



**BALTO** print

Year of scope: 2022


**BALTO print**



# annual report



on Quality management, Corporate Social  
Responsibility, Environmental Protection and  
Sustainability



# About us

**BALTO** print

BALTO print has been a trustful and important partner for many customers in more than 20 countries since 1996, establishing itself as one of the market leaders in the industry. Proudly manufacturing beautiful books for so many years, we have earned a reputation for reliability and quality service, sharing our care for the details with our partners, but also for our sincere commitment to sustainable practices and responsible operations.

At BALTO print, we genuinely care about our planet. That's why we ensure that every aspect of our book manufacturing process, from production to packaging and delivery, is carried out with the utmost consideration for the environment. We firmly believe that by making responsible choices in materials and production methods, we can contribute to creating a better world for future generations.

Our approach encompasses quality management, social responsibility, and environmental consciousness, which we consider to be essential components of our success. We encourage all our employees and business partners to align with our vision and actively contribute to our sustainable strategy.

As a renowned book printer, BALTO print takes great pride in our dedicated team of over 240 professionals. Together, we work diligently to bring books to life, ensuring they are visually stunning and captivating for readers. We understand the importance of attention to detail, not just in producing exceptional books, but also in preserving the beauty of our planet.

Our commitment to sustainability is unwavering, and we extend an invitation to all our partners to join us in this journey. Let us collaborate to protect the environment and ensure that future generations can enjoy books in a cleaner world.

This report serves as a summary of our efforts towards this ambitious goal, with the hope of inspiring others to embrace similar responsibilities. BALTO print firmly believes that by working together, we can create a brighter future, where care for the environment and the joy of reading harmoniously coexist.

# Quality management

**Taking care of the details requires standard procedures, measuring tools and approved references, knowledge and dedication.**

Our way to provide high-class quality includes four main principles:



1. Put the Customer first. We are proactive in understanding and meeting our Customers' requirements and needs.
2. Work with the best. We rely upon a carefully chosen supply chain of long-term professional partners, suppliers and subcontractors. We ensure stability of product quality using only reliable and tested raw materials for the production of books.
3. Always learn & improve. We continuously improve our processes: we learn from every order, we empower our employees to share their ideas and to implement them. We also make them an active part of our process improvement teams (Kaizen, PDCA, management and others).
4. Comply with the highest standards. In 2022 we were fully audited on 4 fields (Quality management, Environmental care, Working safety and FSC chain of custody). The results proved BALTO print met the highest standards in the printing industry. As a result,

we renewed our certifications for 3 more years and are certified:

- **ISO 1400:** Environmental management certification.
- **ISO 9001:** Quality management certification.
- **ISO 45001:** Occupational health and safety.
- **FSC:** Chain of Custody certification. Nr. C107574
- All our materials comply with **REACH European standard** for the use of chemicals.
- We assure full traceability of raw-materials used in our production. If needed, **BOM** (Bill Of Material) will be provided.
- **Climate partner:** as we can measure the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint of our printed jobs, we can help our customers in the process of offsetting such footprint and receiving official carbon free product's certification.

*We master our job. Thus, BALTO print collaborates as a reliable long-term partner, sharing our large experience with our Customers to make every book become a successful story.*

# Corporate Social Responsibility

## Health and Safety: it is our responsibility to take care of all our employees.

1. We make sure our employees have a **Safe** and **Ergonomic** working place.
2. We have a special task force group to be prepared to act in case of natural disaster, providing them with risk assessment, actions plans and resources.
3. We trained 100% of our employees in prevention and reaction in case of floods, fire, accident, and nuclear disaster.
4. We had a seminar for 100% of our employees on health issues, specially related to the effect of alcohol and smoking.
5. As every year, we do training for all our employees on how to act in case of fire and how to extinguish it.
6. We also provide administrative staff with broadened possibilities to work from home (with trustworthy information security).
7. We have a doctor visiting the company once a year and make sure all employees have the opportunity to have a personal consultation on their own health and ergonomics issues.

## Ethical and comfortable working environment is everyone's right!

BALTO print is proud to be among the first 30% of Lithuanian companies who back in the past first had a Works Council elected by our employees.

This Works Councils ensures compliance with the Right of Freedom of Association and the Right to Collective Bargaining.

