



Taking  
Responsibility.

ACCO Brands ANZ  
2023 Sustainability Update







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The information contained within this document is true and correct as at the date of publication December 21<sup>st</sup> 2023

A vibrant green background featuring a stylized sunburst or leaf pattern. The pattern consists of numerous overlapping, curved, leaf-like shapes radiating from the center, creating a sense of growth and energy. The colors range from a bright lime green to a slightly darker, muted green.

# **ACCO Brands Sustainable Practices**

# Recycled Content in Product and Packaging

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We are committed to reducing the environmental impact of our products and packaging, including increasing the use of recycled materials. The use of recycled materials is one of the ways we support the continued growth of a local and global circular economy, ensuring materials recovered and recycled are a valued resource.



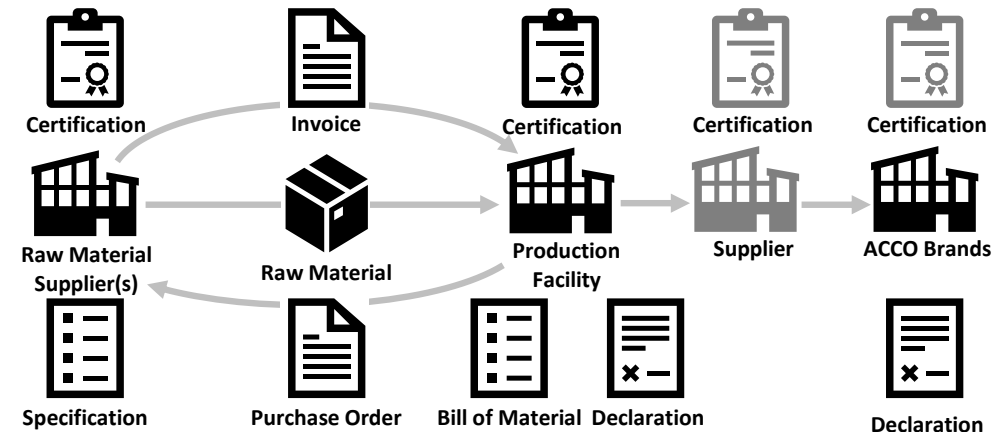
# Recycled Content in Product and Packaging

As we continue to work towards our sustainability targets and strive to bring the most sustainably conscious product range to the Australian and New Zealand market, we consider all parts of a product's life cycle and innovative ways to improve the sustainability of our products. Through increasing the recycled content in our products and packaging we support our customers in sustainable procurement, meeting industry targets, and complying with developing local and international product stewardship regulation.

Consumers can be confident in our claims about our products and their sustainable attributes. We strive to specify the percentage of recycled content and the type and source of recycled material clearly and accurately in compliance to the recognised standard (AS 14021). We work closely with our manufacturing partners to ensure that claims are substantiated and verifiable, with a traceability framework of reliable evidence and chain of custody beyond the production facility. Our framework and claims are continuously reviewed, ensuring compliance to developing local and international standards and requirements, ensuring the sustainability of our products increases and claims remain trustworthy.

We prioritise the use of verifiable post-consumer recycled materials in our product and packaging, especially that with independent third-party certification or verification such as FSC® (Forest Stewardship Council), GRS (Global Recycled Standard) and recognised ecolabels. Where possible we certify to third-party environmental and sustainability standards, with clear communication on product and packaging so that customers can purchase with confidence.

## Recycled Content Evidence Traceability Framework

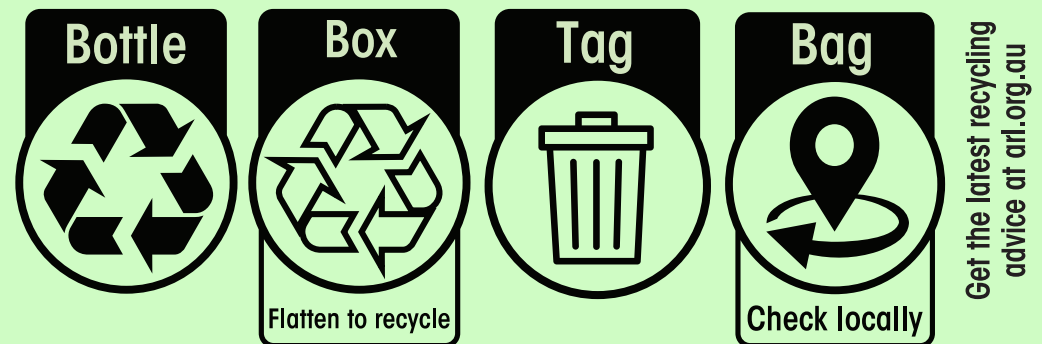


# Packaging Sustainability

We have continued to improve the sustainability of our packaging, with several projects completed during 2023 and released into the market. Further projects remain in development and additional opportunities have been identified through assessment to the APCO Sustainable Packaging Guidelines (SPG). Our continued efforts to eliminate soft plastic and other problematic packaging has resulted in more of our range converting to plastic-free cardboard based packaging with recycled content where possible, ensuring recyclable packaging made from a renewable material. We are also continuing our phase-out of moulded expanded polystyrene packaging, supporting the industry roadmap, upcoming bans and regulatory requirements.

