



uvex

PROTECTING PEOPLE

protecting people and the environment

uvex believes in sustainability

SwedSafe is part of the uvex safety group and a manufacturing facility for hearing protection. The company's state-of-the-art manufacturing site with its own research and development department is based in Höör, southern Sweden.

Social responsibility and sustainability are integral components of uvex corporate policy. Our aim of protecting people, the environment, the climate and consumers influences our entire supply chain. This brochure focus on the following areas in particular:

1 Energy & Climate

2 Carbon Footprint

3 Water & Waste water

4 Waste & Recycling

5 Made in Sweden

6 Industrial & Product safety

7 Environmentally friendly product concept

8 Social responsibility



uvex

The uvex logo is a stylized, lowercase 'uvex' in a bold, sans-serif font. It is positioned on the right side of the page, with eight blue lines radiating from its left side to connect to the eight numbered items in the list.

WE TAKE RESPONSIBILITY!



» Manufacturing
1,000 pairs of earplugs ...



... requires no more energy than
manufacturing the paper for your
favourite weekly magazine. «

1

Minimum energy consumption.
Maximum climate protection.

» We have managed to reduce energy consumption by 45 % over the last five years and are keeping the energy requirement at a very low level by investing in modern machinery and innovative processes.

We use energy resources efficiently in a bid to help protect the environment. Manufacturing 1,000 pairs of earplugs requires no more energy than manufacturing the paper for your favourite weekly magazine. «

Quick facts.

- 3.6 kWh energy for 1,000 pairs of earplugs
 - 45 % less energy required than in 2005
-



» Manufacturing
1,000 pairs of earplugs ...



... does not leave a carbon footprint.
We do not generate any CO₂ emissions. «

CARBON FOOTPRINT

2

Innovative energy sources.
Clean environment.

» Protecting the environment by using renewable energy sources is one of our most important objectives. We never use gas or oil in our manufacturing processes or for heating and most of our energy requirements are met by wind and hydroelectric power, helping to significantly reduce uvex's CO₂ emissions. «

Quick facts.

- 0% fossil fuels
 - 70% green power
-



» Manufacturing
1,000 pairs of earplugs ...



... requires no more than one
champagne glass of water. «

WATER & WASTE WATER

3

Minimum consumption.
No waste water.

» We want to protect global water resources over the long term and for years have been doing our utmost to reduce our water consumption to an absolute minimum.

Result: we now only require 14 cl of water to manufacture 1,000 pairs of earplugs, which is equivalent to approximately one champagne glass.

Cleaner method: the water used in the manufacturing process completely vaporises and as a result we do not produce a single drop of waste water. «

Quick facts.

- 14 cl of water for the production of 1,000 pairs of earplugs
 - 0 litres of waste water
-



» Manufacturing
1,000 pairs of earplugs ...



... generates no more waste
than one full coffee filter. «

WASTE & RECYCLING

4

Recycling. No hazardous waste.

» We have been able to significantly reduce our waste in recent years. Manufacturing 1,000 pairs of earplugs only generates 85 grams of waste, which is equivalent to the weight of one full coffee filter.

Of our total waste volume, 75% generates new energy in the SYSAV incineration plant in Malmö. The rest is recycled. We do not produce any hazardous waste! «

Quick facts.

- 75% of our waste generates new energy
 - 25% of our waste is recycled
-



» Manufacturing
1,000 pairs of earplugs ...



... involves short
transport routes. «

MADE IN SWEDEN

5

Think globally, act locally.
Made in Sweden.

» Short transport routes save valuable energy and reduce environmental pollution through harmful emissions. We source 90% of our raw materials and packaging from local Swedish suppliers and carry out all manufacturing processes at one location:

**Made in Höör, Sweden –
Your guarantee of protection and quality.**

Sweden has particularly strict regulations with regard to health and environmental protection. Regular inspections ensure compliance with laws and regulations. «

