

An aerial photograph of a dense forest of evergreen trees. The image is overlaid with three large, semi-transparent circular shapes in shades of teal and dark green. The largest circle is centered in the middle of the frame, with two smaller circles positioned above and to the right of it.

# Sustainability Policy

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Looking after our world together



# How we're making a difference

This policy document outlines our commitment to supporting everyone's journey to carbon neutral. The small changes we can all make add up to have a big impact.

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We are delighted to show you the progress we have made on our own journey covering:

## Packaging



Sustainable packaging for all our despatches

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## Vehicles and Fuel



Electric fleet vehicles for our team

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## Recycling



Increased use of recycled materials and waste reduction

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## Shipping and Distribution



Shared logistics and greener distribution networks

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## Lighting and Electrical



Electricity generated by roof solar panels. Sensor lighting to reduce waste

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## Safeguarding all our futures



Being able to reduce our own environmental impact and that of our customers through innovative product solutions is important to the whole team at Acopia.

We understand the need for all of us to do more and we constantly review our processes and practices looking for opportunities to improve on what we're already doing.

As a family business, and looking to the future when my own children join the team, I want to be proud of our own contributions that help to protect the environment for all our children.



Russell Lynes,  
Managing Director, Acopia



# What we're doing to help our environment

We have received two important certifications in 2022 which demonstrate our on-going commitment to reducing our environmental impact.



## Acopia are carbon neutral

We are proud to report that we have achieved Carbon Neutral status in 2022 as verified by Carbon Neutral Britain and we are in partnership with the Woodland Fund to offset our carbon emissions which we continue to monitor closely.

## Acopia is FSC® Chain Of Custody Certified

**Procure with confidence from our range of FSC® Certified products.**

Have the reassurance that every step of the process is guaranteed by the Chain of Custody which remains unbroken right through to production – from the forest to the final packaging product.

We are committed to ensuring the FSC® paper resources we use come from responsibly managed forests, protecting vulnerable habitats.



## A world of possibilities



Making a positive impact with the sustainable products we both use and supply is critical at Acopia.

My role around continuous sustainable innovation means we can be sure we are using and recommending the latest best-in-class products.



**Bruce Gardner,**  
Supply Chain Manager, Acopia





# Using packaging responsibly

Using sustainable packaging has always been important to us.

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From FSC accredited to 100% recycled boxes, to paper void fill to swapping out plastic tape to more cost efficient paper tape - our customers receive parcels from us that are 100% eco-friendly, right down to the paper document wallet.

We also want to make it easy for our customers receiving their orders from us to recycle or reuse our packaging.





# Standards and accreditations



## Carbon Neutral

Based on our energy use and recycling rates for 2020-2021, we have successfully achieved Carbon Neutral status and completely off-set the resources we have used.



## Ecovadis

We have joined forces with over 100,000 companies to rate their practices and procedures against a universal scorecard. We acknowledge there is always room for improvement as we work to support improved performance and continue to reduce our impact.



## Sedex

Acopia are part of a community of businesses that champion sustainable business practices and secure sustainably throughout their supply chains.



## FSC® Chain Of Custody Certified

Achieving FSC® certification demonstrates our on-going commitment to bringing rigour to our supply chain by preserving habitats, diversity and local people's welfare.



European  
Safe  
Logistics  
Association

## European Safe Logistics Association

As part of our commitment to advancing safety and reducing impact when transporting and distributing goods, Acopia are members of the European Safe Logistics Association.



## ISO 9001 and 14001

We hold both these important certifications that demonstrate our ongoing commitment to quality built into our goods and services as well as the environmental management standard.







# Our recycling rates

We recycle and reuse as much as possible, making the most of precious resources.

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From April 2021 to March 2022, we recycled:

 **93** tons  
of paper

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 **11** tons  
of wood

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 **103** tons  
of plastic

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 **28** tons  
other recyclable waste  
from the warehouse

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A portrait of Wayne Lynes, a man with short brown hair and blue eyes, wearing a light blue button-down shirt. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred office setting with a desk and computer monitors. A large teal shape is overlaid on the left side of the image.

## Helping others on their sustainability journey

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Learning what's important to our customers is important to me, and they want to play their part in minimising impact and using new technologies and products that help them on this journey.

In my role I get to see the tangible results our products have in reducing plastic, reducing waste and ultimately our customer's carbon footprint. To be in a position to be able to support these changes is a real privilege.

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Wayne Lynes,  
Commercial Director, Acopia

# Pallet wrap plastic savings for 2022

In 2022, we helped our customers reduce their environmental impact through plastic waste reduction using iWrap High Performance Film.

We prevented: **224,287** kilograms  
of plastic entering waste streams and landfill.

Why is this important? Each ton of plastic reduction creates 6 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> during its lifecycle.

As a country – we use over 150,000 tons of pallet wrap a year 2.5 tons would fill just 1 double decker bus. We all need to do more to reduce our plastic use and plastic waste together.

Your suppliers need to be counterparts in your Net Zero ambitions and we actively work with our customers to reduce their carbon footprint.

