systems, is a value-based company.

The quality of our products (belts and machinery), services, and corporate processes along with our responsibility for the environment, the society, and occupational health and safety are of the utmost importance to us, a stance underscored by our certifications according to ISO 9001, ISO 14001, and EMAS for Berndorf Band GmbH, ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 for Berndorf Band Engineering GmbH, and ISO 9001 for Berndorf Sondermaschinenbau GmbH.

The corporate policy defined by the management of the Berndorf Band Group is based on the following principles:

VALUES

Our values provide the framework for the conduct of our employees.

BERNDORF BAND GROUP – "WINNING TOGETHER"

Our motto "Winning Together" underscores our joint strategy across the entire Berndorf Band Group with respect to sales and service of steel belts and belt systems, sustainability, efficient production processes, innovations, and profitable growth.

CUSTOMER ORIENTATION

Customer satisfaction is of paramount importance to us, and we strive for continuous improvement in this area. Therefore, customer orientation is an essential part of our responsibility. We are committed to supplying high-quality steel belts, belt systems and services tailored to the needs, requirements, and expectations of our customers.

EFFICIENT ORGANISATION

We commit ourselves to continual improvement and development of our technical and organisational processes, our quality and environmental management system, and our environmental performance to meet both our customers' requirements and our own quality standards.

Based on our goals and objectives measures and actions are derived, addressed, checked, and updated in the course of annual reviews according to the Plan–Do–Check–Act cycle (PDCA cycle).

MOTIVATED EMPLOYEES

Happy and highly motivated employees are eager to fulfil their requirements and to achieve their tasks and objectives. Training and involvement in essential processes is provided to achieve and ensure the necessary competence of personnel and, hence, the entire organisation. As a result of their exemplary behaviour the employees of the Berndorf Band Group contribute to the concept of quality, safety, and environmental protection within the company but also beyond the confines of the company.

LEGAL COMPLIANCE

We declare to conduct all our activities and operations, to the best of our knowledge and belief, in full compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and statutory and regulatory requirements, and we expect a full commitment to legal compliance from all our business partners as well.

CODE OF CONDUCT – BERNDORF BAND GROUP

The Berndorf Band Group Code of Conduct is to be understood as an integral part of the Corporate Policy.

Berndorf, September 2023

Code of Conduct
Berndorf Band Group

This Berndorf Band Group Code of Conduct reflects our commitment to our responsibility for the environment and the society.

It is based, among others, on the ideas of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the OECD Guidelines, and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. It shall be the basis and the framework of all our actions and operations and shall define our standards for ethical and responsible behaviour and legal compliance.

We demand full compliance with our Code of Conduct from our employees, and we expect equivalent ethical and responsible business conduct from our business partners and in particular from our suppliers.

In the Berndorf Band Group Code of Conduct, we commit ourselves to the following principles:

LEGAL COMPLIANCE

We declare, to the best of our knowledge and belief, to conduct all our activities and operations in full compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and statutory and regulatory requirements, and we expect a full commitment to legal compliance from all our business partners.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Occupational health and safety are of the highest importance to us. Regular safety-related workplace evaluations are carried out at all our machines and measures are derived where necessary. All production employees are provided with all the personal protective equipment they need and receive regular safety instructions.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABILITY

We are committed to keeping the impact of our activities on the environment as low as possible.

Our commitment and dedication to environmental protection, sustainability, and energy efficiency is reflected in our activities within our environmental management system, in our ISO 14001 and EMAS certifications, and in our commitment to legal compliance.

The following topics and aspects, among others, are addressed or taken into account in our environmental management:

- *Energy efficiency, renewable energies*
- *Greenhouse gas emissions and their reduction*
- *Waste management, waste prevention, recycling*
- *Material use, resource management, chemicals management*
- *Water consumption, water management*
- *Emissions, air quality*
- *Land-use, soil sealing, deforestation*
- *Biodiversity*

Our strategic goal of achieving carbon neutrality in accordance with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol by 2040 underlines our commitment and dedication to environmental protection and sustainability.

In the course of our environmental management, we systematically identify our environmental aspects and environmental impacts, and we conduct an assessment of their significance at regular intervals and, if necessary, derive measures and environmental objectives.

Our activities and measures in environmental management as well as our environmental objectives are described in detail in our annually issued Environmental Statement in accordance with "EMAS".

We expect our business partners to have appropriate environmental management systems or environmental programs in place.

HUMAN RIGHTS, LABOUR RIGHTS

We commit ourselves and expect our business partners:

- *to respect human rights and not to be complicit in human rights violations*

- *not to use, not to tolerate and not to be complicit in child labour and underage labour*
- *not to use, not to conduct, not to tolerate and not to be complicit in human trafficking, forced labour and all forms of modern slavery*
- *not to discriminate against any employee based on race, colour, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, nationality, origin, religion, disability, marital status, union membership, political affiliation*
- *to promote the advancement of women and equality for women*
- *to provide a workplace free of, and not to tolerate, harassment and abuse*
- *to treat all employees fairly and respectfully*
- *to pay employees at least the minimum wage defined by applicable laws and regulations and to provide all legally mandated benefits*
- *to apply working hours and offer vacation time and leave periods and holidays in accordance with applicable laws and regulations*
- *to respect the right of employees to associate freely and join organizations in accordance with applicable laws and regulations*

ETHICAL BUSINESS CONDUCT

We are committed to conducting our business in accordance with the highest ethical standards. We commit ourselves and expect our business partners:

- *to respect fair competition and to comply with all competition laws, antitrust laws, trade regulations, or related regulations*
- *to comply with all laws and regulations on anti-corruption and not to engage in, and not to tolerate, any form of bribery, corruption, extortion, fraud, embezzlement, or money laundering*
- *to respect intellectual property, intellectual property rights, copyrights, confidentiality, data protection, and identity protection*
- *to avoid and to report any conflict of interests with respect to our business partners*

BERNDORF BAND GROUP MANAGEMENT-SYSTEM

Our comprehensive Management System includes, among other things, detailed process descriptions, internal regulations, guidelines, and instructions. This ensures a systematic management of and compliance with all the principles listed above as well as the following topics and aspects.

- *Processes and Procedures*
- *Duties and Responsibilities*
- *Corporate Strategy*
- *Values*
- *Objectives*
- *Leadership*
- *Legal Compliance*
- *Quality Management*
- *Risk-based Thinking, Risk Management*
- *Occupational Health and Safety*
- *Motivated Employees, Training of Employees*
- *Environmental Protection, Sustainability, Energy Efficiency*
- *Customer Focus, Customer Satisfaction*
- *Intellectual Property Management, Confidentiality, Know-how Protection*
- *Data Protection Guidelines, General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)*
- *Emergency Plans, Emergency Prevention, Fire Protection, Flood Management, Power Blackout Plan*

Compliance with our Management System and to the guidelines, regulations, and instructions stated therein is mandatory for all our employees and is audited in the course of regular internal and external audits.

Our Management System is certified according to ISO 9001, ISO 14001, and EMAS for Berndorf Band GmbH, ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 for Berndorf Band Engineering GmbH, and ISO 9001 for Berndorf Sondermaschinenbau GmbH.

WHISTLEBLOWING SYSTEM

In case of suspicion or knowledge that this Code of Conduct is being violated, this can and should be reported in our Whistleblowing System.

Each report will be processed, with the anonymity of the reporting person, if requested, being systematically guaranteed.

Berndorf, September 2023

The Management

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

As a demonstration of the company's commitment to both occupational health and safety as well as to environmental protection, a comprehensive “Safety and Environmental Management System”, (short “SUM” for “Sicherheits- und Umwelt-Management-System”) was introduced at Berndorf Band Group to address both these important issues systematically and effectively. Said Safety and Environmental Management System in turn is fully integrated in the overarching Management System Berndorf Band (MSBB).

The management report, which is addressed to the top management, includes the legal compliance check, an analysis of data relevant for the Safety and Environmental Management and the environmental performance. Based on this information, the management decides on further measures and actions regarding the Safety and Environmental Management.

In order to be prepared for any emergency situations, and to be able to follow the optimal chain of actions, there are emergency plans available in the MSBB for various risk and emergency situations, such as flood, fire, chemical emergencies, and power blackout. The effectiveness of said emergency plans is checked through exercises at regular intervals.

SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

The role of the Safety and Environmental Management Team (short “SUM Team”) is to implement and maintain the Safety and Environmental Management, and to ensure that aspects regarding occupational health and safety as well as environmental protection are taken into account in all processes and activities at Berndorf Band as well as in the corporate objectives.

ORGANISATIONAL ROLES

The responsible and authorized persons in the area of the Safety and Environmental Management are listed in an overview diagram in the MSBB document "Organigramm Sicherheit & Umweltschutz” (German for “Organisational Chart Safety & Environmental Protection"). This information ensures that responsibilities and contact persons are known and transparent throughout the organisation.

CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION, AUDITS

Berndorf Band GmbH has been certified according to ISO 9001 since 1996 and according to ISO 14001 since 2002 and has been registered according to EMAS Regulation for the Berndorf site since 2002.

That means that the Safety and Environmental Management of Berndorf Band meets all criteria and requirements of ISO 14001 and EMAS.

The compliance of the Safety and Environmental Management system with said standards and regulations, ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and EMAS, in the respective current versions, as well as compliance with applicable legal requirements are checked by internal audits and internal environmental audits conducted at regular intervals.

In the annual verification by an accredited environmental verifier ("external audit"), it is confirmed that the environmental policy, the environmental programme, the environmental management system, the environmental review, the internal environmental audit system and the environmental statement (this document) of Berndorf Band GmbH meet the requirements of the EMAS Regulation.

LEGAL COMPLIANCE, LEGAL REGISTER

Berndorf Band is, of course, fully committed to legal compliance, and declares, to the best of its knowledge and belief, to conduct all its activities and operations in full compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and statutory and regulatory requirements.

The Legal Register constitutes a comprehensive compilation of all regulatory provisions applicable to Berndorf Band, encompassing the domains of energy, environmental law, waste management, water legislation, chemical regulations, building and construction standards, machinery requirements, product compliance, occupational health and safety, among others.

The legal register provides a basis for the regular checks for compliance with said legal requirements. Measures and actions are being processed as tasks in the task management system (see next chapter).

To ensure the completeness of the legal provisions recorded in the Legal Register, Berndorf Band maintains a Legal Compliance Agreement with an external service provider for the ongoing review of technical and legal standards, laws, regulations, and similar requirements regarding their relevance to Berndorf Band. This service includes the provision of legal information on planned and current developments in all areas relevant to us, as well as support for Berndorf Band through regular workshops aimed at communicating this information and deriving appropriate measures.

The Legal Register and the task management are therefore valuable systems and instruments for ensuring and maintaining legal and regulatory compliance.

TASK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Measures and actions to be carried out in the course of the Safety and Environmental Management are being managed via the Task Management System, “AMBB” (short for “Aufgaben-Management Berndorf Band”).

The AMBB is used to manage a wide range of tasks for all employees. The attached information to each task includes the person responsible, the due date, associated legal requirements (law, regulation, etc.), description of the task, description of the measure/action taken, etc., and it is easily possible to view the status and the degree of completion of each task at the push of a button.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS AND IMPACTS

Upon the most important tasks of an organisation's environmental management system is the **identification** of all direct and indirect **environmental aspects** and **environmental impacts** and the subsequent **assessment** of their **significance**.

Direct environmental aspects are associated with activities, products, and services of the organisation itself over which it has direct management control, such as emissions to the atmosphere, waste, wastewater, use of resources, transport, environmental accidents.

Indirect environmental aspects, on the other hand, cannot be directly controlled by the organisation, but they can result from the interaction of an organisation with third parties and can to a reasonable degree be influenced by the organisation, such as aspects related to the life cycle of products, (raw material extraction, transport, use, disposal, etc.), environmental performance of contractors or suppliers.

ASSESSMENT OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS AND IMPACTS, ABC-ANALYSIS

The identification of the direct and indirect environmental aspects and impacts of the activities, products and services of Berndorf Band GmbH, considering a life cycle perspective, and the assessment of the significance of the environmental aspects and impacts according to defined criteria is accomplished using an ABC analysis, carried out by qualified and authorised personnel at regular intervals.

The environmental aspects and the criteria for assessing their significance are being made publicly available through this Environmental Statement.

Said defined criteria based on which, in the course of said ABC analysis, the assessment of the significance of the direct and indirect environmental aspects and the associated environmental impacts is carried out are listed in the following table.

Name of Criterion	In this criterion the following elements are being considered:
„Compliance Obligations"	**thresholds**, **limits**, **compliance obligations**, applicable laws and legislation, requirements, permits, and the like
„Quantitative"	**frequency** of activities and processes; **quantities**, **consumption**, **extent**, and the like; **comparison to previous year(s)** - improvement/deterioration; indirect environmental aspects: extent of influence over these aspects, extent of consideration of these aspects
„Interested Parties"	**negative impact on employees or the public** (e.g. neighbours) due to smell, smoke, noise, visual influence, etc.; **condition of the environment**; **potential harm to the environment** including **biodiversity**
„Risk-based Thinking"	**Risks** and opportunities with respect to its **environmental aspects**, compliance obligations and other identified issues and requirements (the organisation and its context, external and internal issues, needs and expectations of interested parties) that need to be addressed to: • give assurance that the environmental management system can achieve its intended outcomes • prevent or reduce undesired effects, including the potential for external environmental conditions to affect the organization • achieve continual improvement

The assessment using the ABC analysis results in a classification of all considered items into **categories A, B or C**. It must be noted that said classification into the categories A, B and C is not carried out by an algorithm, but, as mentioned above, the classification into said categories takes place in a group of qualified employees.

CATEGORY A

Environmental aspects which may have significant environmental impacts. There is an urgent need for action. Actions must be planned and implemented, and their effectiveness evaluated. Category A items are often the basis of environmental objectives. If no actions are taken a reasonable justification must be stated.

CATEGORY B

While the environmental aspect is not significant, there is still room for improvement. Consideration should be given to whether actions are needed to avoid potential environmental impacts.

CATEGORY C

There are no or only insignificant environmental impacts. No action is necessary.

Said identification of the direct and indirect environmental aspects and associated environmental impacts and the assessment of their significance using an ABC analysis is carried out not only for normal operating conditions (see above) but for (potential) **emergencies**, **environmental accidents** and **abnormal operating conditions** (such as start-up and shutdown) as well, using the following criteria:

- „probability of occurrence"
- „importance and potential effect on the environment"
- „importance and potential effect on employees"
- „probability of timely detection"

DIRECT ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS AND IMPACTS

At Berndorf Band, the following direct environmental aspects and impacts were identified and assessed using an ABC analysis (as explained in detail in the previous chapter).

The **assessment** has shown that there are **no or only insignificant environmental impacts** as a result of the direct environmental aspects.

EMISSIONS INTO THE ATMOSPHERE

The following facilities, equipment and processes at Berndorf Band may result in emissions into air. These were measured and checked with respect to the respective permissible limit values. The measurements are performed anew in case of changes in the processes and, if deemed necessary, are repeated from time to time even if the processes remain unaltered.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Given the growing significance of this matter, greenhouse gas emissions are comprehensively addressed in a dedicated chapter at the end of this document.

DUST EMISSIONS FROM VARIOUS PROCESSES

The dust emissions are within the limit values and, according to immission measurements, do not cause any negative effects on the ecosystem.

GRINDING AND POLISHING

The surfaces of the belts are being worked using grinding machines (dry and wet grinding machines) and polishing machines. The resulting wear debris and sludge contains chromium and nickel.

Countermeasure:
To avoid any negative effects, dust and grinding sludge are filtered off using several adequate filter systems. After filtering, the exhaust air is exhausted through the roof. The proper functioning of the filters is checked by constant monitoring with measuring systems.

POLISHING AGENT

Highly diluted solutions of nitric acid are used as a component of a polishing agent.

Countermeasure:
Said solutions of nitric acid are prepared in rooms where highly effective gas extraction systems are installed.

LASER WELDING

The belts are being welded using laser welding equipment. The welding fumes produced contain chromium and nickel.

Countermeasure:
The welding fumes are extracted from the workplace and the heavy metals are filtered out. The dust measurements show that the dust concentrations emitted by the laser welding system are practically zero.

PLASMA CUTTING

Fumes contaminated with chromium and nickel are produced in the cutting of the belt edges using a plasma system.

Countermeasure:
The produced fumes are extracted directly at the point of origin with a modern filter system.

ETCHING PROCESS

Textured belts are embossed using an etching process in order to obtain 3-dimensional surface structures. Said etching process produces aerosols and vapours containing small amounts of hydrochloric acid.