Among others, the Works Council has these recognised rights:

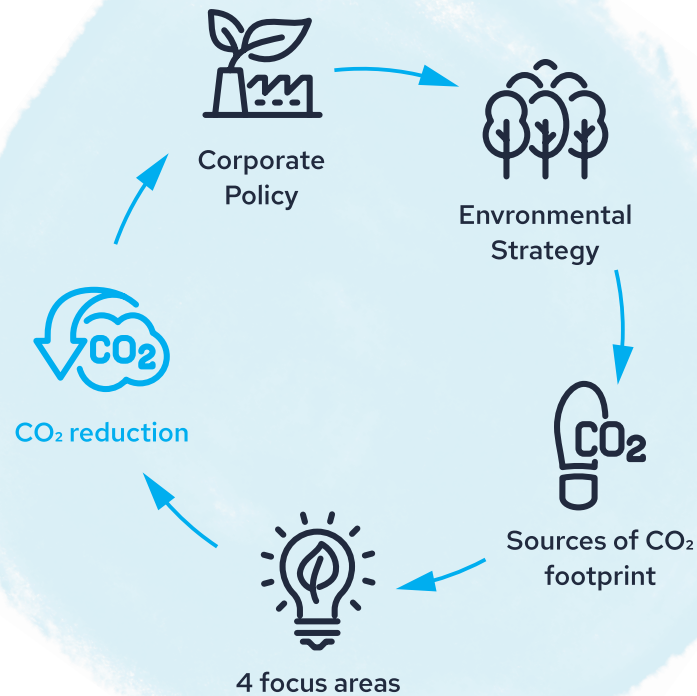
- A. Representing the employees, the right to participate in all the consulting discussions with the employer which are related to decisions which affect the right of the employees: safety, equality, payment and other.
- B. To negotiate with the employer specific agreements on behalf of the employees.
- C. Regulates wages and various working and employment conditions in agreements between the social partners.
- D. Regulates the management and settlement of disputes by the parties themselves.
- E. Makes the State's involvement to be restricted and needed only if the parties fail to solve their disputes by themselves.

As a step forward in the fight against any discrimination, in 2022 we approved and enforced a new Policy on **"Prevention of violence and harassment"**.



## Environmental Protection and Sustainability every day!

Our approach to the Environmental Protection & Sustainability starts by defining our **Corporate Policy** on the protection of the environment, which is then applied through an **Environmental Strategy** directly on the **sources of CO<sub>2</sub> footprint**, specially on **4 main areas** of interest to reach the **reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>** impact on the environment.



# Corporate Policy

## on the Protection of the Environment

BALTO print has a well defined Corporate Policy on the protection of the environment, which defines our aim and stands out as a reference for our employees and business partners.

- BALTO print takes care of the environment. All our business decisions take into account the impact they may have on the environment. As far as it is possible, we avoid (and when it is not possible, minimise) any harmful impact on the environment.
- All our employees and business partners must effectively share this aim.
- BALTO print complies with all applicable European and Lithuanian legislation regarding environmental protection, including ISO 14001 standard.
- BALTO print collaborates with our Customers and Suppliers in finding environmental friendly solutions applicable to all aspects of our operations.
- BALTO print supports responsible forestry as a means of reducing CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere. We are FSC™ certified and we encourage our Customers to choose paper from verified sources.
- BALTO print actively works to minimize waste and to recycle as much of unavoidable waste as possible. We sort our waste and deliver it to accredited recycling stations.
- At BALTO print we audit and measure our achievements towards goals for environmental impact on a yearly basis. Our goals are being monitored to make sure we always are on top of or one step ahead of the development.

Signed,



Artūras Karosas, owner and CEO.



# Strategy for the protection of the environment

This Corporate Policy is applied through a defined Strategy which calls action in 4 areas of special focus:

