

# Sustainability Handbook

TreCe

**We want to be part of a world in balance  
- for a sustainable future.**

Why, how and what we need to do.

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## “Storage and recycling for a sustainable future”

TreCe's business concept is to offer a range of form- and function-oriented storage furniture and recycling products that make as little impact on the environment as possible with high quality and long service life. We take responsibility for the sustainability of our products from the initial conception to reuse.

TreCe aims to create many excellent business relationships through a high level of expertise and quality products. We create demand and good business mainly by focusing on five areas.

1. Efficient, targeted and sustainable product development.
2. Straight and effective marketing.
3. High competence and good service.
4. Excellent relations.
5. Profitability awareness.

TreCe is a Swedish company founded in 1973. Due to the increasing demand, the company developed in both size and range and today has a complete storage and recycling range for offices and public spaces.





**Why we want  
to be part of a  
world in balance.**

**For a sustainable future.**

Creating opportunities and space for  
sustainable development and circularity.





**It's easy to forget that Earth gives us everything we use and consume.**

Food, clothing, housing, water, air, transport.

**Earth is currently operating at 140% of its capacity.**

That's why we need to live more sustainably.

To do so, we need to change the way we act.

## Food for thought.

“The significant problems we have cannot be solved at the same level of thinking with which we created them.”

-Albert Einstein





## **For circular economy**

A circular economy reduces the society's use of resources and the resulting environmental impact. Everything that has been produced is used and then reused for as long as possible. Instead of the linear, throwaway mentality "take-make-discard", we can "make-use-reuse".

A circular economy helps to break the link between economic growth and negative environmental impact.



## **For having & feeling eco-respect.**

Our way of thinking, our emotions and our awareness are powerful tools for change. They can help us respect ecological boundaries, natural resources and climate change.

Because there is no Planet B, but there can be change.



## **For responsible suppliers.**

Choosing responsible suppliers supports sustainable competition on a level playing field, where prices are not cut at the expense of people or the environment.

# **We want to be part of a world in balance.**

Develop products with eco-respect, circular life and responsible supply chains.

#### Circular economy

We design products that can be included in circular cycles of reuse.

#### Economic sustainability

#### More choose sustainable!

Climate change is becoming increasingly important in business, and we're on board!

#### Social sustainability

#### Responsible suppliers

Manufacturing that does not harm people or the environment.

#### Ecological sustainability

#### Material low CO2

Choose and upgrade to materials that have a low carbon footprint.

## For sustainable development.

A functioning ecosystem is essential for prosperity and economic development.

We are the first generation to eradicate poverty, and the last to fight climate change.

**That said, we know this  
is the way forward.**



# **How does TreCe work with sustainability?**

# Sustainability strategy

Vision and strategy

## Vision and strategy

Through our products and activities, we will create opportunities and space for sustainable development. This means respecting ecological limits, natural resources and climate change. We will support sustainable competition on a level playing field and responsible suppliers. We will create space for circular flows, from idea to reuse for a sustainable future. We will work to support the Global Goals for sustainable development, and specifically with five selected goals that reflect our activities and where we have the best opportunity to make an impact.

Our five chosen Global Goals:

- Goal 3 Good Health and Well-being
- Goal 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Goal 12 Responsible Consumption and Production
- Goal 13 Climate Action
- Goal 15 Ecosystems and Biodiversity

We want to be part of a world in balance.

### Eco-respect

Our products and activities will have minimum climate impact

### Creating circular life

Create opportunities for circular flows from idea to reuse.

### Responsible supply chains

Sustainable competition where prices are not cut at the expense of people or the environment.





# Sustainability strategy

## Goals

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### Goals

Our products and activities should have the lowest possible climate impact.

- 2021 criteria are defined for Gold level.
- By 2022, 100% of products reach Bronze
- 2023 50% of products reach Silver
- New products will reach Silver
- We will raise our internal level of competence in sustainability

Create opportunities for circular flows from idea to reuse.

