



# *ESG Report 2023*



*#sustainability*

# *Definition* **ecological**



At ANKER, we prepare our sustainability report based on the 17 sustainability goals of the UN. Based on these topics, we highlight the measures and rules that the company ANKER Gebr. Schoeller GmbH + Co. KG has undertaken to comply with these requirements and to further develop the company in the future.

Definition of "sustainability": In the following, we understand this not only to mean the topics of "environmental and climate protection", but also the long-term preservation of the economic performance of companies and corporate social responsibility.

# Table of Contents

## Company 4

|                        |    |
|------------------------|----|
| Vision, mission        | 4  |
| Facts and figures      | 11 |
| Sustainably certified  | 14 |
| History                | 18 |
| Foreword               | 19 |
| Greenhouse gas balance | 20 |

## Environment 23

|                                                 |    |
|-------------------------------------------------|----|
| Clean water and sanitation (SDG 6)              | 24 |
| Affordable and clean energy (SDG 7)             | 25 |
| Responsible consumption and production (SDG 12) | 26 |
| Climate action (SDG 13)                         | 31 |
| Life below water (SDG 14)                       | 33 |
| Life on land (SDG 15)                           | 35 |

## Social 37

|                                         |    |
|-----------------------------------------|----|
| No poverty (SDG 1)                      | 38 |
| No hunger (SDG 2)                       | 39 |
| Good health and well-being (SDG 3)      | 40 |
| Quality education (SDG 4)               | 41 |
| Gender equality (SDG 5)                 | 42 |
| Decent work and economic growth (SDG 8) | 43 |
| Reduced inequalities (SDG 10)           | 44 |

## Governance 45

|                                                 |    |
|-------------------------------------------------|----|
| Industry, innovation and infrastructure (SDG 9) | 46 |
| Sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11)     | 50 |
| Peace, justice and strong institutions (SDG 16) | 51 |
| Partnerships for the goals (SDG 17)             | 52 |

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| Conclusion | 53 |
|------------|----|

# Since **1854**, always one #innovation **ahead**

Those who cling to the past find it difficult to embrace what is coming. But we at ANKER want to help shape the future, be pioneers and trailblazers. In terms of innovation, sustainability and design. And not just for short-term success, but for the long term.

That's why we also work on our products and our brand presentation until they are perfect – and we are proud of the result. As with PERLOIN RIPS. Or our RUG collection VITURA, the design studies (CREATE) for the aviation sector or the new corporate identity.



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## 170

years of expertise,  
innovation, and  
experience

## 33

weaving machines –  
22 dobby and 11 jacquard.  
This makes us one of the  
largest rod-weaving mills  
in Europe.

## 25+

million square  
meters of nylon  
ripstop since 19591

## 32

ha of company grounds –  
almost 80 percent of  
which are a flora and  
fauna habitat. So about  
250,000 m<sup>2</sup>



#### **ANKER Gebr. Schoeller GmbH + Co. KG – Company History**

*Perfectly designed living and working spaces – who wouldn't want that? To feel comfortable and to be able to develop yourself and your potential in the best possible way. For this reason, since 1854 we have not just been making carpets – but work and life companions. From design classics to custom-made products to our functional solutions. We produce our carpets in the most resource-efficient and sustainable way possible. That is a matter of course for us. As is their recyclability. That is why we only use high-quality materials. And because of that, architects, planners, designers and doers have the ideal conditions at hand with our carpets the ideal conditions for creating unique spaces.*

*Innovative, trend-setting, and technically as well as functionally mature. Tunable and adaptable to the purpose and the needs of the users. No matter whether in public buildings, offices, airplanes, cars, hotels, or anywhere else: our carpets create a qualitative added value. Always there where people live and work. ANKER carpets – simply everywhere.*

**ANKER carpets – simply everywhere.**

# *What we* **stand for**

## *Fundamental Belief* **Corporate Philosophy**

**We are convinced**, that all spaces in our lives should be designed in such a way that everyone can optimally develop themselves and their potential.



## *Purpose* **Corporate Philosophy**

**We are here** to develop high-quality, advanced, and durable textile floor coverings that enhance the potential and well-being of people in all living and working spaces. We are committed to the careful use of finite resources.



# Fundamental Values

## Corporate Philosophy



### *Courage*

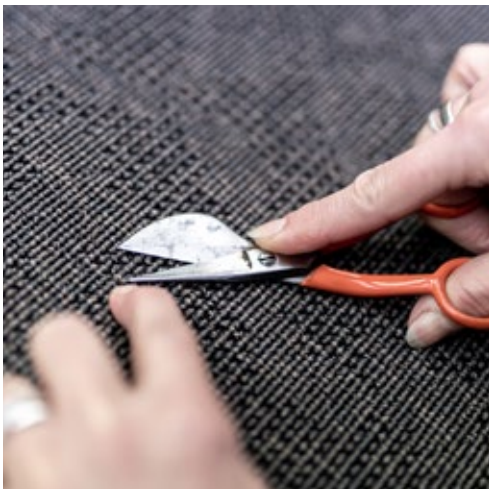
**We dare** to be pioneers and to push innovative ideas forward.



### *Competence*

**We have the expertise**, to produce textile floor coverings in a resource-efficient manner and to the highest technical standards.

We promote the exchange of knowledge and pursue ideas further. We have a scientific curiosity and are willing to break new ground.



### *Perfection*

**We strive** for the highest possible quality and create flawless, durable textile floor coverings.

We are attentive and diligent. We take setbacks as an incentive to improve.



## Awareness

**Our actions** are characterized by “being aware” and fair treatment of employees, partners, and customers, as well as careful use of finite resources.

We build on cooperation in which we trust each other, are open-minded, and open to change. We see variety and diversity as an opportunity – and respect them.



## Transparency

**We communicate and inform honestly**, we engage in open dialog. We take responsibility for our decisions and stand by them.

We treat our partners and customers as equals.

# *Vision &* **Mission**

## *Mission (5 years)* **Corporate Philosophy**

**Our mission is** to develop high-quality carpets that are produced in a resource-saving manner for all areas of life and work.

## *Vision (20 years)* **Corporate Philosophy**

**Our vision is** to offer high-quality textile floor coverings for all areas of life and work and all purposes worldwide. Our products are produced in a resource-saving manner and are 100% recyclable.

*A continuous thread  
through the ages*



*„Always there  
where people live  
and work.“*

**ANKER**



# We are **ANKER**



**As a leading specialist in woven carpets, we have been developing, designing, and producing for 170 years from our base in Düren in the Rhineland, not just textile floor coverings, but real companions for life and work.**

By being creative, innovative, and sustainable, we create high-quality textile floor coverings, from design classics and special developments to functional solutions. As broadloom, plank, tile, and RUG. For public buildings, hotels, offices, and even airplanes. We have over 200 employees doing this for customers in more than 100 countries – worldwide.

## Facts & Figures

Your company's employee data as of January 2024 provides interesting insights into the composition and development of your workforce:

### Structure and development: Employees

- **Number of employees:** ANKER saw an increase from 186 employees in 2023 to 191 in 2024. The gender distribution also changed slightly: from 136 men and 50 women in 2023 to 139 men and 52 women in 2024.

### Hierarchy level

- **Production managers:** The number remained the same with 9 managers, however, the gender ratio changed from 7 male to 2 female managers in 2022 to 8 male and 1 female managers in 2024.
- **Department and division management:** In 2023, there were 16 department heads (7 male, 9 female) and 6 division heads (5 male, 1 female). In 2024, middle management is more balanced with 8 male and 9 female managers respectively.
- **Management:** 1 male managing director throughout.

### Employee fluctuation

- The fluctuation rate rose from 0.06 in 2022 to 0.07 in 2023 and further to 7.3% in 2024. The main reasons remained job changes, retirement, and death.

