

Impact Report 2022







#### Why have we produced this 2022 report?

We have made significant progress in reducing our environmental impact since our first report in 2021. The accountability on our journey so far has already made significant changes in our focus and ambition moving forward.

Our parent company, KCS Print, has always focused on limiting its impact on the environment but with the added spotlight of offering labelling solutions for eco-conscious brands through Root Sustainable Label, we are adopting innovative and industry leading solutions.

In the past year we have submitted our B-Corp Assessment and are now awaiting the opportunity to prove our credentials as part of this rigorous scheme. This report outlines our achievements and how we are working to effect change, delivering a positive impact through environment, people and product.

We hope you enjoy reading our report and are excited to see how our work can support, educate or inspire brands to look at labels and their possibilities differently.

Thanks for reading.

Zoe and the KCS Print / Root Sustainable Labels Team.















Only Items Identified as such are FSC® certified.

### **Our Company**

Ownership of business split 50/50 between Zoe Deadman and Terrye Teverson.

#### Board of Directors:



Zoe Deadman Managing Director



Terrye Teverson Chairman and Director



Robin Teverson Chair of the board



Clare Beacham Company Accountant



Nigel Schofield Operations Manager



Andrew Allen Accountant, Francis Clark

### **Our Target**

We understand that we have a responsibility to help protect our planet.

We have set a target to halve our carbon emissions by 2030. We aim for a 7% reduction in our emissions every year.

#### How will we do this?

A – Avoid

E – Efficiency

R - Replace

O – Offset



### A business with purpose

#### **Our Vision**

To transform our business into a recognised champion for sustainable print. A source of respected, evidence based, reliable advice, leading to long term relationships with conscious brands.

#### How we are doing this...

- 1. We use a consultative approach with customers to understand their needs and processes.
- 2. We look at what they are currently do to see if there is a more efficient solution that will allow us to reduce the amount of material used.
- 3. We consider how we can upgrade their material choices to have the lowest possible impact on the environment whilst still performing as needed.
- 4. We offer wet proofing and material samples to ensure the final finish is correct
- 5. Deliveries are made in Cornwall by electric vehicle where possible
- 6. Larger users have the option of joining our liner waste recycling scheme. This allows the waste to be collected and recycled back into liner or paper products.
- 7. We do this whilst working hard to reduce our own manufacturing footprint year on year.



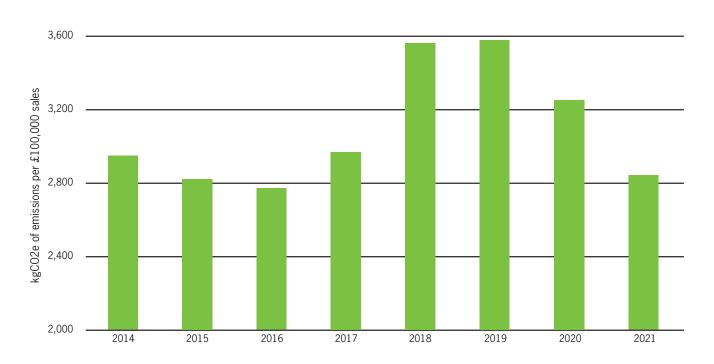
# A Circular Approach

From using waste as a resource, to taking the carbon out of our deliveries and collaborating on waste initiatives; this is what we are doing to build the circular economy into our foundations.



### **Our Emissions**

#### kgCO2e emissions per £100,000 sales



Target - To reduce emissions by 7% to 2640 kgCO2e per £100k of sales.

### Measurable, Targeted and Ambitious Improvements

As a manufacturing plant our biggest impact comes from the materials we use and how we use them to produce products for our customers. We have set out to improve how we measure our raw materials, waste, water and energy usage to enable us to benchmark ourselves against our Net Zero goals.

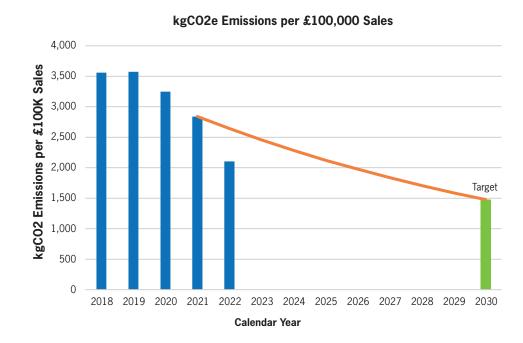
Throughout the past 12 months we have had many successes although there is still plenty to do.