Countermeasure:
The aerosols and vapours are extracted, neutralized by a gas scrubber and exhausted into the open.

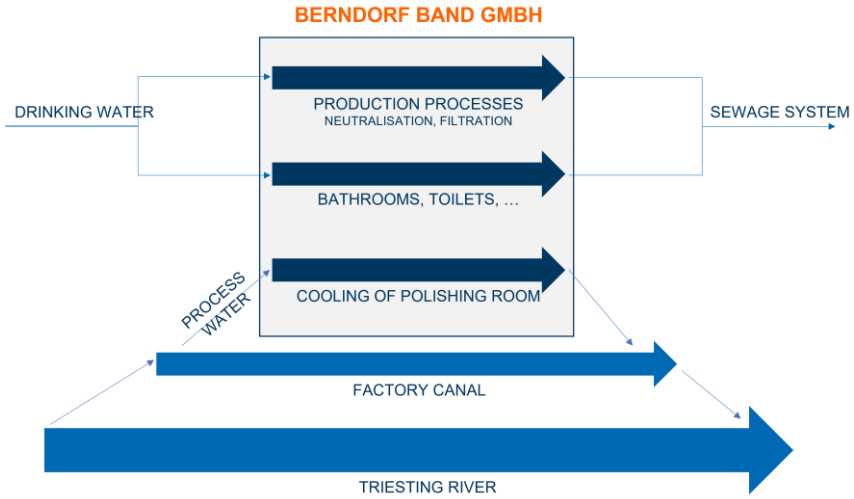
VEE-ROPE BONDING

Diluted sulphuric acid is used in the process for the application of Vee-ropes to the belt.

Countermeasure:
The machine for the bonding of Vee-ropes to the belts is equipped with an extraction system for acid vapours.

USE OF WATER

At Berndorf Band, both drinking water and, to a very small extent, process water are used, with all water being supplied by Berndorf AG.



PROCESS WATER

The process water is taken from the factory canal, a man-made branch of the river Triesting. At Berndorf Band, process water is only used for cooling of the polishing area. Since the conversion to air cooling, all machines are no longer cooled using process water. Therefore, the consumption of process water is very low. All cooling water is ultimately returned to the river Triesting via the factory canal.

DRINKING WATER

The drinking water is supplied by "Wasserleitungsverband Triestingtal" (water supply association). Drinking water is used on the one hand for everyday needs (washing, bathrooms, etc.) and on the other hand for specific manufacturing processes.

Very pure water is required in the polishing process and, although the water is treated prior to the process, only drinking water is suitable. Since the water is cleaned after the polishing process and fed back into the process, due to the circulation of the polishing water, the consumption of drinking water during the polishing process is quite low.

After neutralisation, precipitation and filtration, all waste water is finally discharged into the wastewater sewer. The waste water from daily needs is also discharged into the sewage system. The waste water therefore is not discharged into the natural river Triesting.

The following table shows the measured values of the main contaminants of the waste water discharged into the sewage system from the main processes that consume drinking water, polishing, Vee-rope bonding and etching.

In recent years, there were no cases of exceedance of limit values according to "AEV Oberflächenbehandlung" and all measured values were well within the legal limit values.

	Polishing			Vee-Rope Bonding			Etching			
Parameter	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025	limit values[1)]
pH-value	8.32	7.92	8.14	6.60	N/A	N/A	7.90	7.69	7.27	6.5-10.0
precipitable substances [ml/l]	-	-	-	<0.1	N/A	N/A	0.1	<0.1	<0.1	10
filterable substances (0.45 µm) [mg/l]	<5	<5	16	<5	N/A	N/A	<5	<5	<5	150
iron [mg/l]	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	0.25	0.40	0.070	- [2)]
total chromium [mg/l]	0.011	0.015	0.010	-	N/A	N/A	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05	0.5
nickel [mg/l]	0.073	0.038	0.008	-	N/A	N/A	0.06	0.018	<0.05	0.5
sulfate [mg/l] [3)]	- [3)]	- [3)]	- [3)]	580	N/A	N/A	- [3)]	- [3)]	- [3)]	--- [4)]

[1)] limit values for discharge into a public sewage system according to "AEV Oberflächenbehandlung" (BGBl. II Nr. 44/2002)

[2)] limited by filterable substances

[3)] sulfate occurs only in the process of Vee-rope bonding

[4)] the current version of the "AEV Oberflächenbehandlung" does not state limit values for sulphate

N/A: no measurement data available for 2024 and 2025 due to the rare execution of the process Vee-rope bonding

The analyses of the water samples were carried out by: Umweltanalytisches Labor ZT-GmbH, 1200 Vienna, Austria

WASTE

The topic of industrial waste is extremely important for an organization like Berndorf Band for several reasons. On the one hand, waste can pose problems for the environment and people, and on the other hand, the amount of waste or its avoidance shows how sparingly and efficiently an organisation uses its resources, thereby contributing to the conservation of natural resources.

Berndorf Band has been recording data on all waste volumes since 1997. This offers the opportunity to identify where waste can be avoided and reduced and where there is a need for implementing more environmentally friendly technologies or recycling concepts. Depending on the type of waste, the waste is either sent for recycling (e.g. scrap, paper, cardboard), disposal, thermal disposal (e.g. oily workshop waste, commercial waste similar to household waste) or hazardous waste disposal (e.g. sulphuric acid).

A list of the waste generated annually for the most important types of waste can be found below in the input/output table.

USE OF LAND

According to emission and immission measurements, the activities of Berndorf Band do not result in any contamination of the soil of the Berndorf premises.

All areas of the premises are owned by Berndorf AG and lie within their responsibility.

As already explained in a previous chapter, Berndorf Band is located on an area that has been an industrial area for quite a long time. Therefore, any increase in the land use by Berndorf Band, for example to expand the production or storage areas, will only have negligible negative impact on the environment, since said expanded areas are or were already part of the industrial area.

Due to over 180 years of industrial activity on the premises, contaminations of the soil cannot be ruled out. In the course of building activities, it may therefore be necessary to have contaminated excavated material properly disposed of by a specialist company.

In recent years, several environmental activities and campaigns have been taken on the premises, such as the settlement of beehives, the planting of trees or the creation of wildflower meadows.

USE OF ENERGY

The energy resources, such as electrical energy, compressed air, natural gas, and heating energy are purchased from and supplied by Berndorf AG.

Energy consumption and use of resources are repeatedly the focus of measures and actions, particularly in alignment with environmental objectives.

ELECTRICAL ENERGY

Various energy-saving measures and awareness-raising campaigns, such as the installation of photovoltaic systems on the roofs of several buildings, have led to considerable savings and reductions in electricity consumption in recent years.

COMPRESSED AIR

Compressed air is supplied by Berndorf AG and is frequently used in production processes. Since compressed air is a very expensive form of energy, it is important to reduce the consumption of compressed air and eliminate leaks.

DIESEL FUEL

Diesel fuel is used as fuel for forklift trucks and for the operation of high pressure cleaners in the production of particular belts.

NATURAL GAS

Natural gas is used for the operation of the furnace for heat treatment of special steel grades.

HEATING ENERGY

The heating energy is provided by Berndorf AG through a local heating network. Fossil fuels (natural gas and heating oil) are used for the generation of the heating energy on which Berndorf Band has no influence.

The thermal renovation of the roofs of all Berndorf Band production halls a few years ago has contributed to significant savings in heating energy.

OPERATING AND WORKING MATERIALS

A comprehensive assessment of the environmental aspects and impacts of operating materials is carried out by means of an ABC analysis, as described in detail in a previous chapter. A few selected important operating supplies are described below. A more comprehensive list can be found in the input/output table.

ACETONE

Acetone is used at Berndorf Band in a wide variety of procedures during various production steps. As the amounts used are relatively high, efforts are being made to reduce the amounts of acetone and other solvents used.

ACIDS

Some acids, such as sulfuric acid, nitric acid, or a solution of $FeCl_3$ are used in various production processes. All acids are ultimately either neutralised, precipitated and filtered, or disposed of properly.

