Environmental Report 2004

INITIATIVES FOR COMPANY AND ENVIRONMENT

When good enough just isn't good enough

Weidmüller

Content

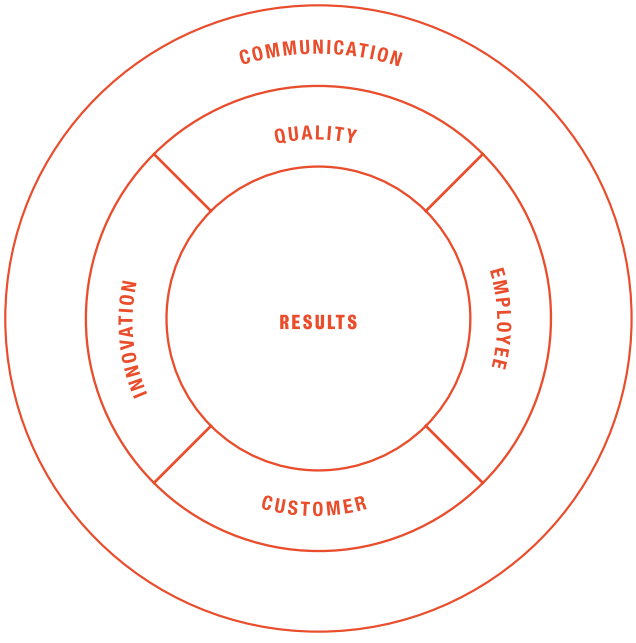
Corporate profile

Weidmüller is the leading manufacturer of components for electrical connection technology. The Weidmüller product portfolio ranges from terminal blocks, PCB connectors and terminals, protected components and relay sockets to power supply and overvoltage protection modules suitable for all applications. Electrical installation and marking material, basic I/O components and a variety of tools round off the range. As an OEM supplier, the company sets global standards in the field of electrical connection technology. The Weidmüller Group has a strong international orientation with production facilities, sales companies and agencies in over 70 countries.

Our basic values

Quality, innovation, customers and employees

We generate positive economic results and create added value for our customers through the perfect interaction of these basic values. Our core competence is to develop, produce and market high-quality, customer-oriented solutions comprising the entire connection technology portfolio. As one of the world's few experts for enclosure and connection technology not in competition with its customers, Weidmüller offers its expertise above all to major system suppliers. Innovative product solutions, combined with comprehensive services, have made Weidmüller the partner of choice for our international customers in the field of industrial, process and traffic engineering.



Positive economic results are the consequence of perfect interaction between these basic values.

Thomas H. Hagen,
Weidmüller CEO

Ladies and gentlemen,

A company's social responsibility consists primarily of its duty to offer people stable prospects for the future. As well as securing its own continued existence – above all, by generating added value for the customer – the company must focus on products, processes and production methods which will conserve resources and have a minimum impact on the environment. A pro-active approach to environmental protection and corporate responsibility are becoming key factors for corporate success.

As a good "corporate citizen", the Weidmüller Group has long subscribed to a more sustainable approach to business. Sustainability is not merely a subsidiary aspect of our corporate strategy, but is the guiding principle in everything our employees do. This environmental report is an expression of the commitment of our staff around the world. It documents the progress we have made together with our customers and suppliers in minimizing our environmental impact.

The EU directives WEEE (Waste Electric and Electronic Equipment) and RoHS (Restriction of Hazardous Substances) are currently establishing a new legal framework. The new guidelines mean that Europe is once again extending its pioneering role in the world with regard to "sustainability". The successful implementation of both directives well ahead of the statutory deadline and the development of a new generation of PCB components compliant with these EU regulations have taken Weidmüller's responsible approach to resource conservation to new heights.

Our commitment to setting high quality standards with regard to business practices, technology, social responsibility and environmental protection, will continue to determine the approach of the Weidmüller Group. In this way, we can secure the Group's continued development and assume responsibility for coming generations.

Best regards

INITIATIVES

Initiatives for company and environment

Sometimes a lot has to be done differently so that things stay the way they are!

Change requires strategies and visions.

Only in this way can we reach new objectives for the environment and the health and safety of our employees.

There are no short-cuts on this path to success.

Weidmüller constantly questions the status quo and takes an innovative approach to creating change.

Only by adopting such a strategy toward environmental protection and health safety Weidmüller will be able to meet market needs and the challenge of legal restrictions in the long term.

This approach will help us to succeed in our endeavor of integrating our ecological and economic objectives.

We want to create products for today's customers without impacting tomorrow's environment.

We have long given an unreserved "Yes" to environmental protection and health safety at all facilities of the Weidmüller Group.

This was the basis for the guidelines we created, which now determine all our activities.

For the company, for the customer, for the society!

