

# IMPACT REPORT 2025

*Our fourth Impact Report - tracking progress on Purpose, People and Planet.*



Since achieving B Corp Certification in August 2024, our commitments have been organised around three guiding pillars. Together, they shape every decision — from the materials we buy to the way we support our team and our community



## INTRODUCTION

# WHY HAVE WE PRODUCED THIS REPORT?



This is our fourth Impact Report and is a hugely useful tool in keeping us on track to keep improving on our commitment to our Purpose, People and Planet.

We achieved B Corp Certification in 2024, which marked a gear change in our sustainability journey. It has led us to reviewing all of our practices and seeking opportunities to reduce, reuse or replace materials and processes. We are working hard with our stakeholders, collaborating to collectively make a difference.

Our focus has been on reducing our impact on the planet whilst ensuring that our staff and customers are well supported with stable, long-term jobs and excellent customer service.

We hope you enjoy reading our report and can see both the progress we have made and the challenges that we are working on. We aim to be a welcoming resource that can help other companies make meaningful changes, and to share the knowledge that we have gained throughout our journey.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Z Jones".

## OUR PURPOSE

# PURPOSE, PEOPLE AND PLANET

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Est. 1987

Certified  
**(B)**  
Corporation

**ROOT**  
Sustainable Labels

### Purpose

Using our business as a force for good — reviewing every practice and seeking to reduce, reuse or replace materials and processes across the company.

### People

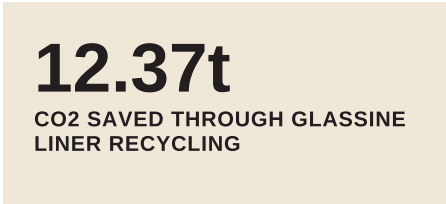
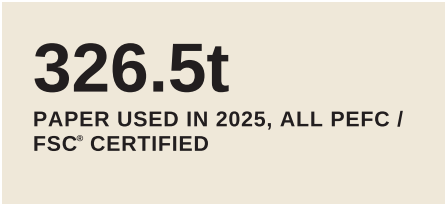
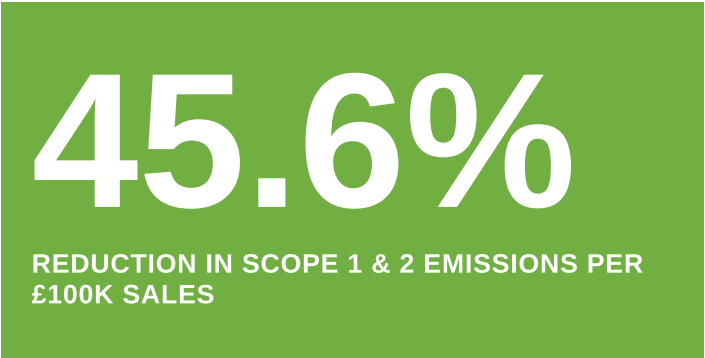
Supporting our staff and customers with stable, long-term jobs and excellent customer service, and investing in our local community.

### Planet

Reducing our impact on the environment — from renewable energy and FSC certified materials to zero-to-landfill waste management.



# WHAT WE ACHIEVED IN 2025



Overall we reduced Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions by 45.6% per £100k sales — keeping us on track to meet our ambitious target of halving our emissions figure from 2021 levels by 2030.

We also recycled 6.81 tonnes of glassine liner waste, saving 12.37 tonnes of CO2, and collected 6.5 tonnes of mixed label waste for biomass energy through our Zero Labels 2 Landfill scheme.

## OUR EMISSIONS

# MEASURABLE, TARGETED AND AMBITIOUS IMPROVEMENTS

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As a manufacturing plant, we know our biggest impact is the raw materials that we use, the energy we consume, and how we deal with the waste that remains after the product has been produced. For this reason, our focus has been on working with our suppliers to ensure we are making conscious purchasing decisions within an ethical supply chain. We have also switched all of our purchased electricity to 100% renewable sources.

We have introduced new materials to our customers, including the first commercially available home compostable adhesives to our roll label clients — enabling 100% of their product packaging to decompose in standard garden waste.

We have developed an FSC® certified, fully recyclable gift card solution for large e-commerce companies, combining a plastic-free gift card and dispatch label in one.

Extending our liner waste recycling scheme to some of our larger users has reduced the total lifecycle impact of our products. In 2025 this project saved 6.81 tonnes of glassine liner from biomass, enabling it to be fully recycled instead — saving 12.37 tonnes of CO2 emissions.