- New products are designed for circular flows.
- Create circular flows in existing products.
- By 2023, we will produce a circular product.

We will support sustainable competition on a level playing field

- By 2023, all manufacturing suppliers will be rated as low risk. We will have full transparency.

We will work to improve NMI performance/sick leave. / work environment.

- Develop an internal code of conduct / employee policy.
- Work on initiatives that improve our NMI (employee satisfaction index).



# The Global Goals

How we work

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## How does TreCe contribute?

We have selected five goals that reflect our activities and where we have the best opportunity to make a difference. These goals will be the starting point for our work over the next 10 years.

- Goal 3 Good Health and Well-being
- Goal 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Goal 12 Responsible Consumption and Production
- Goal 13 Climate Action
- Goal 15 Ecosystems and Biodiversity

**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**



## About the Global Goals

On 25 September 2015, UN member states adopted Agenda 2030, a universal agenda for sustainable development that includes 17 Global Goals to be achieved by 2030, with 169 targets and more than 230 global indicators for implementation and monitoring.

The Global Goals and Agenda 2030 are the most ambitious agreement on sustainable development ever adopted by world leaders. The concept of sustainable development integrates the three dimensions of sustainability: social, economic and environmental.

Through the Global Goals, world leaders have committed to achieving four great things by 2030:

- Eradicating extreme poverty.
- To reduce inequality and injustice in the world.
- To promote peace and justice.
- Solving the climate crisis.

We are the first generation to eradicate poverty, and the last to fight climate change - and the Global Goals are our shared blueprint for creating a better, more sustainable world for all!



# Möbelfakta

How we work



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## How does Möbelfakta influence our products?

An approved product gives us and our customers security and reassurance that the product meets the requirements for the environment, quality and social responsibility.

### Environment

Production is adapted to the environment at all stages, from raw materials and components to the finished product. The environmental criteria include mandatory material and product requirements. They cover all materials such as wood, metal, finishes, plastics and adhesives. There are also requirements for a range of chemicals that should be minimised or avoided altogether. The requirements also cover the labelling and traceability of the finished product, maintenance and product information, spare parts, recycling and packaging.

### Quality

For secure and safe furniture with a long technical life. An approved piece of furniture that has met the quality criteria is objectively tested and verified by a laboratory. Our products are covered by three international technical standards that include safety, function, dimensions and surface durability.

SS-EN 14073-2:2004 Safety requirements

SS-EN 16121:2013 + A1:2018 Requirements for strength, durability and safety

SS-EN 12720:2009 + A1:2013 Surface resistance

### Responsible supply chains

Conscious producers who work systematically with the supply chain based on social and ethical requirements. For good conditions during production of the furniture and its components. The requirements that are based on the UN Global Compact are developed in line with international principles on working conditions, human rights, labour issues, the environment and corruption. The furniture manufacturer must be able to provide comprehensive documentation that the Möbelfakta criteria for responsible business practices are met.

## About Möbelfakta

Möbelfakta is a complete reference and labelling system for furniture owned by IVL Swedish Environmental Institute and Trä- och Möbelföretagen, TMF. Möbelfakta serves as a tool for sustainable choices and is for producers, purchasers, designers, architects, and others who use or work with furniture. An approved product meets Möbelfakta's requirements for environment, quality and responsible supply chains, and is approved for the user environments public spaces, offices and schools.

### Which products are Möbelfakta-labelled?

Our entire CombiLine range that is white lacquered, Space in white and Place are Möbelfakta approved and meet the requirements for environment, quality and responsible supply chains.

# ISO 9001 & 14001

How we work



## How does TreCe work?

TreCe is certified according to ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015.

ISO 14001 is an environmental management system designed to improve and streamline environmental management. By identifying environmental impacts, environmental objectives and procedures, an active environmental management is created.