Principles

Environmental protection means

- ☐ **Developing environmentally sound products by observing the ecological relevance of our products during their entire life cycle**
- ☐ **Conserving resources**
- ☐ **Reducing and recycling waste**
- ☐ **Ensuring safe logistic systems with a low environmental impact**
- ☐ **Handling hazardous substances in a responsible way**
- ☐ **Adhering to statutory and recognized environmental guidelines**
- ☐ **Making environmental protection a management responsibility**
- ☐ **Giving each employee responsibility for environmental protection and encouraging active participation in its improvement through campaigns and open communication**

Health safety means

- ☐ **Observing legal regulations and standards**
- ☐ **Preventing accidents through training/health care**
- ☐ **Recognizing and removing potential dangers**
- ☐ **Planning, installing and observing safety equipment**
- ☐ **Motivating staff to work in a safe way by exchanging experiences**
- ☐ **Making health safety a management responsibility**
- ☐ **Giving each employee responsibility for health safety within his abilities and field of activity and encouraging active participation in its improvement through continual improvement of working conditions**

Health safety and environmental policy

The health of our employees, the reduction of pollution and the preservation of the environment are at the center of all our activities. The achievement of these goals can be regarded as a special kind of contract between current and future generations. With its health safety and environmental policy, Weidmüller aims to live up to these goals – to protect the environment and the health and safety of its employees.

As an integral component of the company, our health safety and environmental management system is constantly being optimized and adapted to changing circumstances. It regards the entire cycle from product development to procurement and production, to marketing and sales. We therefore examine and evaluate the impact of our planned activities on the environment and our employees right from the start: before new products and processes are launched and before we undertake any new activity.

By actively involving all staff, we promote an enhanced awareness of safety and environmental protection in their work and thoughts. This is the only way to preserve our environment and protect the health and jobs of our employees for the future. To ensure it remains this way, we encourage responsible action by our staff by providing continual training.

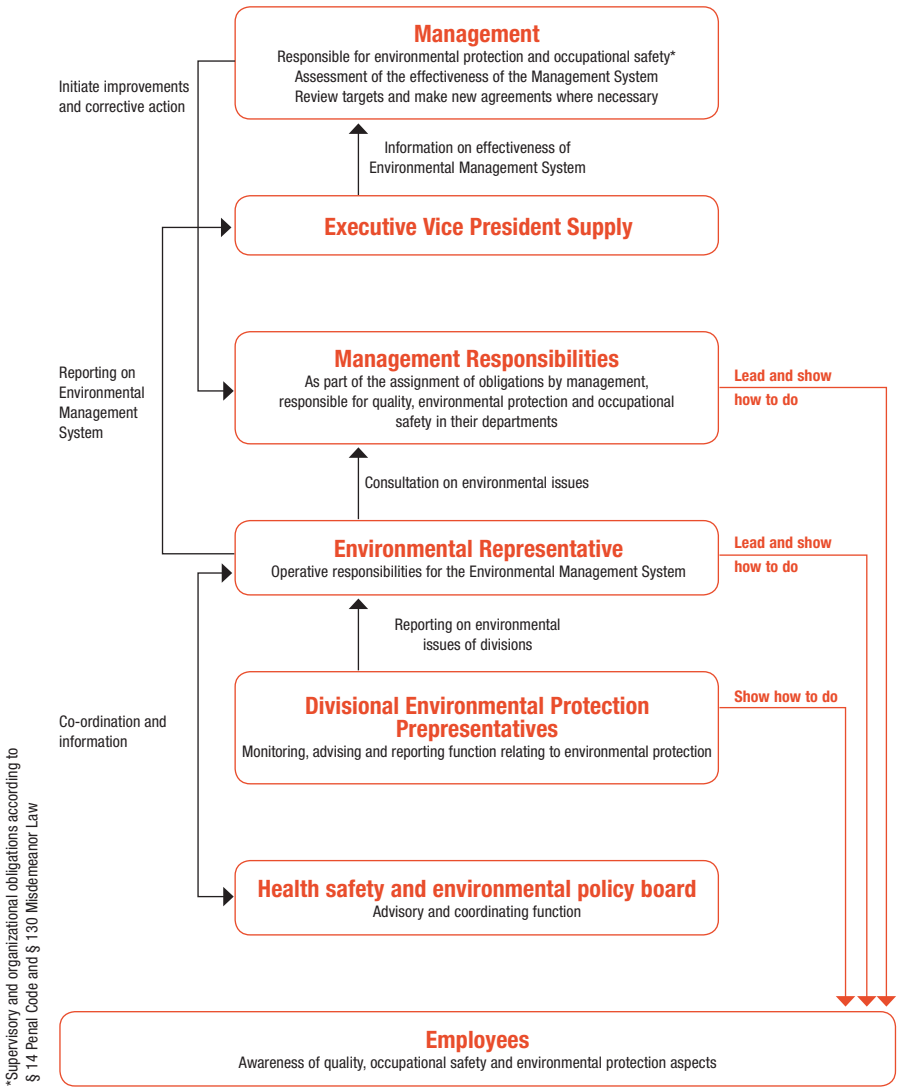
The aim of all these efforts is to avoid burdens on the environment and our employees as far as possible and to keep any unavoidable impact to a minimum. We have clearly defined the necessary processes and responsibilities as part of our integrated management system.

