LAUFENBERG
RELEASE LINER

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT 2022

Environmental protection – Environmental Aspects – Measures - Employee Participation Environmental Organisations - Neighbourhood

EMAS
Geprüftes Umweltmanagement
REG.NO. DE-137-00035

UM-24-2001/22

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Introduction

Manager Integrated Managementsystem
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Laufenberg has worked continually on aspects of environmental protection for many years. In 1990 all production lines where converted and since then only solvent free coatings are used, this was followed by the introduction of solvent free ink for printing and since 1991 all paper and film waste is recycled.

The installation of retention basins in all production areas for our silicone guarantee 100% retention capacity and ensures that the water protection zone, in which Laufenberg is situated, is not compromised.

Over the years continuous investment in technical improvements has lead to savings in environmentally relevant resources. Any plan for new developments on site are made taking environmental impact into consideration.

The Environmental Management System helps us to turn our ecological beliefs into concrete actions. Today it is more important than ever to use available resources economically and ecologically. Therefore it is our primary objective to reduce the environmental impact bought about in the production of our products.

Our Company / History

Laufenberg GmbH, a family owned business with tradition

The company was established as B. Laufenberg & Sohn KG in 1947 by Bernhard Laufenberg and has continuously expanded and developed.

Decades of experience and competence in the release liner industry form the basis of our modern, future oriented company.

Historical Milestones

1947 B. Laufenberg & Sohn KG, Roofing paper factory founded
1952 Reorientation of production to paraffin and wax papers.
1960 Specialisation of production of silicone release liners
1983 Europe's first coating production line for solvent free silicone built.
1990 Reorganisation of production and switch to solvent free silicone
1992 Company name changed to B. Laufenberg GmbH
1995 DIN/ISO 9001 and 14001 certification
1997 DIN ESO 14001 certification and validation according to EMAS
2009 Acquisition of paper business from Huhtamaki and expansion to 4 coating lines
2012 Introduction of new Corporate Identity and renaming of Laufenberg GmbH
2013 Certification according to BS OHSAS 18001
2014 Certification of Laufenberg according to DIN EN ISO 50001 and validation according to EMAS III
2014 Construction of plant 8 with consolidation of facilities
2014 Bridge link built between plants 2 and 8 including a transport system over a public road
2015 Fourth coating line (W4) increased capacity
2019 ISO 45001 certification
2020 FSC® C154803 certification in the chain of custody
2022 Start of new construction of plant 1 fully automated raw materials warehouse and hall extension plant 2

Our Portfolio

Silicone Coated Paper

Paper is a renewable resource and its sustainability, recycling and utilisation are unsurpassable. The diversity of technical paper offers unlimited possibilities.

As well as the more popular types of paper, such as super-calendered, clay coated or PE-Film other types of paper can also be used.

Silicone Coated Film

Rather than using paper or any combination of paper and film some silicone films can also be used. Using solvent free and thermally interlaced silicone systems Laufenberg offers a large number of release values from easy to tight on MOPP, BOPP and PET.

Thanks to specially selected raw materials and Laufenberg's coating technology we have created a range of process liners that are suitable for multiple purposes.

Silicone Coated Paper and Film in general

Silicone coated papers and films are coated with a thin layer of silicone. The distribution of the silicone on the carrier is generally 1-2-g/m2. Silicone is resistant to all sticky and adhesive material. The products are referred to as masking paper or film because of this characteristic.

Product Use

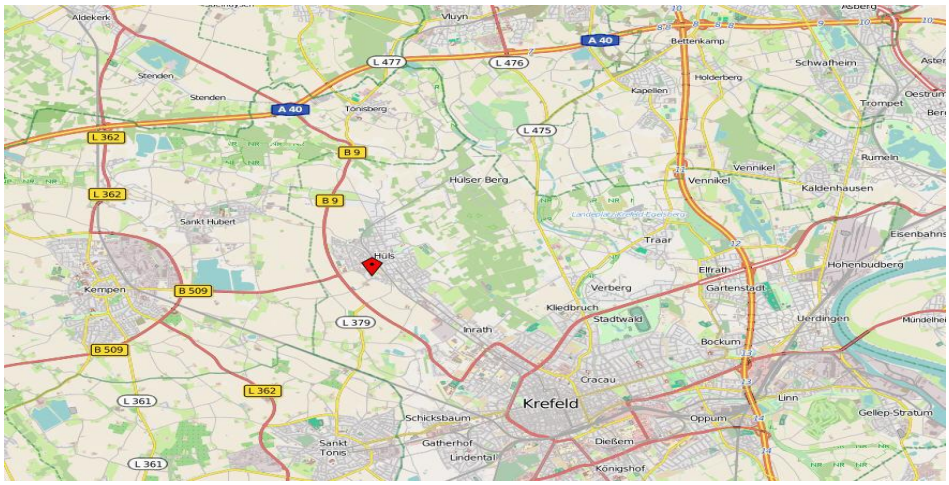
The use of these products is almost unlimited. The following industrial uses can be highlighted:

- Automotive Industry and their Suppliers
- Building Industry
- Consumer Electronics
- Aerospace Industries
- Electronics Industry
- Medical Industry
- Plastics Industry
- Hygiene Industry
- Packaging Industry
- Advertising Industry

These types of products have become indispensible in the private sector too. All self-adhesive products are generally protected with a masking paper. The masking paper is removed and disposed of and the adhesive part sticks (stickers, carpet tape, window seals and many more).

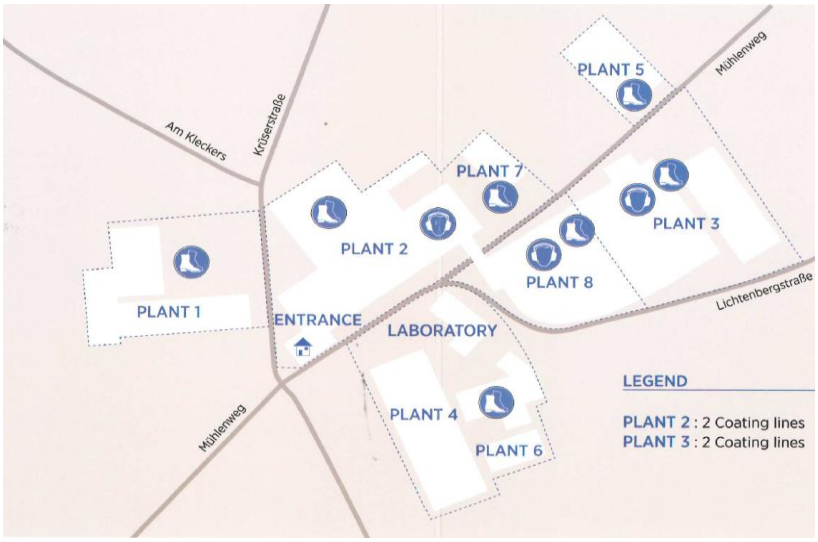
Location

Laufenberg's production site is found in an industrial estate on the outskirts of Krefeld-Hüls within the water conservation area III A1 and A2.



„Map data© OpenStreetMap contributors"

The site is located close to an excellent transport network with direct access to the B9 and the motorway network. Laufenberg covers an area of 53.406 m^2 of which 49% is built-up. There are 8 individual plants connected via public roads and one large warehouse. Plants 2 and 3 have 2 coating lines using only solvent-free silicone. The processing of goods to order takes place in plant 8. The other plants house storage for raw materials and working materials, finished products, the administrative offices, and technical laboratories.



Location overview

Our Corporate Policy

Company Description

- Laufenberg is a globally active company.
- We successfully work on the best solutions based on silicone-coated films and papers as well as special products.
- In our core field of work - silicone-coated films and papers - we are one of Europe's leading companies.
- With innovative products and advanced methods, we offer environmentally friendly, energy-saving and market-driven solutions.
- The strengths of our company are our products and services, but above all our employees.
- We are committed to generating profits to safeguard the company and jobs.
- The requirements and expectations of interested parties, such as customers, authorities, external suppliers, legislators, business partners, management, owners and employees are continuously reviewed, monitored and met by means of our management systems.

Compliance

- We are committed to complying with all applicable laws and statutory regulations as well as other requirements received. In this context, we cooperate, among others, with authorities, associations, institutes and the public in a trusting and open manner.
- In all our actions, we take into account the fundamental principles, the core standards and the conventions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) that go beyond them. We insist in our organisation and with our partners on the freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining, the elimination of forced labour, the abolition of child labour and the prohibition of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.
- We regularly review our integrated management system through internal audits and continuous monitoring of legal and internal compliance.
- Throughout our supply chain, we only source paper from pulp that can be proven to come from legal sources. With the successful FSC® certification, we can pass this statement on to interested customers.

