

The background image shows a grand, ornate dining room. The ceiling is decorated with intricate, colorful patterns in shades of orange, blue, and gold. Several large, multi-tiered chandeliers hang from the ceiling, casting a warm glow. The walls are covered in detailed carvings and murals. In the foreground, several round tables are set with white tablecloths, white napkins, and various glassware and silverware. The overall atmosphere is one of elegance and historical grandeur.

Environment and Society

We can look back on a long tradition of social engagement: the examination concert in the Herrenhausen Gallery held by our subsidiary E+S Rück, which offers selected soloists from Hannover University of Music, Drama and Media an invaluable opportunity to take their final examination with a large orchestra, marks its twentieth anniversary in 2017. The focus of our commitment to society is on supporting projects in the areas of research and learning, art and music as well as on encouraging the voluntary social engagement shown by our employees – not only in Germany but also at our international locations.

Environment and Society

Although the environmental impacts of our company are comparatively slight, we take our responsibility for the environment very seriously and in our Sustainability Strategy we regularly define concrete targets and measures for protecting the environment and conserving resources. The focus of our efforts is on reducing CO₂ emissions resulting from the supply of electricity and heat to our premises and from our business travel.

In 2015 we successfully converted our environmental management system to the revised international standard DIN EN ISO 14001:2015. In 2016 an independent environmental verifier validated our environmental management system for the first time in accordance with the more comprehensive EMAS III Regulation.





In the year under review we continued to follow through on the measures to reduce our energy consumption. We reached the goal of carbon neutrality for our Hannover location as defined in the Sustainability Strategy 2015 – 2017 to a level of 100%. Among other things, the changeover to renewable energy in 2012 as well as the offsetting of greenhouse gas emissions caused by air travel, district heating and paper consumption were key factors in this achievement. We track the consumption of resources in Hannover – above all water and paper –

on a regular basis and are constantly seeking to reduce it. We monitor our waste disposal according to the type and quantity of waste. We actively support local and international environmental protection initiatives.

In the area of procurement we pay close attention to our suppliers' compliance with environmental and social standards. All new and existing core suppliers are required to sign our Code of Conduct for Suppliers. Based on self-reporting and using an application-supported process, we also evaluate our suppliers according to sustainability criteria. Suppliers who are assessed critically in an Environmental, Social and Governance risk category (ESG risk category) are assigned to the blacklist. No further orders are placed with such suppliers.

Our commitment to society has a long tradition. We have been active as a sponsor of culture and social projects for several decades. Our activities extend beyond our Hannover location to encompass our subsidiaries and branches with their specific projects targeting social concerns in their own country. Content-wise, we currently concentrate our non-profit activities on the areas of research, learning, art and music as well as on assisting our employees with their voluntary contributions to society.

More information on the topic at

-  [Social Commitment](#)
-  [Website: EMAS](#)
-  [Website: Code of Conduct for suppliers](#)
-  [Website: Sustainability Strategy](#)

Operational environmental protection

With the implementation of our environmental management system in 2012, which was certified according to DIN EN ISO 14001, we put in place standard processes for dealing with environmental protection and we specified concrete measures in our environmental programme. The certification of our environmental management system according to the revised standard DIN EN ISO 14001:2015 passed off successfully in December 2016. In order to meet the statutory requirement to conduct energy audits, we published a validated EMAS III Environmental Statement for the first time in 2016.

The focus of our efforts to conserve the environment is on reducing CO₂ emissions associated with the supply of electricity and heat to our premises as well as those caused by our business travel. We achieved our goal of operating on a carbon-neutral basis at our Hannover location to a level of 100% in the year under review. The changeover to renewable energy since 2012 and the offsetting of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from our air travel through the climate protection organisation atmosfair were key factors in this achievement. We offset

the remaining 3 % of the CO₂ emissions, deriving from the use of district heating and from paper consumption, by purchasing climate certificates for the moorland project of Friends of the Earth Germany (BUND – Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland) as well as by supporting a hydroelectric plant in Honduras and biomass plant in India. Having already converted our power supply at the Hannover location to renewables, we now want to extend this progressively to our international offices as well. In addition, we make every effort to ensure the economical and resource-saving use of materials and raw materials such as paper and water at our offices. We record central consumption and emissions data for our Home Office in Hannover.

Furthermore, we are engaged in a number of environmental conservation projects, including for example the local initiative "Climate Alliance Hannover 2020" and the "Extreme Events and Climate Risks" working group of the Geneva Association, and we also participate in the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP).

More information on the topic at

-  [Legal framework](#)
-  [Product responsibility](#)
-  [Governance and Dialogue](#)
-  [Website: EMAS](#)
-  [Website: Sustainability Strategy](#)
-  [Website: Moorland](#)
-  [Website: CDP](#)
-  [Project Honduras](#)
-  [Project Biomass India](#)

Environmental management system

With the aid of our environmental management system certified in accordance with DIN EN ISO 14001 we review our impact on the environment and identify measures for minimising these effects wherever possible. Responsibility for the system rests with our full Executive Board.