In order to realize our integrated and sustainable approach to the environment, we also incorporate customers and suppliers in our environmental protection measures. At the same time, we provide detailed advice for our customers on ecologically compatible handling, usage and recycling of our products.

POLICY

The EU directive RoHS represents an important step on the way to achieving more ecological and pollution-free manufacturing of electrical and electronic equipment. Weidmüller is well prepared for this step. About a year before the directive will be introduced, all production processes – such as soldering – have already been made RoHS-compliant.

Responsibilities for environmental protection



*Supervisory and organizational obligations according to § 14 Penal Code and § 130 Misdemeanor Law

But that's not all: Weidmüller informs the public, government authorities and its customers about all aspects of its environmental protection and health safety measures through its annual environmental reports. We constantly exchange views with the general public in a frank and open dialogue. Our modern, integrated management system helps us to take a preventive approach to health safety and environmental protection.

In order to guarantee the continuity and compliance of our health safety and environmental principles at all times, we regularly examine the entire system. This is documented by a recognized organization, which audits us and confirms the validity of our environmental certificate in accordance with DIN EN ISO 14001.

Health safety and environmental program 2004/2005

Topic	Measures/Targets	Status
Audit for recertification acc. to DIN EN ISO 14001	Securing the prolongation of our certificate for all Group production facilities	+ (2004)
Modernization of the burner systems in the hardening furnaces of the Surface department	Optimizing energy consumption and emission of hazardous substances	+ (2004)
Implementation of an “E-Fit Week”	Raising staff awareness with regard to conserving electrical energy	+ (2004)
Concept and launch of the eco-relevance matrix in development processes	Presenting the environmental relevance of products, raw materials and measures	+ (2004)
Creation of the eco-relevance matrix, its graphic illustration and evaluation of the eco-relevant processes	Presenting the environmental relevance of production processes and the resulting measures	+ (2004)
Conceiving of the Production Self Check (PSC) system	Continuous improvement process in the health safety and environmental management system	+ (2004)
Foundation of the “Prevention” work group	Permanent support and safeguarding of the health management system	+ (2004)
Implementation of habitat maintenance measures in the biotopes located on company premises	Maintaining habitat possibilities for a large number of bird species	o
Cleaning of public biotope areas	Removing rubbish from the River Werre	o
Carrying out internal environmental audits	Securing the continuous improvement process	o
Optimization of product packaging	Reducing packaging materials, target: approx. -25% compared to 2000	o (2006)
Project: technical energy conservation measures	Achieving sustained energy savings, approx. -15% compared to 2004	o (2005)
Repair of drains in construction step IV	Ensuring that our wastewater system is 100% leak-proof	o (2005)
Substitution of chrome 6+ in the surface coating of metal parts	Implementing EU guideline 2002/95/EG	o (2005)
New furnace technology	Lead-free machine technology, implementation of EU guideline 2002/95/EG	o (2005)
Concept for a new Environmental Performance Indicator (EPI) system	Drawing up relevant performance indicators to monitor environmental performance	o (2005)
Rollout of Production Self Check (PSC) at Weidmüller Interface	Continuous improvement process for the health safety and environmental management system	o (2005)
Eco-relevant supplier evaluation	Ascertaining environmental deficits of key suppliers and checking measures	o (2005)
Preparations for the certification of our health safety management system	Aiming for certification of health safety area in 2006	o (2005)

Status of targets: + accomplished o ongoing

A history of environmental protection

1972–1986

1972 Circulated rinsing water in the electroplating plant
1973 Cyanogen-free galvanizing in the electroplating plant
1974 Noise prevention in the stamping plant
1975 Further noise prevention measures
1976 Cadmium- and halogen-free plastics
1977 Noise prevention in the assembly plant
1978 Low-waste plastic part production (hot runner mold)
1979 Heating equipment converted to natural gas
1980 First waste report drafted
1981 Heat recovery from flue gas
1982 Recovery of salt water from hardening
1983 Lighting regulation systems in all plants
1984 Internal recycling of polyamide waste
1985 Waste water from electroplating plant led into communal drains
1986 Decision to replace trichloroethylene

1987–1989

1987 Waste sorting system established
1988 Alkaline degreasing of metal parts replaces former organic solvents, environmental protection included in procurement guidelines, appointment of environmental protection officer, foundation of Environmental Protection Working Group, Mr. Gläsel receives first ASU Environment Award (further awards in 1989, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998)
1989 ”Environment Week“ program launched for apprentices

1990–1991

1990 Waste avoidance program implemented
1991 Planning for new waste water treatment plant in plating shop

1992–1999

1992 Energy savings program launched
1993 Waste management concept prepared, internal audits of all operating units introduced, internal balance sheets drawn up for material and energy usage
1994 New treatment plant for plating waste water, environmental management system updated
1995 Energy savings with new condensing boiler featuring optimized regulation for the heating plant, installation of an energy-saving, open-air cooling system with heat reclamation for cooling water used in the injection molding plant, 1st environmental report published, environmental audit started

