

Environmental Policy – September 2019 V1

The Aristocrate Group recognise that our activities can affect the natural environment in various ways.

We are committed to reducing our environmental impact and the adverse effects on the environment of the earth's natural resources which it causes when not managed, whilst safeguarding the health & safety of our employees and end users.

We dutifully seek out production partners who take positive action to minimise both waste and the impact of manufacturing processes on our environment.

Improving our environmental performance is an integral part of our business strategy and we actively encourage our suppliers to do the same.

This policy is directed to all employees, suppliers and production facilities. Collectively we all have a responsibility in order to ensure that the aims and objectives of this policy are met and maintained in all areas of our business.

1. Our Aims – We endeavour to.....

- 1.1. Comply with relevant legislative requirements. Where these are inadequate, we will set our own standards that comply with our environmental and ethical criteria.
- 1.2. Progressively reduce the environmental impact caused by our products and activities.
- 1.3. Design and manufacture our products with consideration for the environment.
- 1.4. Encourage manufacturing suppliers to recognise their responsibilities to the environment. We will offer support to help them implement an environmental policy as well as health and safety policies. Furthermore to encourage the implementation within their own supply chain.
- 1.5. Ensure that no chemicals deemed harmful to humans or the environment are present in the production process.
- 1.6. Where possible, use suppliers that have a valid Oekotex Standard 100 certificate. Where this is currently not possible, we work closely with our supply base to encourage them and work with them to obtain Oekotex to cover our end products.
- 1.7. Work closely with our clients to reduce the amount of packaging used and in particular reduce plastic, we strive to use recyclable packaging wherever possible. Currently as a business we use 70% recycled packaging but are looking to increase this further. Approximately 90% of our packaging is recyclable.
- 1.8. Source our yarns and fabrics from sustainable sources who can provide BCI cotton, recycled polyester, bamboo fabrics, organic Cotton etc.
- 1.10 Incorporate environmental factors into business decisions.
- 1.11 Continually improve and monitor environmental performance.
- 1.12 Increase employee awareness.

Greenpeace Detox Commitment

We are committed to the Detox Programme to phase out the 11 chemical groups listed below:

- 1) Alkylphenols
- 2) Phthalates
- 3) Brominated & Chlorinated Flame Retardants
- 4) Azo Dyes
- 5) Organotin
- 6) Per fluorinated Chemical
- 7) Chlorobenzene
- 8) Chlorinated Solvents
- 9) Chlorophenols
- 10) SCCP Short-Chain Chlorinated Paraffin's
- 11) Heavy metals: Cadmium, Lead, Mercury, Chromium VI

We continue to work with our supply partners to actively monitor wet process facilities for contaminants in waste water and sludge discharge to minimise and avoid any detrimental impact on the environment. Wet process facilities are audited by a recognised test house for their waste water and sludge discharge.

European Regulation (EC 2006/1907–REACH regulation)

REACH is a European Regulation concerning chemicals and their safe usage. It aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment through a system of registration, evaluation, authorisation and restriction of chemicals. Chemicals deemed as harmful are added to the 'substance of very high concern list'. Our products do not contain any of the chemicals on this list in any quantity and we actively work with our partners to ensure compliance. The restricted substance list is usually updated twice a year. We routinely check all products against any new listing to ensure we maintain this standard.

Oekotex Standard 100

Oekotex is an independent globally standardised certification especially developed for textiles. Its primary purpose is to ensure that the chemicals used in the manufacture of textile products are in no way damaging to health.

We are actively working with our supply base to use Oekotex suppliers where possible with the goal of the factory obtaining Oekotex certificates to cover our products. As of September 2019 65% of our factories are Oekotex certified.

Paper

We will.....

- 1.1 Minimise the use of paper in our offices.
- 1.2 Reduce packaging as much as possible.
- 1.3 Seek to buy recycled and recyclable paper products.
- 1.4 Reuse and Recycle all paper where possible.

Energy and Water

We will seek to....

- 1.1 Switch off lights and electrical equipment when not in use.
- 1.2 Adjust Heating with energy consumption in mind.
- 1.3 Take energy consumption and efficiency of new products into account when purchasing them.

Office Supplies

We endeavour to...

- 1.1 Evaluate if the need can be met in another way.
- 1.2 Evaluate the environmental impact of any new products we intend to purchase.
- 1.3 Favour more environmentally friendly and efficient products wherever possible.
- 1.4 Reuse and Recycle everything we are able to.

Transportation

We will where possible....

- 1.1 Reduce the need to travel, restricting to necessary trips only.
- 1.2 Promote the use of travel alternatives such as video/phone conferencing.

Maintenance and Cleaning

We will...

- 1.1 Use cleaning materials that are as environmentally friendly as possible.
- 1.2 Only use licensed and appropriate organisations to dispose of waste.

Monitoring and Improvement

We will...

- 1.1 Comply with all relevant regulatory requirements.
- 1.2 Continually improve and monitor environmental performance.
- 1.3 Continually improve and reduce environmental impacts.
- 1.4 Incorporate environmental factors into business decisions.
- 1.5 Increase employee awareness.
- 1.6 Review this policy as Culture point 1.1

Culture

We will...

- 1.1 Update this policy at least once a year in consultation with staff and business partners where necessary.
- 1.2 Involve staff in the implementation of this policy both in the UK and our offshore sites to ensure greater commitment and improved performance.
- 1.3 Work with our suppliers to improve their environmental performance.
- 1.4 Use local labour and materials where available in order to reduce CO2 emissions which will help the local communities.