In October 2024 we added a further 100kW of solar panels to our existing array. The new panels generated an additional 62,290kWh of electricity for us in 2025, and will continue to pay dividends for years to come. Alongside the panels, we installed a battery system enabling us to store some of the electricity we generate for future use.



BATTERY 1  
L2  
GivEnergy®

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OUR ENERGY

# POWERING OUR PRODUCTION

**50%**

SOLAR PANELS

**24%**

GAS

**26%**

ELECTRICITY

**111,161kWh**

GENERATED BY OUR SOLAR  
PANELS IN 2025

Our total energy usage for 2025 was 221,956 kWh, compared to 287,371 kWh in 2024 — a decrease of 22.76%. We purchased 75,579 kWh less electricity in 2025 than in 2024, by generating and storing it ourselves through our solar system.

100% of our electricity now comes from renewable sources, and our solar panels alone generated 111,161 kWh in 2025.

# SOURCING RESPONSIBLY

We used 326.497 tonnes of paper in 2025, all sourced from FSC® / PEFC certified companies. During the production process, 63.10 tonnes of paper and card was recycled.

We champion the use of sustainable materials from leading material manufacturers. Our leading sustainable labelling materials include:

- 100% recycled, ISCC certified PP label stock with 30% recycled liner
- 100% recycled, carbon neutral paper with compostable adhesive
- 94% recycled white PE film with FSC® certified liner
- FSC® certified thermal paper with home compostable adhesive
- FSC®, PEFC and 100% recycled pre-print laserable papers



**326.5t**

PAPER USED IN 2025

**63.1t**

PAPER & CARD RECYCLED DURING PRODUCTION

## SUSTAINABLE SOURCING

# WHAT IS FSC® CERTIFICATION?

FSC® (Forest Stewardship Council UK®) is a non-profit organisation providing trusted solutions to help protect the world's forests and tackle today's deforestation, climate and biodiversity challenges. Its mission is to promote environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable management of the world's forests. The 'tick-tree' logo is found on millions of products worldwide, verifying responsible sourcing from forest to shelf.

FSC® chain of custody certification verifies that FSC®-certified material has been identified and separated from non-certified and uncontrolled material as it makes its way along the supply chain, from the forest to the market. Any company involved in the processing or transformation of FSC® certified products must be FSC® certified in order to apply an FSC® label to its products and/or sell them with an FSC® claim.

At KCS Print we have held FSC® certification continuously since 2008, and have worked alongside our customers to create eye-catching labels incorporating the FSC® logo — helping them highlight their commitment to sustainable sourcing.

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**FSC® CERTIFIED  
CONTINUOUSLY SINCE**

**2008**



Ask for our  
FSC-certified materials

## CASE STUDY

# BODDINGTON'S BERRIES

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Boddington's Berries, based near Mevagissey, were previously using labels made of silver polypropylene on their glass jars. They were keen to ensure their product packaging was improved to meet the highest environmental standards.

After consultations with the team at Root Labels, it was decided that an FSC®certified paper grade that would work well in a damp fridge would offer the best of both worlds.

As part of the upgrade, Boddington's took the opportunity to incorporate their new branding with high quality finishing, including gold foiling and embossing.

As an FSC®certified manufacturer, Root Labels was able to offer a full chain of custody to the Boddington's team — giving them peace of mind that the new paper label materials were being sourced from responsible sources.

They have undertaken a fantastic upgrade which has boosted their brand recognition and premiumised the Boddington's brand, whilst significantly reducing the environmental impact of their packaging.

## 4,500m<sup>2</sup>

**PLASTIC MATERIAL SAVED  
OVER A 12 MONTH PERIOD**



## CASE STUDIES

# WORKING WITH OUR CUSTOMERS

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### Philip Warren Butchers

Thermal weigh-scale and pricing labels engineered for chilled and frozen food lines, delivering clear barcode readability and strong adhesion through refrigeration, freezing and busy retail handling.



### Darts Farm

Deep-embossed, premium textured labels for wines, chocolates and liqueurs — raised brand elements and tactile finishes that add shelf impact across Darts Farm's artisan food and drink range.



### St Eval Candles

FSC®-certified paper labels for candle tins and premium textured labels for soaps and lotions, engineered to perform beautifully in wet and humid environments.