The targets and measures pursued in the context of our environmental management system form part of our sustainability strategy and are regularly updated. Under the current Sustainability Strategy 2015 – 2017 we plan to establish an international network for sustainability issues and we intend to expand the collection of environmental data to international locations of the Group. Reporting directly to the Executive Board, the Environmental Management Officer is responsible for continuous refinement of the environmental management system; he also coordinates and advises on compliance with all legal provisions in Germany relating to the environment and takes responsibility for annual conduct of the audits that are obligatory under the management system.

In December 2016 our environmental management system was certified according to the revised international standard DIN EN ISO 14001:2015. Our environmental certificate is thus valid for another 3 years. In 2016 we also drew up our first Environmental Statement in accordance with the EMAS III Regulation and had it validated by an environmental verifier. The validated EMAS III Environmental Statement covers the energy audits that have been mandatory in Germany since April 2015. Major features of the EMAS III Regulation include a rigorous orientation towards continuous improvement of environmental efficiency, the use of consistent performance indicators

in relation to key environmental aspects as well as verification of compliance with legal requirements.

The standards set out in our environmental management manual and in the supplementary instructions are mandatory for all managers and staff.

Expenditures on environmental protection

Costs of around EUR 11,000 were incurred in the reporting period for certification of our environmental management system and validation of our EMAS III Environmental Statement. There are also internal personnel costs associated with ongoing implementation of the environmental management system and a Group policy providing coverage for environmental impairment liability and environmental damage.

The offsets paid to atmosfair for CO₂ emissions caused by our air and train travel amounted to altogether EUR 222,583 in the year under review and were therefore a major component of our spending on environmental protection. In addition, the 2016 financial year was the first one in which we offset emissions from the use of district heating and from our paper consumption by purchasing climate certificates for the moorland project of Friends of the Earth Germany (BUND – Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland). We were thus successful for the first time in operating with a net zero carbon footprint at the Hannover location. Our total expenditures and investments for environmental protection measures can therefore be put at around EUR 350,000 in 2016.

More information on the topic at

 Legal framework

 Website: EMAS

Energy consumption

With a view to further cutting our energy consumption at the Hannover location, we systematically pressed ahead with the already existing measures and initiated some additional steps in the year under review.

In recent years we have successively raised the temperature in our server rooms to 26 degrees. Conservative estimates indicate that in so doing we have reduced the electricity consumption needed to cool the server rooms by around 5%, or some 50,000 kilowatt hours, since 2012.

In 2015 we began making initial plans to relocate our backup computer centre, which we currently operate ourselves. In 2017 the time has now come: operation of the existing backup computer centre is being handed over to a professional data centre operator. The power usage efficiency ratio (PUE ratio) for such "shared" data centres is significantly lower than can be achieved in comparable self-operated facilities. The PUE metric denotes the ratio of the total amount of energy used by a computer data centre to the energy delivered to computing equipment and it thus determines the efficiency of the data centre's energy usage. This increased efficiency will result in a further considerable energy saving.

In addition, we intend to move forward with the expansion of an energy-saving, intelligent LED lighting control system. The progressive changeover to this LED technology had already commenced in 2013, and the initiative was continued in light of economic considerations. When plans are being made for new or changed processes and projects, including for example new construction activities, we ensure that LED technology is installed and that sufficient consideration is given to environmental aspects in conformity with our environmental management system.

The members of our workforce are also encouraged to make energy savings. All our employees at the Hannover location receive annual online training in efficient energy use and environmental protection at the workplace. Participation is compulsory for all members of staff.

We are also making increasing use of state-of-the-art communication capabilities in order to conserve resources in our business operations. Our standard workstations have been made more energy-efficient and hence more environmentally friendly. Notebooks, PCs and workstation printers with high energy consumption and CO₂ emissions were replaced with more modern energy-efficient devices. Following the roll-out of a new integrated unified communication platform it is now possible to hold web conferences at all workstations. This is intended to further reduce the number of business trips made within the Group. With the realisation of the aforementioned measures, the IT project to restructure and optimise PC workstations ("Next Generation Workplace") has thus been completed.

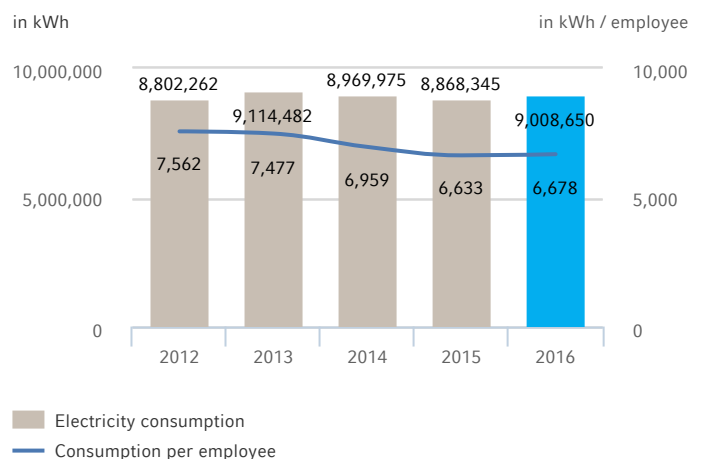
In order to ensure that not only small but also larger meetings involving several participants per location can be held in the form of a web-based conference, web conference rooms have been set up; along with a camera and video technology, these are also equipped with remote white boards, thereby making it possible to share sketches and drawings made at the meeting across all locations. This tool better replicates the feeling of a face-to-face meeting. The measure is similarly intended to further reduce the number of business trips.