**Commitment:** Corporate policy on the protection of the environment

Definition of Strategy and Deployment			Implementation
We <b>measure</b> the impact of our activity into the environment	We <b>invest</b> into more eco-friendly processes	We <b>communicate</b> with our Customers and our Employees	4 areas of special focus
<b>Since 2018 we follow:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. electricity and water consumption;</li> <li>2. paper, metal and other waste;</li> </ol>	<p>From mid 2022 <b>we have a long term contract for the purchase of energy 100% green.</b></p> <p>From August 2017 to December 2019, we sourced 100% of our electricity from renewable sources as well.</p>	<p>We emphasize the importance of choosing substrates and packaging with lower CO<sub>2</sub> footprint. Our "standard &amp; preferred substrates" have a very low CO<sub>2</sub> footprint per ton.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Electricity</li> <li>2. Water</li> <li>3. Waste reduction &amp; management</li> <li>4. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction</li> </ol>
<p>Since 2019 we calculate our Scope 1 &amp; 2 of our GHG emissions with the help of external partners.</p>	<p><b>Since 2019 we have invested 11 mln €</b> into more efficient and modern technologies which is helping us <b>to reduce our GHG emissions.</b></p>	<p>From 2022 we offer to our Customers the possibility of offsetting the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint of their printed jobs.</p>	
<p>At the beginning of 2022 we plan to be able to offer our customers the opportunity to know the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint of their printed jobs.</p>	<p><b>We are planning further 1,5 mln € for 2023.</b></p>	<p>We communicate with our Employees the importance of reducing unneeded energy &amp; water consumption, reducing paper waste and sorting wastes.</p>	

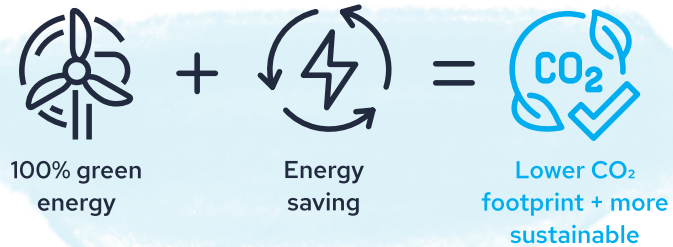


# Understanding the sources of CO<sub>2</sub> footprint

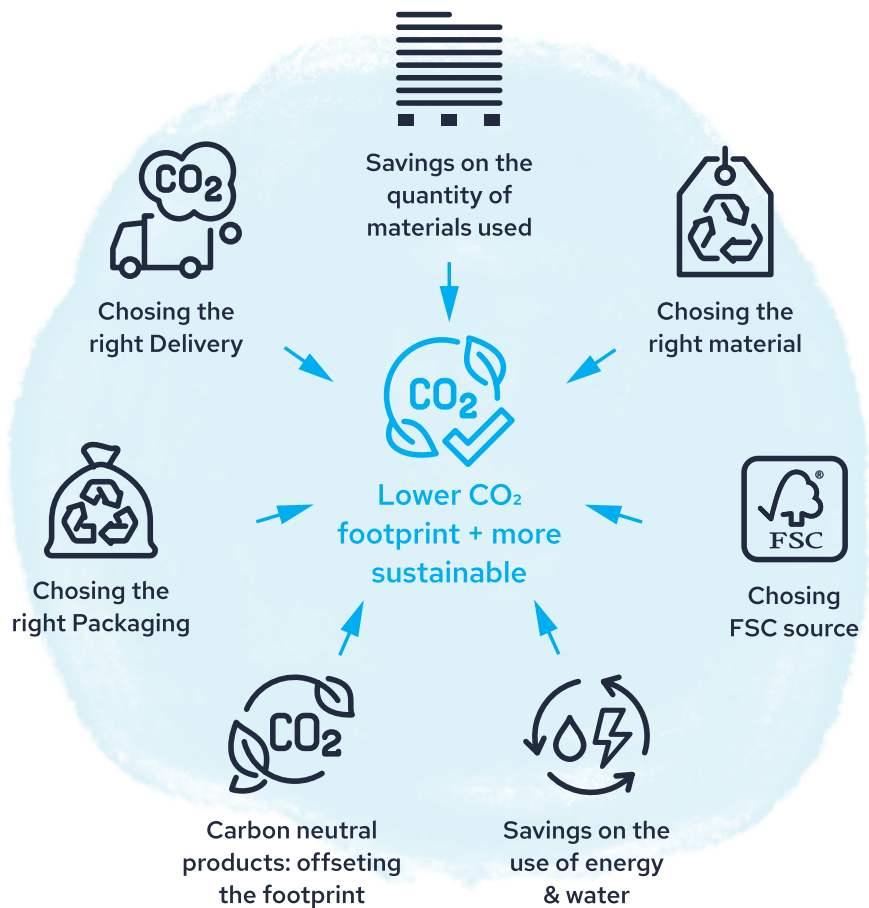
As a responsible partner, BALTO print takes care of the environment in all our activities and therefore seeks to reduce all sources of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at our hands. Such emissions come from the use of energy and of materials at any step, and we control both.