### What are the benefits of an environmental management system?

Environmental management has many benefits, both environmental and economic. The requirements of the ISO 14001 standard help to proactively identify and understand the environmental aspects of our operations, products and services. A good basis for making our use of resources more efficient and improving our environmental impact.

ISO 9001 demonstrates that we are actively and systematically working on the quality of our products and services. This means that the right thing is done at the right time with the right amount of resources - while at the same time we work continuously with follow-up and improvements. In short, that our customers and partners always receive the best possible support and service.

### What are the benefits of a well integrated and vibrant management system?

- Engages management and employees
- Improves business processes
- Streamlines operations and use of resources
- Increases internal competencies
- Increases customer satisfaction
- Improves stakeholder dialogue and supplier relationships
- Smarter procurement
- Strengthens the brand
- Business development with sustainability as a core business concept
- Sustainable product and service development from a life cycle perspective.

## About ISO

ISO (International Organisation for Standardisation) is an organisation that develops standards, primarily for industry, to facilitate the manufacture, development and trade of products and services. ISO standards are voluntary to implement, but some companies require suppliers to have a specific certification. In short, it is proof that an organisation is working systematically on issues such as the environment or quality. TreCe is certified according to ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015.

## Audit?

Every year we have an audit, one external and one internal. The internal audit is to check our internal processes and working methods to find improvement measures, the internal audit is before the final external audit. The external audit is carried out by Bureau Veritas, an independent third party that verifies that we meet the requirements of the standard.



# How do we plan for the future?

How we work

## Challenges become opportunities

The industry faces several challenges, with sustainable forestry, chemicals and social responsibility seen as particularly pressing for the Swedish furniture industry. If we are aware of the challenges of the future, we have the opportunity to start transforming and turning challenges into opportunities now. The Swedish Wood and Furniture Industries (TMF) and the research community agree that we (the industry) should see the following challenges as important.

DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES AND  
"CHEMICAL COCKTAILS"

ENERGY AND CLIMATE

SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY

WASTE - LAND, SEA, AIR

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

SHORTAGE OF RAW MATERIALS,  
PEAK OIL

RAW MATERIAL PRICES DRIVEN UP BY  
CHINA + RAW MATERIAL SHORTAGES

### OPPORTUNITIES

We see the opportunities in the challenges. A starting point when we set goals and targets or make decisions.

PREPARE FOR TRANSITION

USE MATERIAL IN CIRCULAR FLOW  
(RECYCLED MATERIAL.)

GIVE PRODUCTS CIRCULAR LIFE

DESIGN FOR LOW ENERGY  
MANUFACTURING

COMPONENTS  
MANUFACTURED LOCALLY

PHASE OUT DANGEROUS CHEMICALS

PROMOTING SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY  
= PROMOTES SUSTAINABILITY



# How do we plan for the future?

How we work

## Our mindset and approach

In order for us to change and meet the challenges, we need to change our approach, in other words, change our mindset. When we recognise and acknowledge the urgency of climate and sustainability issues, we can start working in earnest. The whole organisation needs to demonstrate and take responsibility for changing old ways of thinking, which in turn will lead to us making really good and sustainable decisions!

To get there, we know it's important to:

BE AWARE OF  
ECOLOGICAL LIMITS

INTEGRATE EMOTIONS  
TO UNDERSTAND

BE AWARE OF  
CLIMATE CHANGE

GO FROM ECO-ADEQUATE  
TO ECO-RESPECT

BE AWARE OF  
LIMITED RESOURCES

THINK BY SCENARIO ANALYSIS  
"WHAT IF?"

SHOW RESPONSIBILITY

### "WHAT IF?"

A good tool for thinking into the future and broadening your perspective is scenario analysis, i.e. thinking along the lines of "what if?". Scenario analysis allows us to plan to avoid future challenges and risks. Scenario analysis is advocated in many scientific articles on sustainable business models.

THE PRICE OF WOOD RISES?

OIL RUNS OUT?