Quality

- We develop the products that the market needs today and in the future.
- Our release liners are manufactured on modern production lines with the highest possible efficiency and effectiveness.
- Our process-oriented organisation ensures that we always deliver the products to our customers on time, in the agreed quantity and quality.
- Customer orientation and customer satisfaction are a guarantee of our trade.
- This performance is made possible by our orientation as a quality leader and ensures the long-term continuity and independence of the company.
- Each employee is the guarantor of the quality of his or her own work in his or her own process and thus ensures that the high quality standard of our products and services is maintained or achieved. Anticipatory action has priority over follow-up and is ensured through the application of effective methods and procedures. Defects in products or processes are openly communicated, analysed and subsequently their causes are effectively eliminated.
- We actively involve our employees, contractors and suppliers in improving performance and meeting requirements.
- We actively involve contractors at our site in improving performance and meeting requirements.

Safety and Health at Work

- Healthy and motivated employees are the key to sustainable economic success. For this reason and because of our social responsibility towards our employees, the safety and health of our employees are assets worth protecting.
- The primary goal is to achieve maximum occupational safety and health protection within the framework of the tasks assigned to us. The principle applies that accidents involving personal injury, material damage and environmental damage are fundamentally avoidable.
- We do our utmost to demonstrably reduce the risk of injuries, accidents and work-related illnesses among our employees - and continuously improve occupational safety and health using suitable methods and instruments within the framework of the management system.
- This is how we ensure more safety and health at work.

Hygiene FOD Foreign Object Damage and Pest Cotrol

- We are committed to process-oriented, forward-looking project planning and order processing to ensure efficient and safe processes while achieving customer satisfaction in projects and orders.
- We ensure the effectiveness and durability of our products by avoiding safety hazards and risks of product contamination.
- Regular training, the knowledge and attitude of our employees and regular auditing of our processes ensure our high standard of hygiene and the avoidance of contamination of our products.

Social Responsibility

- Through our healthy and motivated employees, we show that we live up to our social responsibility.
- We respect the values of our society and design our products and services in an environmentally and safety friendly way while complying with the legal framework and striving for continuous improvement.
- Above all, the fact that we are a family-run company with a high sense of responsibility obliges us, in our eyes, to behave socially towards the market and the public, which we also want to live up to as far as possible. In this way, we avoid risky business decisions and want to guarantee job security in this way. In addition, we support local associations financially.

Information Security

- To maintain full business capability, we ensure the security of our information technology through secure processing, availability, integrity and confidentiality of information and data.
- We achieve information security by protecting all information that is received, generated, processed, stored and destroyed through our business activities.
- We consider it an important task to recognise information security risks and to control them through appropriate action, i.e. to reduce, avoid or transfer them to an appropriate level. The legal and regulatory framework conditions represent a minimum criterion for us in this context.
- Consistent training of employees on the topic of information security management and data protection refers to the sensitive use of our customers' and business partners' data and the company's own development values. Every employee is obliged to know and comply at all times with the provisions of data protection law and the regulations on information security.
- We are committed to the continuous improvement and further development of the information security management system.

Energy and the Environment

- In all our activities, we are committed to minimising our impact on the environment and avoiding adverse effects on the environment as far as possible.
- We proactively assess the risks that could be associated with our actions and products.
- We promote and demand the economical use of raw materials and energy.
- We put waste avoidance before recycling.
- We refrain from using raw materials and production processes that are harmful to the environment and actively work to reduce the use of auxiliary materials that are harmful to the environment.
- The type and extent of resource use and consumption are carried out appropriately and include a commitment to continuously improve resource-related performance. To this end, we ensure that information and resources are provided to enable the achievement of strategic and operational objectives.
- The setting and review of strategic and operational environmental and energy targets provide the framework to support the acquisition of energy and environmentally efficient products and services designed to improve energy and environmental performance.

Structure of Integrated Management / Environmental Management System

All ISO Management systems, regulations and standards are combined into one **Integrated Management System (IMS)**. Our company complies to the following standards and regulations:

- ISO 9001:2015 (Quality Management)
- ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental Management)
- EMAS III; Environmental Management and Audit System (EMAS) according to Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009 on the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS) and the Commission's Regulation (EU) 2017/1505 of the 28.08.2017 amending annexes I, II, III and the Commission's Regulation (EU) 2018/2026 met by the 19.12.2018 amending Annex IV of VO (EC) 1221/2009
- ISO 45001:2018 (Occupational Health and Safety)
- ISO 50001:2011 (Energy Management)
- Pest-Control (Insect control)
- AEO (Registered economic operator)
- FSC® (certification system for more sustainable forest management in the product chain)
- ISO 27001:2013 (information security)

Environmental protection according to the requirements of ISO 14001 and EMAS have been implemented at the plant in Krefeld-Hüls since 1997. The IMS covers all working activities in Krefeld-Hüls. All employees are informed regularly about changes within the IMS and are requested to implement and actively support changes accordingly.

