

## Sustainability at Audience Systems

At Audience Systems, we are committed improving the sustainability of our products and operations, and are undertaking a continuous, measurable programme of improvement aligned to the UN's 17 [Sustainable Development Goals](#).

### Energy Use & Carbon Footprint

We source our electricity from 100% renewable sources, around 30% of which is from our own solar panels. The [Carbon Sustainability Tool](#) allows us to measure and report emissions, as well as guiding our carbon footprint reduction programme. With the help of EU 'Net Zero' funding, we have already improved the efficiency of our heating, lighting, compressors and powder coat facility. We are continuing with a rolling programme of upgrades to improve the energy efficiency of high energy plant. We are also reducing our business travel.

### Indoor Air Quality

We have tested representative samples of retractable platforms and chairs for emissions of three key chemicals: VOCs, formaldehyde and acetaldehyde. The emissions fell within safe limits specified within the BREEAM, LEED and WELL standards, and we can supply details to building designers on request.

### Product Certification

As part of our sustainability journey, we are working on acquiring certification of our products to further industry-recognised sustainability standards. We are currently working towards obtaining Environmental Product Declarations for our products.

### UK Manufacture

With 60% of our customers being in the UK, it makes sense for us to manufacture here. The majority of our suppliers are close by.

### Materials and Components

We ensure that our key suppliers have relevant safeguards in place (for example, FSC certification for all timber) and assess environmental impacts and aspects of every material we use. We also have a programme in place to reduce our use of single-use plastics. We source locally wherever possible, and regularly review our materials to identify possible substitutions which would lower our environmental impact.

Our standard fabric is a 100% post-consumer recycled polyester, and we also offer durable fabrics based on natural fibres such as wool and flax.



## Durability

The length of a product's life has a major impact on carbon footprint. Our products enjoy a typical lifecycle of over twenty years, and are specifically designed to be easy to service and repair, with parts that are easy to replace. We also offer spares packages, allowing customers to undertake small repairs themselves.

## Waste Management

We actively seek to reduce our production of waste. For example, we have made major investments in CNC machinery which optimises material use. We also manage and segregate our waste streams to minimise landfill. Wherever possible, we re-use waste and offcuts within our own production facility, or donate it to local charities for repurposing.

## End of Life and Recyclability

At the end of our product life, we can provide disassembly instructions, drawings, and/or a written strip out sequence. Our products are assembled with standard fixings throughout enabling them to be disassembled into component materials using standard hand and power tools. Analysis of our products shows that typically retractable platforms and tiering have a recyclable content over 70%, while chairs have a recyclable content of over 60%.

## Training

We are instigating a programme of training and development to support these goals. We have achieved gold certification with the [Supply Chain Sustainability School](#) and will continue to use this tool to upskill our people. We train site staff in best environmental practice on site, including waste procedures, COSHH, safeguarding of people and wildlife, risk assessment and accident reporting.

## Working Conditions

We pay at least the National Living Wage to all employees. We have policies and procedures to protect our employees' health and wellbeing and to guard against discrimination and bullying. We also take a proactive approach to safeguarding against the risk of modern slavery, both at our own workplace and in our supply chain.

## Community

Our volunteering policy allows our employees to spend time supporting local charities and community organisations.

## Measurement

We are measuring our progress against the requirements of the UK construction industry's [Supply Chain Sustainability School](#), to ensure we're meeting or exceeding the expectations of our home market.

## Anti-Greenwashing Commitment

We are committed to avoiding the use of vague or misleading information in communications around sustainability.