The Australasian Recycling Label (ARL) has now been implemented on over **1,100** products since we commenced in 2019. We have continued to reassess the recyclability of our packaging due to recent changes, most notably the introduction of the Check Locally instruction and supporting online tool, and the upcoming New Zealand standards for kerbside collection. The 2025 National Packaging Targets remain front of mind and we welcome the Australian regulatory reforms to follow. Mandating packaging design standards, minimum recycled content requirements and other measures nationally will strengthen our collective journey to a circular economy.

We look forward to reporting our progress and achievements in our packaging sustainability journey, while strive for all local branded products to have recyclable packaging, labelled with the ARL and other improvements in packaging sustainability.





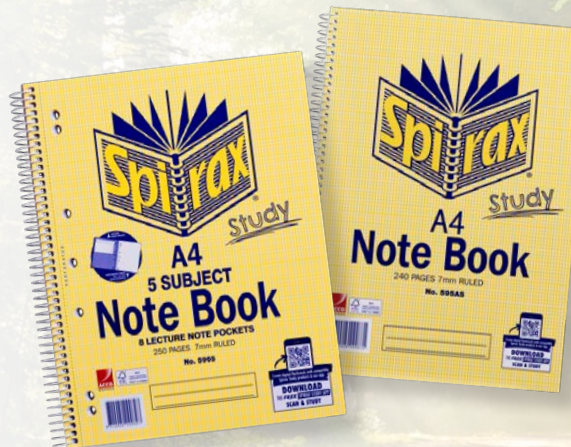
# Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) Certification

We are committed to the responsible and sustainable sourcing of paper, wood and other forest materials in our products and packaging. Our FSC certification and FSC certified products are one of the ways we support sustainable products and a responsible supply chain.

ACCO Brands Australia and New Zealand have been FSC certified since 2013, managing a robust chain of custody management system to ensure FSC certified products are correctly sourced through our supply chain and supplied to our customers. We strive to eliminate deforestation and illegal logging in our supply chain and ensure compliance to relevant laws, requiring the virgin materials in our products to be legally and sustainably harvested. Our FSC certified management system is audited annually by our certifier and provides one of the frameworks to ensure a low risk of illegally logged timber being used in our products.

We currently have over a thousand FSC certified products in our range, including At A Glance Diaries, Colourful Days Paper, ColourHide Notebooks, Columbia Pencils, Derwent Academy Pencils, Marbig Dividers and Indices, Marbig Wallets, Sasco Planners, and Spirax Notebooks. These products are marked with the FSC label and are supplied to our customers with an FSC claim. By choosing our FSC certified products, our customers are supporting responsible management of the world's forests. Look for our FSC certified products, marked with the FSC label.

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is a global, not for profit organization dedicated to the promotion of responsible forest management worldwide. FSC defines standards based on agreed principles for responsible forest stewardship that are supported by environmental, social, and economic stakeholders. To learn more about FSC, visit the **FSC ANZ website** ([www.anz.fsc.org](http://www.anz.fsc.org)).



The mark of  
responsible forestry  
FSC® C116493

# Good Environmental Choice Australia (GECA) Certification



We are committed to increasing our range of products certified to independent third-party environmental and social sustainability standards. Our GECA certified products are one of the ways we support our customers in making better choices for people and planet.

We're proud to have been a GECA licensee since 2010. Our Northfork range includes [products certified](#) to GECA's Cleaning Products and Personal Care Products standards.

GECA certified products must meet science-based criteria for a wide range of environmental, human health and social impacts across their entire lifecycle while proving that they perform as promised. Criteria include impact areas such as biodegradability, toxicity, energy use, reducing water consumption and minimising material use. The standards also consider the social impact, ensuring safer and more ethical working conditions for employees and the supply chain.

We are continuing the review of our range for opportunities to support the GECA ecolabel outside of our chemical products, providing our customers with confidence that the products have a lower impact on the environment and human health, are ethically made and fit for purpose. GECA's standards recognise environmentally responsible products and improve the integrity of environmental and sustainability claims.

GECA (Good Environmental Choice Australia) is an independent not-for-profit organisation with over twenty-three years of experience engaging with stakeholders across the entire lifecycle of products and services, including running Australia's only not-for-profit multi-sector ecolabelling program. GECA's third-party assessment procedures and robust lifecycle ecolabel standards following internationally recognised [ISO 14024](#) principles mean that GECA certification is trusted and rigorous.

When buyers see the GECA ecolabel, they have confidence that the product has been independently assessed to have a lower environmental, health, and social impact! To learn more about GECA, visit the **GECA website** ([www.geca.eco](http://www.geca.eco)).



## One ecolabel says it all

- Environment
- Human Health
- Social Impacts
- Fit for Purpose







# Writing Instruments in Focus

# Sustainable from production to packaging

**Artline®**

Artline has always set a high standard in writing instruments. After launching the Artline 70, 90 and 30 over 70 years ago, Artline's world-leading ink formulations, known for their unmatched performance and consistency, have remained the cornerstone of Artline's success.