Even the daily commute to work offers potential scope for energy savings. For example, we offer our employees the option of teleworking. Not only does this play a part in cutting emissions, it also promotes the compatibility of career and family life. 30.5% of the workforce employed in Hannover already makes use of this possibility.

At the beginning of 2012 we switched our electricity supply to 100% renewables and have since used power from our external energy providers that is obtained exclusively from regenerative sources. Electricity consumption in the year under review, including self-generated solar energy, stood at 9,008,650 kilowatt hours (this equates to roughly 32,431 gigajoules). In November 2013 we installed altogether 652 solar modules on the roof of the office buildings in Hannover. In the 2016 financial year 122,448 kilowatt hours of solar energy were generated through operation of the system, roughly equivalent to the power consumption of 41 two-person households. In 2016 we avoided 4,748 tonnes of CO₂ emissions through our use of electricity from regenerative sources.

Electricity consumption per employee was slightly higher than in the previous year at 6,678 kilowatt hours (previous year: 6,633 kilowatt hours), which is clearly below 5-year average.

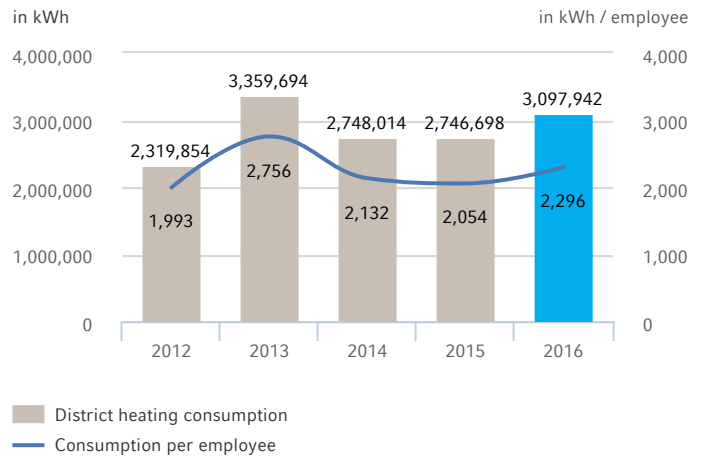
Electricity consumption



For weather-related reasons our district heating consumption in 2016 was significantly higher than in the previous year at 3,098,250 kilowatt hours (equivalent to around 11,154 gigajoules). Analysis of the district heating consumption data for our premises shows that adjusted for weather conditions the per capita consumption of 2,449 kilowatt hours per employee was just 1% higher than in the previous year (2,425 kilowatt hours) and 11% lower than the level of consumption in 2014.

In 2015 we modernised the glass facade of our main office building at Karl-Wiechert-Allee 57 and installed a weather-based, proactive heating management system from the provider MeteoViva. Analysis of the district heating consumption data shows that these measures reduced consumption – adjusted for the effects of weather conditions – by 270,728 kilowatt hours compared to the base year of 2014. This is equivalent to cutting CO₂ emissions by 22.6 tonnes.

District heating consumption

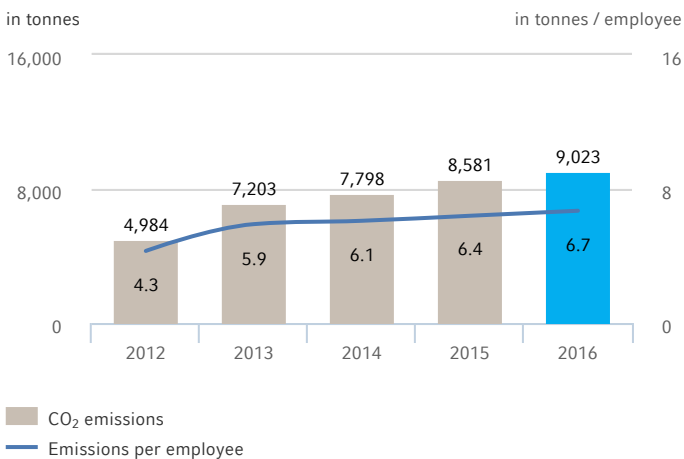


Emissions

Our CO₂ emissions in Hannover in the year under review amounted to 9,023 tonnes, an increase of 5.2% year-on-year. The measured emissions are indirect CO₂ emissions attributable to the purchase of energy or business trips. The calculation is based on the consumption figures for electricity, district heating and paper as well as our business travel.