Responsibility and Communication

The Executive Board sets the corporate policy and environmental policy. It ensures that sufficient resources are available for our Integrated Management System. In addition to financial resources, this also includes adequate time for our representatives. Responsibilities for environmental protection are defined by the management.
The Environmental Management Officer draws up the environmental programme, which is decided on by the Executive Board, and coordinates all activities related to environmental protection. He chairs the steering committee of the Working Group of Environmental Officers, which meets at least once a month.
Our line managers are responsible for the implementation of environmental protection activities. They are fully supported by our Management Representative and our Operations Representatives. We track our environmental performance monthly in a working group with the responsible supervisors.

Corporate environmental organisation

The Executive Board is responsible for external communication. Internally, communication takes place via the line managers and our steering and working groups. In the procurement of equipment, our employees are regularly consulted and contribute their technical and organisational know-how.

Documentation

The IMS documentation is stored centrally on servers and is automatically backed up daily. Specific protocols, records and evidence are stored in the departments.
The fire brigade has access to emergency and fire brigade deployment plans.

Evaluation of Environmental Aspects

We evaluate both direct and indirect environmental aspects concerning our activities and products at least one a month or when any significant change occurs. We take the following evaluation criteria into consideration:

- Use of resources and flow of materials
- Legal and any other new requirements
- Environmental affects
- Processes with environmental relevance (Appropriateness and level of technology)
- Importance to employees, customers, neighbours and customers
- Costs for processes and resources

Important Environmental Aspects

The most important environmental aspects on site are:

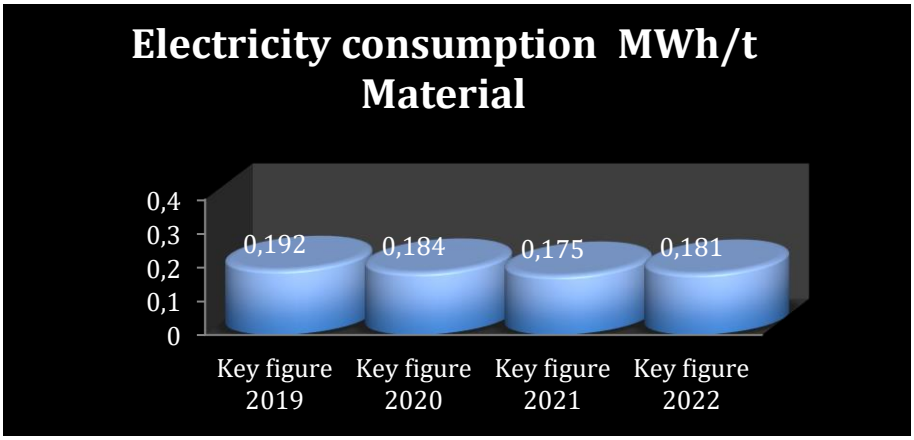
Key Areas	Direct Environmental Aspects
Energy Efficiency	**Energy consumption, electricity and gas**
Material Efficiency	**Mass current carrier, silicon and printing ink**
Fresh water	**Water consumption**
Cooling water	**Bore hole water consumption**
Waste	**Amount of waste split into waste types**
Biological diversity	**Use of land space**
Emission	**Green house gases**

Energy Efficiency – Electricity

Electricity is the main source of energy used to power the production lines.

Power Savings:

The slight increase in 2019 is mainly due to fluctuations in the distribution of customer orders, the decrease in 2020 is due to the increase in the throughput rate of the coating plants and in 2021 to energy efficiency measures implemented on the exhaust air systems. The slight increase in 2022 is due to a change in the product mix as a result of customer orders.



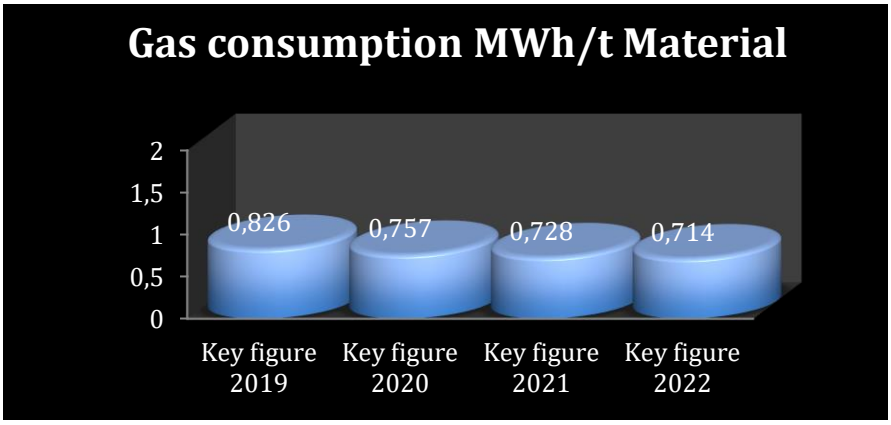
Electricity consumtion per t of used material

Energy Efficiency Gas

Natural gas is used in small firing systems, which are subject to supervision by the district master chimney sweep, and is used to heat the buildings and the drying systems of the coating machines.

