

Verosol

Vision on Sustainability

Verosol solar shading has been established for 40 years; during this time the high quality reflective benefits of the product range have been at the forefront of providing energy saving solutions to building owners and increased productivity gains for end users. Verosol has consistently invested in a clean and low energy production process that allows for minimal environmental impact. Verosol is a globally active company and seeks always to operate within local environmental standards and regulations. Verosol takes great pride in ensuring that the company is managed in a safe and socially responsible way. This management principle encompasses all employees including subcontractors.

Verosol's vision of sustainability signifies a product that has been manufactured in an environmentally friendly, safe and socially responsible manner and can be processed safely at the end of its life cycle.

- **Energy savings** as a result of the use of Verosol products has been proven time and time again through independent tests and practical experience. The Verosol product makes a significant contribution to the reduction of energy costs: reduction of heating costs during the winter and, in particular, reduction of air conditioning costs during the summer. In most cases, reduction of energy costs also means a considerable reduction of the CO₂ emissions.
- **Clean and energy-efficient processes** are part of Verosol's definition of an energy-saving product. Verosol chooses for an integrated approach that includes assessment of the entire chain from the first thread to the complete end product at our client's location. The emphasis here lies on the energy consumption during the production process and the prevention and reduction of waste. Verosol complies with the current environmental standards and regulations and pursues a proactive policy. The business processes are certified according to ISO9001 and ISO14001.
- **Safety** during production, processing, installation and use of Verosol products is of the greatest importance. This begins with the safety of all the employees during production and processing of Verosol products, but also extends to the safety throughout the entire production chain from suppliers to clients. Verosol has minimized the use of hazardous substances in the production process and works according to the highest safety standards. The Verosol collection complies with the highest international fire-retardant standards, which even ensures the safety of Verosol products during use.
- **Socially responsible** business practices and production are also considered elements of sustainability at Verosol. For Verosol it is self-evident that all the relevant current regulations are met and that everyone involved in the production process is treated and compensated fairly. Verosol offers employees a challenging work environment and ample opportunity for personal growth.
- **The life cycle** of Verosol products is, in most cases, quite long. Even once the product has served its useful life, Verosol considers it of the greatest importance that the product can be processed in a safe manner. In many cases, parts of the product can be reused (aluminium, polyester). To the extent possible, Verosol takes this into consideration during the design of new products. In other cases, clean incineration is the most energy efficient and ecologically responsible solution.

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Sustainability according to Verosol: Scope and policy

Verosol believes that the pursuit of sustainability is a continuous process and therefore chooses a long-term approach in which clear short-term objectives are defined. For the coming two years, Verosol has selected three spearheads for its policy:

Product Life Cycle Analysis is a method of determining the actual energy balance of Verosol products. What does it cost to manufacture these products, from raw materials to final product? What does it cost to process, incinerate or recycle the product? And, on the other hand, what do these products contribute in terms of energy savings during their life cycle? When the balance is positive (the product saves more energy during its life cycle than the energy required for its manufacture and processing) we can say the product is sustainable and nearly always also makes a contribution to the reduction of CO₂ emissions. Verosol products have a positive energy balance. For systems such as LEED, currently gaining in popularity in various countries, a great number of “sustainability points” can be scored with products that have a positive energy balance.

Recyclability of all Verosol products (both textile cloth and hardware) at the end of the life cycle is another aspect that is carefully examined. Important in this regard is that products can be processed in a responsible manner at the end of their useful service life. From Verosol's perspective, the most important criteria in this regard are the degree to which products can be reused (recycling) or can be used to produce energy (through extremely clean incineration). Although Verosol sincerely supports concepts such as Cradle-to-Cradle, it is also of the opinion that this system is not universally implementable: in some cases there is simply too little potential energy saving.

Safety and Corporate Social Responsibility are themes whose importance is seen as standard practice within the Verosol Group, but that certainly doesn't detract from their importance. In all existing and new developments, these themes must continue to be safeguarded. Where possible, Verosol will exert its influence on the entire life cycle of Verosol Products (from thread to end consumer) to draw attention to these themes and to support them.