The rise in our CO₂ emissions in the year under review is due to the increased distance travelled on business trips associated in some instances with the need to cultivate closer customer contacts. Such trips often cannot be replaced with videoconferences and are therefore subject to considerable fluctuations. Since 2012, however, videoconferences have largely replaced travel motivated by internal reasons, i.e. between different locations of our Group.

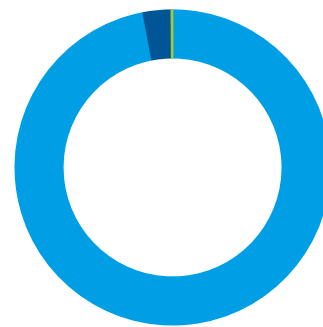
CO₂ emissions



Business travel accounts for around 97.1% of our total emissions. Since 2007 we have therefore worked together with the climate protection organisation atmfair to calculate, control and offset them. The CO₂ emissions caused by business travel rose in the year under review to 8,756 tonnes (previous year: 8,306 tonnes).

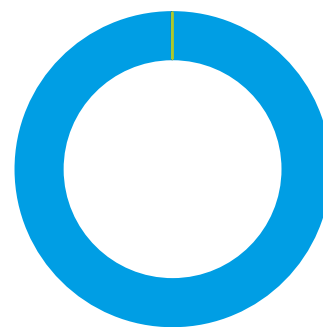
Due to the increase in the basis for calculating CO₂ emissions for paper production, CO₂ emissions rose despite the savings to 9.2 tonnes (8.8 tonnes CO₂ in 2015).

CO₂ emissions in 2015 according to causation



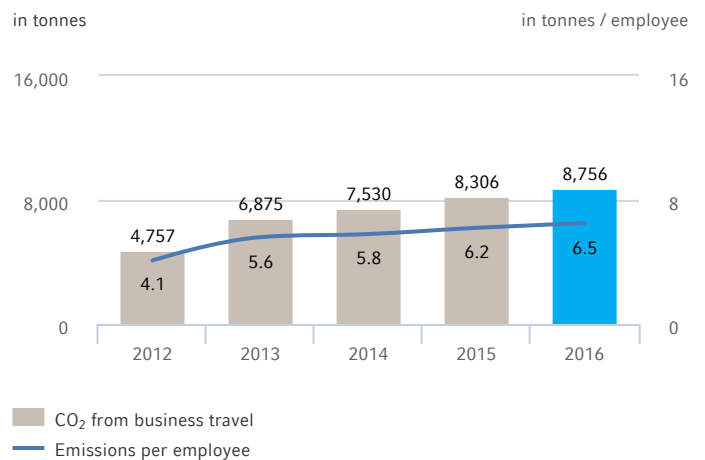
- Business travel: 8,756.0 tonnes CO₂
- District heating: 258.0 tonnes CO₂
- Paper: 9.0 tonnes CO₂

CO₂ emissions from business travel by means of transport



- Plane: 8,748.8 tonnes CO₂
- Train: 7.0 tonnes CO₂
- Car: 0.0 tonnes CO₂

CO₂ emissions from business travel



Measures to reduce CO₂ emissions

By the 2016 financial year we had already achieved our goal of operating the Hannover location on a carbon-neutral basis to a level of 100% by taking various concrete steps. Since 2012 we have obtained our electricity from renewable sources and we are planning to purchase green electricity progressively worldwide. Since 2016 we have offset our CO₂ emissions virtually entirely in cooperation with atmosfair and to a limited extent through the moorland rewetting project of Friends of the Earth Germany (BUND – Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland).

Paper-intensive publications such as our Group Annual Report, brochures and documents for the Annual General Meeting are printed on a carbon-neutral basis. Other publications such as this Sustainability Report, for example, are made available to our stakeholders only in paperless form or as an HTML version. We have committed ourselves to this approach in our internal Corporate Design Manual.

In addition, it remains our firm intention to making greater use of videoconferences and, where possible, we replace business trips – especially between different locations of our Group – with videoconferences.

