

B&B Sustainability Update



Paper can wait, but our planet can't.

These are the first words in our initial Sustainability Report from Brigl & Bergmeister (B&B). In this report, we make a strong commitment: **We take action! #now**

This commitment serves as our guiding principle, making sustainable actions and responsible thinking the core of our approach. At B&B, we strive to create an attractive and respectful environment for our employees, and do our part in protecting the environment, contributing to climate change mitigation, and continuously reducing our emissions.

To achieve these goals, we have set ambitious targets, supported by a wide range of initiatives. Over the past year, we have made significant progress in integrating

sustainability into our operations and in preparing for new reporting requirements. We have also strengthened our partnerships with stakeholders, recognizing that collaboration is key to addressing the complex challenges of sustainability. By working closely with suppliers, customers, our employees and industry peers, we are advancing our sustainability agenda and contributing to broader industry efforts.

We are proud of what we have accomplished so far, but there is still much to be done. We invite every business partner to join us on this journey as we strive to create a sustainable future for our company, our community, and the planet.

#now

**Proudly Recognized:
Our Outstanding Sustainability Report**



Gold in
EcoVadis

Since we are among the top rated 5% of all companies in our sector, we achieved a gold medal in EcoVadis.



3rd place at the
ASRA Award

In November 2023, our Sustainability Report proudly secured third place in the category for companies voluntarily publishing sustainability reports.

These achievements showcase the strength of our sustainability program and commitment to responsible business practice and confirm that we are on the right path.

#nowgreen

Sustainable Design

We place significant emphasis on sustainable product design right from the outset. Recently, we replaced certain raw materials in our existing products with more environmentally friendly alternatives. Since the release of our Sustainability Report 2021|22, we have worked on three projects focusing on substituting existing packaging ma-

terials, and two projects dedicated to reducing our environmental impact.

Our in-house developed B&B Carbon Footprint Calculator plays an important role both in the development of new products and in the search for alternative raw materials for existing products.

Total material use		2021 (total)	2022 (total)	2023 (Niklasdorf)	2023 (Vevče)	2023 (total)
Total material use by weight	t bone dry	204,400	201,500	64,600	95,200	159,800
Recycled base material	%	17	16	21	15	17
Renewable resources	%	69	68	70	64	67

Sustainable Energy Usage

In Niklasdorf, 100% of steam and a significant portion of the electricity is produced by our sister company ENAGES, a state-of-the-art

waste-to-energy plant. In 2023, the first Photovoltaic plant (PV) system in Vevče went into operation.

Energy type		2021 (total)	2022 (total)	2023 (Niklasdorf)	2023 (Vevče)	2023 (total)
Electricity	MWh	103,300	102,400	42,200	39,900	82,100
Natural gas	MWh	257,200	230,100	12,000	178,500	190,500
Steam	MWh	104,800	103,600	77,600	-	77,600
Heavy fuel oil	MWh	-	11,600	-	12,800	12,800
Diesel	MWh	400	500	300	200	500
LPG gas	MWh	100	200	-	100	100
Electricity produced (PV)	MWh	-	-	-	700	700
Electricity sold (tenant at Vevče site)	MWh	1,200	900	-	500	500
Steam sold (company at Niklasdorf site)	MWh	2,000	1,900	2,000	-	2,000
Total energy consumption within the organization	MWh	462,600	445,600	130,100	231,700	361,800

Note: Representation of the energy unit has been harmonized to MWh for all energy sources. Value for steam in 2021 and 2022 adjusted.

In 2023, we set ourselves an ambitious goal to reduce 60% of Scope 1 & 2 emissions by 2030 compared to 2021. The largest savings are expected from a new biomass power plant in Vevče which is planned to be operable by 2029 and which may reduce natural gas consumption by up to 90%.

We are also working intensively with universities in Slovenia and Austria, exploring alternative solutions to reduce gas consumption for steam generation in the production process, as well as

options for thermal energy storage to increase energy efficiency.

We have invested in raw material preparation, which significantly lowers energy consumption in this area. Another investment in the paper machine vacuum system planned for Q4/2024 will greatly lower the electricity demand for the paper machine. Despite lower utilization in our mills, we could maintain our specific energy consumption per t production on a constant level (2023: 2.05 MWh/t; 2022: 2.02 MWh/t).

GHG Emissions

Pursuing our goal to continually refine data quality and accuracy, we have updated the emission factors in our CO₂e calculation model and included primary data for electricity and steam from ENAGES in Niklasdorf. To ensure

comparability, CO₂e values for 2021 and 2022 were adjusted accordingly. Despite the decline in production, we achieved an absolute as well as specific **GHG emissions reduction of 4% in 2023** (2023:1.03 t CO₂e/t, 2022: 1.08 t CO₂e/t).

