

As VARTA Consumer Batteries, we believe that the values listed below define the minimum requirements for a modern, prosperous and responsible economy. They are basis for successful trading. Therefor we communicate our corporate policy and codes of conduct proactively to our employees and to all trading and business partners.

We categorically exclude making profit out of human rights violations, ecological destruction or other unethical behavior and we will not maintain trading relationships with companies, which intentionally benefit from these methods or at least facilitate them.

Our performance as part of the continuous improvement process is assessed periodically. Out of this, new corporate objectives are formulated and we aspire to summarize and publish these efforts and successes.

Social compliance

The success of our company is defined by the success of our employees. Therefor, we attribute great importance to an optimal and productive working environment. All employees deserve working conditions where they are treated with respect and appreciation for their performance. VARTA Consumer Batteries does not tolerate any kind of discrimination based on origin, gender, age, religion or other reasons in the recruitment process or employment relationship. Furthermore, we expressly condemn any forms of unethical behavior, such as corruption, bribery, extortion or embezzlement.

Globally we comply with the requirements of the International Labor Organization ILO or if applicable higher national standards, in order to ensure the best possible working conditions for our own and, by obligating our suppliers to our code of conduct, also all other employees along the supply chain. As member of the Business Social Compliance Initiative (BSCI), we also monitor the social compliance efforts of our suppliers located in risk countries by third-party audits and have close cooperation with them to continuous improve the working conditions on their sites.

We commit to the values and principles of the United Nations, which are expressed in the Global Compact, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Declaration of the Rights of the Child and the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Quality

VARTA Consumer Batteries sets high quality standards for itself and its products. In order to meet these requirements and to ensure a consistently high quality, all company levels are included to achieve a comprehensive understanding of quality over the entire production process.

Each employee is responsible for their own quality performance, so we foster quality awareness and qualifications with regular trainings. The achievement of company's main objectives and continuous improvement of product quality and performance in all areas of activity are the responsibility of managers. The general management bears overall responsibility for the quality of products and services. For risk minimization, a QM/EM-system is exercised and quality assurance organizational units are employed.

Environment & Sustainability

In times of rapidly progressing climate change, catastrophic environmental degradation and increasing waste of resources the harmful impact of humanity on nature is in evidence. Consumers and companies therefor must act in concert and be aware of their own responsibility.

As VARTA Consumer Batteries we stand up for a future-oriented, sustainable driven economy, where next generations can bear a life that is worth living, self-determined and peaceful within a healthy environment. In order to make this dream come true, the aspects of sustainability and environmental consequences are taken into account in all business decisions during product development, manufacturing, transport and all other areas.

We focus on an environmentally friendly raw material extraction, a long product life cycle and an extensive recyclability, as well as constantly decreasing our water consumption, wastewater, waste and emission output. Our advanced production technologies have integrated environmental protection processes and the consciousness of all employees on this topic is promoted and expanded regularly by information, qualification and motivation. The management system implements environmental requirements and guidelines, which our suppliers also need to comply with, effectively. We boost sharing of knowledge between customers, suppliers, authorities, associations, media and citizens on ecological issues and provide information about the environmentally friendly and safe use of our products proactively.

Economical use of raw materials classified as critical by the European Commission is very important. For this reason, we have already reduced their content within our products to the technically necessary minimum and are doing research on new solutions for the future. At the end of the cell's life cycle, these compounds are not lost. They are recycled and reused manufacturing special pig iron mixtures.

To consider not only the amount of raw materials used but also their origin we follow the guidelines of the OECD (Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals). We monitor the entire value chain for minerals, which could possibly come from high-risk or conflict areas and bind our suppliers to our code of conduct to fulfill the due diligence.