More information on the topic at

 Website: atmosfair

 Website: Sustainability Strategy

Resource consumption

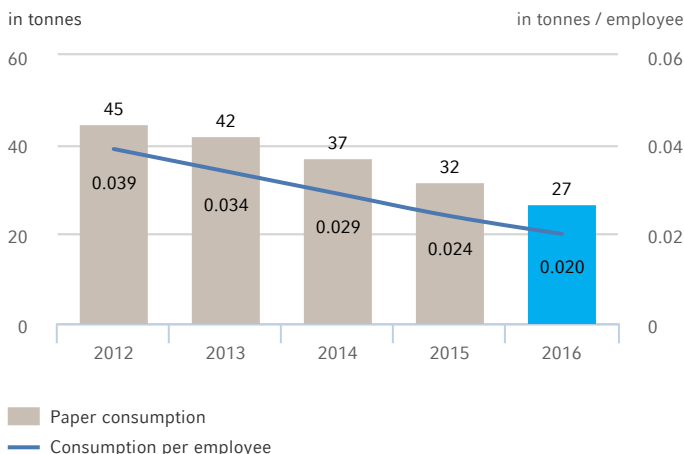
Paper consumption

As a company operating in the reinsurance industry, we do not make any appreciable use of physical materials. Only the paper consumption at our offices is a relevant use of resources, and we therefore measure and manage this. It amounted to 5,753,750 sheets for the Hannover location in the year under review (equivalent to around 27 tonnes) and – with a drop of 15.6% – was thus significantly below the level of the previous year. Our e-administration system "Ruschlikon by ACORD" also played a part here. Among other things, the system makes possible the paperless processing of official documents. In the first quarter of 2016 alone, for example, we were able to electronically process 7,800 loss advices and altogether 35,000 attachments.

Above and beyond this, we were also able to cut paper consumption in 2016 by digitalising work processes: with the aid of our document management system we have successfully mapped posting releases while adhering to and documenting the principle of dual control.

More revealing than the paper consumption in absolute terms is the relative paper consumption per employee. Since 2010 we have consistently reduced our per capita consumption. Whereas in 2010 the figure was 0.04 tonnes per year and employee, this number had dropped to 0.02 tonnes per employee in the year under review. We have achieved this reduction inter alia by rolling out notebooks as part of our "Next Generation Workplace" programme. Instead of paper-intensive printouts, members of staff now take their notebook to meetings. We avoid unintended print jobs by means of the "Print to me" solution implemented in 2015. Print jobs are not executed immediately, but instead have to be actively initiated by the user at the device. If this is not done, the computer deletes print jobs automatically after three days. The continuous drop in paper consumption can also be attributed to ongoing expansion of our document management systems.

Paper consumption



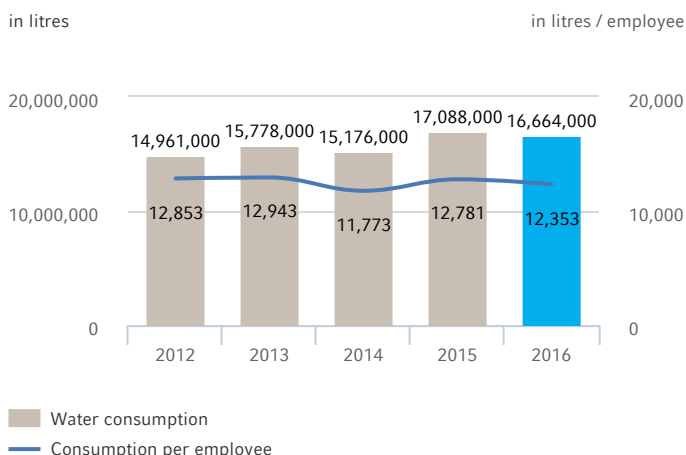
Since 2012 we have used exclusively printer paper bearing the "Eu-roblume" European environmental seal. This quality seal is awarded to consumer goods which are manufactured with reduced emissions and low energy consumption and which stand out for their restrictive use of chemicals and auxiliary materials. In 2015 we also tested the changeover over to lighter paper of a lower density. Since then we have been using this paper, which has a lower wood content than the previously used paper and is therefore more environmentally friendly, in our printers.

Since 2011 we have used solely FSC-certified paper in the creation of printed products.

Water consumption

Our water is supplied exclusively by the regional water utility company. The total water consumption in the year under review amounted to 16,664,000 litres and was thus higher than in the previous year.

Water consumption

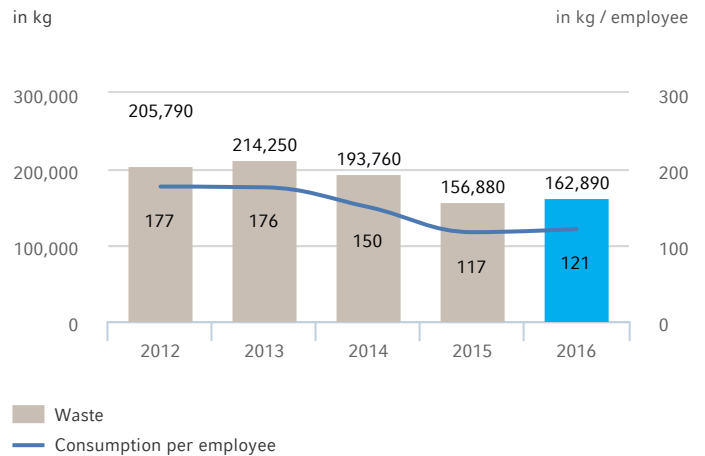


Waste

The total weight of waste grew by 3.8% in 2016 to 162,890 kilograms. This increase was driven by a significantly higher quantity of biomass in the year under review.