Our successes are the result of ambitious changes to our manufacturing processes, energy contracts and recycling methods.

Our total energy usage was reduced by over 30% compared to the previous year, with 100% of our electricity coming from renewable sources.

Overall we reduced our carbon emissions by 25.8% per £100K sales significantly better than our 7% reduction target.

#### **Our Emissions graph**



Our target at the end of 2021 was to reduce emissions by 7% to 2640kgCO2e per 100k sales. This is to enable us to half emissions by 2030. We exceeded this target reducing emissions by 25.8% to 2105kgCO2e per 100k sales.

### **Facts and Figures**

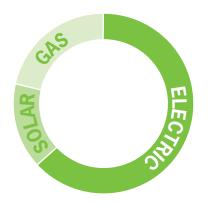
- We believe that by being transparent about our progress and setting ambitious goals for the future, we can lead the way in sustainable print manufacturing and make a positive impact on the environment.
- We generated 43499 kwh of energy through solar panels and our energy breakdown was 15% solar panels, 23% gas, and 62% electricity.
- We used 490.097 tonnes of paper in 2022, all sourced from PEFC/FSC certified companies.
- We collected 12.75 tonnes of label waste and used printed paper tape to emphasize that our products are 100% recyclable where applicable.
- Our total water usage was reduced by 34% compared to the previous year, and we continue to explore ways to reduce our environmental impact in all areas of our business.
- During the production process, we recycled 95.02 tonnes of paper and card. We are currently exploring new alternatives to bubble wrap, whilst still protecting our goods effectively, and have started trialing a machine that creates paper void filling material from our waste paper.



### **Our Energy**

### 2022 Energy breakdown

- 15% Solar Panels
- 23% Gas
- 62% Electric



- Our total energy usage for 2022 was 298,831 kwh compared to 431,532 kwh in 2021, a reduction of over 30%.
- 100% of electricity from renewable sources.
- Solar panels generated 43499 kwh



### Our Paper

- In 2022 we used 490.097 tonnes of paper All sourced from PEFC / FSC certified companies.
- During the production process 95.02 tonnes of paper and card was recycled.
- The wasted paper is recycled with Coastal Recycling.



#### **Our largest Paper manufacturer is Stora Enso**

that wood is harvested from is regenerated.

They are recognised within the paper industry for their sustainability practices. 100% of all the wood used comes from sustainable sources. Various tools are used to ensure this, including forest certification and third-party traceability systems such as the Forest Stewardship Council's (FSC) Chain of Custody/Controlled Wood scheme, the Chain of Custody/Due Diligence System of the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), and the ISO 14001 environmental management standard. The forests and plantations

In 2022, 87% of Stora Enso's wood came from managed semi-natural forests in Europe, while 13% originated from tree plantations.









### **Our Packaging**

#### **Our Tape**

- We have moved away from using plastic tape to seal our boxes wherever possible reducing our use of plastic tape in 2022 compared to 2021 by 53.7%.
- We used 50,450 linear metres of paper tape in 2022.
- This is the first step in our goal of making our packaging entirely recyclable.

#### **Our Bubblewrap**

We are assessing new alternatives to the bubble wrap used in our packaging and are currently trialing a machine which can create paper void filling material from our waste paper.

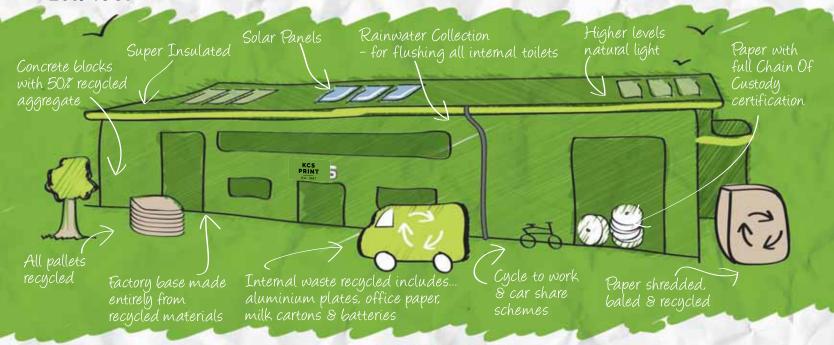
#### **Our Pallet Wrap**

 We are also looking into alternatives to the plastic pallet wrap we currently use on every pallet we send out.

