

Statement of Intent

Our Actions and Commitment

We persistently strive to reduce our impact on the environment and continually improve our performance through procedures established in our ISO 14001:2000 environmental management system.

A company's environmental strategy and plan requires the commitment of the Board of Directors and senior management to drive the message through their organisation and deliver it with authority. The Board of ACS specifically reviews our environmental initiatives and performance as an intrinsic element of formal regular meetings. This leadership and guidance encourages our employees to comply with our principles.

Harry Stevenson our Commercial Director is responsible and accountable for the effective implementation of our Environmental Plan and Policy. He ensures our commitment is fulfilled there is continuous improvement and these are integrated into ACS through monitoring and reporting both internally and externally the present and future impact of our products and services.

CarbonNeutral

CarbonNeutral is the registered trademark of Natural Capital Partners and a global standard to certify businesses have reported net zero emissions for their products, operations and services in accordance with The CarbonNeutral Protocol.

Through a combination of internal reductions and carbon finance projects around the world ACS has reduced their emissions to net zero. As a result we have achieved CarbonNeutral status and plan to repeat this process annually.



Environmental Products

We are constantly working towards a product base which emphasises environmentally friendly new technologies and materials.

Our catalogue clearly indicates over 3000 environmentally responsible products. These are reviewed annually by our vendor management team who work hard to ensure if an environmental alternative is available it will be added to the range and where it makes sense, we are actively looking to switch from regular to environmentally sustainable products.

We continually work with our suppliers to ensure they demonstrate responsibility in reducing the environmental impact of their products. ACS manages its range to ensure they do not cause unacceptable environmental damage through the receipt, storage, use or disposal phases.

Deliveries

The transportation of products can have a substantial impact on the environment through the amount of carbon emissions created whilst delivering orders. Our delivery routes are planned daily to accommodate efficiency of time and assist in minimising any environmental impact.

The CarbonNeutral Company has certified our delivery program to be carbon neutral, this guarantees 100% of deliveries will not create any unnecessary emissions.

Waste Reduction

ACS are always striving to reduce waste and have successfully completed a number of objectives. In February 2011 we achieved zero land fill by recycling every piece of waste produced and have therefore been able to remove the need for Council collection and consequently send zero waste to land fill.

An important improvement to one objective was we significantly invested in laser technology. This measures the cubic dimensions of every parcel in our warehouse and selects packaging appropriate to each order. It completely eliminates the need for the use of 'void fill' such as air cap, loose fill and polystyrene chips which means approximately 35% less excess packaging for our customers to dispose of when receiving their deliveries.

All our products are individually labelled and packaged in strong 100% recycled delivery boxes. All paper based materials used for cardboard packaging is cut from sustainably managed forests meaning they can be reused and recycled, this ensures maximum life-span of the original materials.

Approximately 30% of our products are received in plastic 'tote' boxes which eliminates the need for suppliers to use cardboard packaging. These environmentally friendly totes are not only made from recycled material they can be fully recycled again when they are damaged or no longer required, making them long lasting they are gentler on the environment than less durable cardboard alternatives.

Recycling of Toner Cartridges

Our closed loop recycling process enables us to re-use many cartridges and parts from those that are unusable. ACS provides all customers a free of charge service to enable them to dispose of their empty cartridges responsibly.

Recycling them has become an increasingly preferred and required method for businesses throughout the UK. All parts from these cartridges that can be re-sold are sold off and the money generated is given back to our chosen charity, making this a completely closed loop recycling system. To date our recycling partners have raised over £3.5 million for UK charities. Through our recycling partnerships we are able to re-use many cartridges which may otherwise be landfilled.

This policy statement is approved by our Commercial Director, Harry Stevenson, who is responsible for environmental matters.

Harry is contactable via: harry.stevenson@acsgroup.co.uk