## Work-related accidents

- A significant improvement can be seen in the reduction of occupational accidents from 6 in 2022 to just 1 in 2023 and an accident rate of 0.033 per 1000 employees in 2024.

## Training and professional development

- The budget for employee development was increased from €63,000 in 2022 to approximately €79,000 in 2023. The average training time per employee increased from 7.5 hours in 2022 to 12 hours in 2023 (excluding apprentices).
- So far, about €50,000 has been spent, indicating a continuous investment in employee training.

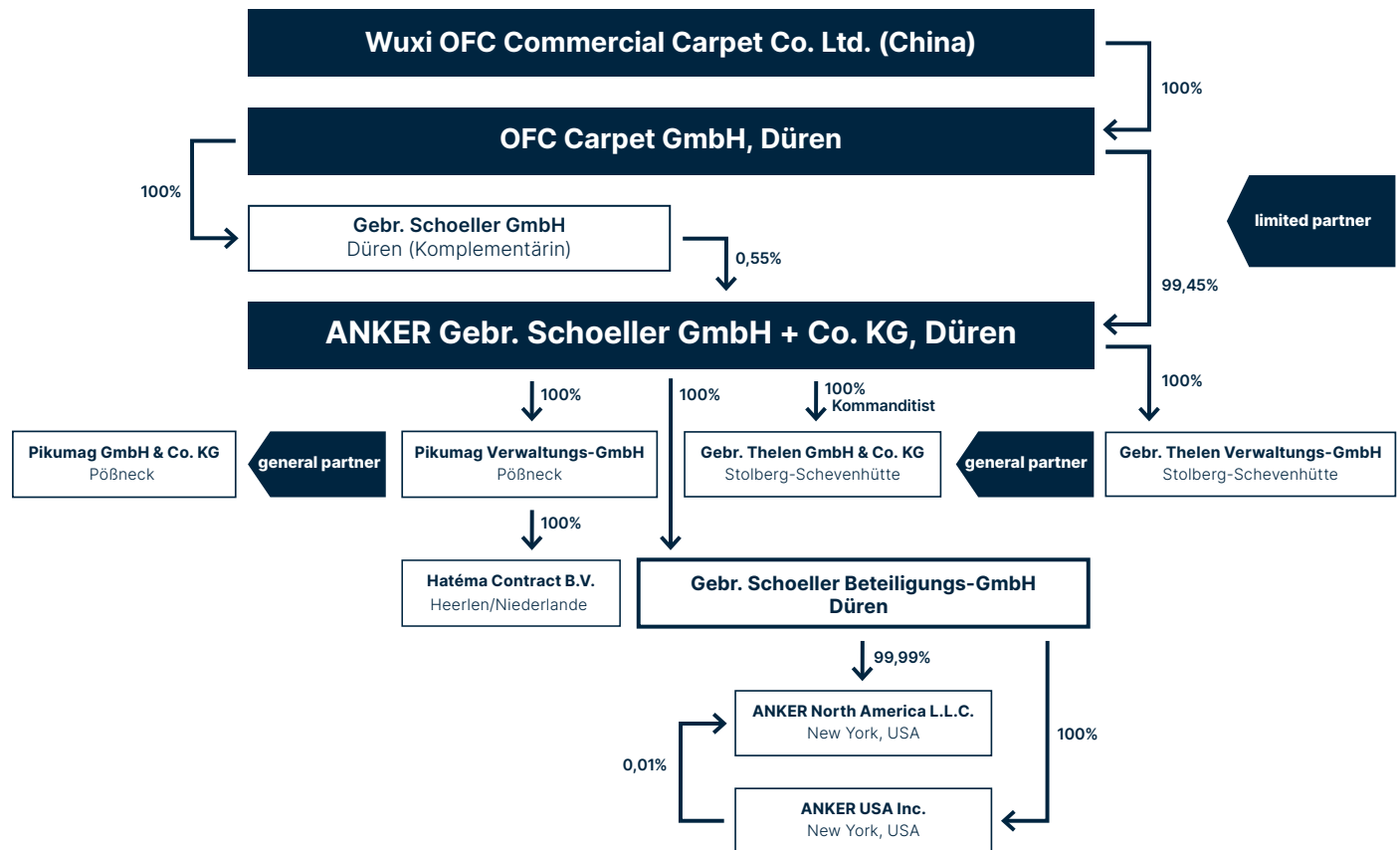
## Diversity

- The gender diversity in management positions remains, with a slight increase in the number of female managers in middle management in 2023. ANKER's internationality has expanded to include more nationalities, such as Morocco and China.
- We also employ people of various nationalities, including Italy, the Netherlands, the USA, Turkey, Austria, Romania, and Australia.
- The broad age range of employees, from 17 to 67 years old, testifies to an inter-generational workforce.

## Other aspects

- The number of employees in partial retirement and the number of severely disabled employees remained the same at 7 and 14 respectively.
- The number of apprentices rose from 8 in 2023 to 9 in 2024. This resulted in the planned election of youth representation in November 2024.
- The works council remained constant with one full-time member.

# Structure of the OFC Group



## ANKER is well-positioned for the future under strong leadership

With the complete change of ownership to the OFC Group, ANKER is under new but experienced management. Dong Zhou, who is now the sole shareholder and managing director of the long-established company, comes from a family of carpet manufacturers and thus brings with him in-depth industry knowledge and many years of expertise in the areas of carpet production and trade. The OFC Group, which has held a majority stake in ANKER since 2020, has continuously invested in the Düren site in recent years and set the course for a successful future.

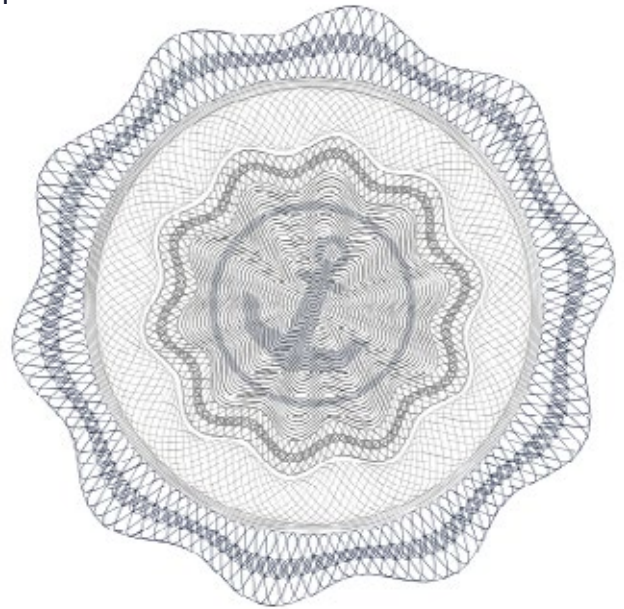
A close exchange between the partners in Germany and China is a central component of the corporate strategy. Regular meetings and jointly developed future strategies emphasize the importance of continuity and innovation at ANKER. Under the new management, ANKER will remain true to its values while developing into an even more international and future-oriented company.

Dong Zhou, who successfully leads the OFC Group, stands with his expertise and understanding of the industry as a guarantor for the further positive development of ANKER. The new "simply everywhere" orientation emphasizes the claim to be present worldwide without forgetting local roots.

# Quality and certificates

Because certified quality is of great importance to ANKER, the company actively promotes it. As early as 1990, ANKER was a co-founder of GUT – the Association for Environmentally Friendly Carpets – to establish standards in the industry and introduce regular product testing according to strict criteria. Since 2023, ANKER has also been a listed member of the Cradle-to-Cradle Products Innovation Institute Community, to further advance the recyclability of its carpets.

ANKER is also a member of ECRA (European Carpet and Rug Association) and is actively shaping the future of carpets.