ENERGY PRICES RISE?

A TAX ON PLASTICS IS INTRODUCED?

STEEL BECOMES A SCARCE?

CHEMICALS ARE BANNED?

THERE IS A WATER SHORTAGE?

**So what does  
TreCe do?**



# **We are working on the next generation of storage and recycling.**

For us, this means creating products with eco-respect, responsible supply chains and circular life.

# We are changing to new and better materials

What we do

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## To help reduce our carbon footprint

We look for materials that are renewable, recycled, fast-growing, locally produced and low-carbon.

To reduce the carbon footprint of a product, it is important to choose materials from a life cycle perspective. This takes into account all potential climate impacts during production and consumption. Starting from the extraction of natural resources until the material is recycled or no longer used and has to be disposed of.

We have developed a product assessment system based on the bronze, silver and gold scale. It serves as our working tool to develop the next generation of storage and sorting.

## Examples

- ✓ **Choosing recycled materials**
- ✓ **Phasing out fossil-based materials**
- ✓ **Materials that can be recycled several times**
- ✓ **Bio-based materials**
- ✓ **Choosing materials with a low carbon footprint**
- ✓ **Product assessment system**



# We want to work with responsible suppliers

What we do

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## We want to work with responsible suppliers that we trust

Components, materials and manufacturing are under severe price pressure as the competition has become so great. This is partly due to globalisation, but also to population growth - we are consuming more. It is therefore important to ensure that manufacturing processes are not at the expense of people or the environment. A sustainable company is one that combines profitability, the environment and social responsibility - through every step. That is why we should support sustainable competition on a level playing field and work with responsible suppliers who do not lower their prices at the expense of people or the environment.

## Examples

- ✓ **Communicating our Code of Conduct**
- ✓ **Following Global Compact and ILO guidelines**
- ✓ **Collecting evidence from suppliers**
- ✓ **Systematic risk analysis**
- ✓ **Risk assessments based on findings**
- ✓ **If we are unsure, we change supplier**





# We create space for sustainable decisions.

What we do

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## Creating opportunity and space

When making decisions, in projects or when discussing an issue, we make sure that sustainability is included. In this way, we confirm the importance and topicality of climate and sustainability issues, and can start working in earnest.

The whole organisation needs to show and take responsibility, which in turn leads to making really good and sustainable decisions!

## Examples

- ✓ **Sustainability is always discussed at meetings**
- ✓ **Regular internal sustainability training**
- ✓ **Awareness and competence are important**
- ✓ **From idea to reuse in product development**



# We have a life cycle perspective

What we do

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## Circularity and quality

We aim to give our products circular life, so that they can be used for as long as possible. In this way, we make good use of resources and reduce the amount of consumption. That's why it's important to think through all the stages and impacts of a product, from when natural resources are extracted to when the product is no longer used and needs to be disposed of. From idea to reuse, this includes product design, quality, manufacturing, CO2 emissions, raw materials, use, restoration, reuse and recycling.

## Examples

- ✓ **Life cycle analysis as an assessment method**
- ✓ **Choosing materials based on climate impact**
- ✓ **Choosing materials that can be recycled**
- ✓ **Design for repair, restoration & reuse**
- ✓ **Great product quality and longevity**
- ✓ **Warranty on our products**
- ✓ **Quality testing done in an independent laboratory**



# We manufacture in Sweden

What we do

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## Made in Sweden

Our products are manufactured and assembled in Sweden, which we are very proud of. We think this is a good prerequisite that makes it easier to build good relationships and work closely together.

As they are close, we often make site visits, check-ins and follow-ups. We aim to move our entire supply chain closer and closer to Sweden.

## Examples

- ✓ **Supplier sustainability development**
- ✓ **Working for continuous improvement**
- ✓ **Good relations and transparency**
- ✓ **Frequent dialogues and check-ins**
- ✓ **Site visits**
- ✓ **Quality checks**

