

Sustainability in Decorative Paints UK and Ireland



Welcome to Planet Possible

Our commitment to doing more with less



Contents

Front cover and below image:

This stunning Dartmoor inspired transformation of a gable end in Okehampton was created as a Let's Colour project, using 70 litres of paint donated by Dulux Decorator Centre in Exeter. It complements a nearby sculpture celebrating the West Devon community's agricultural heritage.

[Find out more about Let's Colour](#)



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Who are we?



Our business wants to add colour to people's lives. Here our employees take a well-deserved rest cycling from John O'Groats to Land's End to raise money for Outward Bound whilst colouring communities along the way.





[AkzoNobel](#) is a leading global producer of paints, coatings and speciality chemicals, consistently ranked as one of the leaders on the Dow Jones Sustainability Index. When you choose [AkzoNobel](#) as a partner, you can be assured that we will deliver sustainable value and support you achieving your sustainability ambitions.

Introducing AkzoNobel

We supply industries and consumers worldwide with innovative products, including strong consumer and industrial brands such as Dulux, Sikkens and Interpon®. Our headquarters are in the Netherlands and we operate in more than 80 countries.



AkzoNobel Decorative Paints UK & Ireland

Our business is built on transforming buildings and spaces into beautiful living areas. From hospitals to schools, or offices to homes, our products and brands enable our customers to protect, renew and extend the life and appearance of their buildings and the spaces around them.

AkzoNobel Decorative Paints UK & Ireland has a strong track record of sustainable innovation. Our Trade portfolio in particular is at the forefront of this with market-leading brands such as [Dulux Trade](#). Our [Dulux Decorator Centre stores](#) offer additional services to enable our products to be used more sustainably.

Across all our brands, we are committed to offering a range of high quality paints and coatings that offer true sustainability benefits best suited to our customers' needs. Additionally, we are dedicated to providing services and advice to ensure they can be used safely and responsibly.

We believe in playing our part in creating a brighter future for our industry, for our customers and for our world.





Planet Possible

Our commitment to doing more with less



In 2009, members of the AkzoNobel's Leadership went on the 'on the Edge' expedition to Antarctica.





In October 2013, AkzoNobel launched Planet Possible, our renewed commitment to sustainability: working together with our customers and suppliers to deliver more value from fewer resources.

Why Planet Possible?

Dynamic and successful organisations recognise the need to future-proof against challenges such as resource scarcity, spiralling energy costs and material shortages that will otherwise severely affect business viability. Responsible businesses also recognise the vital role that they must play in creating a lower carbon, more equitable future for all. Sustainability leaders seek to turn these challenges into opportunities to bring more value to customers and to society in general, and as a result, become even more successful.

Planet Possible is designed to drive innovation and promote radical efficiency, and inspire and equip employees, customers and suppliers to realise new possibilities. It represents the next significant leap forward in the company's ongoing journey to connect value creation with resource efficiency.



Here at AkzoNobel Decorative Paints UK & Ireland, our Planet Possible commitment inspires us to new possibilities of working in partnership with others to deliver innovative, high quality, sustainable solutions to our customers and to radically improve resource efficiency across our total value chain. We remain committed to going beyond that, to positively colouring the lives of our employees, our local communities and the next generation.

Matt Pullen, Managing Director,
AkzoNobel Decorative Paints UK & Ireland



AkzoNobel has been listed as one of the leaders of the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) for eight consecutive years. We are currently number one in the Materials Industry Group. We are also an active partner of Forum for the Future and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, both of whom inform our sustainability strategy.





Making sustainable choices



Offering our customers the most sustainable quality paints and solutions

Our customers' need for sustainable solutions continues to grow, and we seek to deliver both lower impact paints and also innovative coatings with positive environmental and/or well-being benefits. These products are designed with real-world demands in mind.

Products and brands you know and trust

We know that in delivering sustainable solutions, we must also deliver all the things you have come to know and trust about our brands. That is why when we look to make changes to products or launch new solutions, we specify that they must:

- ✓ Meet our proactive product stewardship policies
- ✓ Match or exceed the market's expectation of quality
- ✓ Beautify and protect the intended substrate

Offering sustainability benefits to our customers

We focus much of our innovation on solutions that deliver positive sustainability benefits to our customers. We work closely with them to fully understand their sustainability challenges and formulate products to meet these emerging needs.

Our aim is that at least 20% of our revenue should come from these products.

Lowering our products' environmental impact

We aim to reduce the environmental footprint of our product portfolio without compromising quality by:

- Moving to lower VOC formulations*
- Switching solvent-based products to water-based*
- Working with suppliers to make our raw materials less carbon intensive
- Exploring the use of renewable and recycled materials
- Lightweighting and increasing the recycled content of our packaging



* VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds) are solvents which readily evaporate and are converted into CO₂ in the atmosphere.