GUT – Founding  
member  
GUT-Label

GUT-Prodis Label

EPDs an 2009

product  
specific  
EPDs

GUT-Prodis  
product pass

Cradle to  
Cradle

1990

2004

2009

2012

2020

2023



**ANKER is certified according to DIN EN ISO 9001 "Quality-Management Systems – Requirements" and DIN EN 9100 "Quality Management Systems– Requirements for Aviation, Space and Defense Organizations"**

DIN ISO 9001 and DIN EN 9100 are standards for quality management systems. DIN ISO 9001 sets out internationally recognized requirements for effective quality management, including continuous improvement, customer focus, and efficient process design. DIN EN 9100 is based on this and is specifically aimed at the aerospace industry, with additional requirements for high safety and quality standards. In addition, the strict process requirements of DIN EN 9100 also promote improved use of resources, thus contributing to better environmental standards in our company.

ANKER Gebr. Schoeller GmbH + Co. KG is not only certified according to these two high standards, but also works according to the standards DIN EN ISO 14001 and DIN EN ISO 50001. These two standards relate in particular to environmental management and energy management and emphasize the company's commitment to sustainability and the conservation of resources.

**DIN EN ISO 14001 – Environmental Management**

DIN EN ISO 14001 specifies the requirements for an environmental management system. It aims to systematically improve the environmental performance of a company, minimize environmental pollution, and meet legal requirements. At ANKER, this means, among other things, that daily water consumption is monitored and water samples are taken regularly to ensure that our operational processes are environmentally friendly. This monitoring is part of a continuous environmental improvement process to minimize the ecological impact of our company.

**DIN EN ISO 50001 – Energy Management**

DIN EN ISO 50001 focuses on the efficient use of energy. Through this standard, ANKER is committed to systematically monitoring and optimizing energy consumption. Energy consumption is checked and analyzed daily to identify and implement potential savings. This not only leads to cost reductions but also makes an important contribution to environmental protection by reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

**Significance of the standards in relation to sustainability**

The integration of environmental and energy management systems into quality management at ANKER demonstrates a clear commitment to sustainability. The combination of certifications according to the standards DIN ISO 9001, DIN EN 9100, DIN ISO 14001 and DIN ISO 50001 enables us to optimize our processes not only in terms of quality and safety but also concerning environmental friendliness and energy efficiency. This contributes to the long-term sustainability of our company and strengthens the trust of customers, partners, and society in the ANKER company.

**Quality management and consolidation of data in the "Consens" tool**

All relevant data and facts that are collected for the annual external audits according to the mentioned standards are collected and compared in a quality management tool called "Consens". This tool enables a systematic analysis and documentation of all relevant processes and results, which ensures continuous improvement and compliance with the standards. Overall responsibility lies with the management, which ensures that predefined goals are achieved. The management is tasked with implementing these goals. An interdisciplinary team that includes all relevant departments is responsible for gathering the necessary information.

This structured approach ensures that we as a company not only meet the high standards of the aerospace industry but also pursue sustainable and energy-efficient business practices that contribute to long-term success and environmental responsibility.

# Proven sustainability

## **Sustainability certification at ANKER: A sign of responsible action**

The numerous certifications of ANKER products underscore the company's commitment to sustainability and environmental compatibility. With certificates such as the Cradle to Cradle Certified® Gold, the GUT certificate, and the Environmental Product Declaration (EPD), ANKER ensures that all products meet strict ecological and health standards. The EPDs provide detailed information about the ecological impact of the products over their entire life cycle. This shows that we at ANKER not only use sustainable materials and production methods but also report transparently on environmental impacts. These certifications and the systematic availability of EPDs document that sustainability at ANKER is not just a goal, but a principle we live by.





# Grown *in the hands of carpet magnates*

***Founded in 1854 by Leopold Schoeller as a carpet office in Düren, Rhineland.***

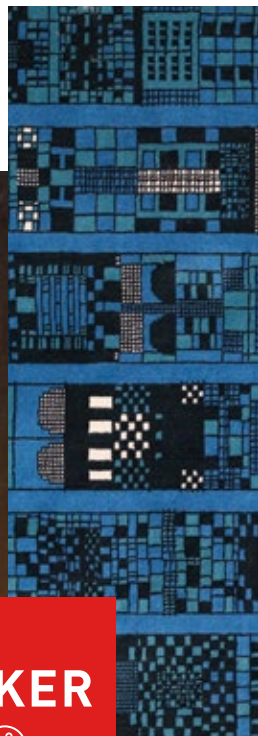
Founded in 1854 as a carpet office by Leopold Schoeller in Düren in the Rhineland, we have been committed to textile floor design ever since. In all its facets. And we have already achieved quite a few successes. For example, our company founder was one of the first to manufacture printed carpets using Whytock's warp dyeing process in Germany. We were early adopters of broadloom and tufted carpets in our portfolio, and we have been serving the transport sector as a business sector since the golden 1920s – with the furnishing of ships, trains, and zeppelins – as well as later successfully the contract market.

This foresight has been an essential feature of the company from the very beginning – as have innovative strength, eagerness to experiment, and partnership-based cooperation. And it still is today. After all, we are not only specialists in woven carpets, with which numerous internationally renowned designers from the fields of architecture and design work together.

We also set standards across the industry in terms of innovation, materials, resource utilization, and design. For example, we are co-founders of GUT and Domotex, have worked with Bauhaus artists to implement advanced designs in textiles and produced the famous German Pavilion carpet designed by Prof. Margret Hildebrand for the 1958 EXPO in Brussels.

We have brought design classics such as PERLON RIPS onto the market and fitted out the New National Gallery in Berlin with wall-to-wall carpets. We have developed a displacement air wall-to-wall carpet for the plenary hall of the German Bundestag and were the first manufacturer of textile floor covering ever to use Econyl®, as well as having carried out pioneering design studies for the aviation sector.

Seen in this light, it is quite a lot. Nevertheless, standing still and resting on our laurels is out of the question for us. We haven't done that so far, and we don't intend to!



**ANKER**



# Foreword

## *Dear Readers*

We are pleased to present our ESG Report, which provides a comprehensive overview of our environmental, social, and corporate governance performance. In this report, we go beyond traditional financial reporting and integrate the 17 points of the UN Charter, also known as the “Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”, into our sustainability strategy.

We firmly believe that companies should play an important role in achieving a sustainable future. The SDGs provide an internationally recognized framework for promoting environmental protection, social justice, and responsible corporate governance. By integrating the SDGs into our ESG report, we aim to show the connection between our sustainability efforts and the global goals for sustainable development.

Each of the 17 points of the UN Charter reflects a fundamental challenge facing the world, be it the eradication of poverty, the protection of the environment, the promotion of gender equality, or the creation of sustainable cities and communities. In our ESG report, we show how we are addressing these challenges and how our activities and initiatives are linked to the respective SDGs.

The integration of the SDGs into our ESG report enables us to transparently present our sustainability performance and provide our stakeholders with insights into our progress and challenges. It is not just about reporting on our efforts, but also about taking responsibility and contributing to the global sustainable development agenda.