Savings on gas

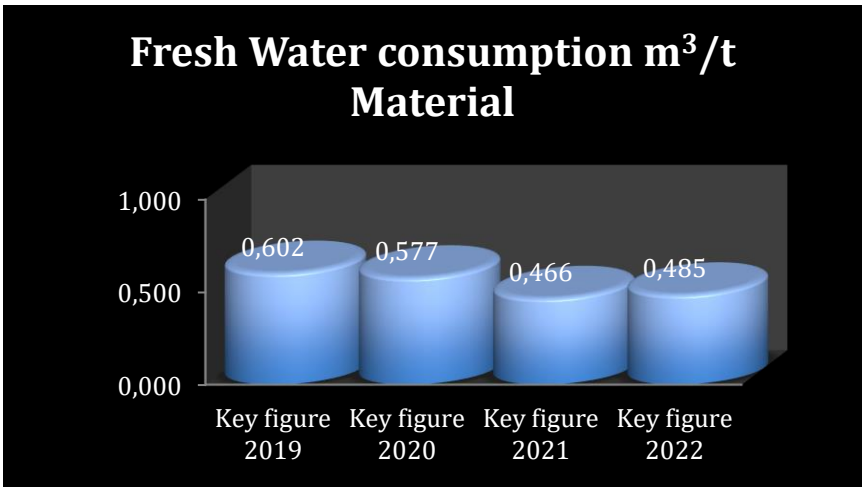
Energy efficiency measures implemented, including on the exhaust air systems, led to reductions in gas consumption in 2019 to 2021, which has continued in 2022.



Gas consumtion per t of used material

Fresh Water

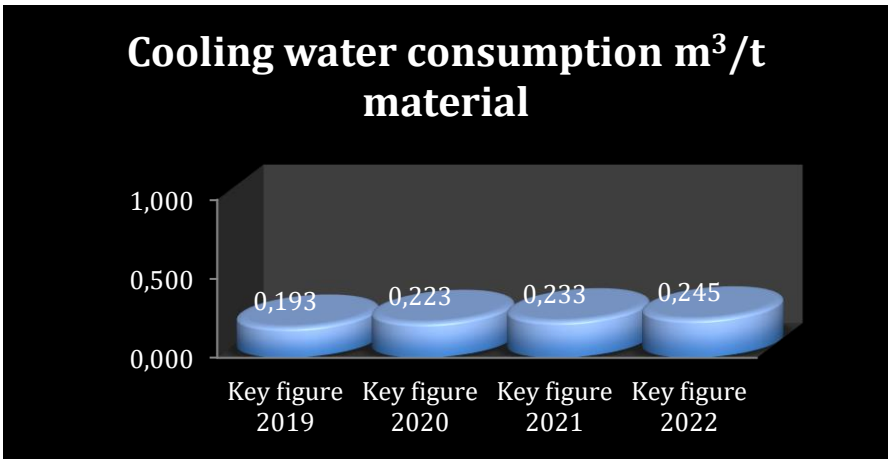
Fresh water is used as sanitary water in the social areas and for steam generation in our company. The slight increase in 2022 is due to a change in the product mix as a result of customer orders. In 2023, we expect a reduction again due to the commissioning of a new steam generator.



Fresh Water consumtion per t of used material

Water Cooling (bore hole water)

Cooling water is taken exclusively from the company wells on the company premises and used for our manufacturing processes via evaporative cooling systems. The increase in production volume in combination with higher quality requirements has led to a slight constant increase in the amount of cooling water. In 2023, we expect a reduction again due to the commissioning of a closed cooling water system that is designed for the new requirements.



Cooling water consumption per tonne of material used

Waste

Increased variation in the product range and process optimisations resulted in less waste in 2021, which was kept constant in 2022.

Biological Diversity

The plant covers an area of 53.406 m^2 of which 49% is developed.

Emissions

The natural gas used in our company produces emissions. This includes carbon dioxide, steam and to a small degree nitrogen oxide. These emissions are negligible and are therefore not listed. Annual emissions of carbon dioxide are calculated based on the amount of electricity and gas used.