Helping you choose

To make the right choice of sustainable paint you need to both assess the paint itself and match it to the demands of your project.

Assessing the demands of the job

In addition to considering the sustainability of the paint, the right solution for a particular job will vary, dependent on which factors are of most importance. These may be:

- Lowest environmental impact over the total life cycle
- Lowest embodied carbon on application
- Specific positive environmental or health and well-being attributes

Due to improvements in our formulating technologies and the environmental impact of solvent-based paints, we strongly recommend that water-based paints are used for trim areas such as doors, skirting, window frames etc. wherever possible.

Assessing sustainability: ask three questions

To assess how sustainable the paint itself is, there are three main questions that need to be addressed. When you know what's in it, how long it lasts, and how much of it you will need, you can make a judgement about its sustainability.



What's in it?



How long does it last?



How much will you need?

What's in it?

We recognise that most of our customers do not have time to explore the complexity of our paint formulations. AkzoNobel and Forum for the Future have worked together to develop the Environmental Impact Analyser (EIA), an essential tool for our formulating chemists to design more sustainable paints.

How long does it last?

Some products last longer and therefore extend maintenance cycles. Using durable products will ultimately have less impact on the environment by reducing the quantity of the paint used over the life cycle.

How much will you need?

Choosing a product with a higher spreading rate without compromising on opacity will mean it goes further.



Our sustainable solutions





Mainstream solutions

[Dulux Trade](#) offers a range of mainstream products designed to meet the trade's different everyday needs whilst enabling them to meet sustainability targets.

Extended life through extra durability

The [Diamond Range](#) offers category leading performance based on innovative water-based technology. Its ultra durable and stain resistant formulations bring opportunities to extend maintenance cycles significantly, whilst decreasing expensive redecoration costs and in turn reducing environmental impact. These extended maintenance cycles not only result in long-term economies, but have the added benefit of dramatically reducing environmental impact over the total life cycle of the paint.

Water-based trim paints

Our new range of [Dulux Trade water-based trim paints](#) are quicker drying, provide longer lasting whiteness and have lower odour versus their solvent-based equivalents. They also have faster re-coat periods meaning minimal downtime. Because of their lower VOCs compared to traditional solvent-based products, they have a significantly lower environmental impact. [Dulux Trade Quick Dry Gloss](#) and [Dulux Trade Quick Dry Satinwood](#) complement our popular [Quick Dry Wood Primer Undercoat](#) and now offer a complete water-based solution for those looking for a high quality, long lasting finish.





Specialist solutions

When a project requires a specialist solution, perhaps to provide optimum protection for the people who use the space, we ensure that the product also enables the specifier to achieve minimal environmental impact.

Professional quality with low embodied carbon

Developed in conjunction with the leading sustainability experts Forum for the Future, [Ecosure](#) offers a range of quality finishes with excellent application characteristics and colour choice. All [Ecosure](#) products have water-based formulations with demonstrably lower levels of embodied carbon and minimal VOC content when compared to standard Dulux Trade products. [Ecosure](#) offers a high opacity, professional quality, low embodied carbon solution.

Coatings with a positive environmental impact

A revolutionary way to make rooms feel bigger, lighter, brighter, and even save you energy. The [Light & Space](#) colour range uses groundbreaking Lumitec paint technology which is more reflective of natural and artificial light, resulting in measurable energy savings while giving rooms an improved ambience and appearance. By reducing the amount of light that painted surfaces absorb, [Light & Space](#) paint significantly increases the perception of interior space in addition to saving energy. Available in a number of finishes, including Diamond so you can specify the durability you need.

Far right image:

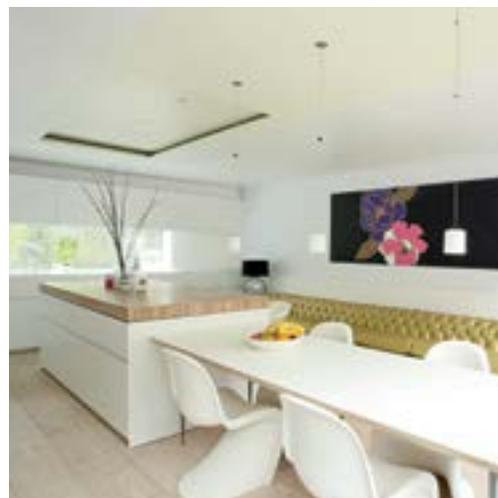
In a fire, the thick bark of the mighty California Redwood chars to form a flame retardant barrier, much like Dulux Trade Pyroshield.

For full details of all Dulux Trade products visit duluxtrade.co.uk

Promoting health and well-being

[Dulux Trade Sterishield](#) represents a revolutionary step-change in hygiene coatings, containing active in-film bactericides which inhibit the growth of bacteria such as MRSA, E.coli and Pseudomonas aeruginosa. Sterishield's water-based formulation is available in durable Diamond Matt and Eggshell finishes meaning this quick-drying, tough, washable, stain resistant emulsion is suitable for all normal interior wall and ceiling surfaces.