Here we present the complete approach to CO<sub>2</sub> footprint reduction:

## 1. Energy:



## 2. Manufacturing:





## The 4 main areas of action: electricity, water, waste and CO<sub>2</sub> reduction

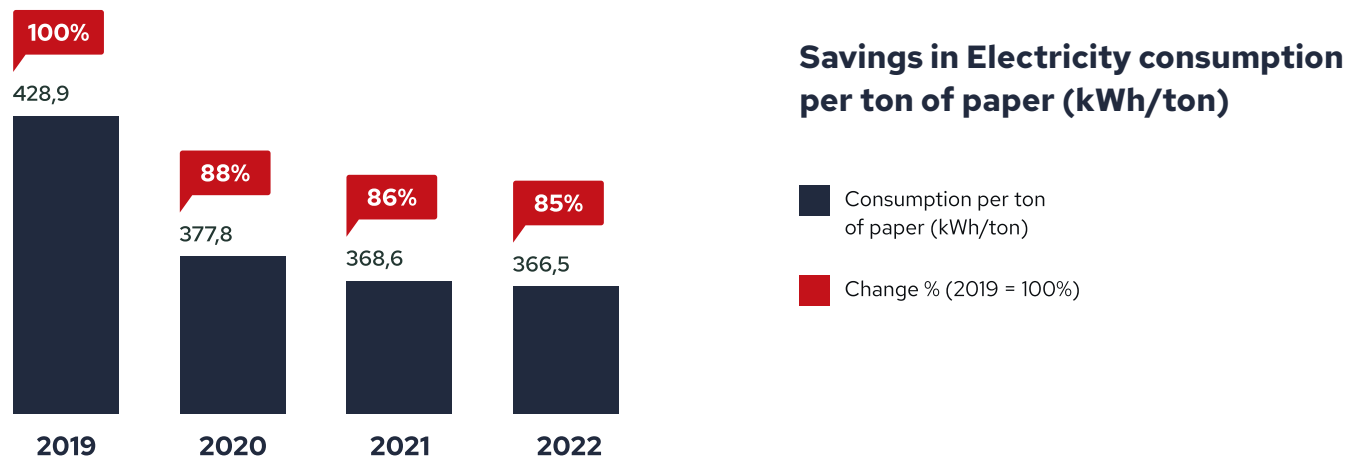
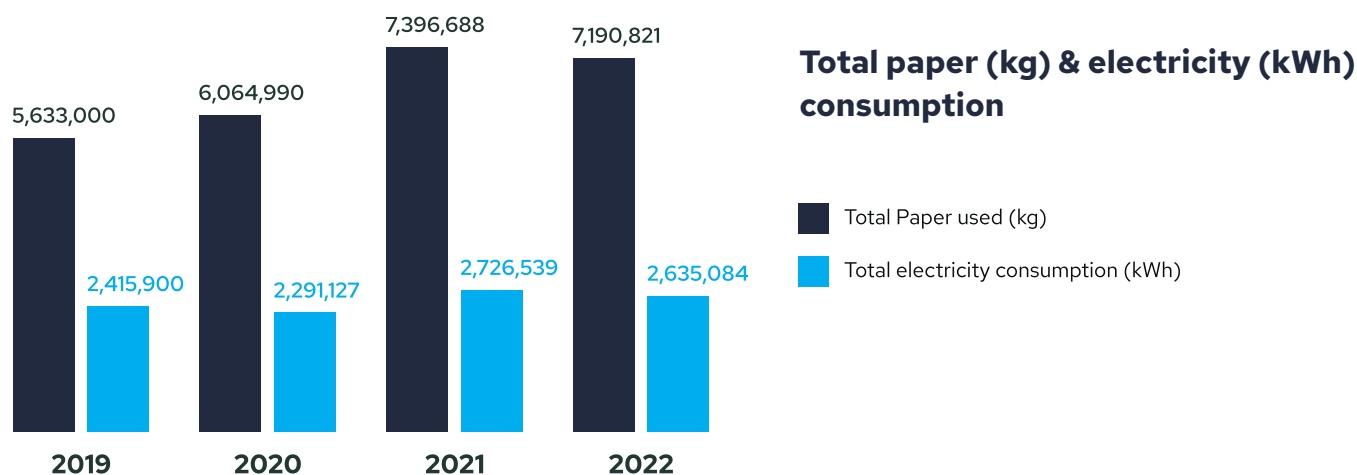
As we explained before, we apply our Environmental Strategy into 4 main areas of action.