TRAFFIC

Berndorf Band contributes to the traffic volume in a number of ways, for example through:

- delivery of purchased materials to Berndorf Band
- transport of sold products to customers
- commuter traffic of employees (mostly by private car)
- business travel by employees (worldwide)

Inherently, traffic has a variety of effects on the environment, mainly through:

- Emissions from traffic: CO_2, SO_x, NO_x (please refer to the separate chapter on greenhouse gas emissions)
- production of vehicles
- construction works for transport infrastructure
- fragmentation of habitats - transport routes dissect contiguous wildlife habitats

Consequently, Berndorf Band achieves to reduce the amount of transport caused by Berndorf Band as much as possible.

Most company cars have now been replaced by electric cars.

Since greenhouse gas emissions from air travel for business trips represent the second-largest source of emissions at Berndorf Band – see the greenhouse gas emissions report at the end of this document – an environmental objective has now been defined to reduce air travel – see the chapter on environmental objectives.

Environmental aspects such as noise and exhaust emissions of vehicles as well as the existence of an environmental management system are important criteria in the selection of the shipping company.

In some areas, however, the possibilities for Berndorf Band remain limited. For example, many employees rely on private cars for commuting due to the poor connection of public transport.

LOCAL IMPACTS

Phenomena with local impacts, such as noise, vibrations, odours, and the like, are also evaluated and assessed by means of the ABC analysis.

The assessment has shown that these aspects do not result in any significant environmental impacts.

INDIRECT ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS AND IMPACTS

At Berndorf Band, the following indirect environmental aspects and impacts were identified and assessed using an ABC analysis, taking into account a life cycle perspective of the products.

The assessment has shown that there are no or only insignificant environmental impacts as a result of the indirect environmental aspects.

BELT MATERIAL

The questions of where the belt materials come from and how environment-friendly they are produced are very important for Berndorf Band.

However, since there are only very few suppliers of belt materials, with some types of steel even only one, exerting influence in this regard is only possible to a very limited extent, despite the fact that the supplier evaluation includes consideration of environmental aspects and impacts.

PACKAGING

The belts produced by Berndorf Band GmbH are prepared for transport in an elaborate and cost-intensive process in order to avoid any damage during transport.

The packaging used, which is mainly made of wood, is usually returned to Berndorf Band for reuse and, in some cases, is used by the customers for storage of belts. Other packaging materials such as paper and plastic are disposed of.

Berndorf Band is a licensed partner of ARA (Altstoff Recycling Austria AG) and thus participates in a collection and recycling system for packaging materials in Austria.

TRANSPORT

The transport of purchased materials to Berndorf Band and of sold products to customers is carried out by forwarding companies over which there is only limited influence. However, the environmental performance is strongly considered in the process of the evaluation and selection of these service providers.

USE OF THE BELTS

Berndorf Band belts are not harmful to the environment as such. In any case, Berndorf Band has little to no influence on the production processes in which the belts are used by the customer, and influencing the customer's processes is only possible through competent advice.

On the other hand, in the area of design of belt systems and belt machines by Berndorf Band Engineering, a subsidiary of Berndorf Band, there is a very strong focus on the design of energy efficient and environmentally friendly machines for customers.

LIFE CYCLE

With regard to the lifetime of the belts, customers are advised competently whether and when a repair is possible instead of buying a new belt.

In any case, extending the lifetime of belts through repair works at the customer's premises contributes to the conservation of resources.

DISPOSAL

Although the customer can be offered to take back a belt at the end of its lifetime, it is, of course, ultimately the customer’s decision whether the used belt is disposed of properly.

Since a belt is made from valuable and recyclable raw materials, in almost all cases a used belt is being recycled.

NEW MARKET AREAS

Expanding into new markets can present unique challenges, as the infrastructure for sustainable product handling and responsible disposal may not yet be fully established. At Berndorf Band, we are committed to supporting our partners in building solutions that meet the highest environmental standards.

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE OF CONTRACTORS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

The supplier assessment includes criteria regarding the environmental performance and occupational health and safety management.

In-house service providers are given instructions to operate correctly and safely when working on the company premises.

One of Berndorf Band's contractors provides the chrome plating of belts. There is a long-standing business relationship with this trusted partner, and Berndorf Band performs supplier audits in regular intervals to verify that this contractor will comply with all applicable legal requirements relating to the environment and to occupational health and safety.

DATA ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

INPUT/OUTPUT TABLE

The following table shows the main types of input and output, i.e. material inflows, energy consumption, water consumption, and waste.

The data year here is 2024, which is the most recent complete year at the date of issue of this environmental statement.

For comparison, the data from some previous years are also provided, if available. Explanations of selected values can be found below.

INPUT/OUTPUT		2022	2023	2024
Reference value				
production hours (german: Fertigungsstunden FST)	FST	86 888	73 298	54 609
thousand production hours (TFST)	TFST	86.9	73.3	54.6
Input - materials [1)]				
sanding paper belts	kg	19 817	20 428	13 746
for grinding the steel belts	kg/TFST	228	279	252
plastic foils	kg	32 422	27 372	21 580
for protection of the surface of the steel belts	kg/TFST	373	373	395
paraffin paper (waxed paper)	kg	1 160	4 493	2 823
for protection of the surface of the steel belts	kg/TFST	13.4	61.3	51.7
paper and cardboard	kg	28 079	29 753	22 360
for protection of the steel belts during internal and external transport	kg/TFST	323	406	409
acetone	kg	6 318	4 549	4 274
for various production steps	kg/TFST	72.7	62.1	78.3
acids and bases	kg	82 070	77 510	113 140
sulphuric acid, iron(III) chloride FeCl3, nitric acid, sodium hydroxide solution	kg/TFST	945	1 057	2 072
materials that can be disposed of as waste oil or oil-water mixture	kg	17 294	20 104	12 668
petroleum based oil, cooling lubricant for grinding, hydraulic fluid, etc.	kg/TFST	199	274	232
wood	kg	N/A	450 000	464 000
for packaging of the steel belts	kg/TFST		6 139	8 497

The table is continued on the following page

Input – energy, water, land		2022	2023	2024
natural gas [2)]	m³	17 450	14 258	10 074
for the heat treatment of special steel grades	m³/TFST	201	195	184
	MWh	178	145	102,5
	MWh/TFST	2.04	1.98	1.88
diesel fuel [3)]	l	14 267	12 429	6 143
used as fuel for forklift trucks and for the operation of high pressure cleaners;	l/TFST	164	170	112
fuel for the vehicle fleet is not included here	MWh	140	122	60,2
	MWh/TFST	1.61	1.66	1.10
electrical energy	MWh	3 863	3 402	3 674
	MWh/TFST	44.5	46.4	67.3
solid fuels and other energy carriers		N/R	N/R	N/R
drinking water	m³	5 377	4 101	3 420
	m³/TFST	61.9	55.9	62.6
process water	m³	0	0	0
	m³/TFST	0	0	0
compressed air	Tsd m³	1 837	1 566	1 329
	m³/FST	21.1	21.4	24.3
use of land	m²	42 271	42 271	42 271
	m²/TFST	486	577	774
Output – waste – non-hazardous waste		**2022**	**2023**	**2024**
industrial waste (without sanding paper belts)	kg	28 330	28 105	23 037
SN 91101	kg/TFST	326	383	422
industrial waste – plastic foils	kg	15 400	20 020	7 280
SN 57119	kg/TFST	177	273	133
industrial waste – sanding paper belts	kg	6 920	12 620	5 580
SN 91101	kg/TFST	79.6	172	102
paraffin paper (waxed paper)	kg	1 440	3 280	1 380
SN 18702	kg/TFST	16.6	44.7	25.3
paper and cardboard	kg	55 960	52 510	42 560
SN 18718	kg/TFST	644	716	779
grinding sludge	kg	116 860	104 960	94 680
SN 35507	kg/TFST	1 345	1 432	1 734
blasting sand residues	kg	N/A	7 620	3 740
SN 31402	kg/TFST		104	68,5
polystyrene waste	kg	N/A	2 400	180
SN 57108	kg/TFST		32.7	3.3
scrap metal	kg	266 832	304 900	287 473
	kg/TFST	3 071	4 160	5 264
wood waste	kg	19 680	13 620	580
SN 17201	kg/TFST	226	186	10.6

The table is continued on the following page

Output – waste – hazardous waste		2022	2023	2024
oil-containing solid workshop waste	kg	8 658	8 762	6 620
SN 54930	kg/TFST	100	120	121
emulsion, oil-water mixture	kg	264 620	251 330	178 000
SN 54402	kg/TFST	3 046	3 429	3 260
waste oil	kg	N/A	4 310	1 270
SN 54102	kg/TFST		58.8	23.3
acids, inorganic acids, acid mixture; sulphuric acid	kg	6 820	1 640	1 260
SN 52102	kg/TFST	78.5	22.4	23.1
bases, alkaline mixtures	kg	N/A	6 360	0
SN 52404	kg/TFST		22.4	0
waste iron(III) chloride $FeCl_3$ - filter cake	kg	8 260	5 920	4 520
SN 51310	kg/TFST	95.1	80.8	82.8
waste iron(III) chloride $FeCl_3$ - liquid	kg	54 900	59 860	94 460
SN 52103	kg/TFST	632	817	1 730
metal packaging with hazardous residual contents	kg	N/A	1 820	1 600
SN 35106	kg/TFST		24.8	29.3
Output – other				
e.g. exhaust air, industrial waste heat, noise, radiation, etc.		N/R	N/R	N/R

SN: Austrian waste catalogue number

N/A: no comparative data from previous years available due to new or modified data collection or data processing

N/R: not relevant, not applicable, or not existent

[1] for reasons of confidentiality, no information is provided here on the most intensive resource in terms of quantity, the steels for the production of steel belts.