GHG emissions		2021 (total)	2022 (total)	2023 (Niklasdorf)	2023 (Vevče)	2023 (total)
Scope 1	t CO ₂ e	46,200	45,200	2,200	36,100	38,300
Scope 2 (market-based)	t CO ₂ e	57,800	68,600	26,900	14,800	41,700
Scope 2 (location-based)	t CO ₂ e	99,000	89,100	51,300	11,100	62,400
Scope 3 Total	t CO ₂ e	117,500	123,700	42,500	59,300	101,800
Total GHG emissions (market-based)	t CO ₂ e	221,500	237,500	71,600	110,200	181,800
Total GHG emissions (location-based)	t CO ₂ e	262,700	258,000	96,000	106,500	202,500

Note: Emission factors have been updated and data quality was improved. To ensure comparability, previous years' figures have been updated.

Water Usage

B&B understands that as a water-intensive industry, conserving water is one of our top priorities. Both sites have mechanical and biological waste

water treatment facilities to ensure consistently adequate water quality. After treatment, the clean waste water is released into the nearby rivers.

Water usage		2021 (total)	2022 (total)	2023 (Niklasdorf)	2023 (Vevče)	2023 (total)
Groundwater withdrawal	m³	3,321,700	3,075,600	873,700	2,054,600	2,928,300
Water withdrawal from third-party source (city supply)	m³	22,000	22,100	-	19,000	19,000
Water discharged	m³	1,777,700	1,574,200	669,000	695,500	1,364,500
Specific volume of waste water discharged	m³/t of paper	7.93	7.12	10.02	6.34	7.73

To measure our status as an attractive employer, we will conduct an employee satisfaction survey by the end of 2024 and regularly track this KPI.

Employee Structure		2021 (total)	2022 (total)	2023 (Niklasdorf)	2023 (Vevče)	2023 (total)
Total employees	Headcount per 31.12.	477	466	257	235	492
Percentage of women overall	%	16	16	13	18	15

Training & Development

Intensive preparations are ongoing within the ROXCEL Group for implementing a corporate educational platform, which will enable online training in numerous areas including

ethics, cybersecurity and sustainable development, from September 2024 onward. Furthermore, training needs will also be identified through a survey among employees.

Attractive Workplace

In Niklasdorf, we have installed four charging stations for electric vehicles available for a small fee and have begun covering the costs of public transportation tickets. In Vevče, we adjusted the working hours in the administrative section to facilitate the organization of personal obligations.

To improve communication amongst both sites, we publish an employee newspaper, "The Paper Maker", where every department of both companies

shares their latest achievements, useful information and updates.

Supporting and organizing various events for our employees is also a key focus for B&B, whether it's concerts performed by our in-house brass bands or building team spirit through running events. In May 2024 we organized an open day at Papirnica Vevče for the local community and the families of our employees where over 1,100 visitors attended with great interest.

Health & Safety

The zero accident vision still drives our commitment to continuous improvement, minimizing risks and protecting our workforce. We remain persistent in

our efforts to enhance safety awareness, provide comprehensive training, and implement preventive measures.

Safety Incidents		2021 (total)	2022 (total)	2023 (Niklasdorf)	2023 (Vevče)	2023 (total)
Reportable accidents (A2)	Number	18	10	4	2	6
ÖZEPa accident rate	per 1.000 employees	37,74	21,46	25.64	8.47	16.95

Economic Performance & Business Ethics

Despite the challenging market situation which led to lower utilization in our mills, we maintained strong customer relationships and continued to meet their needs effectively.

With the development of a new internal Code of Conduct for the entire ROXCEL Group, we aim to enhance our organizational integrity and

ensure consistent ethical practices across all operations. A high level of business ethics in our own business process and along our supply chain is a goal for B&B and ROXCEL Group. Any violations or infringements of regulations or our Code of Conduct can be confidentially reported via our whistleblower platform.

Scan here to access our whistleblower platform



Economic KPIs		2021 (total)	2022 (total)	2023 (total)
Net production volume	t	202,640	201,300	159,672
Net production volume (according to the Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions)	t	224,245	220,949	176,519

Sustainable Procurement

EcoVadis was chosen in 2023 as a strategic tool to support the implementation of our supplier sustainability risk assessment program. An initial risk mapping was performed for all 244 direct core business suppliers. Within each supplier category, a subset of suppliers was selected for invitation to submit or share their assessment on the EcoVadis Ratings platform for a more detailed analysis.

Furthermore, our standard annual supplier performance evaluation process was adapted in 2024. Now,

sustainability-related factors account for 25% of the overall evaluation. We are transparent about our ESG-scoring methodology towards our suppliers.

Both of our sites are certified under FSC and PEFC, and we also acknowledge the increased requirements due to the new EU Deforestation-free products Regulation (EUDR). Collaborating with an external partner, we are implementing an enhanced due diligence system to collect supplier information and integrate it into our risk assessment and mitigation processes.



Find out more about B&B and read the full report on our website!

www.brigl-bergmeister.com/en/sustainability