[Dulux Trade Pyroshield](#) is a range of flame retardant coatings available in: Pyroshield Basecoat, Pyroshield Durable Matt and Pyroshield Durable Eggshell. Their special water-based formulations inhibit the spread of flame on previously painted walls and ceilings.





Help and support for professional specifiers

We provide an extensive range of support services to meet all the needs of professional specifiers. We are committed to helping specifiers to simply and easily select the right solutions for their projects.

BREEAM compliant

We are committed to ensuring specifiers can simply and easily specify the right solutions for their project, so all our products are BREEAM HEA 9 and HEA 02 compliant.

Free specification advice

We have a dedicated team of Specification Account Managers that can provide full specification support together with advice on extending maintenance cycles.

Site surveys

Specifier Account Managers can carry out full site inspections. These will include assessment of the current condition of surface coatings, help with identification of difficult substrates and advice on extending maintenance cycles.

Specification writing

We can provide full specification support tailored to your requirements. This will ensure that correct preparation is highlighted and the products specified are the most appropriate for the location, environment and substrate type.

Contract meetings

Specifier Account Managers can attend pre-contract, project review and post-contract assessment meetings, ensuring collaboration and clear communication from concept to completion.

Site visits

During the course of the work, we can also visit the site to ensure that work is being carried out correctly and in accordance to the specification.

Colour service

For larger painting projects, Dulux Trade Colour Consultants can provide help and advice on colour choice. We can also use our unique colour specification software-Dulux Preview.

Health and Safety

We can help and advise on Health and Safety issues relevant to the use of Dulux Trade products.





Delivering sustainability together on site





Our range of sustainable solutions goes beyond paints and coatings. We are also exploring possibilities that will support our customers as they strive to work more sustainably on site.

Helping our contractors take a Step Towards Greener

In 2010 Dulux Trade Contract Partnership worked with Forum for the Future to develop [Step Towards Greener](#), an industry leading programme to help painting contractors reduce the environmental impact of commercial decorating and embrace the challenge of sustainability, both on site and in the office.

Dulux Trade [Contract Partnership](#) is an exclusive network of independently assessed, quality assured painting contractors.

By joining, contractors demonstrate their commitment to providing outstanding professional client service, reducing their impact on the environment, supporting the community and operating fairly and equitably.

Each member's approach to sustainability varies with the size, location and nature of their business. [Step Towards Greener](#) provides the support, tools and framework so members can take their own steps and share best practice amongst the membership.

To find out more visit: contractpartnership.co.uk



A sustainable way to wash out paint

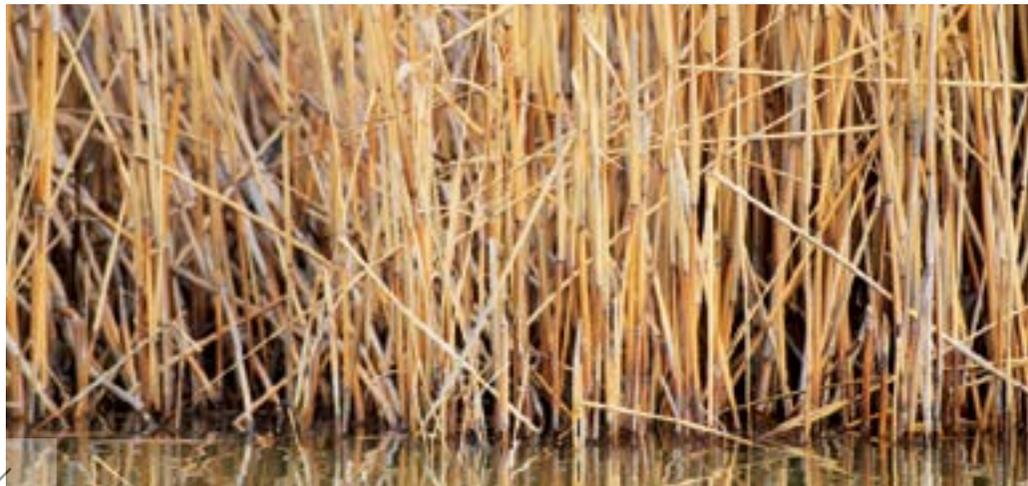
The portable, easy to use [Clearwash System](#) supplied via our Dulux Decorator Centre stores converts water-based paint washings from brushes, rollers and other painting tools into solid waste and clear water safe for discharge into the drains. Once the remaining residue has dried, it can be bagged and treated as non-hazardous waste. The disposal of this solid waste has been classified by the Environment Agency as 'low risk activity'.



Contact your nearest [Dulux Decorator Centre](#) store for availability.

Below image:

Reed beds use microorganisms living on the roots to naturally purify waste water. Just as with our Clearwash System, the result is clear, reusable water.



