



**Think  
sustainable.**



## Introduction

The topics of climate change, sustainable consumption and ethical sourcing have never been more prevalent. To create a sustainable future, organisations are embracing ways to minimise environmental impact and work towards a circular society.



Professional hygiene is a necessity and maintaining the health and well-being of staff and customers is crucial.

### The UN Sustainable Development Goals

In 2015, global leaders at a UN summit adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through our business operations and expertise, we are committed to supporting the delivery of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Globally, we prioritise goals 3, 5, 6, 12, 13 and 15 as they are the ones where we believe that we can truly make an impact.

Many businesses are taking action and setting goals in relation to **climate change, ethical sourcing and waste management.**

Tork can help you satisfy these needs in a sustainable way.



# Sustainability is good for business

## 55%

increase in employee morale, for companies with strong sustainability programs<sup>1</sup>

## Up to 19%

higher ratings from Investors for top performers in sustainability<sup>2</sup>

## Approximately 75%

of companies globally engage with suppliers to assess environmental performance<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Harvard Business Review, A Comprehensive Business Case for Sustainability, 2016.  
<sup>2</sup> BCG, Moving Beyond Corporate Social Responsibility, 2018.  
<sup>3</sup> State of Green Business Survey 2018.

Tork is the global leader in professional hygiene. We have high ambitions for sustainability and have integrated it at the core of our business strategy.

Our sustainability commitment is based on six areas of focus, where we think our products and services will make the largest impact.



**More from less**

Given that hygiene products like toilet paper, hand towels, soaps and sanitisers are everyday essentials used in facilities, it's important to make conscious choices that minimise unnecessary usage. Dispensers that are designed to take one sheet at a time reduce over consumption and paper quality has an impact on how many sheets or metres of product are used. The aim is to use only what's needed to optimise resource efficiency.



**Well-being**

Many companies are focusing on employee wellbeing, it is becoming a new metric for employee engagement and is seen as key for attracting and retaining staff. At the same time organisations are also striving for greater diversity and addressing issues of fairness and equality. Good hygiene plays a pivotal role in health and well-being as it directly reduces the spread of infection. Hygiene compliance can be increased with expert advice on optimal dispenser placement and installing solutions that are easy-to-use with attractive and functional design.



**Waste management**

Packaging is important for hygiene products – it keeps them clean and safe for your staff and customers, but it should be designed to reduce environmental impacts and support the circular economy. Look for packaging that has recycled content, and that you can recycle through your business recycling services. Film plastics with recycled content are a great example – they are light and efficient, contain recycled content and more recycling options are being developed.



**Climate change**

Products can carry a range of claims and even 'green assumptions', but don't tell the actual life cycle impacts. Life cycle assessments and Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) allow you to make comparisons and choices based on real data that has been independently verified. In addition, they allow you to calculate and report the impacts of products used including carbon emissions.

Organisations committed to reducing carbon emissions will need to be able to capture 'Scope 3' (indirect emissions from raw materials purchased, products used and travel) emissions data for the products they purchase. In fact, for many organisations Scope 3 indirect emissions are much more significant than their Scope 1 and 2 direct emissions so finding suppliers that have ambitious targets will help ensure you can deliver your emission reduction goals.



**Circularity**

Are you choosing products that minimise waste and are designed for recyclability and resource recovery? Many organisations have waste reduction targets and having circular products is key to achieving these goals. Composting hand towels, napkins and paper wipers is a great example of waste reduction.



**Ethical sourcing**

Do you know where your hygiene products are made? Are the factories or sources of the raw materials safe and treating their workers well? Are they underpaying workers or having them work excessive overtime? Or even using forced or child labour? Are independent audits of factories carried out? Check with your suppliers on their supply chain transparency, ethical sourcing policies and modern slavery risk management processes.





Tork New Zealand made products are climate neutral at point of delivery.<sup>4</sup>



Composting Tork hygiene products reduces carbon emissions by up to 50%.<sup>4</sup>



Tork is introducing 20-40% recycled plastic packaging from 2022 to reduce plastic waste.



Tork dispenser systems are designed to use up to 40% less refills.



Project Divert has received government funding to pilot a process to reduce absorbent hygiene waste in landfills.



New capital investment announced for Kawerau that will reduce carbon emissions by 23% in 2024.



The Tork Better World Program supports and promotes sustainable business practices.

Think ahead, think sustainable.  
**Think Tork.**

### Geothermal steam



Tissue making is very energy intensive and making steam uses the most energy. Thanks to its unique location within a geothermal region, our manufacturing site at Kawerau in New Zealand is the only tissue mill in the world to use geothermal steam, instead of making steam. Through switching to geothermal steam and changing our manufacturing process at Kawerau, we have reduced production greenhouse gas emissions by 46%. Further to this, we purchase this steam from the local Maori Iwi.