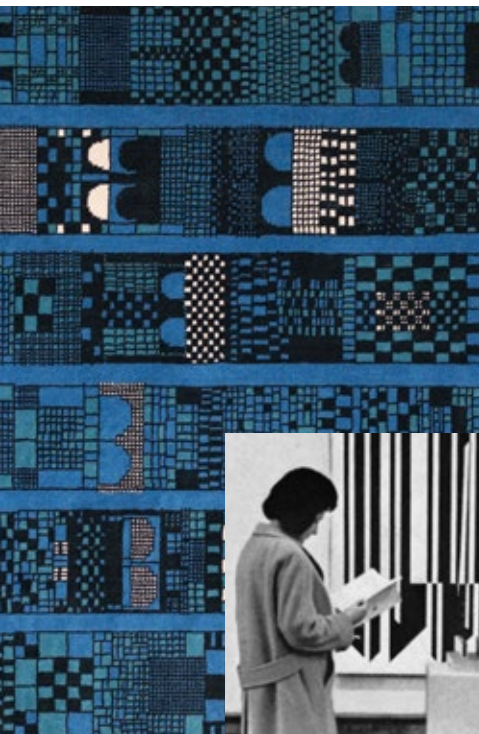
We recognize that we still have a long way to go to fully achieve the SDGs. This ESG Report serves not only as a tool to showcase our performance but also as a guide for future improvement and action. We are committed to continuously reviewing and improving our actions and working with other stakeholders to find collective solutions.

We warmly invite you to read this ESG report and share your thoughts, questions, and suggestions with us. Together, we can take responsibility and shape a sustainable future in which environmental, social, and economic aspects are in harmony. Thank you for your interest and support.

*Kind Regards,*  
**ANKER**

#### **Note on gender-inclusive language:**

*Article 6 of the UN Charter “Clean Water and Sanitation” requires signatory states to ensure universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water services for all. In addition, this article also seeks to ensure access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, with a particular focus on vulnerable groups. Water and sanitation management plays a key role in sustainable development and the general well-being of humanity. That is why the commitment of companies like ANKER to water treatment and the protection of water protection areas is essential.*





# Greenhouse Gas Inventory 2023

ANKER Gebr. Schoelller GmbH + Co. KG  
Zollhausstraße 112  
52353 Düren

|                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Company size        | 64.690 m <sup>2</sup>  |
| Number of employees | 183 FTE                |
| Rugs sold           | 979.604 m <sup>2</sup> |
| Work days           | 220 Days               |

## CO<sub>2</sub> Footprint

**22.057** **t CO<sub>2</sub>e**

|                                            |                              |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| per m <sup>2</sup>                         | 341 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e     |
| per FTE                                    | 120.529 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e |
| per m <sup>2</sup> rug<br>(cradle to gate) | 9,43 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e    |
| per day                                    | 100.258 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e |

## CO<sub>2</sub> Footprint Comparison



**106.042**

Trees<sup>1</sup> could  
offset the CO<sub>2</sub>  
footprint.



**2.101**

People<sup>2</sup> in Germany  
emit roughly the  
same amount of  
emissions per year.

<sup>1</sup>Source: own calculations according to LWF

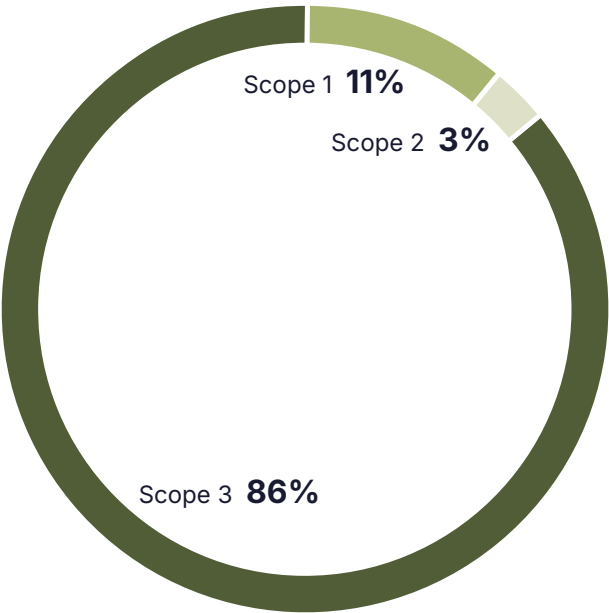
<sup>2</sup>Source: UBA (2023 for Germany)

Greenhouse gas emissions are presented below according to their origin. The balance sheet was prepared in accordance with the guidelines of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Standard, and is based on DIN EN ISO 14064-1. All relevant greenhouse gases from Scope 1 to 3 (according to the GHG Protocol) were considered and converted into CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>e) based on their specific greenhouse gas potentials and taking into account a time interval of 100 years. The activity data are partly estimated, but are given as real values in the emission-relevant areas. The control-related approach (operational control) was selected for the organizational boundaries. The cradle-to-gate value excludes business trips and employee travel.

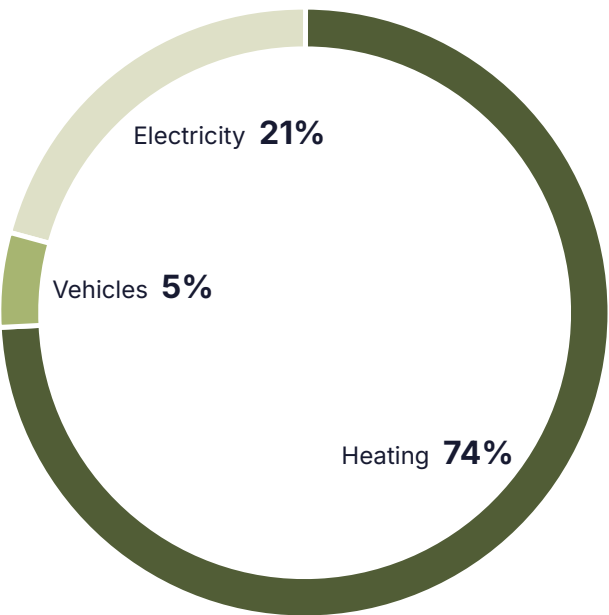
## Treibhausgasemissionen

|                                            | t CO <sub>2</sub> e | %          |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| <b>Sum</b>                                 | <b>22.057</b>       |            |
| <b>Surcharge of uncertainty + 5%</b>       | <b>1.000</b>        |            |
| <b>Scope 1 - Direct emissions</b>          | <b>2.457</b>        | <b>12%</b> |
| <b>Scope 2 - Indirect emissions</b>        | <b>641</b>          | <b>3%</b>  |
| <b>Scope 3 - Upstream Emissions</b>        | <b>7.041</b>        | <b>33%</b> |
| Purchased goods and services               | 5.903               | 28%        |
| Production resources/assets                | 92                  | 0%         |
| Fuel and energy-related activities         | 415                 | 2%         |
| Upstream transportation and distribution   | 93                  | 0%         |
| Waste generated in operations              | 297                 | 1%         |
| Business travel                            | 194                 | 1%         |
| Employee commuting                         | 48                  | 0%         |
| Upstream leased assets                     | 0                   | 0%         |
| <b>Scope 3 - Downstream Emissions</b>      | <b>12.574</b>       | <b>60%</b> |
| Downstream transportation and distribution | 138                 | 1%         |
| Processing of sold products                | 1.182               | 6%         |
| Use of sold products                       | 8.210               | 39%        |
| End-of-life treatment of sold products     | 3.043               | 14%        |
| <b>Greenhouse gas Removals</b>             | <b>1.657</b>        |            |

