Environmental aspects

What are we doing?

The environment and ecology have played an increasingly important role in our corporate activities for many years. Now it is the first time that we are presenting our measures and results officially. In 2013, the factory in Niederurnen, Switzerland signed a target agreement with the Federal Office for the Environment on CO2 tax exemption in order to increase energy efficiency and reduce CO2 emissions at the same time. The set targets therefore were developed in close cooperation with the Energy Agency for Industry (EnAW), an organization commissioned by the federal government. The defined targets for energy efficiency and CO2 intensity are reviewed and reported annually. A major goal was the elimination of fossil fuels. Today, the Niederurnen site is fully connected to the district heating network of the cantonal waste incineration plant. In addition, thermal refurbishment of buildings and energy efficiency measures for lighting, motors, compressors and other drives are constantly being driven forward. The use of photovoltaic systems, on our buildings' roof, have influence the decline of using external energy resources.



Measures



Solar systems & renewable energies



Material recycling of fiber cement



Use

efficient

drives & motors

Conversion to LED Lighting



Waste

Use of regional recycling raw materials



Energetic renovation



Rail freight transport



Elimination fossil fuels

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Connection to district heating network of KVA Linth



CO₂-emission: Target path / Actual value

* Source: Management Summary 2020 / Business Energy Agency since 2017 Connection to district heating network / Elimination of fossil fuels





Energy efficiency

increase since 2013

+21%

Production and regionality is important to us

With high quality awareness and respect for nature, Swisspearl develops and sells innovative and sustainable products made from natural raw materials. The fiber cement products are manufactured in Niederurnen, Switzerland.

Production continues today according to the patented process. Today's formulation of the fiber cement material consists of a special mixture of cement, plastic fibers, pulp, water and pigments. Even though the production process has remained basically the same over the decades, it is constantly being optimized. Today, more than ever, adaptions concern ecological aspects. The major part of the raw materials, especially the cement, comes from Switzerland and is delivered by rail freight from the nearest cement plant. About one third of the products are also transported away again by rail freight. Waste materials account for around 7.5% of the value of goods produced. Approximately ¾ of this material is recycled in the cement plant and added to new cement. Almost 100% of the excess water from the production process circulates in a closed water circuit and is recycled in the company's own wastewater treatment plant and returned directly to the production cycle.

Countries of origin of all raw materials

The majority of the raw materials required for production come from Europe, with approximately 84% of all raw materials originating in Switzerland. This saves raw material resources which enables a despension of these resources and unnecessary transport routes.

Production cycle semi-finished and finished products









Rail freight approx. 90 %



Truck approx. 8 %



