

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](#).

Measurement

We are using the B Corp 'B Impact' assessment tool to measure and monitor our progress overall progress against the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. This supports us in not only reducing our impact on the environment, but also in further strengthening our arrangements with regard to key issues such as wellbeing, equality and modern slavery.

Energy Use & Carbon Footprint

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 and compressors. We are continuing to take steps to reduce our energy use, including a rolling programme of further upgrades to our production equipment, and reduction of business travel.

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 currently working on acquiring certification of our products to further industry-recognised sustainability standards.

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 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%.

People

We are instigating a programme of training and development to support these goals. We have achieved silver 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.

Anti-Greenwashing Commitment

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