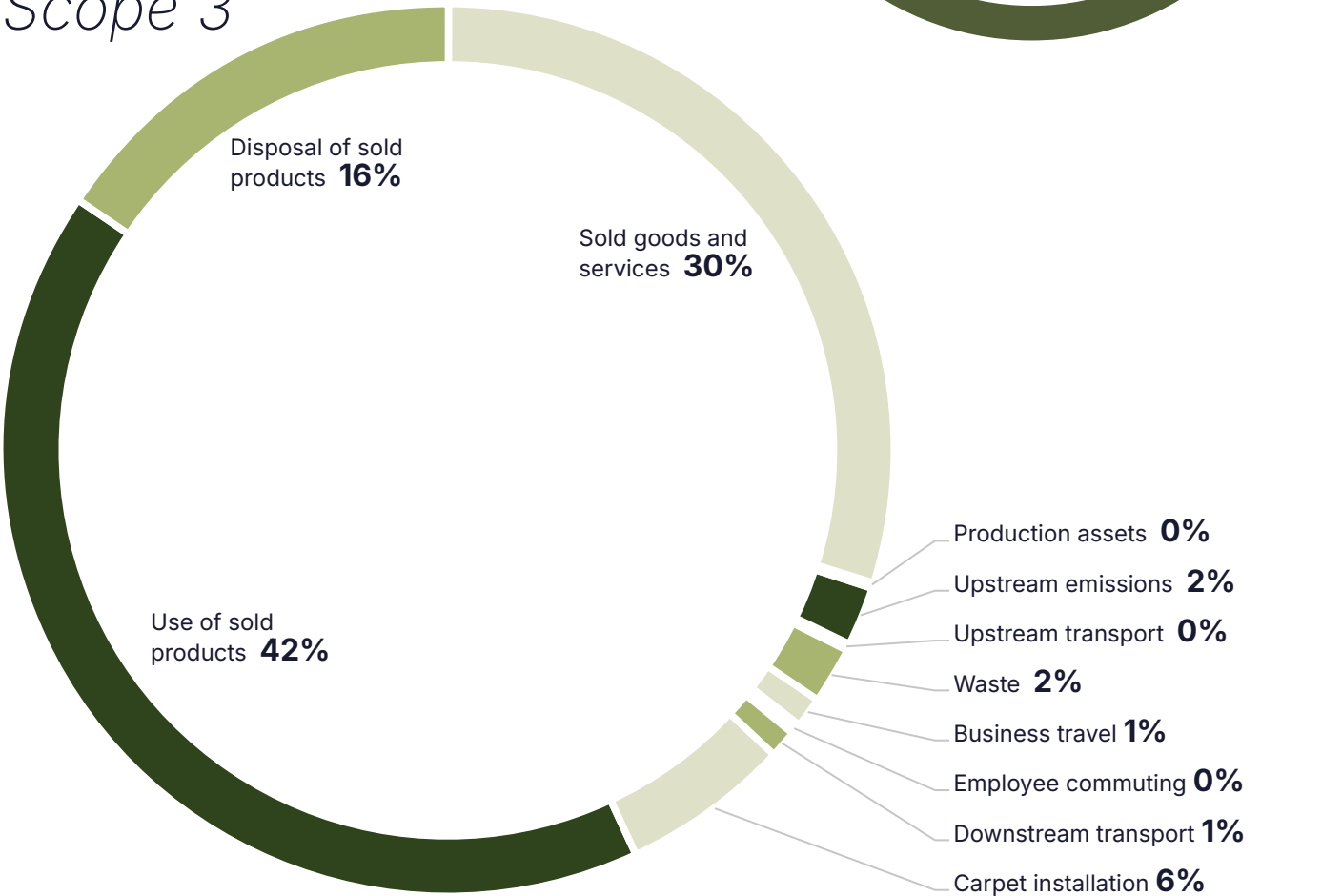
Scope 1-3



Scope 1-2



Scope 3



# #efficient

The greenhouse gas balance of ANKER Gebr. Schoeller GmbH + Co. KG for 2023 was prepared following the guidelines of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Standard and DIN EN ISO 14064-1. All relevant emissions from Scope 1 to 3 were taken into account and converted into CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>e).

## Overview of emissions

- **Scope 1** (direct emissions):  
11% of total emissions (approx. 2,457 t CO<sub>2</sub>e)
- **Scope 2** (indirect emissions from energy consumption):  
3% of total emissions (approx. 641 t CO<sub>2</sub>e)
- **Scope 3** (indirect emissions from upstream and downstream processes):  
86% of total emissions (approx. 19,957 t CO<sub>2</sub>e)

## Detailed results for Scopes 1-3:

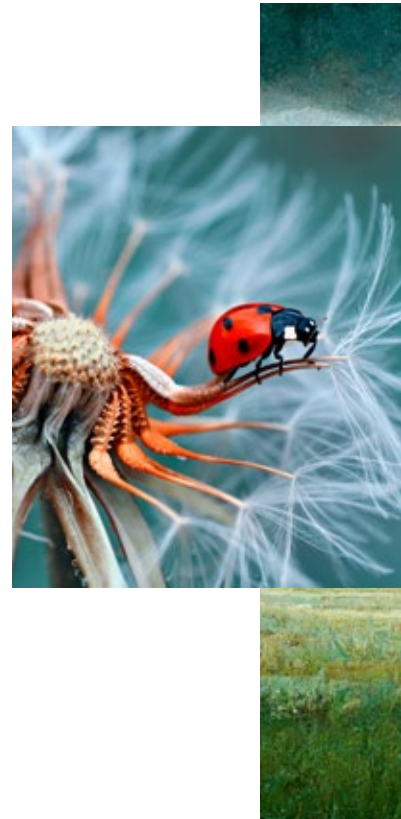
- 1. Scope 1:** Direct emissions include, for example, emissions from the combustion of fossil fuels on site. In the balance, they account for only a small portion (11%) of the total emissions.
- 2. Scope 2:** These emissions come from energy consumption, in particular electricity and district heating. The share is also low (3%), which could indicate relatively efficient energy use or the use of renewable energies.
- 3. Scope 3:** The largest share of emissions is attributable to upstream (e.g. transport of raw materials, production) and downstream (e.g. use and disposal of products). It is evident that the majority of the environmental impacts are not caused directly by the company, but by the entire value chain.

## Comparison with the industry average

Compared to the industry average, the data shows that ANKER is relatively efficient in the area of Scope 1 and 2. However, the big challenge lies in Scope 3 emissions, which make up the largest part of the balance and are typically more difficult to reduce because they are heavily dependent on external suppliers and customers.

## Conclusion

The analysis makes it clear that future savings potential can be found primarily in the supply chain and in downstream processes (Scope 3). Investments in more sustainable materials and an optimization of the logistics chain could bring about a significant reduction here.



# Environment



## SDG 6

### Clean water and sanitation

ANKER is actively involved in water treatment by supplying the water used in production to the Düren-Merken sewage treatment plant. This means that it can be returned to the natural local waters, such as the Rur, without harming animals and nature.

The company not only works to preserve the water protection area in Düren, but also promotes its regulations and measures. As a member of the Eifel-Rur Water association (WVER), ANKER helps to harmonize the protection and use of water. The association is responsible for the region's essential basis for life – its water. This provides people with drinking water and supplies the economy with water for production. The WVER is also committed to creating and maintaining attractive river landscapes with an intact water cycle, while taking into account the interests of residents and the economy. ANKER was one of the founding members of the RuR Wastewater Association. As a safety measure, it is possible to shut off the main wastewater collector for dirty water and to retain and dispose of any contaminated wastewater. The sewer system is regularly inspected and cleaned.