Roughly half of our total waste in 2016 was recycled. All catering waste produced at Home Office in Hannover that requires disposal for hygienic or legal reasons is used to generate energy (sent to a biogas plant).

Waste



Waste by method of disposal for years 2015 and 2016

in kg	2016	in %	2015	in %
Recycling	82,630	50.7	84,100	53.6
Composting	12,480	7.7	5,040	3.2
Energy recovery	17,210	10.6	17,330	11.0
Combination of material recycling, above-ground landfill and energy recovery ¹	49,520	30.4	49,360	31.5
Electronic waste	860	0.5	860	0.6
Hazardous waste (e.g. energy-saving light bulbs, paint, varnish)	190	0.1	190	0.1
Total	162,890	100.0	156,880	100.0

¹ Precise classification is not possible due to the method of waste collection

More information on the topic at

 Engagement in initiatives

Engagement in initiatives

As part of the "Climate Alliance Hannover 2020" initiative we have undertaken to emit 40% less harmful greenhouse gases by 2020 than in 1990. Under the Climate Alliance we additionally participate in the Business Strategy Group of the "Master Plan 2050 for the City and Region of Hannover, 100% for Climate Protection".

Since 2007 we have also taken part in the "Ecological Project for Integrated Environmental Technology" (Ecoprofit) of the Greater Hannover region. The underlying idea of the project is the connection between economic gain and ecological benefit through preventive environmental protection. The participating companies are regularly involved in work on specific topics such as "Ecoprofit in the Urban Development Process" and "Current Changes in Energy Management". The energy-saving successes already achieved are regularly publicised in the relevant project publications.





In 2016, as in the previous years, we participated in the survey conducted by the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP). Information related to climate change is published here with a special orientation towards the capital market. In 2016 we achieved a "B" score (corresponding to the second-best level) and thus further improved on the previous year. In 2017 we shall again participate in the CDP survey.

We are also a member of the "Ruschlikon e-administration in (Re)insurance" initiative of the Association for Cooperative Operation Research and Development (ACORD). ACORD is a global non-profit organisation working to improve data quality and information exchange standards for the (re)insurance industry and related financial services providers. Among other things, its system makes possible the paperless processing of official documents. In the first quarter of 2016 alone, for example, we electronically processed 7,800 loss advices and altogether 35,000 attachments through this channel. It is envisaged that the interface will also be rolled out with other large brokers and business partners, which will ultimately mean that some 70% of loss advices and posting transactions will be processed purely electronically.

Our subsidiary E+S Rück has published detailed analyses of approaches to biodiversity damage in its "Schriftenreihe" series of publications (issue numbers 14 and 15). The studies show that even slight impairments of biodiversity can give rise to considerable environmental damage. Our goal is to inform about these risks and raise awareness of them. As we see it, it is the responsibility of society as a whole to identify biodiversity risks as quickly as possible, recognise them as such and eliminate them.

We also participate actively in the Geneva Association working group on "Extreme Events and Climate Risks". For further information please see the chapter on "Product responsibility".

More information on the topic at

-  Website: CDP
-  Website: Climate Alliance Hannover 2020
-  Website: Ecoprofit
-  Website: "Schriftenreihe" series of publications E+S Rück

Supplier management

Supplier management is an approach of particular importance to us with a view to monitoring our procurement costs and reducing them wherever possible. By evaluating our suppliers comprehensively, we aim to ensure observance of our compliance principles and to avoid associated Environmental, Social and Governance risks (ESG risks).

At the Hannover location three different areas are responsible for the procurement of a diverse range of products and services: Facility Management (FM), Information Technology (IT) and the group formed by the various specialist units. Goods are purchased either directly from the manufacturer or through distributors. In this context a Code of Conduct for Suppliers safeguards adherence to environmental and so-

cial standards. We carry out a corresponding evaluation of our suppliers at regular intervals.

By engaging in an active dialogue we are able to build sustainable and robust relationships with our suppliers. Furthermore, the ongoing professionalisation of our procurement assures our competitiveness. We are currently taking steps to give greater consideration to cost / benefit aspects, improvement of service quality and the standardisation of services and conditions. Not only that, through consolidation of the portfolio of IT service providers we are also able to reduce our costs. Our systematic supplier management brings about efficient and transparent processes and serves to accelerate procurement.

More information on the topic at



Website: Code of Conduct for suppliers

Code of conduct for suppliers and supplier evaluation

Code of conduct for suppliers

Since mid-2012 our Code of Conduct for Suppliers has been in force for large areas of the company at the Hannover location. The Code of Conduct was developed by the areas of Facility Management (FM) and Information Technology (IT) with the support of Group Legal Services. It requires, among other things, compliance with environmental and social standards and forms an integral contractual component in, for example, the tendering and contracting by FM of infrastructure services as well as various construction projects.