[2] conversion factor: heating value of natural gas 10.2 kWh/m³ or 0.0102 MWh/m³ (obtained from density 0.75 kg/m³ and heating value 13.57 kWh/kg)

[3] factors for calculation: 1 kg diesel fuel corresponds to 11.67 kWh or 0.01167 MWh; density: 0.84 kg/l

EXPLANATION TO THE REFERENCE VALUE

In the input/output table as well as in the following table of the core environmental performance indicators, all data are stated in two ways.

The first entry in each row represents the annual input/output in the given area, that is figure A according to Annex IV, point C. 2. (b) (i) of the EMAS Regulation.

The second data entry in each row represents the relative number, that is the figure R which is the ratio A/B according to Annex IV, point C. 2. (b) (iii) of the EMAS Regulation.

The reference value is the figure B according to Annex IV, point C. 2. (b) (ii) and (d).

For several years now, after consultation with and permission by the environmental verifier and the Austrian Umweltbundesamt (Federal Environment Agency Austria), the number of annual production hours has been used as reverence value figure B.

CORE ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

According to Annex IV, point C. 2. (a) of the EMAS Regulation the core environmental performance indicators focus on performance in the following key environmental areas:

- Energy
- Material
- Water
- Waste
- Land use with regard to biodiversity
- Emissions

The following table shows the core indicators of said key environmental areas. Again, as explained above, each value is given both as absolute number and as relative number.

Key Environmental Area	Core Environmental Performance Indicator		2022	2023	2024
energie	total direct energy consumption [1]	MWh MWh/TFST	4 180 48.1	3 669 50.1	3 837 70.3
	total renewable energy consumption [2]	MWh MWh/TFST	3 863 44.5	3 402 46.4	3 674 67.3
	ratio of energy consumed from renewable energy sources in % of electrical energy [2]	%	100 %	100 %	100 %
material	annual mass-flow of key materials used [3]		[3]	[3]	[3]
water	total annual water use [4]	m³ m³/TFST	5 377 61.9	4 101 55.9	3 420 62.6
waste	total annual generation of waste – broken down by type [5]		[5]	[5]	[5]
	total annual generation of waste	kg kg/TFST	N/A	903 308 12 324	789 610
	total annual generation of hazardous waste	kg kg/TFST	N/A	341 553 4 660	293 262
land use	land use with regard to biodiversity [6]	m² m²/TFST	42 271 486	42 271 577	42 271
emissions	total annual emission of greenhouse gases [7] – sum of all direct and indirect emissions from Scope 1, Scope 2, and Scope 3 as CO_2 equivalent	t CO2e t CO2e/TFST	N/A	N/A	9 843.6
	total emission of the following greenhouse gases: CH_4, N_2O, HFKW, PFC, NF_3, SF_6		N/R	N/R	N/R
	total emission of SO_2, NO_x, PM		N/R	N/R	N/R

N/A: no comparative data from previous years available due to new or modified data collection or data processing

N/R: these emissions are not present or are present only in negligible quantities;
all other emissions, the declaration of which are required according to Annex IV, point C. 2. (c) (vi) of the EMAS Regulation, namely CH_4, N_2O, HFKW, PFC, NF_3 and SF_6 as well as SO_2, NO_x und PM, are not present or are present only in negligible quantities

[1] The total direct energy consumption is calculated as the sum of the values for natural gas, diesel fuel, and electrical energy of the input/output table.

[2] Berndorf Band purchases electricity from Berndorf AG. According to the certificate of the electricity supplier, Berndorf AG obtains electricity from 100 % renewable energy sources. It has to be noted that these are market-based data, not location-based data. Therefore, the figures of the energy consumed from renewable energy sources directly represent the consumption of electrical energy.

[3] The annual mass-flow of key materials used (excluding energy carriers and water) according to Annex IV, point C. 2. (c) (ii) of the EMAS Regulation is shown in detail in the input/output table.

[4] The total annual water use is calculated as the sum of the values of input drinking water and input process water of the input/output table.

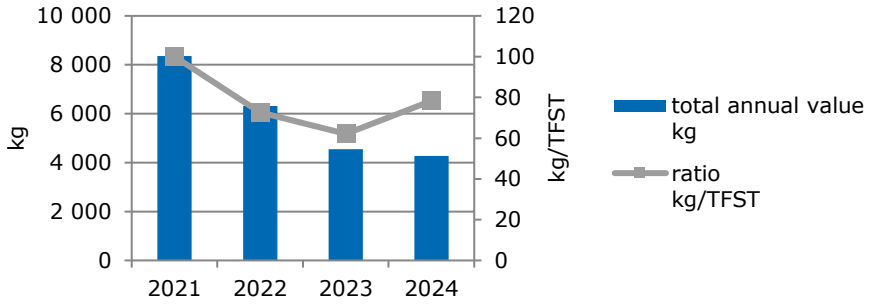
[5] The total annual generation of waste, broken down by type, is shown in detail in the input/output table.

[6] The use of land is the built-up, i.e. sealed, area used by Berndorf Band. Since Berndorf Band, as explained in previous chapters, is located on an area that has been an industrial site for a very long time, any increase in the land use by Berndorf Band, for example to expand production or storage areas, only has negligible negative impact on biodiversity, since said expanded areas were already part of the industrial area. Therefore, the core indicator for land use with regard to biodiversity is not relevant to Berndorf Band's significant environmental aspects and impacts. Consequently, according to Annex IV, point C. 2. (a) last paragraph of the EMAS Regulation the land use with regard to biodiversity does not have to be stated at all. However, for the sake of completeness, this information is nevertheless provided here.

[7] The total greenhouse gas emissions are the sum of all direct and indirect emissions from Scope 1, Scope 2, and Scope 3. Data from previous years did not include Scope 3 emissions and are therefore not suitable for comparison with this year's data and are therefore not included here. For details on greenhouse gas emissions, see the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report at the end of this document.

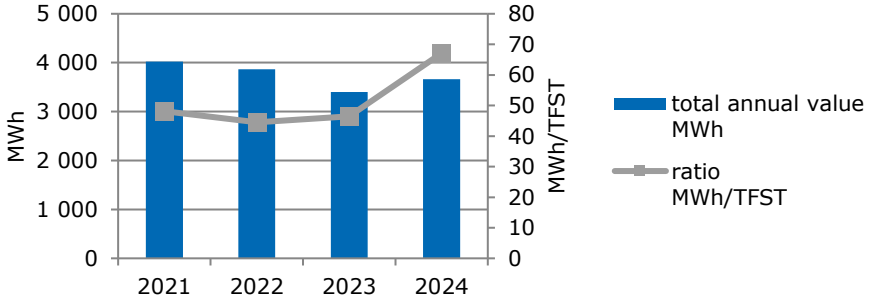
INFORMATION TO SELECTED DATA

INPUT – ACETONE



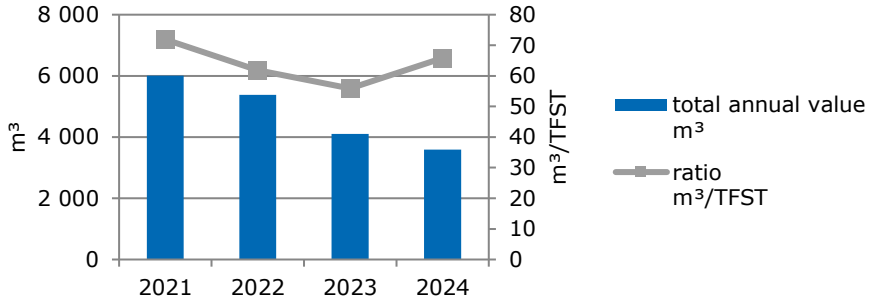
As a consequence of the relatively high consumption of acetone, the reduction of the use of acetone has been the goal of a special project for years.

