

Our contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals





For over 100 years, today and in future:
Innovative solutions for generations to come

At Schlötter, sustainability is firmly anchored in our corporate strategy and forms a central guideline for our actions. We take responsibility in all three dimensions of sustainability: economic, ecological and social. Our economic success enables us to make long-term investments in innovative technologies, resource efficiency and stable employment. At the same time, we are actively committed to environmental protection and conserving natural resources. As an employer, we are committed to fairness, equal opportunities and respectful cooperation - today and for generations to come.

Functional electroplating technology plays an important role in achieving the UN sustainability goals through resource-efficient coating processes, extended product life cycles and reduced environmental impact.

Strategic focus	Commitment	SDGs
Global Orientation – Thinking internationally, being strong locally	As an internationally operating family business, we promote economic sustainability through organic growth. Increasing our international presence in a targeted way makes us more resilient to local challenges and improves our flexibility and resilience.	 
Taking responsibility for the climate and environment	Our aim is to consistently reduce emissions, conserve resources, avoid waste, and replace hazardous substances with safer alternatives, all without compromising on quality.	   
Quality as principle, innovation as driving force	Our processes are the results of generations research, quality awareness and a constant desire to improve. “The search for a better surface, a better electrolyte system begins when we scrutinise existing good surfaces and electrolyte systems”	 
Committed and competent employees	In a rapidly changing environment, we focus on training and developing our employees. We encourage personal responsibility and curiosity to actively support lifelong learning. With tailored internal and external training programmes, we create individual development prospects and strengthen the skills of our team.	 
Attractive employer with positive attitude	For us, treating each other with respect and fairness is not an added extra, but the foundations on which everything else is built. We create a working environment in which employees feel comfortable and valued, and in which their active participation is expected. Everyone bears responsibility for our joint success. In our chemical-technical working environment, health and safety are our top priorities.	  

Commitment area	Contribution	SDG
<p>Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages</p>	<p>Occupational safety is a top priority for us. Where possible, we replace critical chemicals with safer alternatives to protect our employees and those along the value chain. For instance, we are replacing chromium (VI) processes entirely with chromium (III) processes.</p>	
<p>Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</p>	<p>We promote education and lifelong learning. We support the personal and professional development of our teams through internal training programmes. At the same time, we are committed to training: across six professional disciplines we offer apprenticeships, student internships, practical semester and thesis supervision. Our commitment is rounded off by educational partnerships with schools.</p>	
<p>Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</p>	<p>Equal opportunities are important to us. The electroplating industry is traditionally male-dominated, a trend that is also reflected within our company. This makes it all the more important for us to award management positions and conduct recruitment solely on the basis of qualifications. Women are specifically encouraged and empowered to apply for management roles.</p>	
<p>Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.</p>	<p>Water is a vital raw material. This is why we intend to increase the efficiency with which we utilise water in future. We operate our own wastewater treatment plant on site, and we also ensure that our customers handle it responsibly. Proof of authorisation for wastewater management is a prerequisite.</p>	
<p>Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.</p>	<p>Our focus is on renewable energies and efficiency. Measures to reduce our emissions include PV systems, heat pumps and the electrification of our vehicle fleet. As our electricity requirements are set to rise in future, we are continuously working to improve our energy efficiency. Since 2022, we have already reduced our gas consumption by a third. We are involved in the 'AEM-Direkt' project, which is part of the H2Giga flagship project for the production of green hydrogen.</p>	
<p>Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.</p>	<p>We grow sustainably. As an internationally active family business, our focus is on organic growth that strengthens resilience, promotes flexibility, and creates secure jobs.</p>	
<p>Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation</p>	<p>We are investing in sustainable infrastructure. As well as expanding our PV systems, we are planning energy-efficient renovations, switching to heat pumps and building a new facility to modernise our site. Around a quarter of our employees have many years of experience working in R&D, leading to innovations and the continuous improvement of existing processes.</p>	

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<p>Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</p>	<p>Sustainability begins with product development. To avoid releasing chemicals into the air, water and soil along the supply chain, we replace chemicals of concern with safe alternatives where possible. For example, we have replaced chemicals in our tin and chrome processes. We minimise on-site waste as much as possible and dispose of unavoidable residual materials in an organised manner or recycle them. In addition, our packaging now contains a proportion of recycled material, and we take back used canisters to return them to the cycle.</p>	
<p>Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.</p>	<p>Climate protection is part of our corporate strategy. We have anchored our contribution to climate protection in our climate strategy. Our climate team is developing specific measures, such as switching to heat pumps to provide buildings with low-emission heating and cooling. Our climate newsletter promotes internal communication and awareness of climate and environmental protection. Thanks to our international focus, we can also develop processes that can be used in different climate zones.</p>	

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