HISTORY

1996 ASU Environment Award 1996 for environment-friendly management, energy savings from interlinked control of compressors in the compressed air plant, installation of tariff monitoring systems leads to reduction of peak-time electricity consumption, environmental audit of all facilities completed

1997 Environmental report 1996 prepared, environmental management system certified according to DIN EN ISO 14001, installation of further energy-saving, open-air cooling systems with heat reclamation for cooling water used in the injection molding plant

1998 ASU Environment Award 1998 for "outstanding performance in the field of environment-friendly management"

1999 Sanitation of old deposits in Berlebeck

2000–2004

2000 Successful recertification of environmental management system according to DIN EN ISO 14001, revised Management Guidelines summarize health and safety, environmental protection and quality management principles, 5 members of Environmental Protection Working Group trained by environmental protection officer to become internal environmental auditors

2001 Planning and preparation for implementation of EU guideline on prohibition of lead and other hazardous materials in electrical and electronic devices for development and production

2002 New washing plant for alkaline degreasing of metal parts replaces former equipment from 1988

2003 Preparation for integrated Group certification acc. to DIN EN ISO 9001 and DIN EN ISO 14001, lead-free surface coating of metal parts in the Detmold electroplating plant

2004 Successfully integrated group certification of our environmental management system according to DIN EN ISO 14001 (recertification), modernization of the burner systems for our hardening furnaces, project launch for the EU directives RoHS/WEEE, implementation of the "environmentally compatible product design" project, extensive integration of health and safety measures and environmental protection

Compulsory marking

Electrical and electronic equipment placed on the market as of March 2006, must be marked with the crossed-out wheeled bin as described in Annex IV. The manufacturer's name must also be clearly visible.

Legal framework

EU directive WEEE

The so-called WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) is a directive of the European Parliament and Council (2002/96/EG) concerning waste electrical and electronic goods.

The WEEE and its amending directive 2003/108/EC are aimed at preventing waste electrical and electronic equipment. They strengthen the responsibility of manufacturers for their products. That means that products have to be designed in such a way that they can be easily and safely dismantled, recycled or re-used. Furthermore, manufacturers have to assure the financing of collection, treatment and recovery of those appliances listed in Annex IA of the WEEE which were placed on the market after March 2006.

Which products are affected?

The categories of electrical and electronic equipment covered by the WEEE are listed in Annex 1A of the WEEE.

Weidmüller is directly affected by the WEEE. The products concerned are testers, electrically operated screwdrivers, automats (category 6, "Electrical and electronic tools") and printers (category 3, "IT and telecommunications equipment").

What effects will WEEE have?

The WEEE prescribes separate collection of the products concerned. By December 31, 2006 at the latest, a rate of separate collection of at least four kilograms on average per inhabitant per year of waste electrical and electronic equipment from private households has to be achieved.

In Germany, waste electrical and electronic equipment can be deposited by private households free of charge at community collection points from March 2006 onward. The manufacturers bear responsibility for financing the collection, treatment, recovery and environmentally sound disposal of the appliances. They must offer a guarantee of this service. The disposal of equipment sold before March 2006 (so-called "historical waste") is to be financed according to the manufacturer's market share. The treatment and disposal of equipment not from private households (BtoB) is also financed by the manufacturers. The cost for historical waste is borne by the user, or in the case of replacement, by the manufacturer. Agreements concerning other finance possibilities are allowed.

EU directive RoHS

The so-called RoHS (Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment) is a directive of the European Parliament and Council (2002/95/EG) concerning the restricted use of hazardous substances.

The RoHS forbids the use of certain substances in new electrical and electronic products from July 1, 2006 (exceptions for certain applications are listed in the Annex of the directive). The substances are lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyls (PBB) and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE).

Quotas

Categories	Rate of recovery	Reuse and recycling rate
1 and 10	80%	75%
3 and 4	75%	65%
2, 5, 6, 7, 9	70%	50%

In addition to special regulations concerning the treatment of waste electrical and electronic equipment, the WEEE also stipulates the rates of recovery, reuse and recycling. These recovery quotas – which must be achieved by December 31, 2006 – are based on the average weight of the respective equipment.

The RoHS applies to all equipment categories listed in Annex 1A of the WEEE with the exception of categories 9 (monitoring and control instruments) and 10 (automatic dispensers). Exceptions for certain application purposes are named in the Annex. Lead, for example, can be used as an alloying element in steel, aluminum and copper up to different weight ratios. The RoHS does not apply to spare parts for the repair or reuse of electrical and electronic equipment put on the market before July 1, 2006.

As with the WEEE, Weidmüller is directly affected by the RoHS. The products concerned are also testers, electrically operated screwdrivers, automats (category 6) and printers (category 3). PCBs are also indirectly affected by RoHS, as they are used by our customers for the manufacture of electrical equipment.