### 1. Electricity

The Russian invasion of Ukraine provoked record-high inflation, growing energy prices and a huge uncertainty of the future, all of which strongly impacted the whole publishing sector in Europe, with a strong decline in book sales. However, despite this environment, BALTO print maintained a very stable business due to its outstanding reputation for quality and reliability, which made Customers choose BALTO as a long-term preferred partner.

 **15% kWh**  
savings per book!

**As a result of the investments we have made, we have reduced the use of electricity per produced book by 15 % from the reference year (2019)!**



Together with a reduction in the use of electricity, from mid 2022 we are purchasing 100% green electricity only. This investment in a more ecological source of energy helped us to save 310 t CO<sub>2</sub>! This is the equivalent of:

**It is equivalent to:**



**10 685**

trees planted

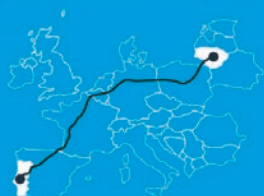
**It is equivalent to:**



**95**

flight around the World  
by plane for 1 passenger

**It is equivalent to:**



**466**

trips take by car from  
Vilnius to Lisbona

**BALTO**<sub>print</sub>

**has reduced**  
**CO<sub>2</sub>** EMISSIONS  
in 2022



**310 t**

We would have emitted so much **CO<sub>2</sub>**  
into the environment if we had used  
electricity produced in ways the  
pollute the environment instead of  
green energy



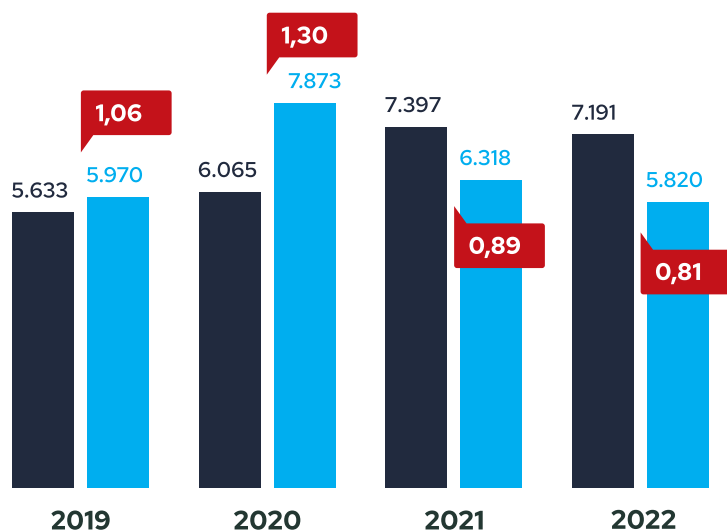
## 2. Water

We continue searching ways to diminish the use of water in our processes without compromising quality, thus where possible we reuse the water several times before discharging it.



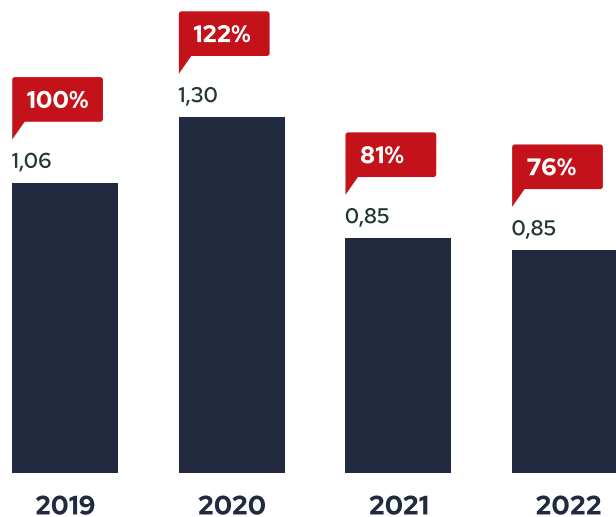
**24%** water savings per book!