## Our approach

<b>Prevention – Carbon Removal</b>	Understanding where you are now and the resources you're using and your 'carbon hotspots'
<b>Best Practice – Carbon Reduction</b>	Identify the opportunities to reduce single use plastic
<b>Continue Your Journey to Carbon Neutral – Carbon Offset</b>	After carbon removal and carbon reduction opportunities have been exhausted, we help you to carbon offset the rest

We help with management of reductions to reduce your avoidable emissions before the final step to offsetting with a quality carbon offsetting programme.



# Social impact – our charitable work

As a business we feel that we have a social responsibility to do all we can to support charitable causes, making substantial donations to a charity known as The Grace Trust.

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## *The* GRACE TRUST

The Grace Trust is a grant making charity which has been established for nearly 50 years and it is run entirely voluntarily, awarding grants to a wide range of charitable causes. It provides Acopia with a valuable service as it applies a comprehensive and stringent selection procedure before a grant is made to a charity. We are therefore completely assured that the money we donate goes to bona fide charities that have been thoroughly vetted.

Through The Grace Trust we support a wide range of charitable needs worldwide. It also enables us to support over 500 national and local life-saving charities such as the Air Ambulance and the RNLI throughout the country.



Alzheimer's  
Research UK  
Defeating Dementia

Believe in  
children  
Barnardo's

 BritishRedCross

unicef 

 GREAT  
ORMOND  
STREET  
HOSPITAL  
CHARITY

HELP for  
HEROES  
SUPPORT FOR OUR WOUNDED

 Lifeboats

NSPCC   
Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.

 CANCER  
RESEARCH  
UK

 Save the Children.





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We support over 500 national and local life-saving charities such as the Air Ambulance.

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# Protecting our coastline – a metre at a time

Being located close to the sea, sustainability and reducing impact on the environment has always been important to us.

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That's why we partnered with the **Big Blue Ocean Cleanup**, supporting their Marine Nature Reserve protection scheme.

The international clean-up programme, which we are part of, removes microplastics and plastic debris from our coastlines. We sponsor the Marine Nature Reserve, helping to protect our coastal environments and wildlife. Through this initiative, we are able to sponsor a unique part of the coast in the UK – achieving protection for vulnerable and endangered species one metre at a time.



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Through this initiative, we are able to sponsor a unique part of the coast in the UK.





# Easy carbon neutral purchasing

Change starts with small steps that have the power to be transformative.

Working together we can all achieve change faster, making it easy for your business to procure sustainably.

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Through our partnership with Carbon Neutral Britain, you can now completely offset your purchases with us on items such as pallet wrap and protective packaging – and the list is growing.

Receive official certificates detailing your Carbon Offset Verification as well as a complete report of your complete annual offset to demonstrate your organisations' climate impact reversal.

Get in touch to find out more about the Acopia Carbo Neutral Purchasing Programme.



HM Government







# Generating our own electricity

Being located on the South Coast, in one of the sunniest parts of the country means we can reduce our energy consumption.

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In 2019 we fitted 111 solar panels which generated 31,988kw from April 2021 to March 2022.

In addition to this, all our mains grid electricity is from 100% renewable sources.

On top of this, our Head Office and Warehouse at Global Point is fitted with sensor lighting that switches off after no activity.

We use LED lighting to enable us to use the least possible mains power.





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We've generated 31,998KW of electricity. In addition to this, all our mains grid electricity is from 100% renewable sources.

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# Powering our electric vehicles



Our charging point at head office that is used to charge our electric fleet vehicles is powered by energy from 100% renewable sources.

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PAR





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The focus is on process improvement from saving customers time to reducing their carbon footprint.

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# Greener shipping and distribution

Products are accessed through the MyAcopia portal which is at the heart of Acopia's sustainability programme.

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This means we can provide efficiencies and affect real change when it comes to procurement with a completely sustainable approach.

The focus is on process improvement from saving customers time to reducing their carbon footprint.

Customers can have their consumables supplied directly to store location, no matter how many, which saves on their storage costs as well as reducing their environmental impact.



Acopia organises deliveries through shared logistics wherever possible and couriers which are carbon neutral. This all helps to eliminate wasted mile journeys too by allowing customers to choose to order with as few deliveries as possible.





# What else are we working on for you?

It has always been our aim to offer our customers innovative solutions that we know to be important to support sustainable growth.

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## Our 30PLUS™ range

Greener choices such as Acopia's 30PLUS™ range of Plastic Packaging Tax beating products with recycled content all provide reassurance that these plastic products are the most eco-friendly options available.

We now have over 80 products in this range.

**[Find out more here →](#)**



## NEST™ eco-friendly packaging range

If this has inspired you to find out more about eco-friendly packaging, why not take a look at NEST. This is a complete range of sustainable packaging that includes mailing boxes and paper tape, protective wrapping and void fill, mailers and paper document wallets.

With NEST, you're able to choose a sustainable product alternative for every element of your packaging, it's the easy way to go green with your packaging –

[Find out more here →](#)

## Plastic Audit

If you're interested in understanding how the plastic packaging you use is contributing to your carbon footprint – we can help.

We can assess your current plastic pallet wrap usage and recommend ways of reducing it.

[Find out more here →](#)



# acopia®

**iWrap**  
Intelligent pallet wrap

**iTack**

**[gripfilm]**  
and gripping strength for you

**Miniml**

**NEST™**  
SWIFT - SECURE - SUSTAINABLE

**velo**

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