

Interview of the second sec Nons

### Sustainability at Technoform

When it comes to building sustainably, high energy efficiency, durability, and indoor climate are key factors. To achieve this, thermally optimized edge bond solutions for insulating glass are what it takes. With our warm edge spacers between the glass panes we improve the thermal performance of the edge bond and thus guarantee gas tightness at a peak level. But not only our products are connected to sustainability: In accordance with our philosophy and principles, we have set ourselves the objective of creating a wide range of sustainable benefits for our customers, companies and employees through all our market performances, systems, and processes.

This concept of quality includes social and ecological responsibility for which every individual employee takes responsibility and consistently promotes and takes into account in their daily thoughts and actions. For that reason, all the activities that are carried out within Technoform are performed, assessed and continually optimized while making savings on resources, energy efficiency and taking environmental compatibility into account.

Since 2013, we have been certified in accordance with DIN ISO 14001:2015 and DIN ISO 45001:2018 in Germany and Great Britain and also in accordance with DIN EN ISO 50001:2011 in Germany. As a result, occupational health and safety, environmental protection and energy management have been included in an integrated management system.

The aim of the management system is to continuously improve the way that occupational health and safety, environmental protection and energy efficiency are implemented within the company's operating processes. Strengthening our efforts to protect the environment will play a major role in this as that is how we can make our own contribution towards ensuring that future generations will also be able to benefit from the earth's resources.

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# Best advice for maximum building efficiency

It is not just our external certificates that demonstrate our commitment to sustainability. The topic of building efficiency is becoming increasingly important too – for our customers and also for us. The reasons for the increasing attention being shown towards sustainability in the construction industry are obvious: Globally, buildings consume more than 40% of the energy produced so that the potential for making savings is huge.

In order to steer the activities in this field in the right direction, numerous building certification systems, statutory regulations and funding programmes have been set up which differ significantly between countries, markets and regions. In order to keep an overview of these and be able to react correctly to the respective market demands, we work intensively on these topics and keep a close eye on the latest developments.

Our warm edge spacers for thermally optimized insulating glass are certified passive house components (class phB or class phA) for cool, temperate and arctic climates, respectively. They are offered in various standard colors and sizes.



We can provide you with information tailored to your individual requirements on LEED, BREEAM or DGNB, for example, and will also be happy to provide further advice on how our products and solutions can help you and your customers with regard to sustainability.



## Our contribution towards a better world climate

As an international company, we bear a lot of responsibility – towards our customers, our employees and also our environment. The sustainability of our work and the materials that we use play a major role in this.

To contribute towards a better world climate through our activities, our packaging material such as cardboards and wooden boxes and all our truck deliveries in Germany are CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral. We meet that objective by continuously supporting tree-planting programmes and setting ourselves new goals every year.

The results that we have achieved are impressive: to date we have planted 19,881 trees in collaboration with the "Plant-for-the-Planet Foundation", thus compensating for 1,988 tons of  $CO_2$  that have been emitted.



# Sustainability in our processes

In our production facilities too, our processes are continuously being improved in order to conserve resources and thus protect the environment and climate. Take our new vacuum pumps, for example, which have enabled us to make energy savings of up to 50% in connection with vacuum generation during the production process. Noise emissions have also been reduced by 40%, while reducing the speed during operation preserves the bearings, resulting in a longer service life: a step in the right direction towards sustainability.

In order to save energy during production, we have optimised the insulation for our cooling baths, for example. Insulating the heaters for the extruders in which the plastics are heated during production has enabled us to improve energy efficiency significantly, resulting in an energy saving of 16%.





Thermographic picture before and after the thermal insulation.

(Source: http://www.wema.de/images/Produkte/H-Katalog/Isowema.pdf)





### Life cycle assessment

Life cycle assessments are of enormous importance when it comes to being able to react faster and better to customer inquiries for detailed information on the environmental impact.

The life cycle assessment of our warm edge spacer shows the impact of our product on the environment throughout its production and up until the factory gate.

Another step that we take is to use a lot of the energy that we produce for our own benefit. At the site in Germany, the waste heat from production processes – such as the waste heat generated as a result of cooling the profiles – is used to heat the offices. The energy recovered is supplied via a heat exchanger to an underfloor heating system which serves a total of around 400 square metres of office space over two floors, guaranteeing a pleasant temperature indoors when it's cold outside.

We also try to promote sustainable action, strengthen environmental awareness, and protect the health of our employees in other areas. We are working intensively on further improvements to reduce the noise emissions produced during production and in our open-plan offices.

An energy metering point system is used to track and optimize our largest energy consumers.

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