Implementation of the EU directives in Europe and Germany

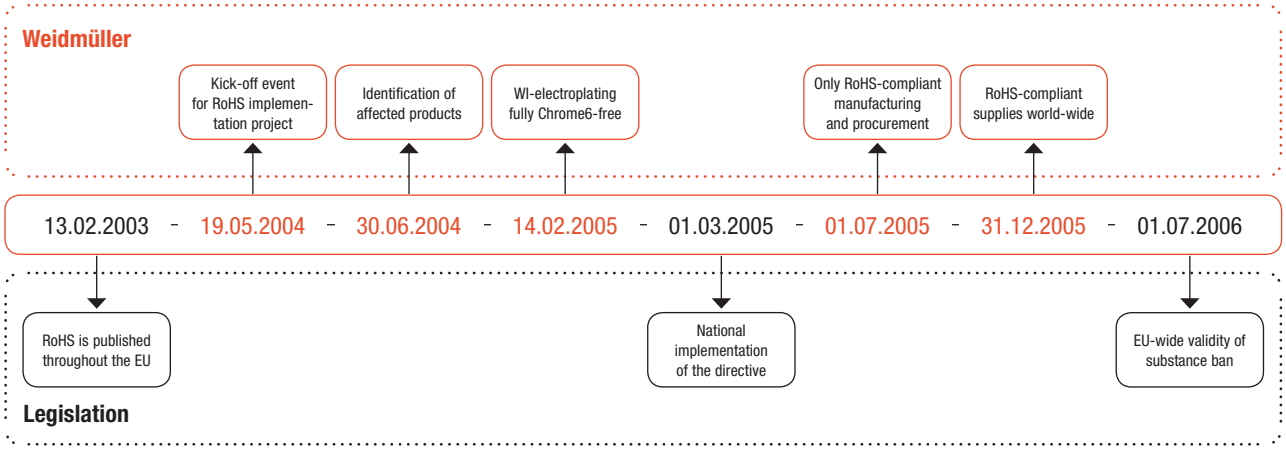
The two directives are to be implemented in Germany in a joint law called the Electrical and Electronic Equipment Act (ElektroG). The ElektroG incorporates the duties listed in the EU directives and sets out specific details. The application areas in the directives have been adopted, as well as the WEEE obligations concerning product design, the marking of bins (only mandatory for private household equipment), the return, collection, treatment and disposal (including recycling rates). The substance bans of the RoHS have also been adopted, with limits of 0.1% weight for lead, mercury, hexavalent chromium, PBB and PBDE and 0.01% weight of cadmium per homogeneous substance. The specification and determination of further details from the WEEE is divided into several steps.

Manufacturers are obliged to register with the relevant authority, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, and provide a guarantee for equipment suited to use in private households. The public waste collection companies will collect the WEEE according to five separate categories. Manufacturers are then obliged to take back the WEEE materials and to treat or dispose of them in the statutory manner. Manufacturers must undertake to inform a Clearing House of the amount of equipment placed on the market as well as the recycling rates achieved. On the basis of this information, the Clearing House will calculate the manufacturer's market share in the respective categories, the recycling rates in general and then evenly allocate the times and places for the manufacturers to collect WEEE materials.

Weidmüller's implementation of the EU directives

WEEE

Weidmüller will clearly mark and collect without charge all products affected by the WEEE directive from March 2006 onward. Weidmüller is particularly interested in a solution which makes the greatest sense logistically. The company therefore aims to forge a market partnership with a pan-European waste disposal and recycling company. The waste equipment can be dealt with directly by the disposal and recycling partner in the country in which it occurs. A return of products to Weidmüller Interface is planned for Germany and Austria. The disposal and recycling partner will take care of WEEE-compliant disposal and recycling for Weidmüller.



In the case of BtoB products, Weidmüller is not obliged to participate in the communal collection systems to be set up in the EU, but can make other arrangements with its customers (RL 2002/96/EG article 9 and amendment directive WEEE 2003/108/EG). BtoC and "dual use" products (cannot be clearly categorized as BtoB or BtoC) are to be disposed of or recycled via the respective communal collection points.

RoHS

☐ **Cadmium and flame retardant ban.** A survey has shown that Weidmüller already fulfills the main criteria with regard to the substance bans of the RoHS. We have not used cadmium in plastics, for example, for over 20 years. The same applies to the use of the flame retardants PBB and PBDE in Weidmüller products.

☐ **Hexavalent chromium ban.** Hexavalent chromium is used in the form of chromate layers, mainly for screw connector systems and terminal rails. Systems using a Cr3-based thick layer passivation process provide enhanced protection equivalent to yellow chromate. There will therefore be no loss of quality compared to hexavalent yellow passivation. The transition to Cr6-free corrosion protection was already made in spring 2005.

☐ **Lead ban.** Many of our products have long been available in lead-free versions. All other products will be changed by December 31, 2005.

Our PCB components are suitable for all common lead-based and lead-free soldering processes (following the ZVEI reflow soldering profile). Thanks to cutting-edge, high-temperature insulation materials (LCP), our SMT/THR products can be used in all existing – and especially lead-free – soldering processes, such as hand, wave or reflow soldering. Weidmüller utilizes future-oriented machine technology (reflow, wave) and as an electronics manufacturer uses lead-free solders.