### KCS PRINT

## Carbon Neutral Print in Cornwall

Est. 1987





KCS measure, monitor & reduce Co<sup>2</sup> emissions & offset the balance with Climate Care, protecting endangered rainforests.















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### **Our Waste & Recycling**

#### **Our Liner**

Our silicon liner gained certification as conforming to EN13430. The liner is now classed as a packaging material recoverable by recycling. By using the liner with our paper it is 100% recyclable. Boxes containing these 100% recyclable products are now being labelled with printed paper tape featuring the message "This product conforms to Recyclability standard EN13430" to emphasis this.

#### Zero Labels 2 Landfill

In 2022 Prismm collected 12.75 tonnes of label waste from us.

#### **Our Water**

In 2022 we used 59,000 litres of water. This is a reduction of 34% from 2021 usage and was achieved by modifying our machine wash up processes and investment in a new plate making machine reducing the need for chemicals in this process.

#### **Our Other Waste Streams**

0.31 tonnes of aluminum were recycled through J&G Environmental.

6.54 tonnes of general waste were sent for incineration.



### Circular Economy and waste recycling

#### **AD Circular Liner Recycling Scheme**

The AD Circular scheme is a closed-loop recycling initiative aimed at reducing waste and increasing the sustainability of labelling materials. Under this scheme, Root labels is collecting their own and customers waste label materials and sends them to Avery Dennison to repurpose them into new products, ensuring that no waste goes to landfill.

The recycled materials are used to make new labels and packaging, reducing the need for virgin materials and lowering the carbon footprint of the company's operations. The AD Circular scheme is part of Root Sustainable Labels commitment to becoming a more eco conscious business and contributing to a circular economy.

Target to reduce the amount of waste that is currently being used as a biomass and instead recycling it either back into liner or upgrading it into a more valuable primary material. We aim to reduce the amount of material lost from the chain by 70% through our unique collaboration.





### **Future Goals**

- Pursue B Corp accreditation and become a talking head within the local food and drink community on sustainable labelling.
- Create case studies and content for promotion using the brands that come on board with our sustainability goals.
- Keep our customers up to date with new developments in sustainable materials and practices in the printing industry.
- Increase our customer and staffs knowledge of sustainable materials and the benefit of choices that reduce our carbon footprint
- Visually show our energy and waste figures in the factory for staff and visitors alike to keep our focus on our targets.
- Monitor the use of sustainable materials and recycling of label liner.
- Work with suppliers to calculate min 50% of scope 3 data for raw materials.

### **Our Community**

**CooP-Africa** - For every box of labels sold on our Dutch website, we donate to CooP-Africa. This is a unique charity that works in remote and poor regions of Africa to supply locally made bicycles that aid transport, education, and healthcare for some of the world's most deprived communities. To date we have donated €2245.57.



**Climate Care** - We decided to offset our carbon emissions from 2021 with Climate Care. They are a B Corp certified company – listed as one of the 'Best for the World' in 2021 and deliver some of the largest offsetting programmes on the planet. We offset 63 tonnes of CO2 into the Climate+Care mixed portfolio. The current projects include Gyapa Efficient Cookstoves in Ghana, Orb Solar in India, Bondhu Chula Clean Cookstoves in Bangladesh and global renewable energy projects.



#### **Climate Impact**

Since 2021 we have chosen to offset our Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions with Climate Impact. They are a B Corp certified company and deliver some of the largest offsetting programs on the planet. We offset 13 tonnes of CO2 in 2022 into ClimateCare's Climate Impact mixed portfolio. The current projects include; clean cooking in Guatemala, clean water in Kenya, reforestation in Nicaragua and global renewable energy projects.



# KCS PRINT

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