## OUR WASTE AND RECYCLING

# REDUCING, REUSING, RECYCLING

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### Glassine liner recycling

In 2025, through AD Circular, we recycled 6.81 tonnes of glassine liner waste, saving 12.37 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.

### Zero Labels 2 Landfill

In 2025, Reconomy collected 6.5 tonnes of mixed label waste from us. This was used for biomass energy, saving it from landfill.

**46,000L**

**WATER USED IN 2025 —  
DOWN 48.88% ON 2024**

**0.253t**

**ALUMINIUM RECYCLED  
THROUGH J AND G  
ENVIRONMENTAL**

**5.749t**

**GENERAL WASTE SENT  
FOR INCINERATION**

Our water usage fell sharply in 2025 following an overhaul of our grey water system in September 2024 — our toilets are now flushing with Cornish rainwater once more.



## SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS

# UNDERSTANDING OUR FULL FOOTPRINT

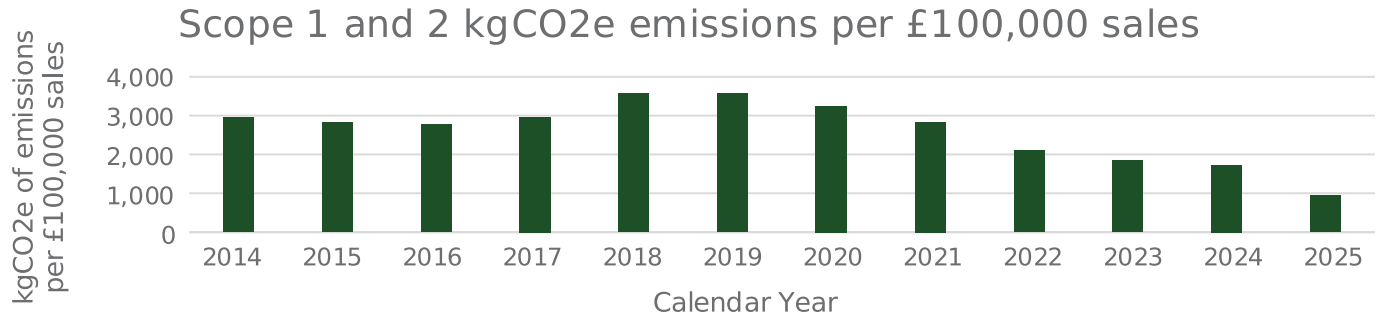
We understand that in order to reduce our emissions we first need to have an effective and accurate way of measuring them.

At KCS Print we have tracked our emissions since 2011, beginning with Scope 1 and 2 emissions and the most straightforward Scope 3 emissions, and steadily increasing the metrics we look at year on year.

For the first time in 2024, we calculated our category one Scope 3 emissions — emissions from purchased goods and services — pulling together data about the paper and other materials we used in our production, calculating CO2 from cradle to gate.

Our knowledge of the emissions data from our range of label materials can help you make the best choices when designing your labels, in terms of both function and sustainability.

**8,181.4**  
**KG CO2E PER £100K**  
**SALES — SCOPE 3,**  
**CATEGORY 1 (2025)**



## OUR COMMUNITY

# INVESTING BEYOND OUR FOUR WALLS



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### Coop Africa

To date we have donated £3,538.12, funding bicycles in hard-to-reach areas of rural Africa.

### B Corp

We have joined the B Corp movement and are using its tools to help implement long-term, beneficial change for the benefit of Purpose, People & Planet.

### Plant One

Partnered with Plant One Cornwall CIC since 2023. They have planted 36,000 trees since 2020, establishing 240,000 sqm of new woodland. We sponsor trees and take part in planting and maintenance days.



Certified



Corporation

# MIGHTY HIKERS FOR MACMILLAN



*The team completing the Macmillan Cancer Support Mighty Hike*

Beyond our day-to-day sustainability work, our team also gets out and gives back in their own time — taking on the Macmillan Cancer Support Mighty Hike to raise money for a cause close to home.



# THANK YOU

*Our commitment to Purpose, People and Planet continues to drive everything we do.*

If you'd like more information about our sustainability journey, or to talk to us about your own print or labelling needs, we'd love to hear from you.

[[hello@rootlabels.co.uk](mailto:hello@rootlabels.co.uk) • [rootlabels.co.uk](https://rootlabels.co.uk) • [kcsprint.co.uk](https://kcsprint.co.uk)]