Although not all of our products are affected by the RoHS, we will nevertheless adapt our entire product portfolio (e. g. the classic Weidmüller terminal) to the new directive. This "global pollutant-free solution" corresponds to the wishes of our customers. We will therefore supply only RoHS-compliant products as of January 2006.

Lead-free and RoHS-compliant PCB components are marked with the lead-free or RoHS-compliant symbols. Other products – such as the Weidmüller terminal – will also be marked with the RoHS-compliant symbol. This will be displayed both on the packaging and in the online catalogue.

As the leading supplier of components for electrical connection technology, Weidmüller products will be RoHS-compliant before the statutory deadlines. In this way, we feel we can make an important contribution to the implementation of regulations in the value chain.

As part of our ongoing efforts to continually improve health safety and environmental protection, we are increasingly using modern steering instruments such as Life Cycle Assessment for product design or our Production Self Check system. Applying these instruments also raises awareness among employees for our approach to sustainable economic activities.

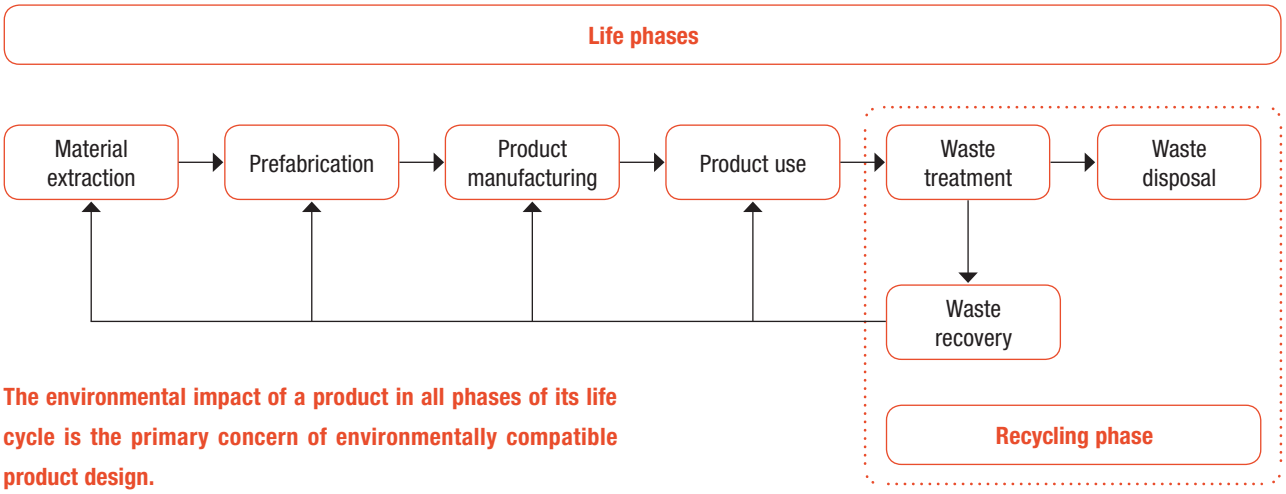
Environmental protection in the production process

For every new product development and every new process, we take steps to minimize our impact on the environment. Before launching, therefore, we always assess the resulting environmental effects. Not just to ensure we meet government legislation, but as an integral part of our corporate culture. In addition to all economic considerations, ecological factors play a major role in our decision processes. Weidmüller has long regarded environmental protection as an important contribution to the sustainable development of the company. In the past year, we took further steps to optimize our production technologies in line with these principles.

Weidmüller products consist mainly of insulating and conducting components. The insulating elements are produced from high-quality, thermoplastic materials in an injection molding process. The conducting components consist of iron-based and NE metals. We avoid or minimize any existing additives and substances in our raw materials and supplies which may damage either health or the environment.

We reduce material waste by the extensive use of hot runner molds in plastic part production. The material-saving design of our metal parts also helps to conserve natural resources. Wherever technically possible, unavoidable production waste (such as plastic stalks and metal filings) is returned to the system after being suitably separated.

Energy-saving open-air cooling systems with heat recovery are used for cooling water from the plastic processing stage. All emissions from the production processes are cleaned by filters before discharging. Any oil remaining on metal parts before alkaline-water cleaning is returned to the production process. The alkaline cleaning agent in the automatic washer unit is returned to the cycle after treatment. This reduces the



The environmental impact of a product in all phases of its life cycle is the primary concern of environmentally compatible product design.

consumption of cleaning agents and water to a minimum. In the electroplating plant, the galvanic baths and waste water are regenerated and returned to the cycle.

Recyclable materials, such as card and polyethylene film are used for product packaging. The life cycle of our products is generally only limited by the fact that they are replaced when equipment is renewed or redesigned. Products no longer used can easily be recycled after dismantling and treating. Our installation products are also easy to dismantle and recycle. They are all designed for maximum durability.

