

Wilkhahn



# Environmental Statement 2009

Occupational Health & Safety Report  
Quality Report

## Preamble

Wilkhahn has been among the first enterprises to join EMAS, the European Community's voluntary Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EC Regulation No. 761/2001). At the same time, Wilkhahn maintains certified environmental and quality management systems, in accordance to the internationally recognised standards ISO 14001:2005 and ISO 9001:2008.

Revision, certification and validation have been carried out by the TÜV Nord Cert GmbH & Co.KG and the TÜV Nord Cert Umweltgutachter GmbH. The Hanover-Hildesheim Chamber of Industry and Commerce has registered the Wilkhahn site in Bad Münder, Germany, in the national register of EMAS organisations. In the European Community's register of EMAS organisations, Wilkhahn Bad Münder is registered as No. D-133-00055.

To ensure that environmental management is embodied in the corporate management and to use resulting synergies whenever possible, environmental concerns as well as aspects of quality and health and occupational safety are combined in the company's integrated management system.

Wilkhahn has committed to constantly improving its integrated management system and undergoes external revision once per year. With this Environmental Statement, containing the year report on the company's environmental performance, we inform the public about the status quo of the Wilkhahn Environmental Programme and efforts undertaken in the fields of quality management and occupational and health safety in the year 2009.

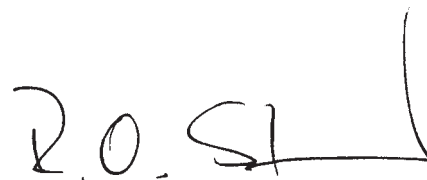
The next Environmental Statement will be drawn up in March 2010. The next comprehensive Environmental Statement is scheduled for March 2011. With the validation and certification of the Wilkhahn environmental management system, we wish to make a contribution to the sustainable conservation of the environment and, at the same time, to fulfil our active responsibility towards society.



Dr. Jochen Hahne  
President



Holger Jahnke  
President International Markets



Ralf-Olaf Stender  
Chairman of Works Council

# Socio-ecological aims and their state of implementation

| Aim  | Responsible Unit(s)  | State of implementation  |
|--|--|--|
| <p><b>Energie</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Reducing the consumption of heating energy by 7.5% compared to 2007</li> <li>· Reducing electric energy consumption in three halls by 12 per cent compared to 2007</li> </ul>                                   | <p>Facilitymanagement<br/>Environmental Management</p>                                 | <p>As one milestone of the year 2008, a modern heat-and-power plant has started operating at the Wilkhahn site in Bad Münde, Germany, which produces thermal and electric energy by means of renewable energy sources. The increased efficiency level deriving from modern co-generation technique has led in 2008 to savings in heat energy of 26.5 per cent.</p> <p>Improving insulation of the Wilkhahn production pavilions by new windows and doors with a better heat transfer coefficient (K-value), and the renewal of the powder-coating hall's rooftop insulation have been further important measures in 2008, to increase efficiency in heat energy consumption. Further steps, e.g. optimising the return temperature of production site's heating cycle, have been started.</p> <p>To reduce electric energy consumption, the lighting system of three production halls has been changed from 58W- to more efficient 51W-neon light bars. Practically the same quality of illumination can thus be achieved with less electricity consumption.</p> |
| <p><b>Hazardous substances</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Further reduction and/or substitution of hazardous substances (solvent-based adhesives, solvents and diluting agents) by 10 per cent compared to 2007</li> </ul>                                   | <p>Head of Production,<br/>Environmental Management,<br/>Product Development</p>       | <p>In December 2008, test runs with solvent-free adhesives in the upholstery proved to be successful. By May, 2009, production of the FS-range (models 211/1 to 213/8) will be completely switched towards a solvent-free gluing system. This does not only result in a decisive drop of VOC-emissions, but furthermore contributes to saving electricity and water.</p>   |
| <p><b>Water</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Reducing the amounts of hazardous substances by 5% per product unit.</li> <li>· Reducing water consumption in the production processes.</li> </ul>  | <p>Waste Management Representative,<br/>Head of Production</p>                         | <p>Due to improved processes in the upholstery department, the humidifying system in hall 7 is no longer needed. Disassembling the humidifier is envisaged for May 2009 and will permanently save the yearly amount of approx. 500.000 litres needed until now.</p>  |
| <p><b>Waste</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Optimising material cycles.</li> </ul>  | <p>Waste Management Representative,<br/>Head of Production</p>                         | <p>The amount of waste related to furniture production has been minimised, and the segregating of waste fractions further improved. Introducing a multi-cycle system for oily cleaning cloths contributes to the aim of minimising waste, while extensive sorting and segregating of waste fractions is being continued.</p>   |
| <p><b>Paper</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Reducing paper consumption in administration areas by 10% by 12/2010 (compared to paper use in relation to turnover of index year 2007).</li> <li>· Reducing the number of catalogue pages per product</li> </ul> | <p>International Logistics (IT Group), Environmental Management<br/><br/>Marketing</p> | <p>For A4-sized papers intended for copying and general communication purposes, the reduction aim has as yet not been met. A central procurement policy poses an obstacle when it comes to allocating paper consumption in different administrative units.</p> <p>Developing a new concept for Wilkhahn brochures as a cross-channel-medium (combining print- and web-based information) has been successfully tested and partly translated into action. Merging information from individual fact sheets towards fewer bundled leaflets added to realising a decrease in paper use.</p>  |