Noise Emission

Little noise emission is recorded off company grounds. Minimal noise emission is caused by the transport of goods within normal working hours. Immission regulations according to the German Technical Guidelines for noise reduction (TA Lärm) are specified for the location but there is no written obligation to measure them. In the course of building permits sound technical examinations were requested and completed. During routine measurements, or when it was suspected that immission values were violated, it was proved that values of designated sites within the company (including vehicle traffic) did not exceed any immission levels. Based on this we do not include noise emission in any environmental statistics.

Other Environmental Effects

In plants 1 and 2 technical facilities were installed in 1986 to decontaminate the ground water from trichloroethylene that the company used in the past. Experts have monitored both decontamination areas and in plant 1 target values have remained below the target level of 60% for years. In 2018 the decontamination process was phased with agreement from the responsible authorities.

Indirect Environmental Aspects

The most important indirect environmental aspects at Laufenberg are:

Key Areas	Indirect Environmental Aspect
Development	**All developments take environmental and energy resources into account**
Energy sourcing	**Purchase of energy**
Procurement	**Evaluation and assessment of suppliers, and service providers taking environmental criteria into account**
Transport	**Sporadic noise and emission loads**

Procurement is a focal point of our integrated management system. It influences many environmental issues during the product life cycle and begins with the selection of the right raw materials during product development and the conservation of scarce raw materials such as platinum catalysts.

Further aspects are taken into account such as the sourcing of environmentally friendly energy, raw, auxiliary and operation materials and well as their later disposal or recycling.

All criteria are listed and followed in the process description in the Integrated Management System. All environmentally relevant suppliers are continually evaluated and we encourage our suppliers to introduce a suitable management system.

Summary of Core Indicators

Key Area	Index figures 2020	Index figures 2021	Index figures 2022	Index figures 2023/ targets
Energy Efficiency	**MWh/t Material Input**	**MWh/t Material Input**	**MWh/t Material Input**	**MWh/t Material Input**
Electricity	0,184	0,175	0,181	0,173
Gas	0,757	0,728	0,714	0,683
Fresh water efficiency	**m^3/t Material Input**	**m^3/t Material Input**	**m^3/t Material Input**	**m^3/t Material Input**
Fresh water efficiency	0,577	0,466	0,485	0,469
Cooling water (Bore hole water)	**m^3/t Material Input**	**m^3/t Material Input**	**m^3/t Material Input**	**m^3/t Material Input**
Bore hole water	0,223	0,233	0,245	0,236
Waste	**t Waste/ t Material Input**	**t Waste/ t Material Input**	**t Waste/ t Material Input**	**t Waste/ t Material Input**
Wastel	0,124	0,110	0,110	0,106
Biological Diversity	**Land use / built-up area [m^2]**	**Land use / built-up area [m^2]**	**Land use / built-up area [m^2]**	**Land use / built-up area [m^2]**
Built-up area / Total area [%]	49%	49%	49%	49%
Emissions	**CO_2/t Material use**	**CO_2/t Material use**	**CO_2/t Material use**	**CO_2/t Material use**
CO_2	0,223	0,215	0,180	0,172

To protect confidentiality of our business secrets we choose not to show our complete material use nor our total use of electricity and gas.

Environmental share / participation of employees

We include employees and suppliers alike in the improvement of performance and in the fulfilment of requirements. We also include external companies in the active improvement of performance and in the fulfilment of requirements through strict guidelines for our production site.
Employees are continually trained and given all necessary information to ensure that active participation in the Environmental Management System is possible. Employees work actively within internal working groups on environmental issues and are involved in internal audits, and meetings to support and optimise our Environmental Management system and our environmental performance. A financial recognition programme further supports all of this. Employees are involved in the decision making process of new projects particularly if they are directly affected by plans and decisions made.

Public Relations

We are always accessible to the public. Via our Homepage www.laufenberg.info we report all news.
At regular intervals and on special occasions we host an open day. Independent of these offers we are open for anybody to contact us.