Environmentally compatible product design

The environmental impact of a product in all phases of its life cycle is the primary concern of environmentally compatible product design. The consideration and evaluation of a product's life cycles and their respective environmental impact (life cycle assessment) is a new approach which has been used by Weidmüller since 2004. This cyclical approach and assessment helps us to successfully implement our environmentally compatible product design.

The fusion of economic and ecological factors as well as quality represents a new and more successful approach.

The eco-relevance matrix used by Weidmüller for its "life cycle assessment" is an evaluation tool for the product life cycle: set target definition, determine matrix, set limits in the life phases, carry out evaluation. This matrix is used as an evaluation yardstick for assessing the product's life phases.

In contrast to a comprehensive eco-balance according to ISO 14040 ff, this method allows a far simpler evaluation. It is sufficient for the start of product assessment, allows further specification of the evaluation points and can be extended into a comprehensive eco-balance. The assessment is made according to the potential levels "low", "medium" and "high" as well as prescribed evaluation schemes. From the sum of the results of the individual life phases, an overall assessment according to the above potential levels can be made concerning the product's environmental impact.

Weidmüller's main aim is to design, produce and market products with a low environmental impact.

Production Self Check (PSC)

Weidmüller's modern health safety management system, based on ISO 9001/14001 and integrated into our management system, also needs a CIP tool to generate a systematic improvement of the system. Such tools cannot be acquired "off the peg" – they require innovative and functional development for the specific company.

Our aim is to discover further untapped potential in the field of health safety/environmental protection and to harness it effectively and innovatively in our considerations on prevention and continuous improvement. In order to uncover and utilize this potential at Weidmüller, we needed to develop and implement a tool which considered these fundamental elements. The tool should be used actively to involve staff and their superiors in the field of health safety/environmental protection. In this way, staff should be motivated and challenged to get involved in health safety/environmental protection activities.

The functionality of our environmental management system and the environmental compliance of our production processes are regularly inspected and certified by external auditors. Our benchmarks are not only the statutory obligations, but the often stricter objectives of our own health safety and environmental protection program.

Production Self Check (PSC) is based on hazard analysis and takes up its basic questions, albeit in simplified form. It is processed in teams (department manager/safety officer/staff). The team independently audits its own department/work area every two months according to the PSC method and carries out a "self check" (according to a defined point scheme) as to the degree of fulfillment. Deviations from the planned figures are discussed on site and documented.

Following the department's team work, the "electronic" part of the PSC is drawn up. A point-based evaluation is automatically generated and illustrated graphically. In this way, the team maintains a clear overview of its work area with a traffic light ranking. Any deviations from the target are then integrated into action plans for further improvement with the aid of software. The implementation of these measures is checked in the same way as the Weidmüller System.

PSC in health safety and environmental protection is developing into a Weidmüller success story. In 2005 Production Self Check will already be used in all production areas.

Energy management at Weidmüller Interface

In line with its commitment to responsible resource utilization, Weidmüller is strengthening efforts to use its available energy sources as efficiently as possible. By raising awareness for the rational utilization of energy, a number of savings effects can be achieved which benefit all involved. This win-win strategy produces economic benefits while at the same reducing the environmental burden caused by carbon dioxide emissions. Employees whose consistently energy-conscious behavior actively supports our targets are the key to sustained energy savings.

Our “E-Fit” campaign week was a further element in raising staff motivation for the topic. Supported by the NRW Energy Agency, the campaign week at our head office in Detmold aimed to inform staff how energy can be saved without any loss of comfort. The measures ranged from avoiding standby mode in electrical equipment to the correct way of heating and ventilating, to the avoidance of compressed air losses in production. The campaign also involved an ideas competition in which staff could contribute advice on saving energy. Initial savings were already made during the campaign week.

Energy management also involves peak period management and continual measurement of electrical consumption. Energy efficiency is not only a topic for the company’s daily operations, though. When procuring new plant and equipment, great emphasis is also placed on energy efficiency (e. g. replacing inefficient pneumatic tools with electrical alternatives).

New environmental performance indicator system at TWG

Thüringische Weidmüller GmbH (TWG) has developed a new environmental performance indicator system (EPI) with the aim of systematically recording specific key figures.

These indicators are divided into the following areas:

- Energy management,
- Raw material management,
- Hazardous substances management,
- Waste management.

By setting the parameters and monitoring period for these indicators, Weidmüller can take effective and systematic countermeasures as soon as indicators deviate from their prescribed targets. This procedure represents an innovative use of Weidmüller’s environmental management system. The indicator system will continue to be developed and will be extended in future to Weidmüller Interface.

Environmental protection during training

From the very beginning of their careers at Weidmüller, apprentices and trainees are made aware of environmental issues.