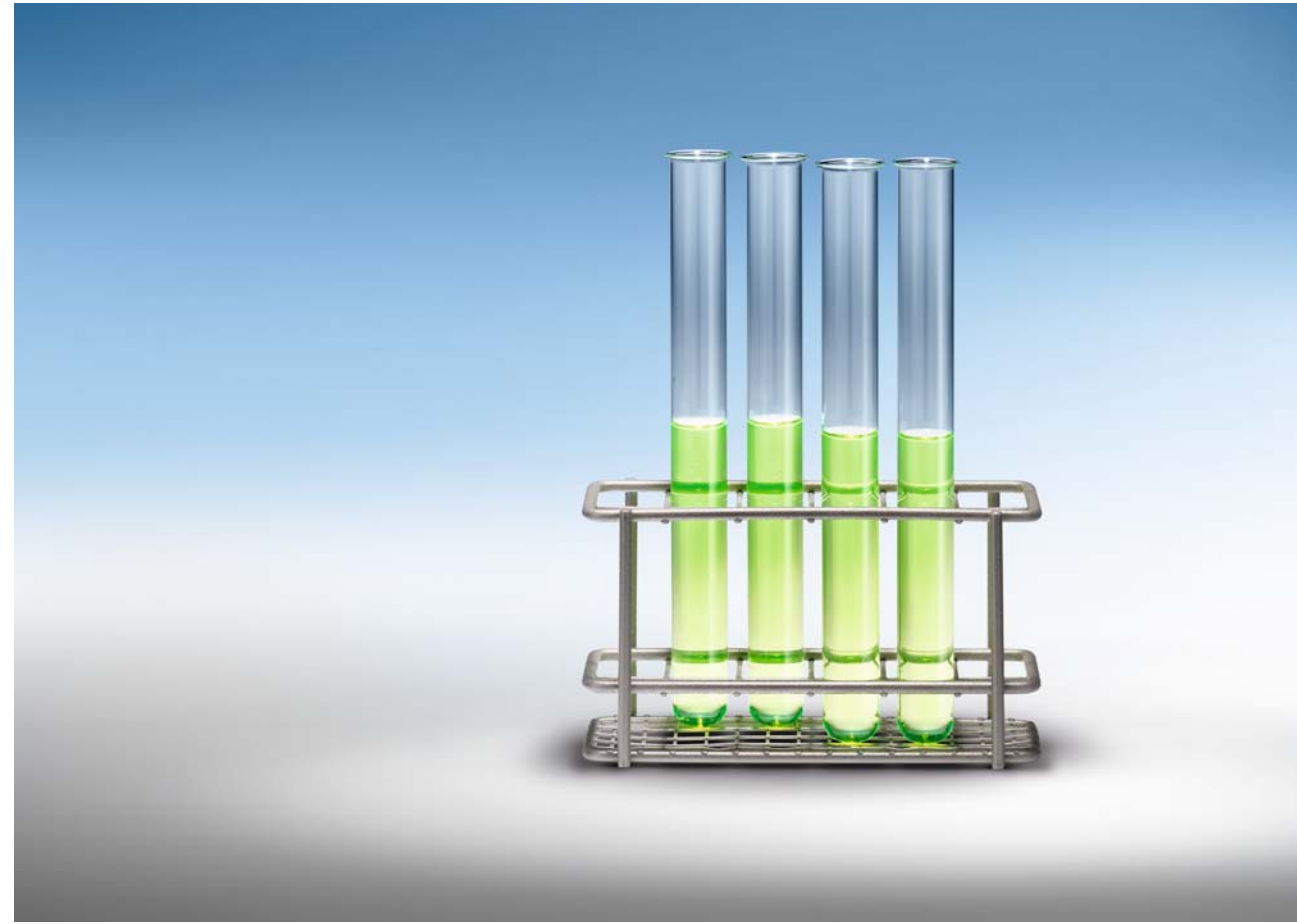
Quick facts.

- We source the majority of our materials within a radius of 100 km
- SwedSafe is the first company in the PPE sector to be audited and approved in accordance with ISO 26000*

*ISO 26000 is a benchmark guideline on corporate social responsibility. It is based on United Nations guidelines and the standards of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).



» Manufacturing
1,000 pairs of earplugs ...



... protects people. We guarantee that our
products are free from harmful substances*. «

6

Industrial safety.
Health protection.

» Providing optimal industrial safety is of paramount importance to us and we have not had any occupational accidents since our establishment in 2005.

This health and safety requirement also applies to our products: our earplugs are proven to be free from harmful substances*. We guarantee this through regular inspections by independent test institutes. «

Quick facts.

- 0 occupational accidents
- 0 harmful substances in our products

* uvex has compiled a list of harmful substances which far exceeds EU guidelines (e.g. REACH). Independent test institutes regularly verify the absence of these harmful substances.



» Manufacturing
1,000 pairs of earplugs ...



... helps protect the environment. «

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCT CONCEPT

7

Smart refill system.
Easy disposal.

» 50 % of our earplugs are sold in large, refillable dispensers. One dispenser holds 400 pairs of earplugs and can be restocked from refill packs, which contributes to reducing the volume of waste.

Our earplugs are a form of disposable hearing protection and can safely be included to general incinerated waste. In comparison to reusable earplugs cleaning processes requiring water and aggressive cleaning agents are not necessary. This helps conserve water resources, minimising the impact on the environment. «

Quick facts.

- More than 50% refill quota
 - We save 85 % on plastic film and 50 % on cardboard boxes
-



» Manufacturing
1,000 pairs of earplugs ...



... provides opportunities for
disadvantaged people. «

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

8

Equal opportunities.

» More than 90% of our assembly work is carried out by people with disabilities.

Our long-standing collaboration with sheltered workshops ensures continuous high levels of quality and gives people with disabilities a professional future.

We help young unemployed people to get their first job and introduce them into the employment market. The number of people we support per year is double that of our own employees. «

Quick facts.

- Longterm collaboration with sheltered workshops
 - 100% social responsibility
-

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