Specifically, the Code of Conduct for Suppliers requires respect for human rights and compliance with the core labour standards of the International Labour Organisation (ILO). The evaluation and selection of new suppliers by the areas of Facility Management (FM) and Information Technology (IT) also ensures that the risk of child, forced and compulsory labour can be ruled out. The Code of Conduct for Suppliers further requires that the right of freedom of association, e.g. to join trade unions and the employee council, must be safeguarded.

Supplier evaluation

Based on the criteria of the Code of Conduct for Suppliers, we have also developed an application-supported process for self-reporting by suppliers and service providers. The procedure is used on a regular basis by Facility Management. In the context of an assessment carried out in 2014 we wrote to all IT vendors and evaluated them using a checklist. This evaluation was stored in the supplier management sys-

More information on the topic at



Website: Code of Conduct for suppliers

tem and is factored into the selection of suppliers when placing future contracts; furthermore, these criteria are also used for the regular evaluation of suppliers. Contracts with critically assessed suppliers are not renewed; an early-warning system ensures that an adequate lead time is available to select and as necessary familiarise an alternative vendor.

The evaluation of IT suppliers at the Hannover location is carried out using the supplier management system "ServiceNow". This system makes it possible to assign all vendors to the category that reflects their rating:

- Strategic (A-Supplier)
- Bottleneck (B1-Supplier – high strategic importance but low volume)
- Leverage (B2-Supplier – high volume, low importance, easily replaceable)
- Noncritical (C-Supplier)
- Blacklist (Suppliers are in violation of our requirements and will receive no further orders)

All non-IT core vendors are evaluated along similar lines in a separate supplier management tool.

The review of suppliers in the year under review produced a positive outcome. Specifically, we did not identify any suppliers at which freedom of association or the right to collective bargaining is significantly jeopardised or a substantial risk of child labour or forced / compulsory labour exists.

Social Commitment

As the third-largest reinsurer in the world, we are aware of our responsibility to society. For us, this also means showing social engagement and supporting relevant institutions and projects. For example, we support universities as well as educational and research projects with a bearing on reinsurance business. Not only that, for many years we have been a sponsor of art, culture and music at our Hannover location. We encourage the dedication shown by our staff in countless projects around the world and we support international projects in accordance with our Donations Guideline.

Responsibility for our social engagement rests with the full Executive Board, the members of which are jointly accountable for the implementation and refinement of strategic issues relating to sustainability.

Our investment in the community is regulated by our Group-wide Donations Guideline, which rules out donations to political parties and churches or other political or religious organisations as well as organisations for the protection of historical monuments and animal welfare. Compliance with this guideline is verified by the Group Auditing function.

More information on the topic at

 [Product responsibility](#)

Research

In the field of natural hazards modelling we cooperate with universities and research institutions and provide financial assistance to appropriate initiatives. For example, we have been a long-time supporter of the Geo Research Center in Potsdam and the Global Earthquake Model (GEM) Foundation, whose mission is to improve public understanding and awareness of earthquake risks worldwide by promoting science and establishing consistent standards as well as to reduce the impacts of earthquakes on populations.

Since 2006, with a view to also promoting the growth of legal disciplines relevant to the reinsurance sector, we have helped to fund a visiting professor position at the University of Göttingen with a concentration in Anglo-American contract and tort law. In this way we are seeking to encourage a more international approach to the study of

law. In addition, we support university research activities by sponsoring an endowed professorship in actuarial science and financial mathematics at the University of Hannover and we work with the Competence Centre for Insurance Science (Kompetenzzentrum Versicherungswissenschaften GmbH). We further support the work of thematically relevant Associations of Friends at various universities, including for example the Förderkreis des Instituts für Versicherungswesen at Cologne Technical University and the Verein Braunschweiger Finanz- und Wirtschaftsmathematiker e.V. at the University of Braunschweig. We are also a member of similar societies at the University of Hannover, the University of Ulm and the University of Oldenburg. Above and beyond our aforementioned involvement, we regularly offer field trips for students and systematically place various projects and topical issues with university departments.

More information on the topic at

 [Social Commitment](#)

 [Website: Geo Research Center Potsdam](#)

 [Website: Global Earthquake Model \(GEM\) Foundation](#)

 [Website: Kompetenzzentrum Versicherungswissenschaften](#)

Support for art, culture and music

Hannover Re Foundation

Supporting contemporary art has traditionally been a cause for our company. In 1991, to mark the company's 25th anniversary, we set up the Hannover Re Foundation to benefit the Sprengel Museum in Hannover. The foundation's mission is to acquire contemporary works of art and make them available to the Sprengel Museum on permanent loan – thereby also promoting Hannover as a centre for art. The foundation also funds publications and events to accompany the exhibitions.