Recycling cans at Dulux Decorator Centre

In 2009, Dulux Trade pioneered can recycling at 20 stores. Now it is available across the entire Dulux Decorator Centre network, allowing contractors to minimise the environmental impact of waste paint cans with everything possible diverted from landfill.

The scheme helps contractors to demonstrate their environmental credentials to their clients, enhancing their reputations and helping secure new business.

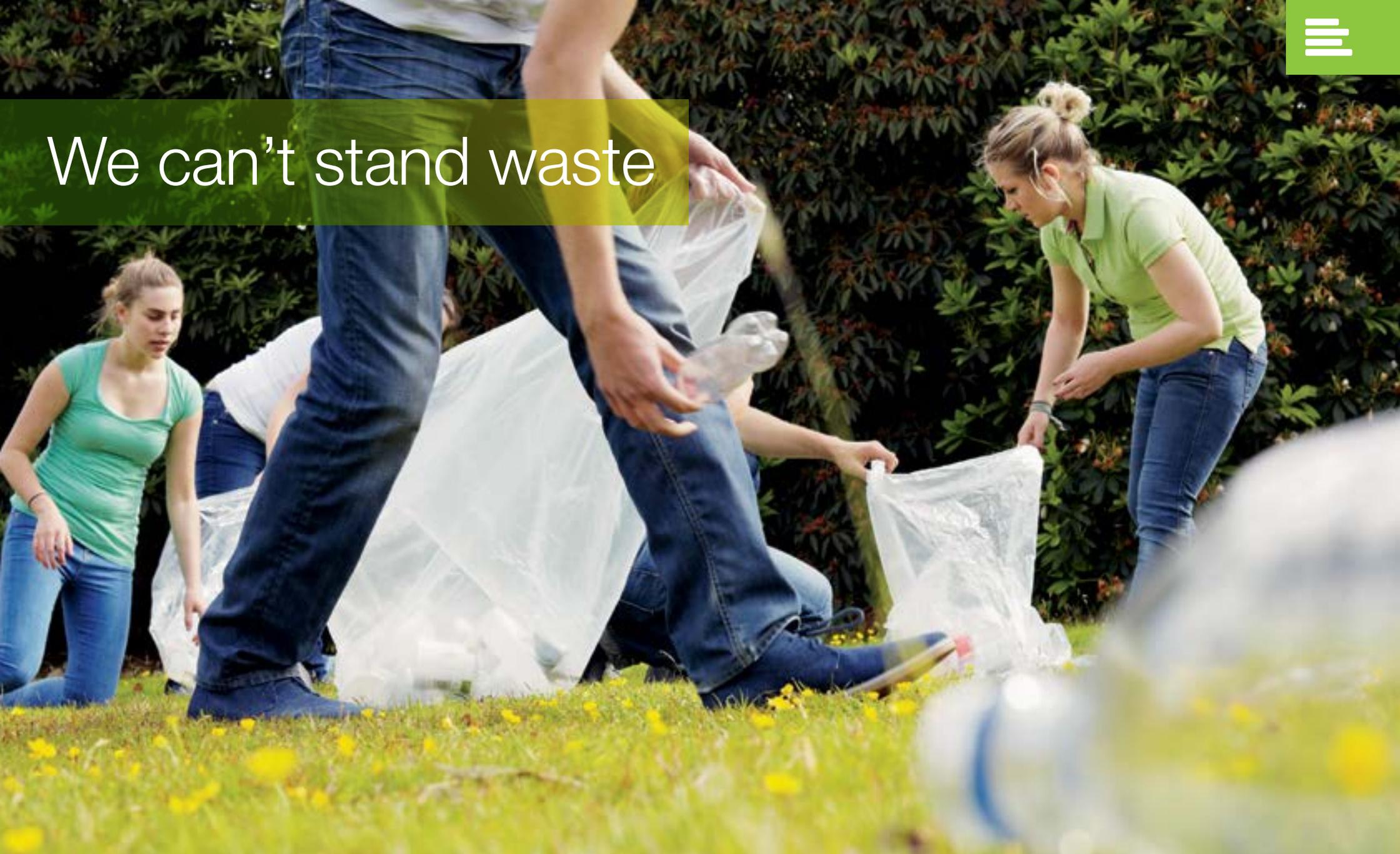
Customers are provided with documentation at the time of can return, with consignment notes covering the handover of waste to the Dulux Decorator Centre recycling partner. An annual usage certificate is issued to every signed up customer detailing participation. This offers specifiers reassurance that the scheme is being properly used.

The plastic and metal from the recycled cans is used to make a range of useful items. We are exploring possibilities to close the loop to allow them to be remade into paint containers.





We can't stand waste





At AkzoNobel, we hate waste! We also recognise that the world's current 'take-make-dispose' consumption model is unsustainable, using the planet's resources more quickly than they can naturally regenerate. As the world population grows, we must move urgently towards a more circular model where resources are reused much more efficiently.