### Renewable energy



Approximately 80% of Tork tissue paper sold in New Zealand and Australia are made in New Zealand, life cycle analysis shows these products utilise up to 76% renewable energy. This is a result of using geothermal steam in the paper making process and the high proportion (approx 80%) of renewable energy in the New Zealand electricity grid.

We are committed to reducing our reliance on fossil fuels to further reduce our impact and have set a target to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions by 28% by 2025 from our 2015 base.

### Tropical Peatland free



In 2018 we introduced our Tropical Peatland free policy and No Deforestation, No Peat, No Exploitation (NDPE) commitment in response to the extreme climate impacts from draining and establishing pulpwood plantations on carbon-rich tropical peatlands. We are the only tissue manufacturer in the region with an NDPE commitment.

### Responsible sourcing



Our local responsible sourcing program has been in place since 2014 and our ethical sourcing information is available through the Sedex platform. Essity has a Global Supplier Standard and a Supplier Code of Conduct to promote responsible business practices and respect for human rights in our supply chains. A large majority of our products are locally made in Australia and New Zealand, both are low-risk countries for modern slavery.



### Responsible forestry



Trees are a renewable resource, with forests playing an important role in regulating the climate, absorbing CO<sup>2</sup> from the atmosphere, releasing oxygen and storing carbon in trees and soil. Responsible forestry and fibre procurement and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification contribute to mitigating climate change by promoting sustainable forest management and protecting the function of the forest.

We encourage our customers to take similar action by monitoring and reducing scope the 3 carbon emissions of their tissue products.

<sup>4</sup> Environmental Production Declaration (EPD) Tork Hand Towels S-P-00851 and Toilet Paper S-P-00852.

# Third Party certifications

Third party certifications ensure our products live up to claims and provide reassurance for you.

Tork has the **largest number of third party certifications** in the professional hygiene market. We use life cycle impact data to inform our decision-making and measure the impact of changes. Life cycle assessment data is used to assess the product's impact across its whole life including energy use, material sourcing, transportation and product end of life.

See the next page for our environmental certification product list.



## FSC

FSC stands for Forest Stewardship Council®. FSC is a global, non-for-profit organisation that sets the standards for what is considered to be a responsibly managed forest, both environmentally and socially. For wood products, FSC certification bears the highest recognition. The certification ensures that all companies along the supply chain meet best practice standards in wood fibre traceability. In this way, FSC works to uphold sustainable, environmentally and socially responsible global forestry practices and counteract illegal forestry operations.

Visit website » [Click here](#)



## EU Ecolabel

This is the European Union's labelling scheme for environmental excellence that is awarded to products and services meeting high environmental standards throughout the life cycle. Tissue products with the EU Ecolabel certification that meet this standard are made from recycled fibre or virgin fibre from 100% responsibly managed forests.

Visit website » [Click here](#)



## Blue Angel

Blue Angel is the world's first environmental label, originating in Germany. It sets high standards for environmentally-friendly product design and has proven itself over the past 40 years as a reliable guide for more sustainable consumption. Products and services are always evaluated across their entire life cycle.

Visit website » [Click here](#)



## Compostable

Certified to Australian Commercial Composting Standard AS 4736. Products carrying the seedling logo have been verified they will break down into compost material with no toxic effect of the compost on plants and earthworms.

Visit website » [Click here](#)



## EPD

An Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) is an independently verified and registered document containing transparent and comparable data about the environmental impact of a product through its life cycle.

Visit website » [Click here](#)



## ECNZ

Environmental Choice New Zealand (ECNZ) operates to international specifications requiring a reduction of impact over the product life cycle.

Visit website » [Click here](#)

# Tork product certifications

## Sourcing

- FSC
- Recycled

## Renewable energy

- Independently verified via EPDs

## Manufacturing

- ISO 9001 Quality Management
- ISO 14001 Environmental Management System
- ISO 4801 Occupational Health and Safety

## Life Cycle Impact Data

- EPD (Environmental Product Declarations)

## Multi-attribute Life Cycle Certifications

- Blue Angel
- EU Ecolabel
- ECNZ (Environmental Choice New Zealand)

## Composting

- Commercial Composting Standard AS 4736





## Helping you make sustainable choices



### Tork Product Portfolio

Our Product Portfolio has a section in the back to help you quickly identify the products with the certifications or credentials that matter to your business.

[View Now](#) 



### Tork Better World Program

You can promote the sustainable choices you've made with Tork to your staff and customers through washroom posters and social media posts.

[Learn More](#) 



### Composting with Tork

To ensure proper waste separation for composting, we have stickers to place above bins to make it clear for your washroom visitors.

[Download](#) 

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