INPUT – ELECTRICAL ENERGY



The data for the purchase of electrical energy (electricity consumption) include around 25 % of electrical energy supplied by the photovoltaic systems on the roofs of several buildings. The cause of the increase is partly due to the intensified activities in the R&D Center.

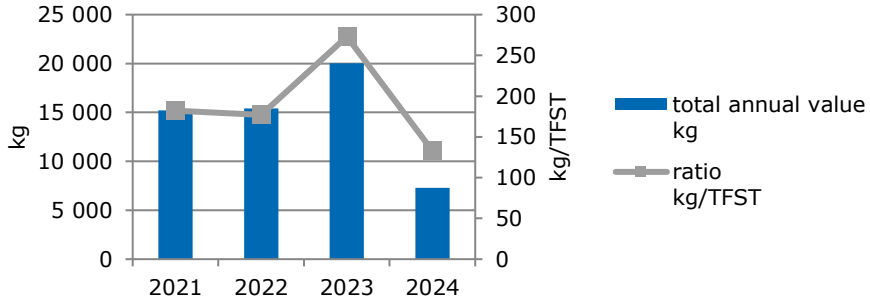
INPUT – DRINKING WATER



As previously explained in detail, drinking water is used for specific manufacturing processes, including the polishing process.

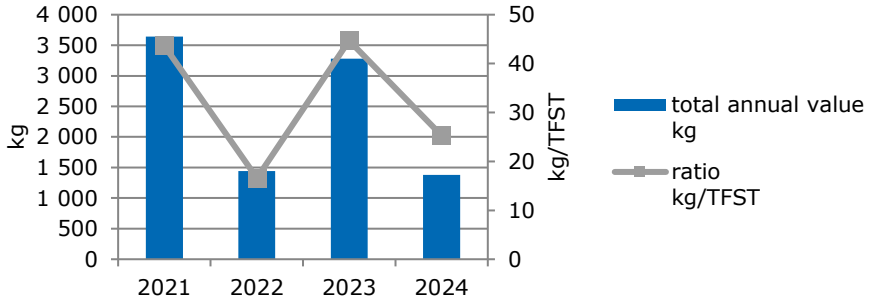
As a result, the consumption of drinking water roughly correlates with the extent of the polishing activity and can therefore vary considerably.

OUTPUT/WASTE – INDUSTRIAL WASTE – PLASTIC FOILS



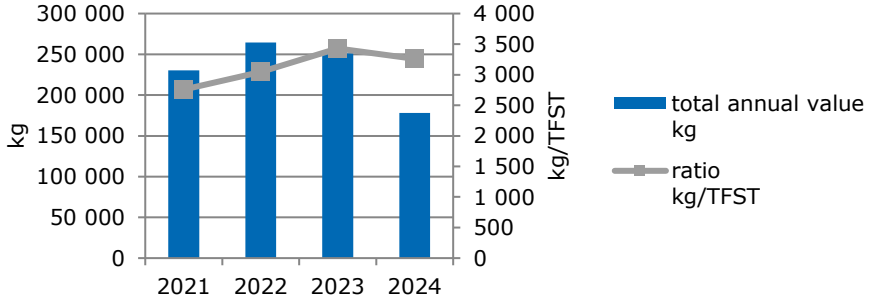
Plastic foils are mainly used for protection of the surface of the steel belts.

OUTPUT/WASTE – PARAFFIN PAPER



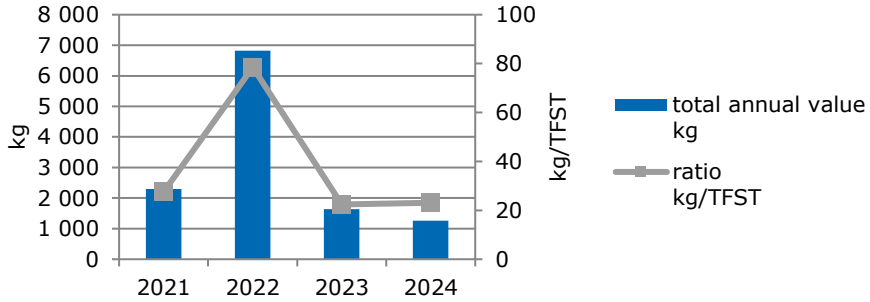
The fluctuations in the amount of disposed paraffin paper are a result of the varying number of disposals per year due to long disposal intervals.

OUTPUT/WASTE – EMULSION, OIL-WATER MIXTURE



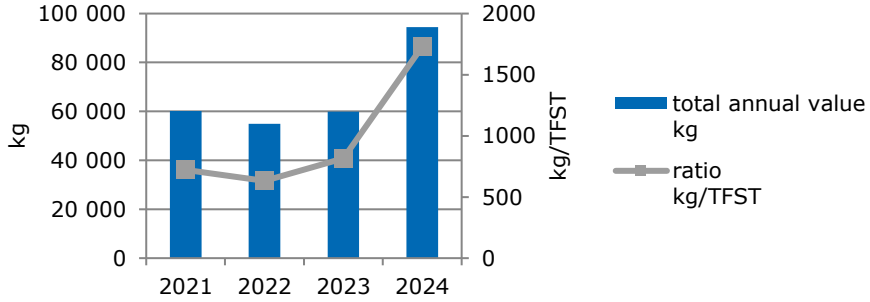
The observed fluctuations in the quantities of the oil-water mixture are due to maintenance and cleaning activities. During these operations, system tanks must be thoroughly cleaned and emptied, resulting in the disposal of substantial volumes.

OUTPUT/WASTE – INORGANIC ACIDS, SULPHURIC ACID



The cause of the high consumption of sulfuric acid observed in 2022 could be eliminated through a structural modification of the plant, resulting in a substantial reduction in sulfuric acid usage.

OUTPUT/WASTE – IRON(III) CHLORIDE $FeCl_3$ LIQUID



The increase in the consumption and waste of iron(III) chloride ($FeCl_3$) is due to the significant increase in etching activity as well as the increasingly complex structures of textured belts.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME, ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS

SUCCESS STORIES – PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES

IMMISSION MEASUREMENTS USING BIOMONITORING SYSTEMS

A biomonitoring project in 2019 showed that all measured values were within and in some cases even below reference values from unpolluted regions. This is very positive given that the company site is, after all, an industrial area.

ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION, PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS

An evaluation and analysis of the data on consumption of electrical energy has shown that there is a relatively high base load. It was therefore decided and has already been implemented to install photovoltaic systems on the roofs of several buildings in order to cover the base load of electricity consumption with power from photovoltaics. In addition, all hall areas have been converted to energy-efficient LED lighting. By now, photovoltaic energy accounts for approximately 25% of Berndorf Band's total electricity consumption.

CHARGING STATIONS FOR ELECTRIC CARS

Starting in 2020, several electric charging stations were installed for company cars and for visitors.

LEASE MY BIKE

Starting already in 2023, all employees have the opportunity to purchase bicycles on a tax-privileged basis via the leasing model "Lease My Bike". This campaign shall help reduce the relatively high greenhouse gas emissions caused by employee commuter traffic.

So far, around 25 employees have taken advantage of this campaign. In addition, a covered parking area with charging facilities for e-bikes has been constructed.

STATUS OF ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES FOR 2025

SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING

Over the past two years, one of the main focuses of the Environmental Management Team, or to be more precise, the Sustainability Team derived from it, has been preparing for the requirements in the area of sustainability reporting, specifically the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) as well as other legal requirements, such as the ones related to supply chains (CSDDD). These requirements particularly concern the areas of Environment, Social, and Governance (ESG).

In addition, customers are increasingly demanding that certain scores be achieved in ratings or questionnaires to prove performance in the area of sustainability.

At the beginning of 2025, a complete report for the data year 2024 was prepared in accordance with the CSRD. A summary or overview of the data regarding greenhouse

gas emissions can be found in the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report at the end of this document.

