

SUSTAINABILITY 2024

SOUTH ATLANTIC PACKAGING, PROSTAR PACKAGING & VERSATILE PACKAGERS



INTRODUCTION

Since 2021, our family of co-packaging companies has observed Earth Day by publicly sharing how our business choices are affecting our collective carbon footprint. We launched our [baseline Sustainability study](#) four years ago and have followed it up each year since.

From 2022 to 2023, we improved our emissions by 4.3 percent, despite growth in our real estate footprint. We also are happy to share that we have put in place practices to continue to shrink our carbon footprint and to help our customers do the same. There is always room for improvement, though, and we are taking steps to continue to align our business practices with our environmental commitment, which has a goal of reaching net zero emissions by 2050.



WORKING WITH OUR CUSTOMERS AND SUPPLIERS TO REDUCE OUR COLLECTIVE CARBON FOOTPRINT

We work with strategic suppliers that are sustainability minded, both in their operations AND the materials they provide.

We recommend packaging materials right-sized for the application. We balance the marketing and protective elements with sizing that is optimized to reduce void and filler space.

We work with our key design partners to take multi-component forms and re-design them into single piece units that simplify assembly and eliminate multiple converter production runs. Fewer runs require less energy and consume less material overall.

We offer packaging format suggestions that increase production feasibility and output optimization to help reduce scrap, improve output, and balance utility consumption.

Our five stand-alone locations are strategically placed in transportation centers in the Northeast, Southeast, Gulf Coast, Midwest and Southwest to serve our global customers efficiently. By being geocentric to our customers and to their co-manufacturers, we help further reduce the carbon footprint of the entire supply chain of the finished goods.

HOW WE ARE MEASURING UP

In 2023, the 2,535 metric tons of CO2 produced at our nearly 1 million square feet of warehouse facilities is equivalent to 603 gas powered cars driven for one year, or 6,483,434 miles driven. Compared to our 2022 carbon footprint, in 2023 we saved 115 metric tons of CO2, which is equivalent to 26.9 gas powered cars driven for one year or 289,005 miles driven.

Metric Tons of CO2 Produced

	Company Wide	2022	2023	Variance
Scope 1	<i>Propane</i>	385	369	-16
Scope 2	<i>Electricity</i>	828	794	-34
Scope 3	<i>Employee Commuting and Waste</i>	1437	1372	-65
		2,650	2,535	-115

Scope 3 does not include materials.

SCOPE 1 EMISSIONS

These are “direct” emissions that come directly from – or are generated by – our organization by doing things like turning on the lights and heat, running our packaging equipment lines or operating our computers.

SCOPE 2 EMISSIONS

These are “indirect” emissions created by the power companies when they generate the electricity that our organization uses.

SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS

Scope 3 is indirect, and primarily related to how our workers commute to and from work and how we manage the waste we generate.

LOOKING AHEAD

Continuing our investment in more sustainable options, we are continuing to implement LED lighting in our facilities and adding electric forklifts to our fleets to help with our Scope 1 and 2 results.

We will also recycle every item that we can, though this is often impacted by what we receive from our customers.

We remain committed to placing our facilities as close to worker homes as possible, in order to reduce commute times and to make it easier for our team members.

We also will continue to work with our customers to streamline their inventory flows and eliminate waste all along their supply chains, to help them optimize costs as well as improve their sustainability results.

We expect a growing number of our customers will be interested in obtaining our results on a per-item basis, due to regulatory requirements or their own sustainability initiatives. We are beta testing a tool to allow us to produce CO2 records on an individual customer basis and even to parse out results on a per-unit packaged.

We are proud to work in partnership with our customers to shrink our carbon footprint and to improve our sustainability record each year.





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