Reducing waste in our operations

To use our resources more efficiently, we follow the waste hierarchy principle, reducing waste at source, and maximising recycling and reuse. In 2012, we achieved zero to landfill across all our operations, including our stores and offices.

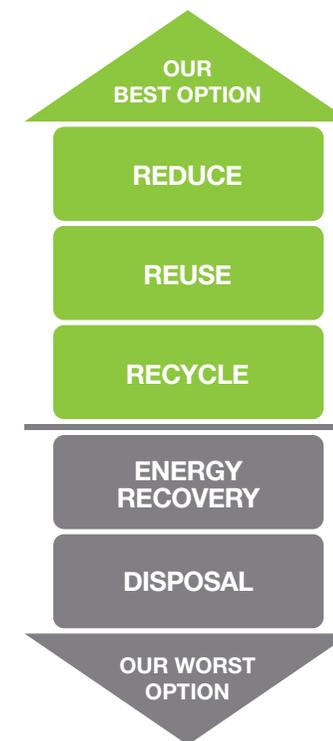
A few examples of our operational waste initiatives:

- Minimising raw material wastage by changing our production processes and batch scheduling
- Moving all waste disposal from UK Decorative Paints sites up the waste hierarchy so it is no longer sent to landfill
- At Dulux Decorator Centre stores, secondary packaging such as cardboard interleaves and shrink wrap are backhauled to our warehouses for reuse or recycling

In 2013, AkzoNobel Decorative Paints UK pilot tested the Carbon Trust Waste Standard, awarded to businesses or public sector bodies that clearly demonstrate commitment to reducing waste year-on-year. As part of the pilot we have helped improve the final launch version.

Minimising the impact of paint containers

Packaging is critical to ensuring our products reach our customers fit for purpose, but it is also a major contributor to the waste of any decorating job. Over the last few years, we have been working to reduce the environmental impact of our packaging by lightweighting, increasing recycled content and trialling new packaging formats.



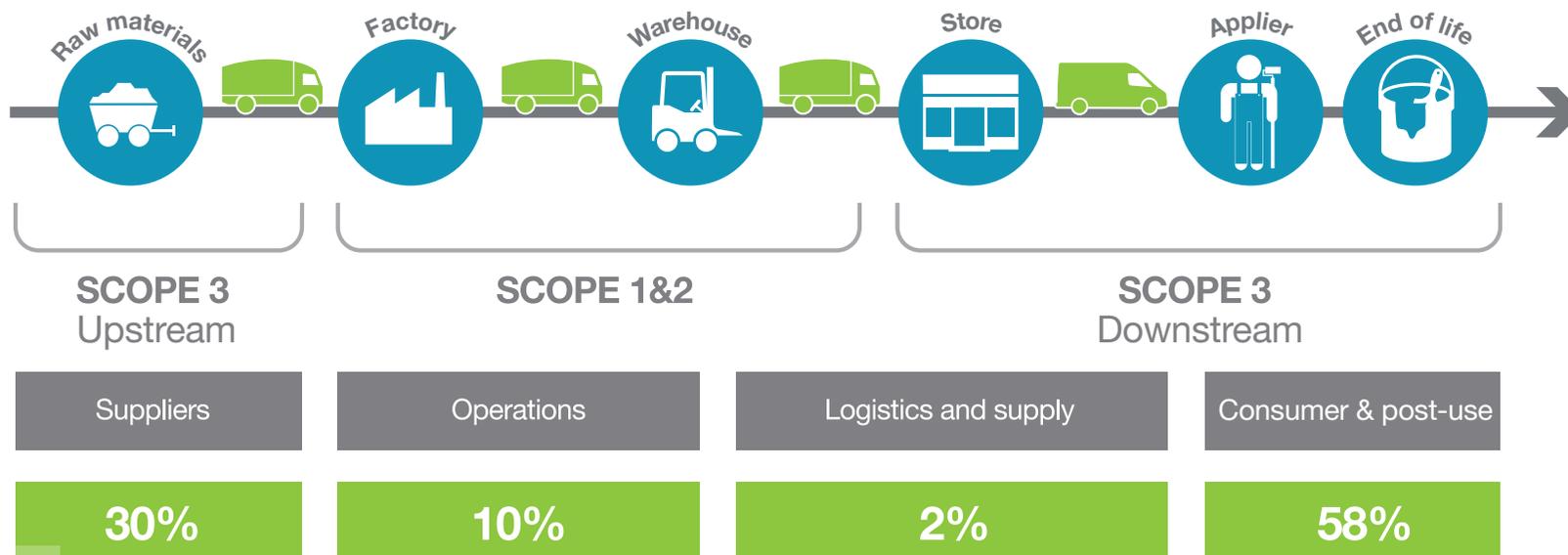
Working with our suppliers to reduce 'upstream waste'

We work with our main suppliers to find ways of reducing the waste associated with using and transporting our raw materials. Often waste can be reduced by changing the way we receive it. For example, moving to larger bags that can be automatically handled, reused or recycled – or by moving from powders to slurries.