#### Addition:

*SDG 6 of the UN Charter "Clean Water and Sanitation" commits the signatory states to ensure universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water services for all. Furthermore, this point also aims to ensure access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, with a particular focus on vulnerable groups. Water and sanitation management plays a key role in sustainable development and the general well-being of humanity. That is why the commitment of companies like ANKER in water treatment and the protection of water protection areas is essential.*





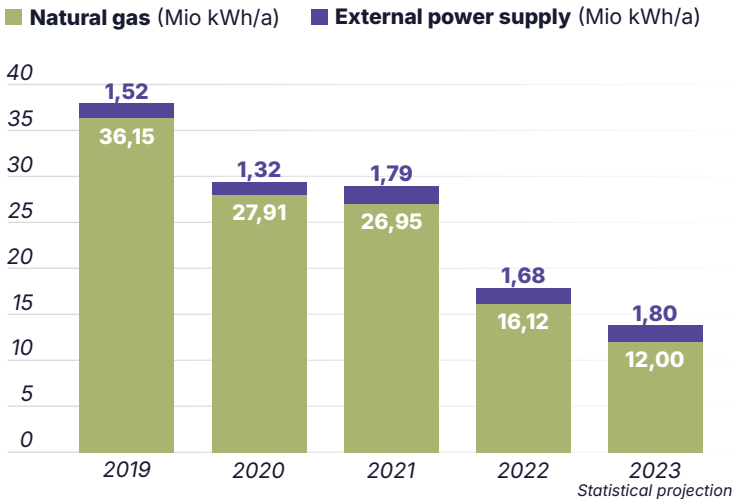
**SDG 7**  
**Affordable and clean energy**

ANKER has installed a photovoltaic system (PV system) on the roofs of its production facilities to generate independent and clean energy for its own use. The system has an output of 120 kWp (kilowatt peak).

Furthermore, the company has set up several charging stations on its premises. These are used to charge electric vehicles, both from the company’s own fleet and from employees’ private vehicles. The machinery is also regularly checked for energy efficiency to plan the introduction of more sustainable and efficient energies for operations according to requirements.

In the future, ANKER plans to replace the existing combined heat and power plant with decentralized, sustainable solutions. Possibilities for this could be district heating or heat pumps. The next goal is to install a decentralized hot water heating system using heat pumps to permanently heat the laboratory, shipping, and storage areas, independently of steam boiler operation, to reduce natural gas consumption and provide independent heating. The photovoltaic system will be expanded by approx. 60 kWp to 240 kWp per year..

*Addition:*  
 The seventh goal of the UN Charter, “Affordable and Clean Energy”, aims to ensure universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy services by 2030. This includes increasing the share of renewable energies in the global energy mix and doubling the global energy efficiency rate. Companies like ANKER are making a significant contribution to achieving this goal by investing in renewable energy sources and energy efficiency.





## SDG 12

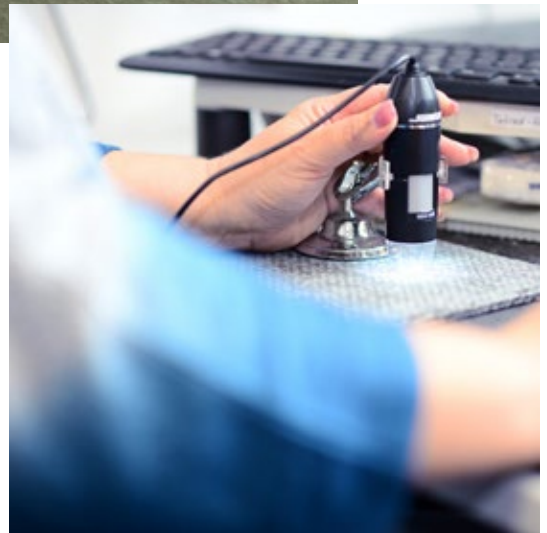
### Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Since its foundation, Schoeller GmbH + Co. KG has been committed to sustainable production, thus enabling sustainable consumption for consumers. When buying a high-quality woven fabric from ANKER, the buyer can expect the product to last up to three times longer.

ANKER carpets are high-quality, durable products designed for demanding use in heavily trafficked areas. It is not uncommon for them to be in use for many decades without showing any quality defects that would require replacement. For example, ANKER tufting products retain their original shape for at least 10 years, and for woven products, it is even 20-25 years. In addition, their durability is supported by their high cleanability and alternative installation options, such as Smart Connects (stickers instead of liquid glue).

ANKER has sustainably reduced water consumption in the production process by switching from piece dyeing to solution-dyed yarn. 80% of ANKER products are already produced from solution-dyed fibers. This not only makes it possible to create attractive products from a design perspective, but also to achieve energy-efficient production processes and save valuable process and wastewater. ANKER played a major role in the development of the environmentally friendly Econyl fiber from the manufacturer Aquafil. The company was the first European manufacturer to take a close look at the ecological issues of recycling and the use of recycled material. Today, for example, almost 100% of all yarn waste from polyamide 6 material is fed into the recycling process at ANKER. Aquafil collects this yarn waste and processes it into recycled Econyl fibers, which are then further processed into new ANKER carpets (or other products).

To extend the service life of the machines, the company maintains its own metalworking and electrical shops. Continuous monitoring of the machines through regular inspection intervals ensures that all products are manufactured in a resource-saving and efficient manner. ANKER is constantly working to reduce the amount and number of materials used to protect the environment.



# Pioneering developments

ANKER is continuously working to reduce the amount and number of materials used to protect the environment. All packaging material, including that from external suppliers, is collected by ANKER and taken to the local municipal recycling centers weekly. The company maintains a list of requirements for sustainability criteria for the research of new suppliers and partners and constantly checks the quality of the supplied raw materials in a company-owned laboratory.

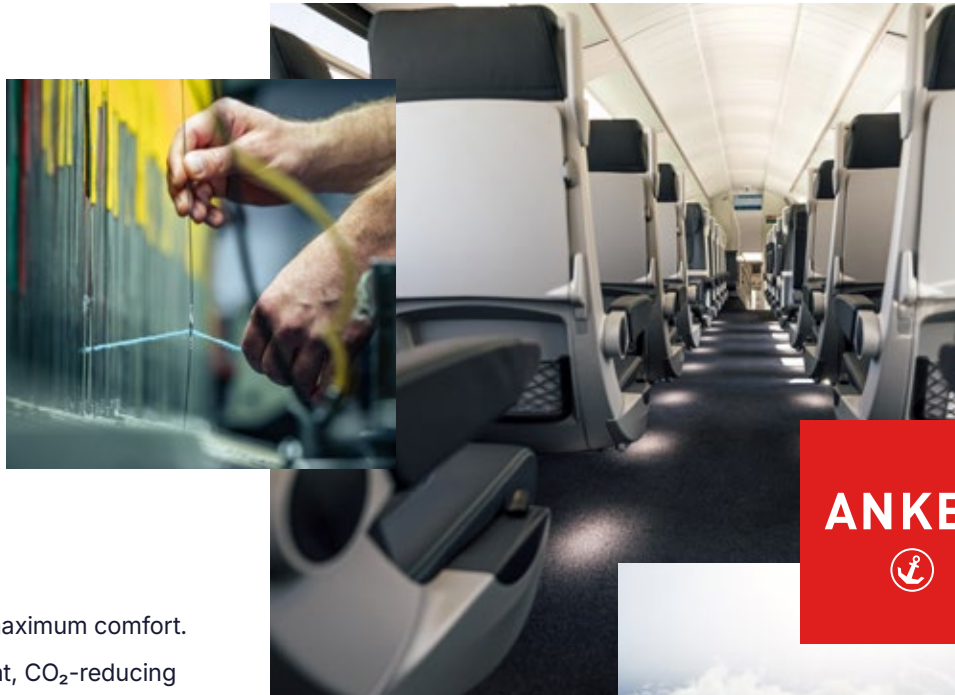
Each product batch is thoroughly tested for its pollutant load and the respective use, to ensure quality, sustainability, and environmental compatibility. In addition, the company has committed itself to having tested and certified EPDs (Environmental Product Declarations) created for all product groups.