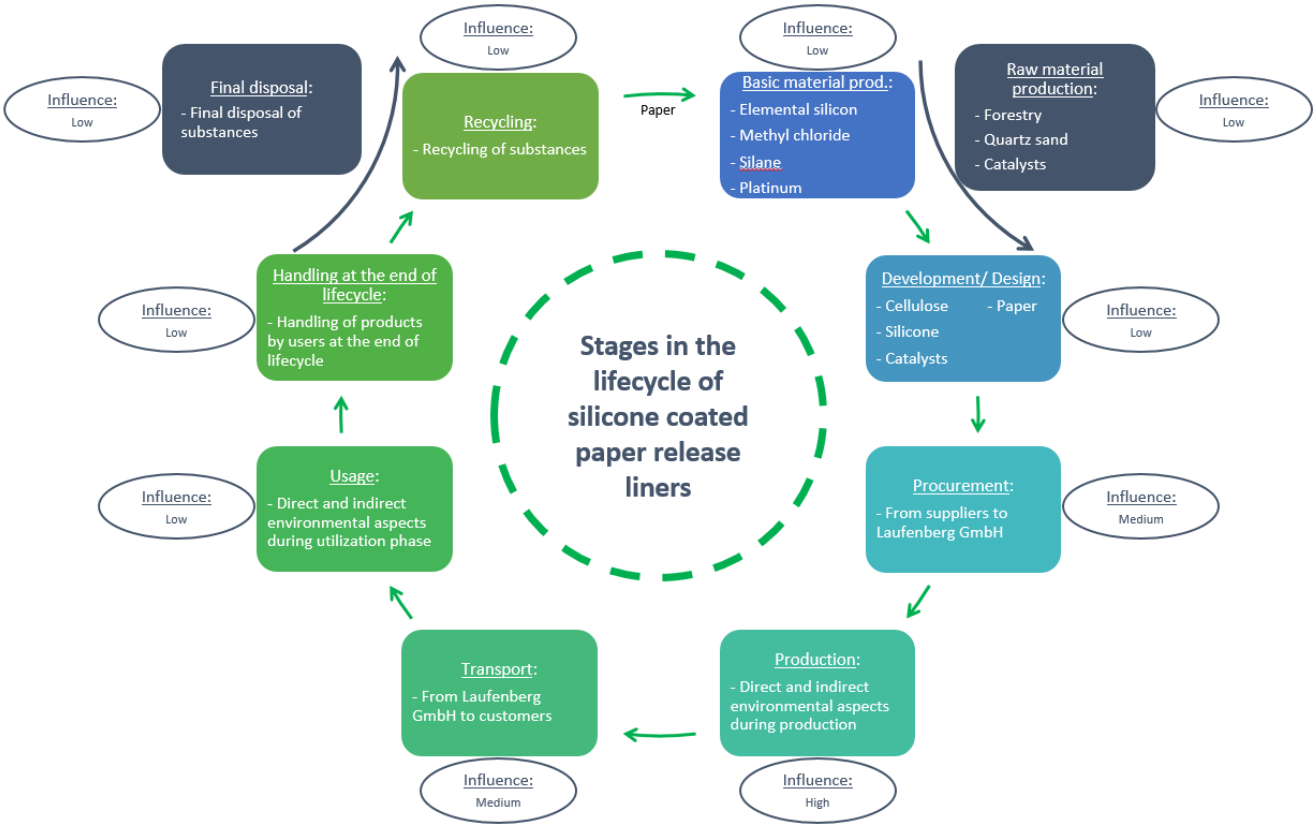
Security and Legal Obligations

In 2022 no environmental violations were noted. Small discrepancies from the standards of our Management system were adjusted and corrected and no environmental damage was registered. We commit ourselves in all of our activities to an improvement in quality, environmental, health and safety and energy related performances.

