

**Environmental protection is a core component of voestalpine’s Sustainability Strategy. The following principles are enshrined in it.**

**Emissions in the Air, Soil, and Water: Minimize using the best available technologies**

Process-related emissions cannot be entirely avoided due to the chemical and physical properties of existent production processes. We operate our production facilities based on the principle that the best available technologies must be applied as appropriate and in economically viable fashion. We also develop new approaches that aim to minimize environmentally relevant effects on the air, soil, and water as best as possible.

**Circular Economy and Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs)**

We support holistic, comprehensive, and integrated analyses and assessments of materials (LCAs) as well as of all process and value chains within the parameters of the circular economy, also known as “circularity.”

**Energy and Climate Policy: Commitment to low carbon production**

We are meeting the challenge of decarbonizing the economic system in the long term especially through comprehensive research and development of new technologies, frequently via cross-sector cooperation agreements and projects. We also engage in an open and constructive dialogue with stakeholders such as political decision makers, advocacy and interest groups, civil society as well as the scientific community and environmental organizations.



## 13.1 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

voestalpine’s internal environmental data management encompasses about 130 production companies or facilities worldwide that have a material impact on the Group’s environmental performance. This includes all business segments that produce and process steel and thus absolutely all those that are energy and emissions intensive.

Approximately 150 key figures are compiled periodically, for example, those related to energy and materials efficiency; emissions; water, waste, and recycling management; as well as environmentally relevant investments and expenditures. These data are used for purposes of external reporting and fulfilment of reporting obligations, but they also provide the ba-

sis for environmental assessments of processes, products, and materials. In addition, the metrics compiled as part of environmental data management undergird the Group’s environmental activities, both strategically and operationally.

The voestalpine Group has implemented management systems across the board worldwide. Fully 70% of its production plants have implemented an environmental management system (EMS) pursuant to ISO 14001 or the EU’s Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS); an additional 8% possess other certifications. Twenty-seven percent of the entities are subject to certified energy management pursuant to ISO 50001.