Over the years, we've continually raised the bar for what customers can expect from their writing instruments. Artline's commitment to quality extends beyond the pen and ink itself. As we embark on our journey towards more sustainable practices, including transitioning to plastic-free packaging, our commitment to providing quality writing instruments remains unchanged.

Artline's Carbon Offset Program\* stands as a testament to the brand's dedication to ensuring we work towards a more sustainable future. Across the core range of Artline writing instrument

products\*, equivalent greenhouse gas emissions made during production have been offset through the purchase of UN Certified Emission Reductions (CERs). This process is an important first step in helping to reduce our carbon footprint and stands as a testament to our dedication, ensuring that Artline quality aligns with a more environmentally conscious future.

\*The following Artline writing instruments have had their carbon footprint, resulting from production, offset: Artline 200, 70, 90, 100, 700, 577, 579 ranges of hangsell and box stock.

**Artline®**

The earth flows better with Artline





# Sustainable from production to packaging

Artline®

In addition to the Carbon Offset Program, Artline is fully dedicated to eliminating single-use plastic from our packaging. This year we have launched the new hangsell blister packs that have transitioned over to a 100% cardboard design.

These changes are starting to flow through to the market now, with Artline 70's, 90's and 200's all part of the initial launch.

This upgrade to the packaging will see over

**650K** of blister card plastic\* removed from waste streams across

Australia and New Zealand annually.



\*Volumes based on 2023 ACCO Brands ANZ sales data

# Sustainable moves for heritage range

columbia

Being a rich part of Australia's writing history for over 80 years, Columbia pencils have always ensured products are not only fit for purpose but embrace sustainable practices where viable. All Columbia pencils are sourced from FSC® certified wood, ensuring sustainable practices are maintained all the way through the production process.

This year, Columbia celebrates its transition away from single use plastics and into sustainably sourced cardboard packaging. Across the Cadet and Copperplate range, all blisters and polybags are to be replaced by newly designed packs that showcase the product vibrantly on shelf, while ensuring pencil stability and integrity is upheld before it gets in the hand of customers.

This update is taking place now, with stock beginning to make its way to the market across Australia and New Zealand. This change will see over

**119K** single use blister packs and over  
**46K** polybags\* removed from waste streams annually.

Be sure to look out for this Back To School and stay tuned for more updates soon for the Columbia brand.

PREVIOUS



NEW



\*Volumes based on 2023 ACCO Brands ANZ sales data



# New look Texta Liquid Chalk packs



Renowned for its range of twistable crayons and colouring markers, Texta's next best-selling range of Liquid Chalk Markers continue their transition into more sustainably focused packaging. With its unique ink composition, packaging support and protection for the markers was an integral focus in the design process. Each pack incorporates form fitted boxes for the markers, with reinforced cardboard to ensure long term protection while on shelf.

Across both single hangsell and multipack configurations, the updated packaging is set to reduce over

**86K** single use blister shells and

**11K** plastic wallets\* from landfill each year.

This update is in addition to the already popular update for Texta Zoom and Nylorite products transitioning over to plastic free packaging in time for this Back To School period.



\*Volumes based on 2023 ACCO Brands ANZ sales data

# Site Management



# Waste Management

We are committed to reducing the environmental impact of our operations, including improving the efficiency in our resource use and waste management. The responsible management of resources and waste are ways we are seeking to improve our operational sustainability.

We are continuing to investigate opportunities within our operations to reducing the waste we generate and increasing the waste we divert from landfill. Determining our current waste profile through on-site inspections and waste audits, we have identified opportunities for short-term and long-term waste reduction and diversion. Working with our waste service providers we are refining our collections and our framework to accurately monitor and report our waste and recycling.

Our focus is on ways to empower a waste-aware culture, improve our segregation at initial disposal and reduce contamination to ensure value in the material resources collected in our offices and warehouses. Disposing of product and packaging is part of our operation and that of our customers and other downstream partners, as such a focus on designing out waste and improving recyclability will support our and our customer initiatives. We look forward to reporting on our future developments in team initiatives, waste collection and waste diversion.

In our previous report we showcased our transition from traditional lighting to more efficient LED option in our Arndell Park warehouse and Queanbeyan chemical production facility. We have continued the investigation into the improvement for our other sites, particularly our Kings Park head office and warehouse. Reducing our resource usage and increasing the sustainability of our resources is not limited to the transition to more efficient lighting. We are finalising the framework for accurately monitoring and reporting our resource use, from our printing and waste paper, to our utilities and their associated indirect (scope two) emissions.



The background of the slide is a dark teal color with a repeating pattern of lighter teal, elongated, leaf-like shapes. These shapes are oriented diagonally, creating a sense of movement and texture.

**Taking Responsibility.**



## For more information

Stay up-to-date with quarterly updates on our sustainability reports, progress and initiatives. For customer's seeking information and opportunities or need support with ACCO Brands ANZ and products, please contact us with the information below:

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### Website:

[www.accobrand.com.au](http://www.accobrand.com.au)

[www.accobrand.co.nz](http://www.accobrand.co.nz)

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