**These efforts allowed us to reduce the use of water by 9% from 2021 and 24% from the reference year (2019)!**



**Total consumption of Paper and Water vs relative consumption m³/ton**

- Total Paper used (tons)
- Total water consumption (m³)
- Consumption per ton of paper (m³/ton)



**Water consumption (per ton of paper processed) and savings (2019 = 100%)**

- Consumption per ton of paper (m³/ton)
- Change % (2019 = 100%)

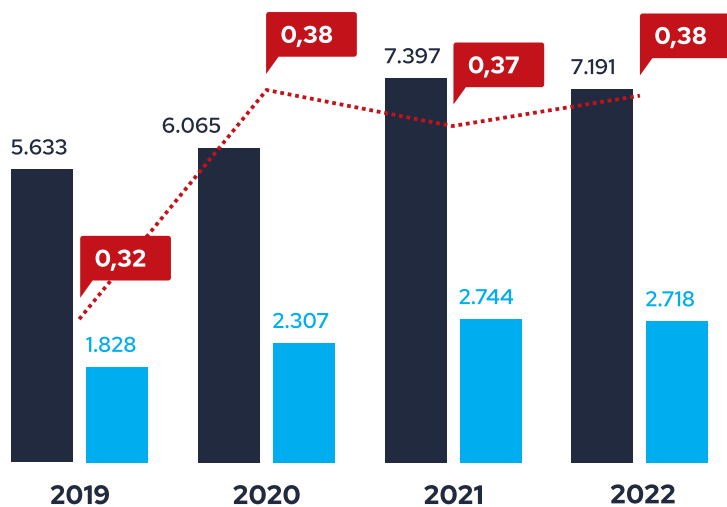
### 3. Waste reduction & management



**We do our best to minimise paper waste in our book production process.** Although such waste is inevitable due to the characteristics of the technological process, we control and try to reduce it according to the BPA (Best Practice Available). Amongst others, we follow these practices:

- Standardisation of processes. Once a process is improved, we standardise it so every operator from any shift can achieve the same result without needing an extra quantity of paper.
- Improved training for new employees. This action helps us to prepare new operators faster, resulting in a lower need for raw materials during training.
- Continuous training for best practice sharing among operators.
- Lower % of non-conformities helps us to reduce waste.
- We encourage our sales managers to guide Customers to choose qualities from our range of standard papers or available paper in our paper stock.
- We guide customers towards choosing more efficient book formats which will use paper more efficiently

As can be seen in the following graph, increasing the volume of books produced in the last years was done taking under stable control the % of waste produced, thanks to our standardised waste management.



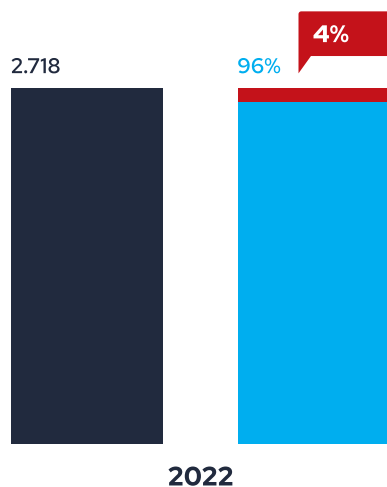
**Total waste (tons) and waste per ton of processed paper**

- Total Paper used (tons)
- Total waste (tons)
- Total waste (tons) per ton of paper used

**At BALTO print, we prioritise efficient waste sorting and responsibly direct it towards recycling or proper disposal, thus safeguarding the environment.**

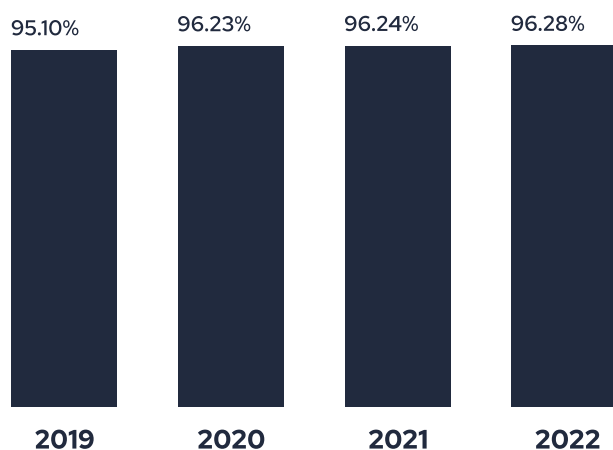
*More than 96% of our waste is totally recycled. The remaining part is sorted and then partially recycled, partially incinerated or sent to landfill.*