Although the European Parliament has now decided to postpone the EU regulations on sustainability reporting, continuing this reporting to a certain, somewhat lesser extent, still makes sense because the data collected can be very informative and valuable for identifying and deriving measures. Moreover, due to the initial reporting activities already carried out, any future reporting will require significantly less effort.

ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES FOR 2026

ELIMINATION OF COMPRESSED AIR LEAKAGE

As part of the ABC analysis for the identification and the assessment of the environmental aspects and impacts, it was found that compressed air consumption remains at a relatively high and roughly constant level which indicates significant leaks in the supply system (statement from a production employee: "You can hear hissing in many places.").

Since the production of compressed air is relatively energy-intensive and costly, an environmental objective has now been defined for 2026 to identify and eliminate the cause of said leakage.

Target: Complete elimination of all detectable leaks.

REDUCTION OF SCOPE 3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM BUSINESS TRAVEL / AIR TRAVEL

As reported in the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report at the end of this document, Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions from air travel for business trips represent the second largest source of greenhouse gas emissions at Berndorf Band.

As part of a new environmental objective, a cross-departmental analysis and study will be conducted to determine whether and how a reduction of these greenhouse gas emissions can be achieved.

Target: Reduction of CO_2-equivalent emissions caused by air travel by 10 % compared to 2024.

In economically difficult times like these, any measures taken must of course never be implemented at the expense of business success.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REPORT

The anthropogenic increase in the concentration of various greenhouse gases (GHG), particularly CO_2, intensifies the natural greenhouse effect and leads to global warming and climate change.

DATA COLLECTION

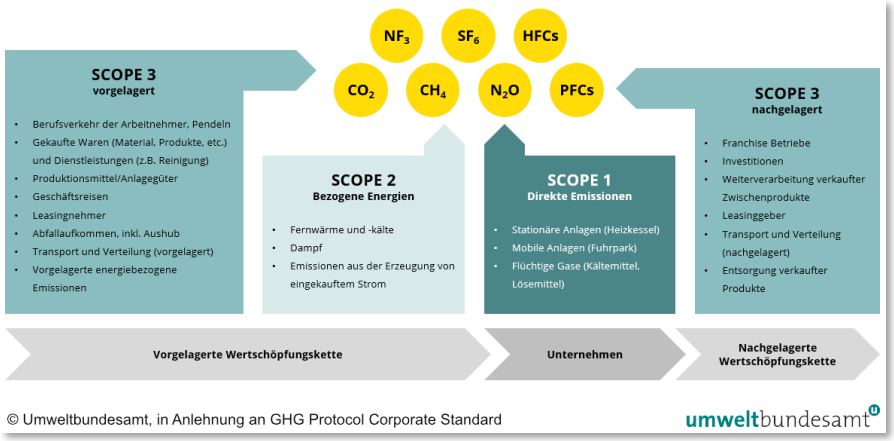
As part of the preparations for the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD), all relevant energy and material flows for the data year 2024 were collected using the ESG-Cockpit software, and their CO_2-equivalent emissions were calculated to prepare a carbon footprint. This data can be used to identify areas in which climate protection measures can be particularly effective.

When calculating the carbon footprint with the ESG-Cockpit, all greenhouse gas-related emissions are taken into account, including both direct emissions and all upstream and downstream emissions.

The emission factors required for the calculation are an integral part of the ESG-Cockpit. However, as is common with such software solutions for CO_2 accounting, they are not transparent or accessible due to licensing reasons. Nevertheless, they originate from reputable and relevant sources, taking into account all essential processes, from energy generation and raw material extraction to the provision of energy and materials, as well as the infrastructure for transportation.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS - SCOPES

Greenhouse gas emissions are reported according to Scope 1, 2, and 3 in line with the GHG Protocol.



According to these scopes, Berndorf Band is responsible for the following greenhouse gas emissions.

SCOPE 1

Scope 1 includes all direct emissions generated directly at Berndorf Band. These include:

- combustion of natural gas for the heat treatment of special steel grades
- combustion of diesel fuel for forklift trucks and for the operation of high pressure cleaners
- fuel consumption of the vehicle fleet
- refrigerant leakage from air conditioning systems

The quantities and types of refrigerants refilled in the air conditioning systems are duly recorded in the air conditioning system logbooks during regular maintenance and inspections by the specialist company responsible for maintaining the air conditioning systems.

At Berndorf Band, direct emissions of other greenhouse gases such as CH_4, N_2O, HFCs, PFCs, NF_3, and SF_6 are either non-existent or are present only in amounts that can be considered negligible.

SCOPE 2

Scope 2 includes emissions outside of Berndorf Band resulting from the generation of purchased electricity and heat. Scope 2 only takes into account direct emissions that occur during generation. Indirect (upstream) emissions from the provision of energy carriers are allocated to Scope 3.

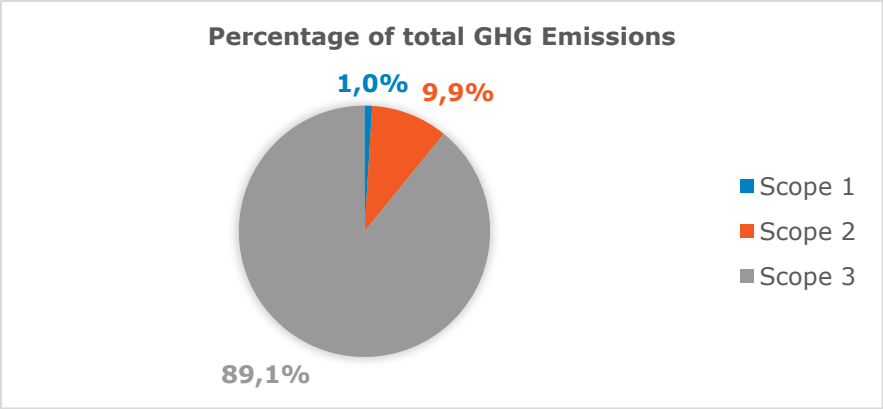
SCOPE 3

Scope 3 includes all other greenhouse gas emissions along the value chain, e.g. from the manufacture and transportation of purchased goods, upstream energy-related emissions, distribution and use of manufactured products, waste disposal, employee commuting, and business travel.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS - DATA

The following table and diagram show the CO_2 equivalent emissions (CO2e) for each scope in 2024.

Scope	CO2e (t)	percentage (%)
Scope 1	96.8	1.0
Scope 2	975.7	9.9
Scope 3	8 771.1	89.1
total	**9 843.6**	**100**



The data clearly indicate that Scope 3 emissions account for by far the largest share of Berndorf Band's total emissions. In order to analyse the overall situation, it is therefore essential to record not only Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions, as has been done in recent years, but also Scope 3 emissions.

The analysis of all emissions across all scopes shows the following largest contributions to CO_2-equivalent emissions for 2024.

Emission source	CO2e (t)	%
purchased goods (particularly steel) – Scope 3	3636.7	36.9
business travel / air travel – Scope 3	1392.7	14.2
transportation of goods – Scope 3	960.5	9.8
heating – Scope 2	943.4	9.6
commuter traffic of employees – Scope 3	698.0	7.1
electrical energy – Scope 3	648.8	6.6

CONCLUSION

The data show that the two largest contributors to greenhouse gas emissions at Berndorf Band are the steel used for belt production and business travel by airplane.

Steel is associated with relatively high CO_2-equivalent emissions due to its energy-intensive manufacturing processes. However, steel is absolutely essential for the production of the Berndorf Band steel belts. Because of the high requirements for steel quality, only very few suppliers are available, making selection based on ecological criteria practically impossible.

In the area of business travel by airplane, there appears to be potential for reducing CO_2-equivalent emissions. Consequently, an environmental objective has been defined, in which the situation is to be analysed across departments and, where possible, measures for reduction are to be developed and implemented.

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

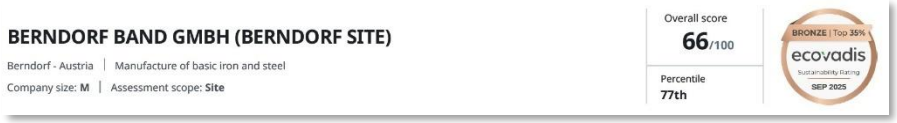
Requests from customers regarding sustainability topics—such as environment, greenhouse gas emissions, labor and human rights, ethics, and sustainable procurement—are increasingly being received by Berndorf Band.