All our suppliers are required to sign up to our Vendor Policy, committing them to high health, safety and environmental standards.

Tackling waste at every level

Analysing our products' value chain, we see that most waste is created outside our own operations and logistics. As a responsible manufacturer, we need to tackle waste at all levels, collaborating with those who influence our waste footprint and those affected by it.





Tackling post-use waste can make a big difference





In the UK, our research shows that each year 55 million litres of paint and 90 million containers are wasted. We are determined to change this by exploring new ways to recycle and paints and their containers.

Doubly difficult

Paint waste is particularly difficult to manage because both the paint and the containers need to be addressed simultaneously. No current UK infrastructure can recycle or reuse this waste at scale, so most is landfilled or incinerated, losing valuable and scarce resources. AkzoNobel Decorative Paints UK & Ireland is searching for a solution.

Community RePaint: reusing paint in the community

Over 20 years ago, Dulux helped establish [Community RePaint](#), a national network of non-profit schemes across the UK who collect leftover paint from retailers, decorators, paint manufacturers and Household Waste Recycling Centres and redistribute it to community groups and those in social need – ensuring that the paint is not only reused but that it also has a positive social impact. Dulux is proud to be Community RePaint's sole sponsor. The network has now grown to over 70 schemes across the UK and Dulux is looking to expand the number of schemes to achieve national coverage.

In 2013 alone, the Community RePaint network:

- Saved 410,148 litres of paint that would otherwise have gone to landfill or for incineration
- Redistributed 245,463 litres of leftover paint





Searching for new possibilities

The scale of the paint waste issue means we now need to go further, but we can't solve this alone. Together with pioneering partners such as Newlife Paints, a science-led paint recycling company, we are exploring new ways of recovering and reprocessing waste paint into a commercially viable product. Along with the Technology Strategy Board and design and innovation company Seymour Powell, we are jointly exploring how the paint recycling process can be speeded and scaled up.

As well as recovering and reusing the paint, we also need to stop paint containers getting lost in the waste system so they too can be recycled.

Since we began trialling paint container collection schemes at Household Waste Recycling Centres, we have collected and recycled 107,560 containers and got first-hand insight into how a public collection scheme could operate alongside the current waste management structure. These findings are currently being analysed and a collaborative working group has been set up to find a scalable solution.

107,560

**paint containers collected and recycled
from Household Waste Recycling Centres
since our trial began**

Paint calculator to help minimise waste at source

Of course, the most effective way of reducing post-use paint waste is not creating it in the first place. A consumer survey shows that 75% of DIYers guess how much paint they require, so we have developed the [Dulux Paint calculator](#), which estimates how much paint is required based on room dimensions and paint coverage rate.





Delivering radical
resource efficiency in
our own operations





At AkzoNobel, we are committed to driving sustainability throughout our operations, particularly when it comes to resource efficiency. Here are just a few examples of the energy saving and resource efficiency initiatives we have introduced over recent years.

Saving energy, protecting resources, reducing waste

At our Stowmarket manufacturing facility, we have reduced energy usage by 62% with a new high efficiency sensor operated lighting system, and saved over 170 tonnes of CO₂ via a new paint mixing system. Our 188 Dulux Decorator Centre stores are enjoying energy savings of between 15% and 20% with more efficient store heating.

The Rainwater Harvesting System at our manufacturing plant, Prudhoe won the 2011 British Coatings Federation Sustainable Innovation Award. It is expected to save 1.7 million litres of water a year and is incorporated into our new Ashington factory. All our UK manufacturing sites have ISO9001 and ISO14001 accreditation.

We have achieved zero waste to landfill across all our operations, including our stores and offices, with all waste being either recycled or used to produce Climafuel. Finally, we have developed a process that turns paint sludge from our on site manufacturing processes into agricultural fertiliser.



Minimising the impact of our logistics

Even when our paint leaves our sites, we are still determined to minimise its impacts. We achieve this by:

- Employing double deck trailers to increase our haulage capacity
- Minimising travel by scheduling same day deliveries to adjacent locations
- Ensuring new vehicles have the most up to date Euro V engines

All this has ensured a reduction in our CO₂ emissions of around 20% since 2011.



A sustainability treble:

AkzoNobel Decorative Paints UK was the first company in its sector and one of the first four organisations globally to be awarded all three Carbon Trust Standards for Carbon, Water and Waste Reduction.





Our new ultra-sustainable Ashington factory.

Opening up new possibilities

A clear demonstration of Planet Possible's commitment to resource efficiency is the brand new manufacturing facility in Ashington, Northumberland.