Opened in 1979, the Sprengel Museum ranks among the most prominent museums of twentieth-century art with its extensive collection and diverse programme of exhibitions. The works acquired by the foundation and provided to the Sprengel Museum Hannover on permanent loan include pieces by Gerhard Richter, Donald Judd, Ronald B. Kitaj, Georg Baselitz, Sigmar Polke, Bernd Koberling and numerous other artists. In 2014 the Hannover Re Foundation acquired the sculpture "Another Twister" by the American artist Alice Aycock. This sculpture was also handed over to the museum on permanent loan and installed in front of the Sprengel Museum to mark the opening of the new museum extension in September 2015.

Hannover as a centre for art

We are a sponsor of various art institutions in Hannover. Along with the Sprengel Museum, we also support the Wilhelm Busch Museum, the Kunstverein Hannover and the Kestnergesellschaft Hannover. Since its founding in 1916 the Kestnergesellschaft has sought to profile internationally important artists and their latest works. The spotlight here is just as much on fine arts, architecture, fashion and design as it is on current music and literature or philosophy and the humanities. In our role as a "Kestnerpartner" we are able to promote the society's work on a continuous and lasting basis.

Art collection

It was in the mid-1980s that our former Chief Executive Officer Claus Bingemer set about building the foundation of our company's own art collection.

Since that time the collection, which now numbers some 300 exhibits by 72 artists, has been continuously expanded. These days, decisions on acquisitions are taken by a Board of Trustees that has dedicated itself specifically to promoting contemporary art. We realise that such collections can give expression to the unmistakable identity of an undertaking and we see enormous potential in the field of tension between art and business. The works are divided into three major groupings: abstract art of the post-war modern era, figurative contemporary art and international art of the twentieth century. A special quality of the pieces in the collection is that they are not attached to one of the many diverse currents of modern and postmodern art, but rather – with exhibits by Werner Heldt, Hans Uhlmann, Ernst Wilhelm Nay, Georg Meistermann and HAP Grieshaber – they reference artistic positions that were ostracised during the Third Reich. A further exceptional point of emphasis is on works by artists of the former GDR, such as the Leipzig-based Bernhard Heisig and Wolfgang Mattheuer and their pupils.

The exhibits that make up the collection are displayed in the company's Home Office premises in Hannover as well as in the surrounding garden areas and inner courtyards of the office complexes.

Exhibition series "Masterclass Students"

The series of exhibitions dedicated to "Masterclass Students" has been held since 2014. It profiles the work of students at Braunschweig University of Art on an annual rotating basis. Current works by four young artists taking the masterclass course are displayed in the foyer of our Home Office building in Hannover. Along with the art collection, which is split into the three aforementioned work groups, contemporary art is just as much a focus for us. In this context, the company's cultural engagement also extends to promoting young artists from the Lower Saxony region. Selected works from the graduating class are prominently displayed to staff and visitors alike in the foyer of the company's premises for intensive contemplation and exploration. The cooperation with Braunschweig University of Art thus not only serves to promote young artists but also fosters mutual dialogue.

Guided tours of the exhibition and artist talks are offered for the workforce. At the end of the exhibition certain pieces are selected and purchased for the company's own collection.

Advancement of talented musicians

Every year since 1998 E+S Rück, our subsidiary with responsibility for the German market, has organised an examination concert for gradu-

ating soloists in cooperation with Hannover University of Music, Drama and Media. This support gives "master students" a particularly valuable opportunity to take their final examination with a large orchestra. At the same time the concerts enable E+S Rück to offer its clients a musical highlight as part of the "Hannover Forum" event.

More information on the topic at

-  [Social Commitment](#)
-  [Website: Sprengel Museum Hannover](#)
-  [Website: Kestnergesellschaft](#)
-  [Website: Kunstverein Hannover](#)
-  [Website: Wilhelm-Busch-Museum](#)
-  [Website: University of Art Braunschweig](#)

Employee engagement and donations

By making regular donations and enabling corporate volunteering, i.e. releasing employees for charitable activities during working hours, we support social projects all around the world. In so doing, we contribute our expertise in the area of reinsurance, whenever possible.

Our staff in Hannover support the "Christmas tree campaign" for St. Joseph Kinder- und Jugendhilfe, a charitable institution that assists children and adolescents in Hannover between the ages of two and twenty who no longer live with their parents. Our employees regularly help to realise their Christmas dreams in order to make the holiday season more special.

Our branch in South Africa assists students in the discipline of actuarial science and those taking a Bachelor of Commerce degree with a concentration in accounting. We also support needy pupils at a local high school.

More information on the topic at

-  [Social Commitment](#)
-  [Website: St. Joseph Kinder- und Jugendhilfe](#)

At our subsidiary in Florida the workforce supports the "New Hope for Kids" campaign: children and their families who find themselves in difficult life situations are assisted with cash donations or through the personal efforts of employees.

With our Donations Guideline, which is applicable Group-wide, we have defined our own policies for this social engagement. In our Sustainability Strategy we have set ourselves the goal of reviewing these guidelines and recording the social activities undertaken Group-wide. We attach crucial importance to the common public interest of the social groups and projects supported by our company. Consequently, we did not make any contributions to political parties, politicians or related institutions in the reporting period or in previous years.