*Addition:*

*The aim of SDG 12 of the UN Charter "Sustainable Consumption and Production" is to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. This includes halving global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reducing food losses along production and supply chains. It also aims to achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources. Companies like ANKER play an important role in realizing this goal by promoting sustainable production processes and long-lasting products.*

## Sustainable products





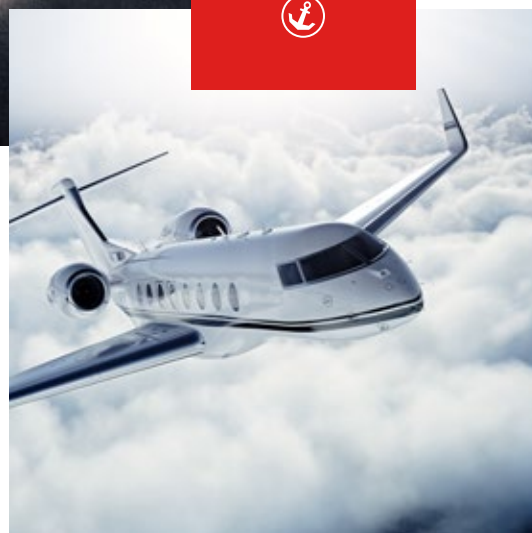
## AIRlight®

Minimal weight with maximum comfort.

To enable a lightweight, CO<sub>2</sub>-reducing cabin interior, ANKER has developed the AIRlight® carpet. Since 2012, the now ten different qualities not only conserve resources, they are also particularly durable.

**40%**  
lighter\*

**85%**  
recycled materials



## The latest innovation: **SonicWave® Air**

### **Light and quiet.**

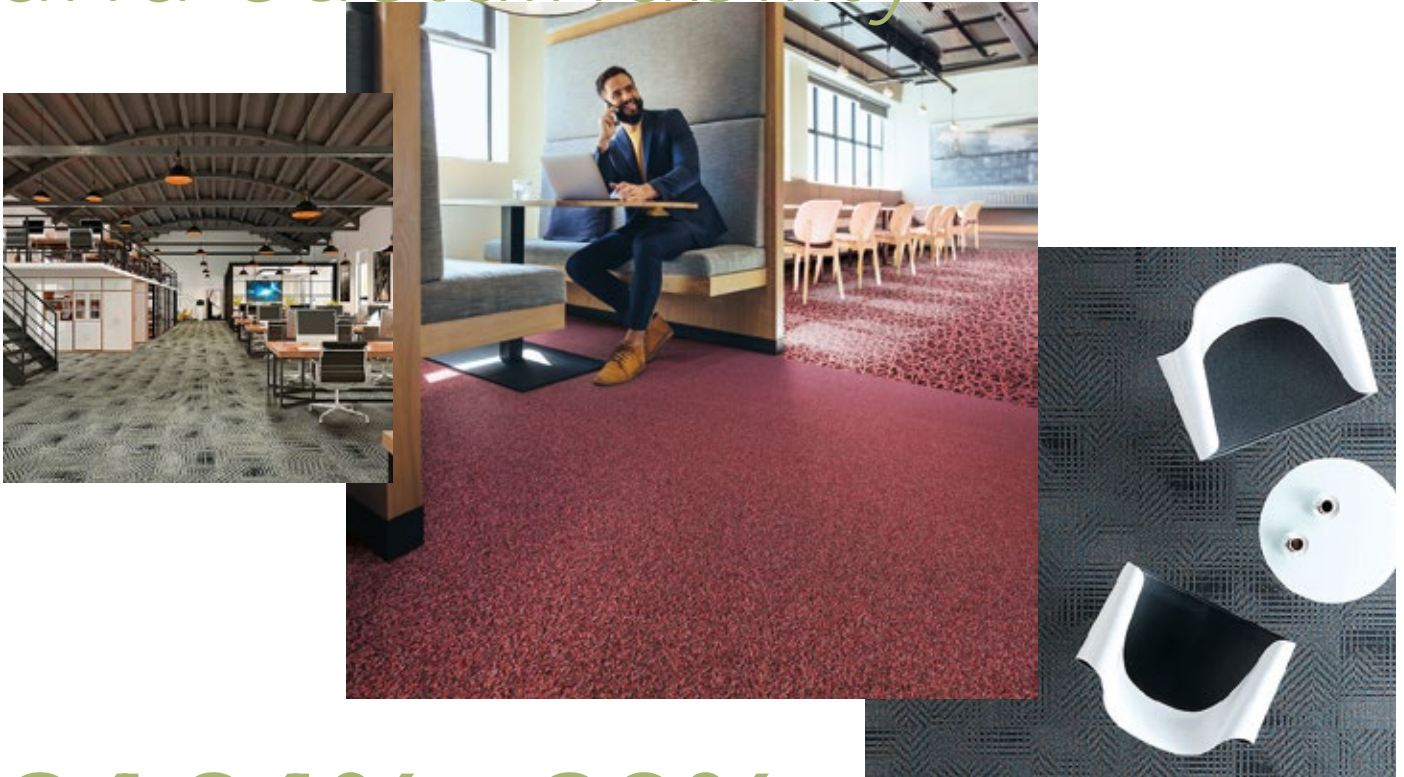
With its latest development, the company is saving twice over – for noticeably more comfort. SonicWave® Air carpet is not only lightweight but with its special backing fleece, it also dampens impact sound by 10 percent and the general acoustics in the aircraft by up to 20 percent. Furthermore, it is easy to lay, trim, and remove. And since it does not fray, there is no need for edging.

### **Innovative carpeting – and that's it?**

Product development at ANKER does not end with the actual product. Its attachment is tested and (further) developed. One example is the SonicTape: This gets caught in the fleece coating of a SonicWave® Air carpet and thus ensures a permanent bond without slipping. An example from the commercial sector is the double-sided adhesive tape from tesa. ANKER did not invent this, but it did successfully test it with its carpets and coatings.

\*Airlight Eco (1200 g/m<sup>2</sup>) is lighter than conventional textile floor coverings for aircraft (on average approx. 1700 g/m<sup>2</sup>)

# The contract business *and sustainability*



## 84,24%

Recycled content

## 36%

Less weight\*

One specific example of a product is TEXRA® carpeting, which features very special characteristics!

**ECONYL®** regenerated nylon – sustainable and colorfast

The environmentally friendly ECONYL® fiber consists of 100% recycled raw materials and is solution-dyed – colorfast through and through.

**Solution-dyed** – colourfast through and through

- Dope-dyed during the yarn production process
- Excellent cleaning properties
- Resistant to UV radiation and yellowing over time
- Environmentally friendly due to significant savings in fresh water, wastewater, energy, and CO<sub>2</sub>

**EVA-BACK** – a back coating with excellent laying and lying properties: odorless, latex-, bitumen- and PVC-free and another step towards environmentally friendly and recyclable products.

\*Compared to the best-selling ANKER tufting carpet.

# Sustainability *doesn't end at the finalized carpet*

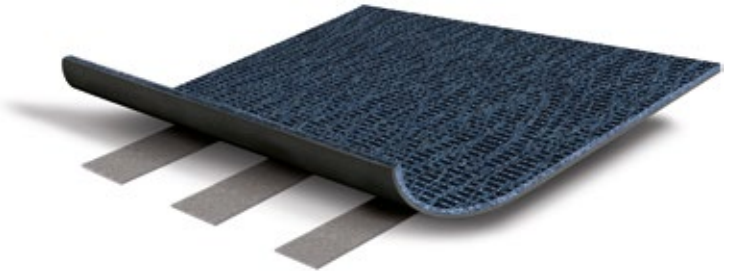
## Resource conservation through effort reduction during (re)installation

To ensure that the carpet replacement can be carried out in an uncomplicated and resource-saving manner, ANKER has helped to develop the appropriate accessories. Like the SonicTape: once installed in the aircraft, it can be used to easily re-lay the textile floor covering – and avoid unnecessary waste.

The aviation carpets are produced under strict conditions (EN: 9100:2018 & DIN EN ISO: 9001:2015) and only materials that meet the approval requirements are used – this also applies to the accessories used to lay the textile floor covering. tesa® flameXtinct 45020 meets these requirements.

