

Environmental protection is a core component of voestalpine’s Sustainability Strategy. It encompasses the following principles:

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

Process-related emissions cannot be entirely avoided due to the chemical-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 mitigate 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—
Commit to low-carbon production**

We commit to achieving net-zero emissions in production, especially through comprehensive research and development of new technologies via cross-sector cooperation agreements and projects. We support the transformation toward a largely fossil-fuel-free society thanks also to our product innovations that are used, for example, in e-mobility, railway systems, and renewable energy generation. 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

Worldwide, about 120 production companies and facilities are a part of voestalpine’s environmental data management system. This includes all steel producing and processing (and therefore all energy and emissions-intensive) business segments that are relevant to the Group’s carbon footprint.

The Group periodically compiles about 150 key figures, for instance, those related to air emissions; energy and materials efficiency; water, waste, and recycling management; as well as environmentally relevant investments and expenditures. These data are used for external reporting and fulfillment of reporting obligations as well as, in particular, for environmental as-

essments of processes, products, and materials. Moreover, the metrics compiled as part of environmental data management provide the basis for strategic planning and operational implementation of environmental activities.

The voestalpine Group has established management systems across the board worldwide. Fully 76% of its production plants, which account for 96% of the Group’s entire production volume, have implemented an environmental management system pursuant to ISO 14001 or the EU’s Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS). Of these entities, 28% are subject to certified energy management pursuant to ISO 50001.