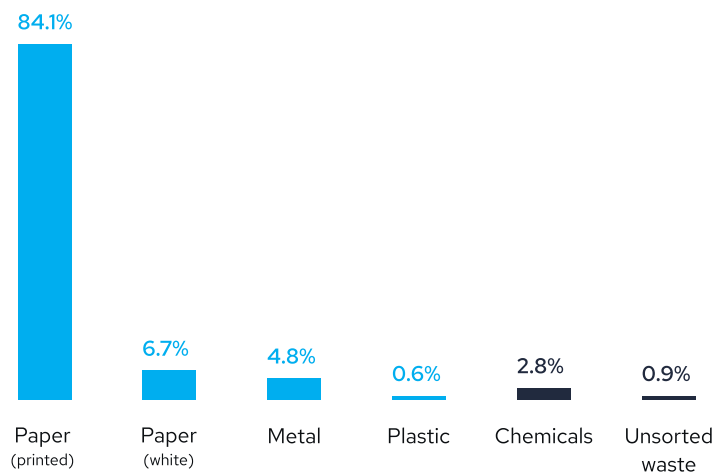
## 2022 total waste and recycling % rate

- Total waste (2718 tons)
- 100% Recycled waste (96% of total)
- Sorted & partially recycled, partially incinerated or sent to landfill waste (4%)



We are very happy to see the steady increase in the % of total waste which is recycled.

## 2019-2022 waste % which was recycled



What is this waste made of? Let's have a look!

## 2022 total waste by origin and further processing

- 100% Recycled
- Sorted & partially recycled, partially incinerated or sent to landfill

## 4. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction

### BALTO print has ambitious goals to reduce our CO<sub>2</sub> footprint

Back in 2021 we set our goals for 2022 & 2023 (per year):

1. Reduce electricity consumption by 3%;
2. Reduce water consumption by 3%;
3. Improve sorting of paper waste (white vs printed) by 15%;
4. Reduce the use of acetone and isopropyl alcohol by 10%.

**Note:** per kg of produced book.

### BALTO print effectively reduces its CO<sub>2</sub> emission

As a result of our efforts, in the last few years we have reduced the amount of electricity and water needed for the production of 1 ton of books. We also have improved the sorting of our unprinted waste and reduced the use of isopropyl alcohol:

#### Electricity:

- During 2022 we again reduced the amount of electricity consumption per ton of paper to 366 kWh/ton, which was 0,6% lower than the 2021 value of 368 kWh/ton.
- Although the achievement didn't reach the ambitious goal set, it is in line with the successful 15% reduction from the reference year 2019.
- We plan that the investments done in 2022 in more energy-efficient equipment will help us to reduce even more the consumption of electricity in 2023.
- From 2022 we are purchasing 100% green electricity in our factory and we will continue paying attention to the amount of electricity used in the processes. Thanks to this investment in green energy we have saved 310 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> to the planet!

#### Water:

- We continue to reduce the amount of water used in our processes and in 2022 we used 9% less water per ton of paper processed than the previous year.

#### Paper waste:

- We are successfully improving our waste control through better waste allocation, and during 2022 we have assured that white (unprinted) paper waste always goes to a specific container, with a result on an increase 44% of white (unprinted) paper waste as a % of the total paper recycled (from 5,1% in 2021 to 7,4% in 2022, well above than the goal set of 15% each of two years. We set this goal because it reduces the amount of chemicals used in the downstream recycling process of the paper waste.

#### Acetone and isopropyl alcohol:

- We have succeeded in reducing the use of these two chemicals by 21% already in 2022 (from 23.710 liters in 2021 to 18.622 liters in 2022).

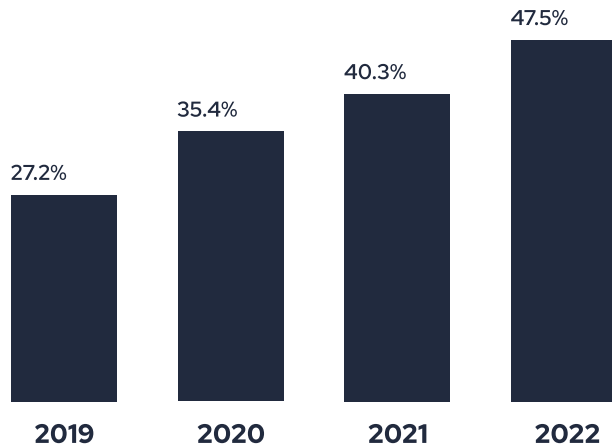
#### Waste recycled:

- We have increased the % of waste being recycled by 1,23%.