# Socio-ecological aims and their state of implementation

| Aim  | Responsible Unit(s)   | State of implementation  |
|--|---|--|
| <p><b>Verpackung</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Optimising the re-use rate of ecological transport packaging from 60 to 80 runs</li> </ul>   | <p>Logistics, Packaging Circle, Environmental Management</p>                          | <p>With view to the high export rate of more than 70 per cent, the aim has to be critically reviewed in the light of its overall ecological effectiveness.</p>   |
| <p><b>Environmental communication</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Further improvement of internal and external environmental communication</li> <li>· Simplifying the environmental controlling</li> <li>· Increasing transparency and topicality</li> <li>· Integrating environmental aims and objectives into the MBOs of executives</li> </ul>   | <p>Corporate Communication</p>  | <p>From July, 2008, the new position of the Project Manager Ecology has been established. Its central task is to inform Wilkhahn employees and external stakeholders about socio-ecological topics at Wilkhahn.</p> <p>The central material database of Wilkhahn has been enriched by ecological profiles for the top-selling products.</p> <p>The portal "Green", embedded in the Wilkhahn website, offers since May 2008 in-depths information of the company's and its products' environmental performances.</p> <p>A consecutive step is the development of socio-ecological indicators, which inform about "Green" progress in the company's performance.</p>   |
| <p><b>Product development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Updating the ecologically oriented catalogue of materials, particularly in view of the scope for using recycling material and renewable raw materials (materials cycle and renewable materials)</li> </ul>  | <p>Product Development, Project Manager Ecology</p>                                   | <p>Updating the ecologically oriented catalogue of materials has been started. Consulting external experts, e.g. on bio composite materials made from renewable sources, and collaborating with external product designers assure that ecological aspects of innovative materials and techniques are also considered, when developing new products.</p>  |
| <p><b>Suppliers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Achieving continuous socio-ecological improvements at the processes of our suppliers' sites</li> <li>· Regular quality and environmental audits to be carried out at chosen Wilkhahn suppliers.</li> <li>· Processes involving Internal suppliers: increased efficiency and improved performance of the quality management system.</li> </ul> | <p>Quality Management Representative, Environmental Management, Procurement Dept.</p> | <p>In December 2008, Wilkhahn appointed a management representative to foster global recognition of the core norms of the International Labour Organisation (ILO). Signing an international framework agreement with the workers' unions of the wood and metal processing industries (BHI and IGM), Wilkhahn made a big step towards assuring workers' interests on a global scale: a ban of children and forced labour and discrimination at the workplace thus do not only continue to be binding rules at Wilkhahn, but also reaches towards Wilkhahn suppliers. Environmental responsibility, fighting corruption and guaranteeing fair wages form further topics which have been included since January 2009 in a revised supplier's questionnaire.</p> |

