

## **SUSTAINABILITY OF THE INSIDE'S SERVICES AND PRODUCTS**

Sustainability is important to The Inside, both in production processes and in operational management. Our profession requires a lot of temporary construction which means we use a lot of material. Consequently, huge amounts of wood and sheet material are used by the whole sector. As a reputable stand construction company, we want to ensure as much sustainability as possible throughout our company. So we continually ask ourselves how we can improve our industrial processes in the interest of people and the environment.

We contribute to sustainability and the environment as follows:

- 1) In 2008, The Inside built new premises in Deventer and sustainability was included in the design process.
- 2) Our investments must fit in with our company philosophy and objectives.
- 3) Environmental protection and sustainability are integrated into our production processes.

## **WHAT HAS THE INSIDE DONE FOR SUSTAINABILITY IN THE AREA WHERE IT WORKS?**

### **Heat recovery**

We use a heat recovery system in our new premises. The heat that we generate comes from air/water heat pumps, which require less energy than conventional systems. This meant that we had to make additional investments and received subsidy from the government. We installed the system in combination with floor heating in the most frequently used rooms and areas (office & production) and heaters (for the transshipment and storage areas).

### **Ventilation**

To create a good working environment for our people, we installed balanced ventilation with a heat exchanger that filters and returns 90% of the hot air. Supplemented with fresh air, this means that rooms and areas require minimal heating.

### **Insulation**

Our building is insulated according to the highest standards. Even the storage hall is insulated, so that the hall requires minimal heating in the winter to keep it at 8 °C (to protect the materials). We used roof, wall and floor insulation in the offices.

### **Exhaust of wood processing machines**

We have installed an exhaust system on the wood processing machines. This system filters the air and blows it back into the hall. Wood dust and chips are removed from the exhausted air, and are blown into a special waste wood container. Of the exhausted air, 90% is blown back into the factory, partly supplemented with fresh air. To minimize air extraction - and thus to limit the energy consumption - pneumatic valves are installed on all machines, so that the extraction system is only operated when the machines are on. The valves close immediately when the machines stop.

### **Exhaust in spray shop**

We have also installed an exhaust system in our spray shop that filters the exhausted air and blows it back. Of the exhausted air, 80% is reused in the spray shop, and is partly supplemented with fresh air. In order to only extract air only where spraying is being done, the wall is divided into two parts, so that only the extraction area can be made the same size as the piece being sprayed.

### **Sealing between halls**

Our premises have a total area of 6000 m<sup>2</sup> and are divided into different production rooms and areas. All rooms and areas are provided with transparent flap doors. This is to retain the heat in the whole building.



2-part exhaust in spray shop



Pneumatic valve



Sealing between halls

### Separated water discharge

We have installed separated discharge systems for the sewer and rainwater in our premises. These are removed separately, which requires a double set of pipes.

### Green energy

Through our energy company, we make use of Green energy.

## OUR INVESTMENTS CONTRIBUTE TO A BETER ENVIRONMENT

### Fleet of vehicles

Where possible, our vehicles are fitted with soot filters. Also, our large hauling equipment (lorries) satisfy the latest requirements (Euro 5 lorries). We have had our oldest lorries fitted with soot filters to be able to drive in cities.

### Sanding machine

When we fitted out the workshop in our new premises, we purchased a sanding machine. When we construct our stands, we make use of large amounts of wooden stand construction walls (95%). in the past, these walls were sanded by hand and were reused an average of 10 times. With the sanding machine, the walls can be reused at least 30 times.

### CAD and CNC machines

By investing in sheet sawing machines and CNC milling machines with the associated software, we can use sheet optimisation programs to make optimum use of materials. Consequently, we get as much material as possible from a sheet.



CNC machine



Sanding machine



Sheet sawing machine

## **ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY IN OUR PRODUCTION PROCESS**

### **Waste processing**

Our waste is separated. Thanks to the various investments we made from 2009 onwards, we have been able to reduce our weekly waste from one large 40 m3 container to two 1.1 m3 containers.

The rest is reused in our process, for example:

- Wood is ground and transported to a processing factory, where it is made into chipboard.
- Paper is collected and removed separately throughout the company.
- Cloth is pressed into bales and transported to a processing factory for plastic semi-finished products.
- Plastic is removed in special bags so that it can be recycled.
- Metal is collected in containers and emptied once a month by a metal recycling firm.
- Printer cartridges are collected at the office and picked up by a special company.
- The ink stations for the large format production printers are returned to the supplier for reuse.

### **Wood**

The wood that we use in our stands comes from a wood supplier who is a member of the VVNH (Koninklijke Vereniging Van Nederlandse Houtondernemingen, Royal Netherlands Timber Trade Association). This organisation aims to guarantee that 75% of the wood that VVNH members import is produced sustainably.

### **Reuse of stand construction material**

Stand construction parts are reused and redeployed as much as possible. We use the same stand construction parts for various customers without affecting the design of the stands.

### **Spray shop**

We use environmentally-friendly paints and latex paint in our spray shop. Because this is the least dangerous form of paint processing, the regulations do not require us to have an environmental license.

### **Materials in stands**

At the request of the customer, we can use various environmentally-friendly materials, of which some are included in our package as standard.

#### *Carpet:*

- Reusable tile carpet (this is used for several stands and cleaned after a trade fair season).
- Recycled carpet: by working with a supplier from Belgium who takes back the carpets for expo use, we can buy the carpet back recycled.

#### *Laminate flooring:*

- This is reused and sorted on usability; undamaged parts of the laminate flooring can be reused.

#### *Paint:*

- We use latex paint that is produced in an environment-friendly manner.

#### *Stand walls:*

- Stand walls are reused to give them a long life span.

#### *Signing:*

- It is possible to print on materials that are made from maize. As a result, they will biodegrade within a few years. These materials are very suited for the expo market.

*Lighting:*

- We have included lighting that consumes less energy in our rental package. The system works with a converter that turns 150 Watt energy to 600 Watt light. As a result, the light output is higher than standard systems used in trade fairs.

*Chests and packaging*

- We make transportation chests for materials that are to be reused, which increases the life span of the product.