We aim for it to be the most sustainable paint plant ever created, producing 90 million litres of paint per year and becoming the heart of our UK Decorative Paints operations – a beacon of environmental excellence, achieving significant energy efficiency performance through state-of-the-art advanced manufacturing processes and best practice in building thermal efficiency, heating design and energy efficient lighting.



Our ambitious plans for the facility include:

- Energy consumption per litre of paint 60% lower than today's operations
- A range of on site low-carbon sources, such as biomass, photovoltaic panels and solar thermal water heating
- Targets of 100% water reuse and 90% solvent reuse to eliminate waste at source
- Reducing VOC emissions by 75% and waste by 50%
- A BREEAM HEA9 and HEA02 'Excellence' rating for our offices





Our business
brings colour to
people's lives





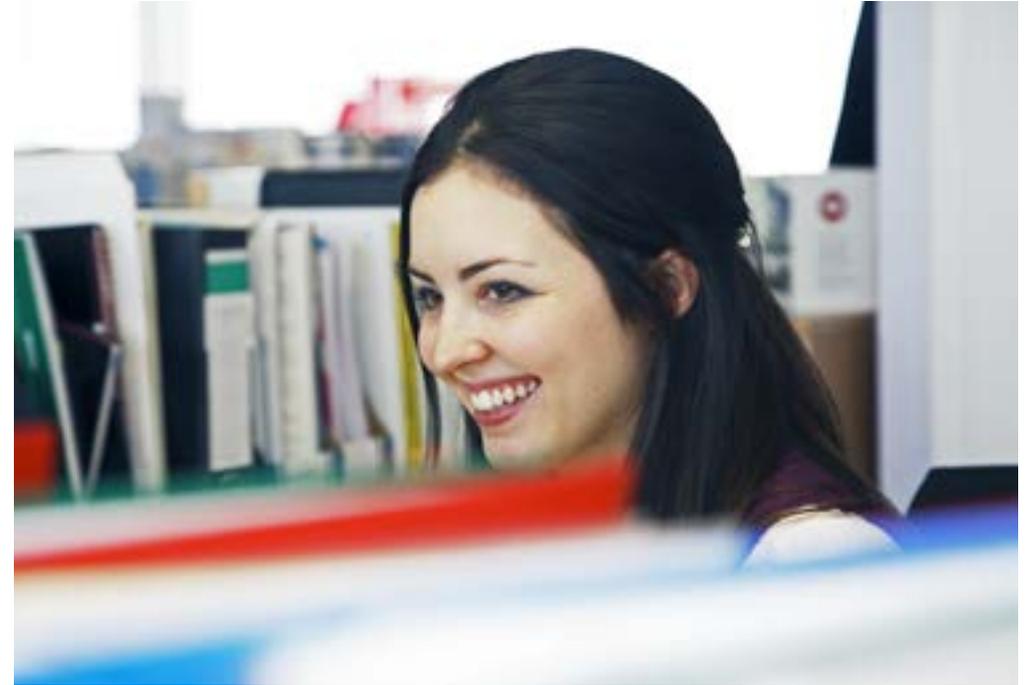
Our Planet Possible vision includes a brighter future for our employees and their families. With health and safety as central, we want to use colour to further unlock their potential.

Keeping our employees safe and enabling them to thrive

Safety is in our DNA; we believe that nothing we do is worth getting hurt for, and that work related injuries and illnesses can be prevented.

Embedded safety is a strategic focus area, introducing core processes to manage operational risk at every location. We follow the principles of behaviour-based safety (BBS), applying the science of human behaviour to industrial safety focused on what people do and why they do it, with an intervention strategy to improve outcomes.

We believe that our people need to thrive; well-being is important for us as individuals and as a business. Happy, fit and healthy people are more likely to enjoy their work, be engaged and remain loyal. Therefore, we have established our Thrive initiative, offering support and benefits to promote health and well-being at work.



Enabling employees to colour communities

We actively encourage each of our employees to participate in community activities, by allowing them two days every year when they can work together as teams to colour lives in their local communities and have a positive impact on others. AkzoNobel also operates a Community Programme to financially support selected community projects nominated by employees.

Colourful experiences in Africa

Each year, two of our high potential recent joiners help run summer schools at PROTEC, our educational charity partner in South Africa, and every two years, we support 15 employees to help build and colour schools in Cameroon as part of our Build A Future For Africa employee-initiated programme. They benefit immeasurably from this experience and return to us with fresh perspectives, inspired and encouraged, and usually exhausted!

Enjoying colour with family and friends

[The Color Run](#), presented by Dulux, offers AkzoNobel employees and their families a unique and uplifting way to live out our mission to add colour to people's lives in 8 locations across the UK. Alongside the wider public, they can take part in the run touted as the 'Happiest 5k on the planet'.