| Aim  | Responsible Unit(s)  | State of Implementation   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Processes</b>   |  |   |
| · Improving the quality of surface finishing in table top production   | Head of Production   | By means of reorganisations in the production processes and investments in leading sanding and calibration technology yet another raising of the surface and overall product quality could be achieved for the Wilkhahn table programmes. As a consistent next step, new high-standard varnishing facilities will be handed over to production in May 2009, thus improving the quality and environmental performance of the finishing processes |
| · Quality assurance in dispatch and logistics.   | International Logistics  |   |
| <b>Health &amp; Safety</b>   |  |   |
| · Achieving the AOK health insurance bonus.  | Human Resources  | As before, Wilkhahn succeeded in obtaining a bonus for the year 2008 on the health insurance fees of the AOK Lower Saxony. Due to changes in legislation, this measure will not be continued.   |
| · Continuous reduction of work-related long-term sick leaves<br>· Continuous reduction of work-related accidents<br>· Holistic health care programme | Human Resources in collaboration with appointee for occupational health & safety | The development of work-related long-term sick leaves followed in 2008 a negative trend. With interviews intended for the prevention of sicknesses and for vocational rehabilitation, as well as by reorganisation of working areas and investments in new technology, Wilkhahn strives hard to turn this unfortunate development. A team managing precautionary health issues at Wilkhahn has thus drawn up a roadmap with prioritised tasks.  |
| · Reducing noise emissions in truck transport on the plant premises by 15 dB(A)  | Facility Management  | Installing a sound damping ceiling has successfully cut down noise emissions in the offices of the export dept. by the envisaged 50 per cent (= 3dB), whereas the truck noise level remains unchanged. In light of the overall economic situation, planned investments for a noise reducing asphalt solution had to be withheld.  |
| · Reduction the noise level in the offices of the export dept. by 50%  | Facility Management  |   |
| · Improving internal cooperation between Wilkhahn administration and production  | Facility Management and wiege  | In December 2008, the Wilkhahn canteen has been changed into an attractive meeting place, thus also improving cooperation between administrative and production related Wilkhahn units.   |

| Input                             | 2007      | 2008      | Output   | 2007      | 2008      |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Raw materials (t)</b>          |           |           | <b>Waste for recycling (t)</b>                           |           |           |
| Ferrous metals                    | 566.8     | 544.9     | Paper/cardboard  | 95.6      | 159.0     |
| Aluminium                         | 333.1     | 333.7     | Wood and wood chips                                      | 150.0     | 122.0     |
| Wood                              | 524.0     | 459.8     | Ferrous metals   | 32.3      | 34.5      |
| Plastics                          | 427.7     | 427.3     | Leather  | 6.5       | 10.8      |
| PVC                               | 5.4       | 5.2       | Plastics (packaging)                                     | n. s.     | 8.7       |
| Fabrics                           | 48.5      | 46.6      | Aluminium  | 5.3       | 6.9       |
| Leather                           | 21.1      | 20.8      | Fabrics  | 4.6       | 3.7       |
|                                   |           |           | Fluorescent tubes  | 0.3       | 0.5       |
| <b>Manufacturing supplies (t)</b> |           |           | <b>Waste for disposal (t)</b>                            |           |           |
| Paper/cardboard (packaging)       | 100.7     | 96.8      | Mixed municipal waste <sup>1</sup>                       | 152.1     | 220.8     |
| Plastics (packaging)              | 33.9      | 32.6      | Aqueous liquid wastes <sup>2</sup>                       | (41.8)    | 32.5      |
| Water-based lacquer               | 19.3      | 18.6      | Waste machining emulsions and solvent mixes <sup>3</sup> | (6.5)     | 13.0      |
| Coating powders                   | 9.5       | 9.1       | Discarded equipment                                      | 0         | 9.75      |
| Solvents, diluting agents         | 2.2       | 2.2       | Mixed construction and demolition waste                  | 0         | 7.9       |
| Dispersion adhesives              | 7.1       | 6.8       | Waste paint and varnish including sludges <sup>4</sup>   | (17.9)    | 2.2       |
| Solvent-based adhesives           | 10.7      | 9.8       | Batteries  | 0.9       | 1.1       |
|                                   |           |           | Others <sup>5</sup>                                      | n. s.     | 2.6       |
| <b>Energy (kWh)</b>               |           |           | <b>CO<sub>2</sub> emission (kg)</b>                      |           |           |
| Electricity                       | 2,850,000 | 2,442,677 | Electricity <sup>6</sup>                                 | 1,072,896 | 371,707   |
| (of which from CHP <sup>0</sup> ) | n. s.     | 1,845,078 | Natural gas <sup>7</sup>                                 | 1,950,904 | 1,568,892 |
| Natural gas                       | 5,823,595 | 4,683,260 | Heating oil <sup>7</sup>                                 | 191,397   | 253,952   |
| Heating oil                       | 605,059   | 802,812   |  |           |           |
| Heat (from CHP)                   | n. s.     | 1,691,000 |  |           |           |
| <b>Water (m<sup>3</sup>)</b>      |           |           | <b>Water (m<sup>3</sup>)</b>                             |           |           |
| Drinking water (total)            | 4,775     | 4,717     | Sanitation   | 4,066     | 4,173     |
|                                   |           |           | Evaporation (humidifying system)                         | 649       | 494       |
|                                   |           |           | Water used in processes                                  | 60        | 50        |

