

The Environment and Lifecycle analysis

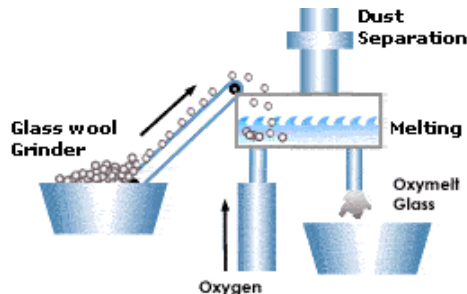


Ecophon Environmental Policy



- Manufacturing durable products that contribute to a positive perception of the room.
- Creating conditions that ensure the maintenance of a good environment during production, installation, use and recycling.
- Striving to conserve nature through the prudent use of natural resources, using materials that are naturally sustainable and environmentally friendly.
- Being aware of new research and development to increase our knowledge of the effects on the environment.

Production

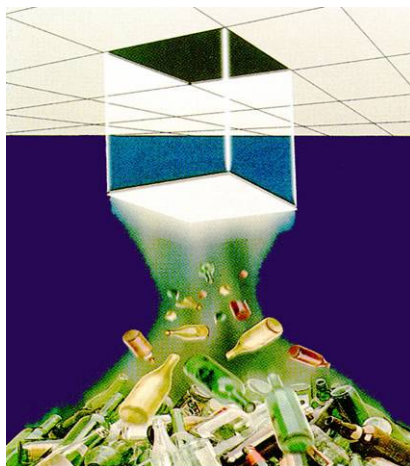


Ecophon products and systems are manufactured mainly in our plants in Sweden, Denmark and Finland. By tradition these countries have comparatively strict environmental standards, in terms of both external and indoor environments.

Products are manufactured from large quantities of recycled material; at the end of their lifespan they are 100% recyclable.

The patented Oxymelt and Controlli production processes use production waste as fuel.

The “dry” production process (no water is used) utilised by Ecophon in manufacture means the products do not take up water by capillary action. The value of this is that Ecophon products will not sag, warp or delaminate. The resulting product is not “rigid”, making it more durable and long lasting.



Glasswool consists almost entirely of glass. Over 70% of the basic material in Ecophon sound absorbers consist of recovered household glass and recycled glasswool.

Ecophon collect over quarter of a million mixed colour glass bottles a day.

Saint-Gobain makes glasswool from 1 in 3 of all bottles recycled by Swedish households.



Ecophon galvanised steel grid is manufactured from 50% recycled material. It is 100% recyclable at the end of its life



Ecophon packaging is made from recycled cardboard, it is then totally recyclable after use.

All cardboard packaging coming into our warehouse is used again for packaging other products or sent for recycling.

Any plastic wrap used by Ecophon can also be recycled

Ecophon products are very light, which makes them inexpensive and environmentally friendly to transport. They are easy to install and remove for maintenance. There are no Health and Safety issues installing, maintaining or using Ecophon products

Environmental Labelling



Recommended
by the
Swedish Asthma
and Allergy Association



European Commission
REVISED EC Directive 97/69/EC
Dangerous Substances

The new European Commission Directive on Dangerous Substances includes all forms of man-made vitreous fibres (MMVF).

The Directive states that, unless the MMVF product meets exacting and specific exemption criteria, it must be classified as Category 3 (possibly carcinogenic).

The criteria, developed by the European Commission's experts and based on stringent biological assessments of fibres, have been selected by the Commission to provide a very high level of safety for workers and consumers. Meeting these exacting criteria exempts the MMVF from a 'dangerous substance' classification.

Ecophon are pleased to confirm that all Ecophon glasswool products meet the exemption criteria. They are not designated as 'dangerous substances' and are not deleterious to workers' or consumers' health.

Ecophon
ACOUSTIC CEILING



Ecophon products meet many types of environmental standards and achieve many environmental labels. The most far reaching of these is the Nordic Swan Eco label.

To achieve this, products...

- Must have a limited content of substances injurious to the environment and health .
- Must contain a high degree of recyclable materials .
- Must meet the requirements regarding particle emissions and fumes.
- Must have a low use of energy in the production process, where also the application of renewable energy is encouraged .
- Must meet the general requirements of a low environmental impact on water, earth and air during the whole life span.
- To ensure that a Swan-labelled product is always at the cutting edge from an environmental viewpoint criteria are revised repeatedly.
- Companies applying for a licence to use the Swan label must provide results from independent testing to prove that the criteria have been met.

Other environmental labels held cover asthma and allergy association approval, helping to create a cleaner more healthy environment where products are proven to be free from allergens and perfumes.

Ecophon products contain very low levels of particle and chemical emissions for a cleaner and safer working environment in production and in use, including zero levels of hazardous waste.

They hold exemption of classification as a possible carcinogen under EU regulations .

In addition to the Nordic Swan other labels studying possible environmental impacts are evaluated from the cradle to the grave. Ecophon also promote the regulation of chemicals used in the building industry.

Improving the Working Environment



By offering acoustic control , thermal efficiency, high levels of light reflectance, extremely low levels of emissions and being aesthetically pleasing, Ecophon products improve the working environment.

Installation of Ecophon products have been shown to improve efficiency, and reduce stress levels, resulting in improved attendance and lower levels of sickness.



Ecophon products have been used in Schools for the future projects, which promote the use of sustainable products whilst incorporating the best working environment for education now and in the future.



In hospitals the optimum acoustic environment has been proven to aid recovery, including a reduction in the requirements for pain killers and a significantly decrease in the level of patient readmissions. Levels of staff stress have also been greatly reduced. The atmosphere has been perceived as calmer and staff as more friendly.