- In the first weeks of their training, apprentices are given a solid grounding in the field of environmental protection, as well as industrial health and safety.
- Weidmüller attaches great importance to the avoidance and separation of waste during the apprenticeship period.
- Nature conservation is also a topic for our young employees. Every year, the River Werre – which flows through the Weidmüller company premises – and the surrounding banks are cleaned of rubbish by our apprentices, under the close supervision of Weidmüller trainers.
- Before the nesting period begins, approximately 50 nesting boxes are hung up around the company premises by our commercial trainees. The boxes provide shelter for numerous bird breeds during the hatching period.

The aim of these activities is to develop an awareness and a responsibility among our apprentices for their environment.

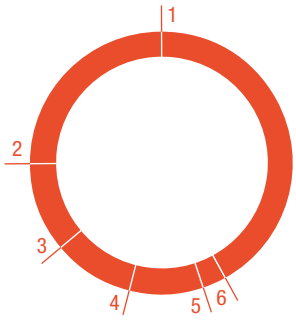
Key environmental figures provide information about the respective changes. Together with regular checks of our environmental targets and programs, and our annual status review, they form the basis for setting new targets.

Facts and figures

Material

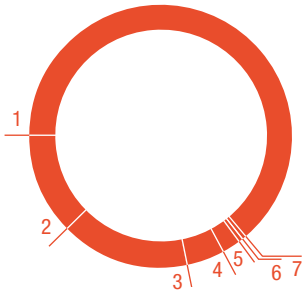
Input

1_Metals	42%
2_Plastics	25%
3_Merchandise	11%
4_Semi-finished goods	10%
5_Paper & packaging	9%
6_Manufacturing supplies	3%



Output

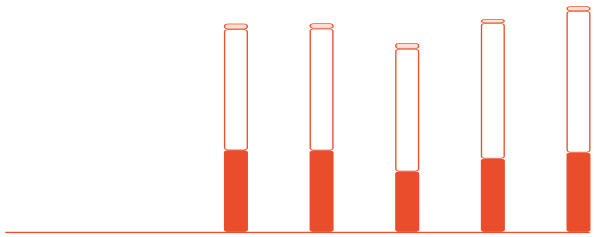
1_Production	64,0%
2_Merchandise	12,5%
3_Metal waste	16,0%
4_Municipal waste	4,8%
5_Paper & board	2,2%
6_Duroplastic waste	0,2%
7_Hazardous waste	0,3%



Waste

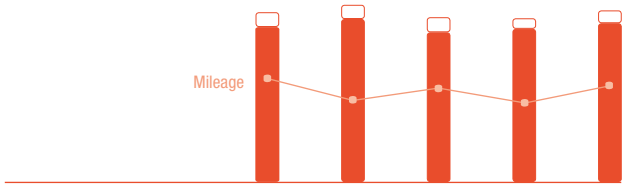
Energy data

Energy



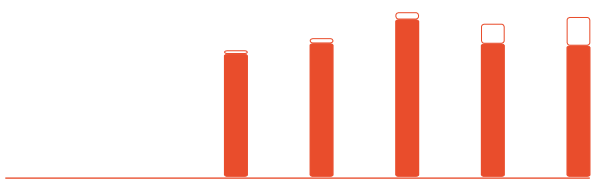
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Fuel (kWh)	738,296	707,272	785,100	536,605	640,595
Electricity (kWh)	16,511,407	16,100,632	16,204,705	17,913,771	18,732,643
Natural gas (kWh)	10,278,098	10,784,812	8,046,763	9,730,817	10,521,449

Carbon dioxide (CO_2)



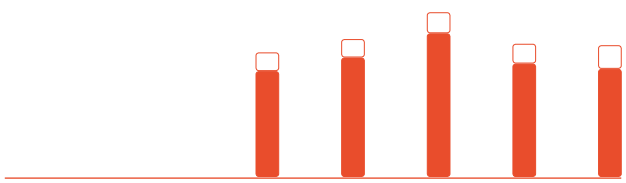
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Mileage (km)	694,662	559,711	626,449	520,579	660,315
From cars & trucks (kg)	196,481	188,278	209,037	142,836	172,233
From heatings (kg)	2,055,620	2,156,962	1,983,747	2,028,479	2,104,290

Water



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Rainwater (kg)	187,000	568,000	979,000	2,652,000	3,846,000
Drinking water (kg)	16,344,000	17,760,000	20,865,000	17,668,000	17,421,000

Waste water



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Process waste (kg)	2,488,000	2,447,200	2,789,000	2,627,500	3,137,100
Domestic waste (kg)	14,043,000	15,880,800	19,063,000	15,040,500	14,283,000

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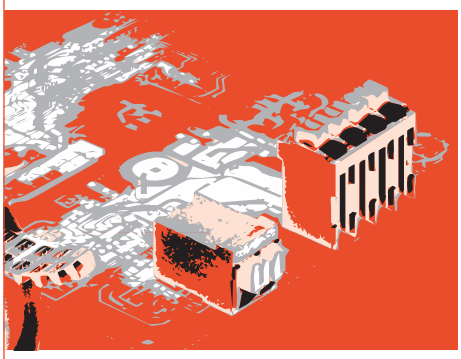

The new Weidmüller PCB connection terminals LSF-SMT with Push In technology.

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