To be able to demonstrate our performance and activities in this area not only on request but also proactively, we have now registered Berndorf Band GmbH with **EcoVadis** in order to document our sustainability performance.

EcoVadis is a renowned international platform for the comprehensive assessment of a company's sustainability performance. The evaluation is carried out in the following four sustainability areas, with all information required to be substantiated by documentation:

- Environment
- Labor & Human Rights
- Ethics
- Sustainable Procurement

The assessment showed that Berndorf Band GmbH ranks among the top 23 percent of all companies registered with EcoVadis, thereby achieving Bronze status.



UPDATE INTERVAL

The Berndorf Band Environmental Statement is revised and updated every year. This ensures that **all content is always up to date and accurate with respect to the time of verification** of this Environmental Statement. Only the data on environmental performance refer to the last completed year at the time of issue of this Environmental Statement, i.e. 2024.

In the yearly verification by an accredited environmental verifier ("external audit"), it is confirmed that the environmental policy, the environmental programme, the environmental management system, the environmental review, the internal environmental audit system and the environmental statement (this document) of the organisation Berndorf Band GmbH meet the requirements of the Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 of 25 November 2009 (EMAS) in the current consolidated version 12/07/2023.

This Environmental Statement 2025 is an updated Version according to Chapter 1, Article 2, point 19. of the EMAS Regulation.

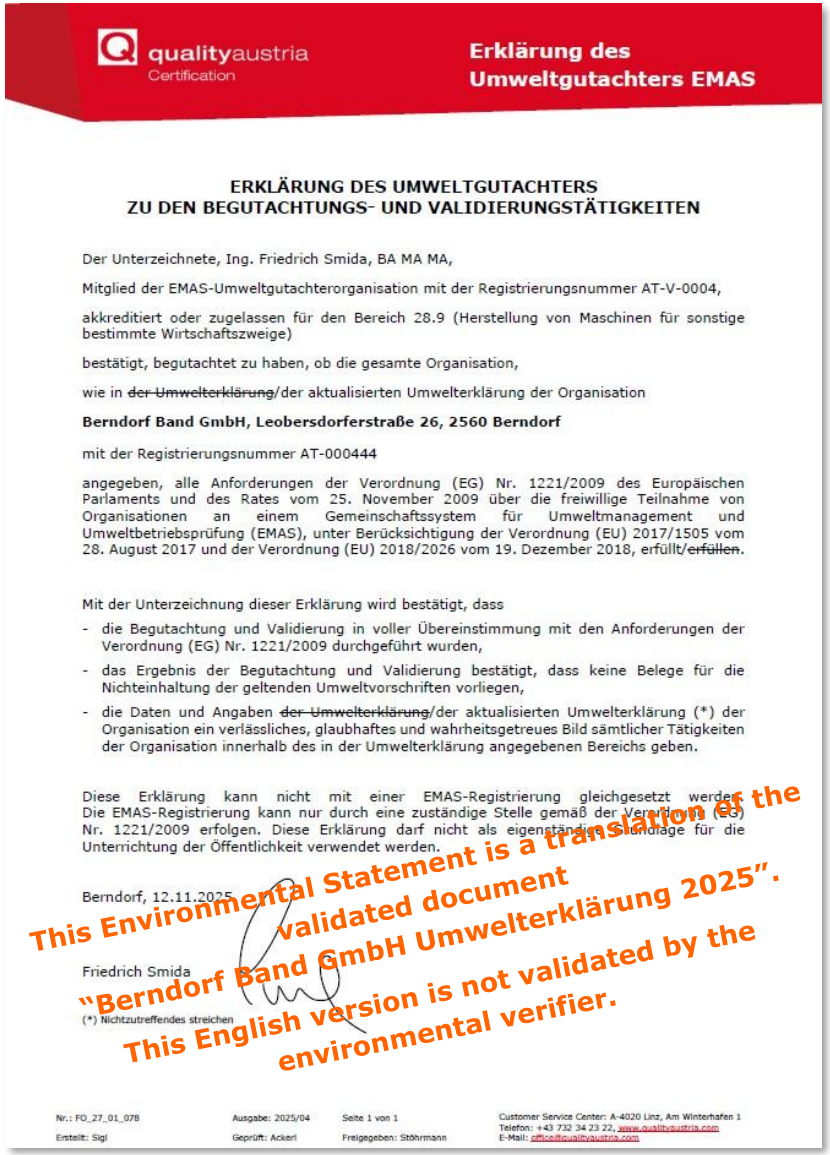
The next edition of the Environmental Statement, which will be a new version, will be submitted in the course of the verification in November 2026.

Berndorf, November 2025

This Environmental Statement is a translation of the validated document "Berndorf Band GmbH Umwelterklärung 2025".

This English version is not validated by the environmental verifier.

VALIDATION BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL VERIFIER



qualityaustria Certification

Erklärung des Umweltgutachters EMAS

ERKLÄRUNG DES UMWELTGUTACHTERS ZU DEN BEGUTACHTUNGS- UND VALIDIERUNGSTÄTIGKEITEN

Der Unterzeichnete, Ing. Friedrich Smida, BA MA MA,

Mitglied der EMAS-Umweltgutachterorganisation mit der Registrierungsnummer AT-V-0004,

akkreditiert oder zugelassen für den Bereich 28.9 (Herstellung von Maschinen für sonstige bestimmte Wirtschaftszweige)

bestätigt, begutachtet zu haben, ob die gesamte Organisation,

wie in ~~der Umwelterklärung~~/der aktualisierten Umwelterklärung der Organisation

Berndorf Band GmbH, Leobersdorferstraße 26, 2560 Berndorf

mit der Registrierungsnummer AT-000444

angegeben, alle Anforderungen der Verordnung (EG) Nr. 1221/2009 des Europäischen Parlaments und des Rates vom 25. November 2009 über die freiwillige Teilnahme von Organisationen an einem Gemeinschaftssystem für Umweltmanagement und Umweltbetriebsprüfung (EMAS), unter Berücksichtigung der Verordnung (EU) 2017/1505 vom 28. August 2017 und der Verordnung (EU) 2018/2026 vom 19. Dezember 2018, erfüllt/~~erfüllen~~.

Mit der Unterzeichnung dieser Erklärung wird bestätigt, dass

- die Begutachtung und Validierung in voller Übereinstimmung mit den Anforderungen der Verordnung (EG) Nr. 1221/2009 durchgeführt wurden,
- das Ergebnis der Begutachtung und Validierung bestätigt, dass keine Belege für die Nichteinhaltung der geltenden Umweltvorschriften vorliegen,
- die Daten und Angaben ~~der Umwelterklärung~~/der aktualisierten Umwelterklärung (*) der Organisation ein verlässliches, glaubhaftes und wahrheitsgetreues Bild sämtlicher Tätigkeiten der Organisation innerhalb des in der Umwelterklärung angegebenen Bereichs geben.

Diese Erklärung kann nicht mit einer EMAS-Registrierung gleichgesetzt werden. Die EMAS-Registrierung kann nur durch eine zuständige Stelle gemäß der Verordnung (EG) Nr. 1221/2009 erfolgen. Diese Erklärung darf nicht als eigenständige Grundlage für die Unterrichtung der Öffentlichkeit verwendet werden.

Berndorf, 12.11.2025

Friedrich Smida

(*) Nichtzutreffendes streichen

This Environmental Statement is a translation of the validated document "Berndorf Band GmbH Umwelterklärung 2025". This English version is not validated by the environmental verifier.

Nr.: FO_27_01_078 Ausgabe: 2025/04 Seite 1 von 1

Erstellt: Sigl Geprüft: Ackerl Freigegeben: Stöhrmann

Customer Service Center: A-4020 Linz, Am Winterhafen 1
Telefon: +43 732 34 23 22, www.qualityaustria.com
E-Mail: office@qualityaustria.com

EDITORIAL INFORMATION

Publisher

Berndorf Band GmbH
Leobersdorfer Straße 26
2560 Berndorf, Österreich
Firmenbuchnummer 233231 m
UID Nr.: ATU61611205
+43 2672 800 0
band@berndorf.co.at

www.berndorfband-group.com

Author

Hannes Flasch with a little help from Alexander Pauer

Facts and figures, environmental objectives

Berndorf Band environmental management team

Photographs

Berndorf Band Group

Layout and design

Vanessa Bosch

Contact person for environmental management

Alexander Pauer
+43 2672 800 404
ap@berndorf.co.at