

Environmental Management

The FKFS Management Board has introduced a management system for the organization which also considers environmental protection aspects – to increase our competitiveness, to improve the transparency of our processes and to ensure we handle resources sustainably and in a trust-based way. Environmental protection is important to us and is aimed at all employees in all departments: with the goal of continuously improving our operational environmental protection and our environmental performance.

As an organization, FKFS is structured so that different activities and information flows occur while taking the relevant environmental effects and the corresponding legal requirements into consideration. The organization's focus on environmental aspects has been integrated into the existing organizational structure. This is a basic prerequisite for a functioning environmental management system. This integration is an important component of the integrated management system at FKFS.

Environmental responsibility pervades every business area. The management bear special responsibility for implementing environmental guidelines, as well as setting a good example and motivating employees with regard to environmental matters.

All employees are instructed to adhere to these FKFS environmental guidelines during their daily work. You also have a duty to point out any risks you perceive and you also have the right to remedy potential hazards. In this way, everyone is working with equal awareness of their responsibility for the daily implementation of environmental protection measures. Furthermore, we also involve employees, suppliers, service providers and interested third parties in our efforts to improve environmental protection.

Defining all the necessary responsibilities is also a fundamental instrument for achieving environmental targets. These will be specified by the Board of Management and presented in the management system. In order to implement these objectives, an environmental program will be set up and checked with regular internal audits. If, during these regular audits or as part of the management review, the Board of Management identifies deviations or potential for improvement, appropriate correction measures will be defined and implemented.

We set up and operate our test benches and equipment in this way so that detrimental effects to health and the environment are avoided as far as is possible, and so that we comply with the legal stipulations.

FKFS will not provide information to the general public at periodic intervals. We will provide interested parties with environmental information upon request; informing the requesters about our environmental management activities.

Energy and resource consumption

One significant environmental aspect for our organization is the consumption of fuels (such as diesel and petrol) in order to operate the customers' test specimens on our test benches. Energy in the form of electric power is needed to operate the test benches. To a great extent, the building is heated using natural gas and oil.

By using these energy sources economically, we will firstly be reducing our costs and secondly will be making an active contribution to conserving natural resources. Therefore our processes and equipment will be constantly checked for potential savings. Going forward, the recording of plant and process-related consumption data will make it easier to detect significant consumers and to evaluate economic measures we have already implemented.

1. Water/wastewater

FKFS' water is supplied by the Stadtwerke Stuttgart public utility company. None of the organization's processes uses water as a raw material or a working material. To a great extent, our wastewater consists of sanitary wastewater and precipitation falling on the organization's grounds and buildings. All wastewater is routed into the drains belonging to the City of Stuttgart. In line with the drainage statute, FKFS does not have to comply with any special processing requirements for the wastewater.

2. Waste disposal and separation

FKFS disposes of commercial municipal waste separately, in compliance with the stipulations of the City of Stuttgart's Waste Management Department and Stuttgart University. Here the appropriate substances are sent to certified disposal companies for recycling, in line with the Closed Substance Cycle and Waste Management Act.

Residual waste is sent to the City of Stuttgart's Waste Management Department for disposal. If waste is generated which is classified as hazardous, this will be disposed of verifiably in line with the currently-valid regulations of the European Community, the Federal Republic of Germany, the State of Baden-Württemberg and the City of Stuttgart, by giving it to the fixed collection point for hazardous substances.

3. Use of hazardous substances

In our production processes, our organization only uses substances fulfilling the requirements of Directive 2011/65/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2011, on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment ("Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS)"). Large quantities of hazardous substances are used in our production and testing processes. We maintain a hazardous substance inventory for this purpose and train our employees how to handle these hazardous substances. Furthermore, as part of our continuous improvement policy, we strive towards the continuous substitution or elimination of these substances.

Implementation and application

1. Publicity

The employees at FKFS will be informed about this agreement. In line with relevant corporate practices, the Workers' Council will be given the opportunity to carry out this briefing together with representatives of FKFS.

2. Cooperation through fundamental principles

If these objectives and fundamental principles are also anchored in the corporate policy of its business partners, FKFS would regard that as highly positive. This can significantly support the development of an excellent business relationship.

3. Rights of third parties

No third parties can make any claims arising from this declaration.

4. Commencement

The declaration comes into effect once it has been signed and does not apply retroactively.

5. Contacts

If you have questions about sustainability or the Code of Conduct, you can reach our Sustainability Contact via Sustainability@fkfs.de at any time.

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The FKFS Management Board



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