We have redefined our goals and objectives as a result of the three management systems of the environment, quality and occupational health and safety being merged into one integrated management system.

With a view to achieving continuous improvement, we prepare an annual programme with environmental aims and objectives, quality aims and objectives, and occupational health and safety aims and objectives. These are agreed upon with management to whom necessary capacities and funds are made available for implementing such measures. Progress is monitored by means of internal audits.

<sup>0</sup> CHP = combined heat and power plant

<sup>1</sup> EWC No. 200301; formerly displayed as "industrial waste similar to household refuse"

<sup>2</sup> EWC No. 161002; formerly displayed as "aqueous varnish and lacquer sludge"

<sup>3</sup> EWC No. 070703, 120109, 140602; formerly displayed as "drilling and grinding oil emulsions"

<sup>4</sup> EWC No. 080111 – 080113; formerly displayed as "varnish and lacquer sludge (non-aqueous)"

<sup>5</sup> EWC No. 150110, 160504, 160507

<sup>6</sup> Producing electricity by using renewable resources is considered to be climate neutral (0 kg carbon dioxide/kWh)

<sup>7</sup> A new conversion factor has been introduced (GEMIS 4.2 of the Öko-Insitut, Germany); emission values for 2007 have thus been adjusted.

# GÜLTIGKEITSERKLÄRUNG **TUV NORD**



gemäß den Vorgaben der  
**Verordnung (EG) Nr. 761/2001 i.d.F. vom 03.02.2006**  
 über die freiwillige Beteiligung von Organisationen an einem Gemeinschaftssystem  
 für das Umweltmanagement und die Umweltbetriebsprüfung (EMAS)

Nach Durchführung der Prüfung gemäß dieser Verordnung wird bestätigt für

**Wilkhahn**  
**Wilkening + Hahne GmbH + Co. KG**  
**Fritz-Hahne-Straße 8**  
**31848 Bad Münder**  
**Deutschland**

dass

- die aktualisierte Umwelterklärung 2009 der Organisation am Standort Bad Münder den Anforderungen der Verordnung entspricht und
- die Daten und Informationen der aktualisierten Umwelterklärung 2009 zuverlässig und glaubwürdig die Umweltaspekte am genannten Standort wiedergeben.

Hannover, 2009-03-30

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This Environmental Statement has been compiled by Wilkhahn, Wilkening + Hahne GmbH+Co. KG at the site Fritz-Hahne-Straße 8, 31848 Bad Münder-Eimbeckhausen, Germany. It has been validated by an accredited environmental auditor. Internal environmental audits form the basis of our regular management reviews.

The Environmental Statement is updated and validated on a yearly basis, and Wilkhahn undergoes annual certification audits in conformity with DIN ISO 9001:2008 and 14001:2005.

The next Environmental Statement will be published online in March 2010.

Bad Münder-Eimbeckhausen,  
 28 March 2009

*Dr. Jochen Hanne*

Dr. Jochen Hanne  
 President



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