As an important part of such CO<sub>2</sub> management, **we are offering our Customers two main ways to reduce carbon emissions:**

**One** is the use of FSC certified materials. We encourage our Customers to choose paper from guaranteed exemplarily managed forests. BALTO print works with FSC™ (the Forest Stewardship Council™), an international non-profit organisation which provides a certification system for forest management and chain-of-custody.

### FSC paper (% of the total paper amount)



### FSC paper:

- We have seen an increase of 17,8% of the amount of paper processed in FSC paper, which now amounts to 47,5% of the total.

In 2022 at least 47% of all our papers used in production were FSC certified and we are happy to see the number of Customers choosing such paper growing!

**The other** way is to have a large database with PAPER PROFILES and to be able to advise our Customers with the best specific substrate for every application. When possible, we suggest choosing a paper with the lowest CO<sub>2</sub> footprint as follows:

### Low CO<sub>2</sub> footprint Paper profiles:

■ Lessebo Zero Offset (Lessebo Paper)	25 kg/t CO <sub>2</sub>
■ WFC matt - G-print (Arctic Paper)	63 kg/t CO <sub>2</sub>
■ WFU - Multi offset / UPM Fine (UPM)	100 kg/t CO <sub>2</sub>
■ WFC silk - Multi art silk / UPM Finesse (UPM)	130 kg/t CO <sub>2</sub>

## Certificate

Partner in  
climate action

**BALTO**  
print

### UAB BALTO print

as a customer of ClimatePartner, is actively engaged in climate protection with the following activities:

- Calculation of a Corporate Carbon Footprint
- Determination of reduction potentials
- Calculation of the carbon footprint of print products
- Upon customer request: Offering climate neutral print products

Issued on: 27.01.2022



Moritz Lehmkühn  
Managing Director  
ClimatePartner GmbH

We know that reducing emissions is not enough, thus we encourage our Customers to consider offsetting the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint of the books produced. In 2022 we started working with the renowned ClimatePartner organization and we are offering Carbon neutral products. Our new standard can provide each book with a "Carbon Neutral" label with a unique ID-Tracking number, which helps end customers to understand how and where carbon emissions have been offset.



**Carbon neutral**

Product

ClimatePartner.com/00000-0000-0000



Category

ID Tracking

QR code  
(optional)

- Available in several languages
- Accounting methodology
- Climate action strategy
- Reduction measures
- Downloadable certification
- Transparent offset order
- Details about offset project



## Transportation:

Of course, air pollution is very important part of the care of the environment, thus we minimise carbon emissions from truck transport:

- Our deliveries are carried out by energy efficient EURO V or EUROVI trucks only.
- Drivers are trained and expected to minimize carbon emissions during transport.
- Transport companies are expected to prefer transport by sea where it is possible and a better environmental choice.

- In order to reduce fuel consumption, optimal routes are planned.
- Almost all our raw-materials are bought from local distributors.

In transportation of goods we also minimise carbon emissions from sea freight transport: when arranging sea freight, we ensure the vessels used fulfill internationally recognized environmental accreditations (e.g. MARPOL 73/78, Clean Shipping Index, Clean Cargo Working Group).

## Here we resume the achievements on sustainability during 2022:

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022 vs 2021	2022 vs 2019
Electricity consumption per ton of paper (kWh/ton)	428.9	377.8	368.6	366.5	-0.6%	☑ -14.6%
M <sup>3</sup> of water/ton of paper	1.06	1.30	0.89	0.81	-9.1%	☑ -23.6%
% of waste being recycled	95.10%	96.23%	96.24%	96.28%	0.04%	☑ 1.2%
FSC paper, %	27%	35%	40%	47%	17.8%	☑ 74.6%
Isopropyl alcohol (liters)	n.a.	18,587	23,710	18,622	-21.5%	n.a.
White (unprinted) paper recycled waste (% of total paper recycled)	3.4%	5.8%	5.1%	7.4%	44.0%	☑ 120.3%

# Our certifications

ensure that all our processes meet the international highest standards and we have full traceability of all our resources.



Our offset inks achieved platinum-level Cradle to Cradle certification



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