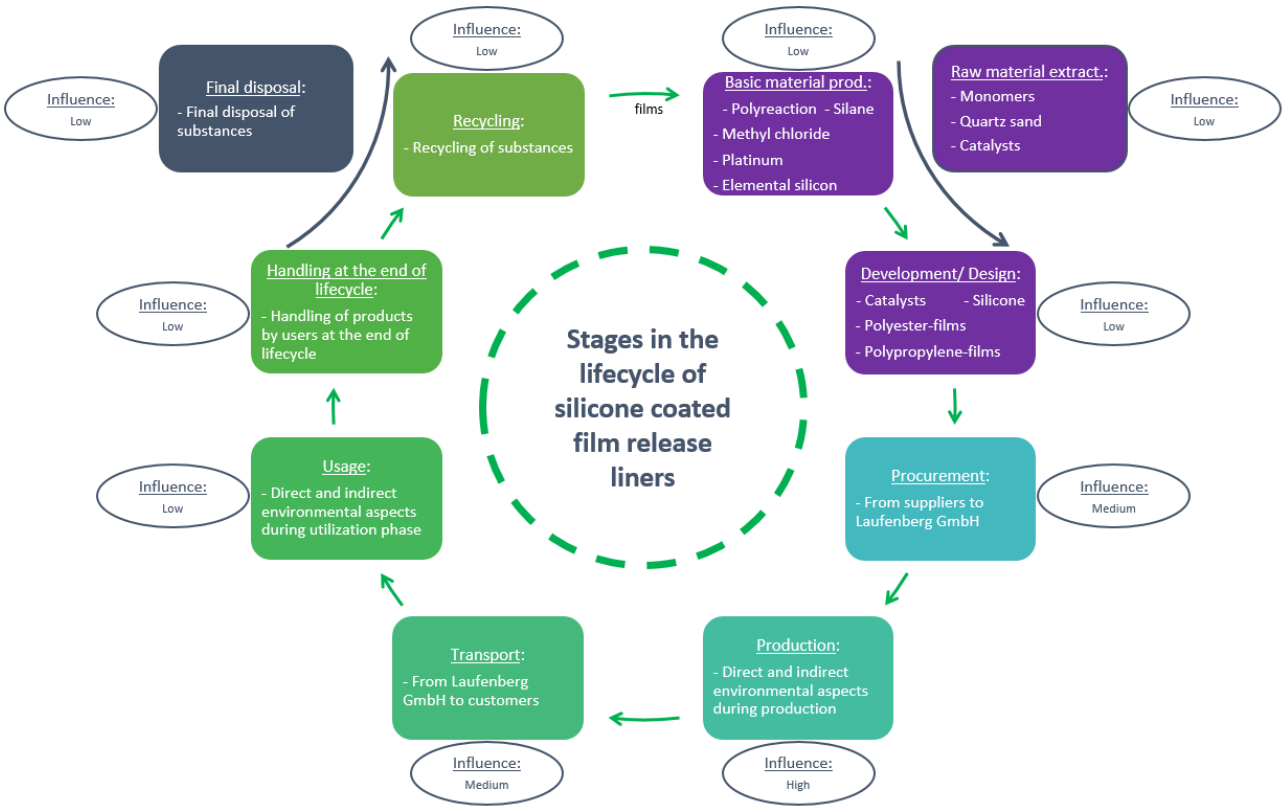
Environment Programme and Issues

Environmental Issue	Environment Target / reduction according to Key Indicators 2022	Measures	Status February 2022
Electricity	Reduction of the specific electricity consumption by **0.0080 MWh/t** material input compared to 2022	Reduction of downtimes and machine failures, implementation of further individual projects, 5S, SMET; use of cameras for error prevention; Expansion of monitoring with measures for active employee participation; employee motivation in saving electricity, reduction of exhaust air volume.	Continuous work monitored monthly
Gas	Reduction of the specific gas consumption by **0.0315 MWh/t** compared to 2022	Reduction of the exhaust air volume of a coating plant by 10% compared to the average of 2021 until 31.03.2022	Continuous work monitored monthly
Material Input	Reduction of the specific scrap by **0.0038 t waste/ t** material compared to 2022 - Carrier - Silicone - Printing inks	Optimisation of production processes and material input; employee participation and motivation to reduce waste materials	Continuous work monitored monthly
Fresh Water	Reduction of the specific fresh water consumption by **0.017 m3/ t** of material compared to 2022	Reduction of fresh water consumption of a steam boiler plant by 20% compared to the average of 2021 until 31.06.2022. (New acquisition)	Continuous work monitored monthly

The life cycle of our siliconized papers



The life cycle of our siliconized films



Environmental Verifier's Declaration on Verification and Validation Activities

Dr. Wolfgang Ulrici,

with EMAS environmental verifier registration number **DE-V-0120,**

accredited or licensed for the scope **17.12.0 Production of Paper, Carton dan Cardboard** (NACE-Code)

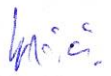
declares to have verified whether the site or the whole organisation as indicated in the environmental statement of **Laufenberg GmbH** with registration number **DE-137-00035** meet all requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009 on the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS) and the Commission's Regulation (EU) 2017/1505 of the 28.08.2017 amending annexes I, II, III and the Commission's Regulation (EU) 2018/2026 met by the 19.12.2018 amending Annex IV of VO (EC) 1221/2009.

By signing this declaration, I declare that:

- the verification and validation has been carried out in full compliance with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009,
- the outcome of the verification and validation confirms that there is no evidence of non-compliance with applicable legal requirements relating to the environment,
- the data and information of the environmental statement.

This document is not equivalent to EMAS registration. EMAS registration can only be granted by a Competent Body under Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009. This document shall not be used as a stand-alone piece of public communication.

Krefeld, 02-16-2023



Dr. Wolfgang Ulrici

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Krefeld, 02-16-2023

Ralf Wermelskirchen

Note:
The contents and meaning of the original German Environmental report prevails over the English translation.