Unlocking potential working with the next generation

We run a Mentoring Scheme with [The Outward Bound Trust](#), linking selected employees with young people who go together on Outward Bound adventures. They return to the business having experienced new dimensions in leadership and team motivation and they often continue to work with the children and their schools after their return.





Our target is to colour
1 million lives by 2020





Dulux believes in the power of colour and is committed to making a positive difference in our local communities. In 2011, Dulux launched the Let's Colour Project in UK & Ireland to bring colour to even more people's lives.

Positively colouring communities: Let's Colour Project

Let's Colour Project donates colourful Dulux paint to communities throughout the UK and Ireland. Every year, we aim to donate over 90,000 litres of paint, allowing us to transform over 200 grey spaces across communities.

The project is open to community groups, charities and individuals who have the desire and determination to make a difference.

If you would like to transform a community environment or space with colour, nominate it for a Let's Colour Project. Find out more at letscolour.co.uk or letscolour.ie. All successful online nominations will receive free Dulux paint.



Rainbow challenge

The playground at Milton Abbey Primary School in Tavistock needed colour desperately. So under the Let's Colour Project, Dulux Decorator Centre Plymouth provided paints in all the colours of the rainbow.

Using the paints and helped by staff and parent volunteers, the pupils turned a boring wall into a gorgeous mural. The result, in the words of Art Co-ordinator and teacher Jill Hooson is that "thanks to the Dulux Let's Colour Project, the children now have a fun and colourful playground".



Brighter Hope in Ireland

One of Let's Colour Ireland's most life enhancing projects has been the transformation of The Hope Cancer Support Centre in Enniscorthy, County Wexford.

The Centre was established to provide emotional support and practical information for people who have been affected by a diagnosis of cancer. With the help of staff and local student volunteers, a somewhat sterile and clinical environment became a vibrant yet relaxing space, truly reflecting the Centre's ethos: joy for life.



Ride Across Britain

Dulux is the Official Colour Supplier for the [Deloitte Ride Across Britain](#). In 2013, our 160 strong Dulux Let's Colour team, comprising employees, customers and suppliers, rode across Britain raising money for The Outward Bound Trust, also adding colour to the lives of communities along the route through local Let's Colour projects.

Community RePaint

Through our sponsorship of the Community RePaint network, we help the schemes to positively colour even more lives in local communities across the UK.





Inspiring and supporting the next generation





AkzoNobel Decorative Paints UK & Ireland is firmly committed to inspiring and unlocking the potential of the next generation, working with some great organisations here in the UK and Ireland, and also further afield.

The Outward Bound Trust

Since 2004, one of our major charitable partners has been The Outward Bound Trust, which aims to unlock the potential of young and often disadvantaged people through safe but challenging outdoor experiences, raising their self-esteem and preparing them to face the future with confidence. In 2013 we:

- Supported 492 children to go on an Outward Bound experience
- Provided 11 mentors and supported 11 schools across the UK
- Raised over £10,000 through the sale of can openers, stirrers and carrier bags in our Dulux Decorator Centre stores
- Raised £120,000 towards the refurbishment of the Outward Bound Ullswater site through the 'Ride Across Britain' cycle ride

James Dunleavy, one of the mentors said:

I just wanted to say a massive thank you with all my heart for the opportunity of mentoring with The Outward Bound Trust! It was the second best experience of my entire life – only behind the birth of my son! I really can't wait to put into practice what I have now realised and also learned across the course of the week! I always knew I would take a lot from it, but never expected it to be so much!!!





PROTEC (Programme for Technological Careers)

Since 2010, we have supported PROTEC, a non-profit educational charity in Durban, South Africa, providing additional schooling in Maths, Science and Technology for underprivileged children, with financial support for their summer schools.

Since it began in 1982, PROTEC has trained over 32,000 educators and more than 28,000 students from disadvantaged backgrounds have been involved in its programmes.

67% of those students completed their Maths, Science and Technology (MST) Learner Excellence Programme and found careers in Science, Engineering and Technology.



Dulux Decorator Centres' Young Apprentice of the Year

The [DDC Apprentice of the Year competition](#) encourages talent and best practice in the decorating industry. The competition – a practical test of painting, wallpapering and some special effects – provides a challenging and rewarding experience for young painters and decorators. If successful, they receive over £2,000 in prizes and the legendary award of Dulux Decorator Centres' Apprentice of the Year to add to their CV and mantelpiece.





We would like to thank the following partners for being part of our Planet Possible journey so far:



www.akzonobel.com

AkzoNobel is a leading global paints and coatings company and a major producer of speciality chemicals. We supply industries and consumers worldwide with innovative products and are passionate about developing sustainable answers for our customers. Our portfolio includes well-known brands such as Dulux, Sikkens, International and Eka. Headquartered in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, we are consistently ranked as one of the leaders in the area of sustainability. With operations in more than 80 countries, our 50,000 people around the world are committed to delivering leading products and technologies to meet the growing demands of our fast-changing world.