It is flame-retardant and has low toxicity. In addition, the mounting tape is free of halogens and antimony trioxides – verifiable thanks to its certification. This means that in an emergency, less smoke and fire gas are produced.

These properties are a convincing argument for ANKER to recommend it for laying carpets in aircraft.



## "Smart solution" – an alternative fastening method for the contract carpet

### **SmartConnects – ANKER's adhesive-free solution for sustainable installation**

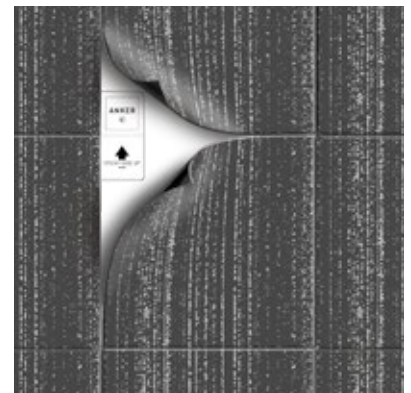
SmartConnects – ANKER's adhesive-free solution for sustainable installation. They offer an environmentally friendly and flexible method for laying modular carpet tiles. This technology enables installation without the use of adhesive and ensures easy, clean, and fast installation.

SmartConnects connect the tiles stably in a horizontal direction, creating a "floating installation" that is both dimensionally stable and flexible. The absence of adhesive protects the substrate and leaves no residue, ensuring a straightforward and clean installation.

### **Easy customization and reuse**

When room concepts change, modular flooring with SmartConnects can be easily rearranged. Removing and reinserting the tiles is quick and effortless – whether you are replacing individual tiles or completely redesigning the space.

This results in less waste after installation and minimal tools that need to be cleaned or disposed of. For rooms with raised floors, access to the subfloor remains easily possible at all times. SmartConnects thus not only offer sustainable and environmentally friendly advantages but also a high degree of flexibility and user-friendliness in handling and use.



## SDG 13

### Climate protection measures

ANKER Gebr. Schoeller GmbH + Co. KG is exemplary in its commitment to protecting and preserving nature in its immediate surroundings. As early as 2020, ANKER financed the reforestation of trees in Hürtgenwald, Germany. As a manufacturing company, ANKER has already offset over 110 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> through the protection and preservation of rainforests. However, the ultimate goal is always to reduce and save CO<sub>2</sub> emissions before considering offsetting as a last step. In an effort to continuously offset the CO<sub>2</sub> produced, the company is looking for a more sustainable offsetting strategy.

### Prepared for the future!

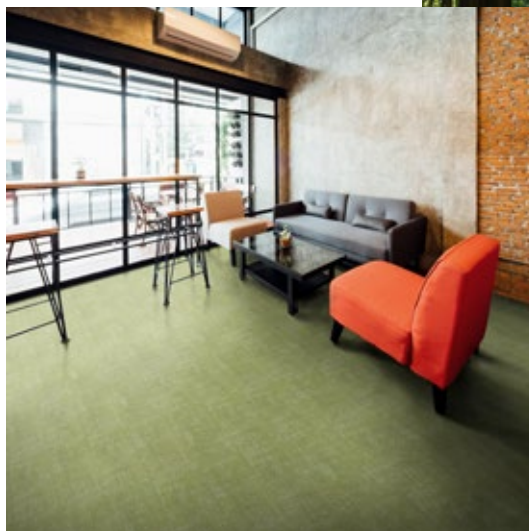
The environmental impacts of climate change could have a significant impact on production at ANKER. Potential risks include changing weather conditions, the availability of raw materials, water scarcity, and increasing legal requirements. Changing weather conditions:

**Extreme weather events:** such as storms or floods pose a challenge. ANKER takes preventive measures, such as closing the company park during storm warnings and protecting critical infrastructures (e.g. servers and archives). In addition, the company would plan long-term measures such as green roofs and facades as well as alternative cooling systems in the event of a sustained rise in temperatures.

**Availability of raw materials:** ANKER has strategically focused on polyamide-based yarns, which are mainly made from recycled materials, which is in line with the sustainability strategy.

**Water scarcity:** By outsourcing water-intensive dyeing processes and using riverbank filtrate, water consumption has been significantly reduced. In the event of extreme water shortages, it is possible to switch to the municipal water supply.

**Legal requirements:** ANKER maintains a constantly updated legal register to identify legal changes at an early stage. In addition, the company already fulfills many EU directives before it is legally required to do so.



Addition:

SDG 13 of the UN Charter, "Climate Action", aims to take urgent action to combat climate change and its effects. It also emphasizes the need to create educational, awareness-raising, and institutional capacities to counteract climate change and to mitigate its effects. This goal is of critical importance given that climate change is already having widespread impacts on human and natural systems. Companies like ANKER play a key role in achieving this goal by committing to climate protection, offsetting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through reforestation programs and sustainable business practices, and developing strategies to further reduce their carbon footprint.

# The **Extra** for the customer

## Offsetting projects carbon footprints to zero



|                              |                                    |                                                           |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Country                      | <b>Land</b>                        | <b>Paraguay</b>                                           |
| Area                         | <b>Fläche</b>                      | <b>2.500 m<sup>2</sup></b>                                |
| Reafforestation              | <b>Aufforstung</b>                 | <b>Nutzholzfläche</b> Timber area                         |
| CO <sub>2</sub> compensation | <b>CO<sub>2</sub>-Kompensation</b> | <b>110 Tonnen CO<sub>2</sub></b> 110 tons CO <sub>2</sub> |

Environmental protection, sustainability, and the conservation of valuable resources are the focus at ANKER. The company offsets the production-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of its products through international reforestation projects, such as in Paraguay. These measures bind CO<sub>2</sub> in the long term, promote biodiversity, and actively contribute to global climate protection. For each project, the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions during production are recorded and fully offset. Upon completion of a project, customers receive a certificate confirming the CO<sub>2</sub> offset and documenting the sustainable orientation. In this way, ANKER combines high-quality products with a clear contribution to climate protection.

Explanation of the graphic: ANKER can make production and delivery processes climate-neutral through CO<sub>2</sub> compensation strategies.

## CO<sub>2</sub> Zertifikat KOLLEKTION

**PARAGUAY**

Environmental protection, sustainability and the conservation of valuable resources are topics that are becoming increasingly important every day. ANKER is aware of this responsibility and supports international environmental projects. For this reason, ANKER neutralizes the production-related CO<sub>2</sub>-emissions of its products through reforestation in Paraguay.

Umweltschutz, Nachhaltigkeit und die Schonung wertvoller Ressourcen sind Themen, die täglich immer wichtiger werden. ANKER ist sich dieser Verantwortung bewusst und unterstützt internationale Umweltprojekte. Aus diesem Grund neutralisiert ANKER die produktionsbedingten CO<sub>2</sub>-Emissionen ihrer Produkte durch Wiederaufforstungen in Paraguay.

PROJ\_2023\_3

|                                                              |                                                        |          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Country, Land                                                | Paraguay                                               | Paraguay |
| Total area, Gesamtfläche                                     | 2500 m <sup>2</sup>                                    |          |
| Reafforestation, Aufforstung                                 | Timber area, Nutzholzfläche                            |          |
| CO <sub>2</sub> -compensation, CO <sub>2</sub> -Kompensation | 110 Tonne CO <sub>2</sub> , 110 Tonnen CO <sub>2</sub> |          |



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



## SDG 14

### Life below water

ANKER Gebr. Schoeller GmbH + Co. KG contributes to the protection and conservation of the underwater world by cleaning and treating the water used in production. This enables safe return to local waters such as the Rur, without harming the flora and fauna. The company has transferred fishing rights for its own waters to the Kreisfischereiverein Düren e.V. fishing club, to ensure a sustainable wildlife population.

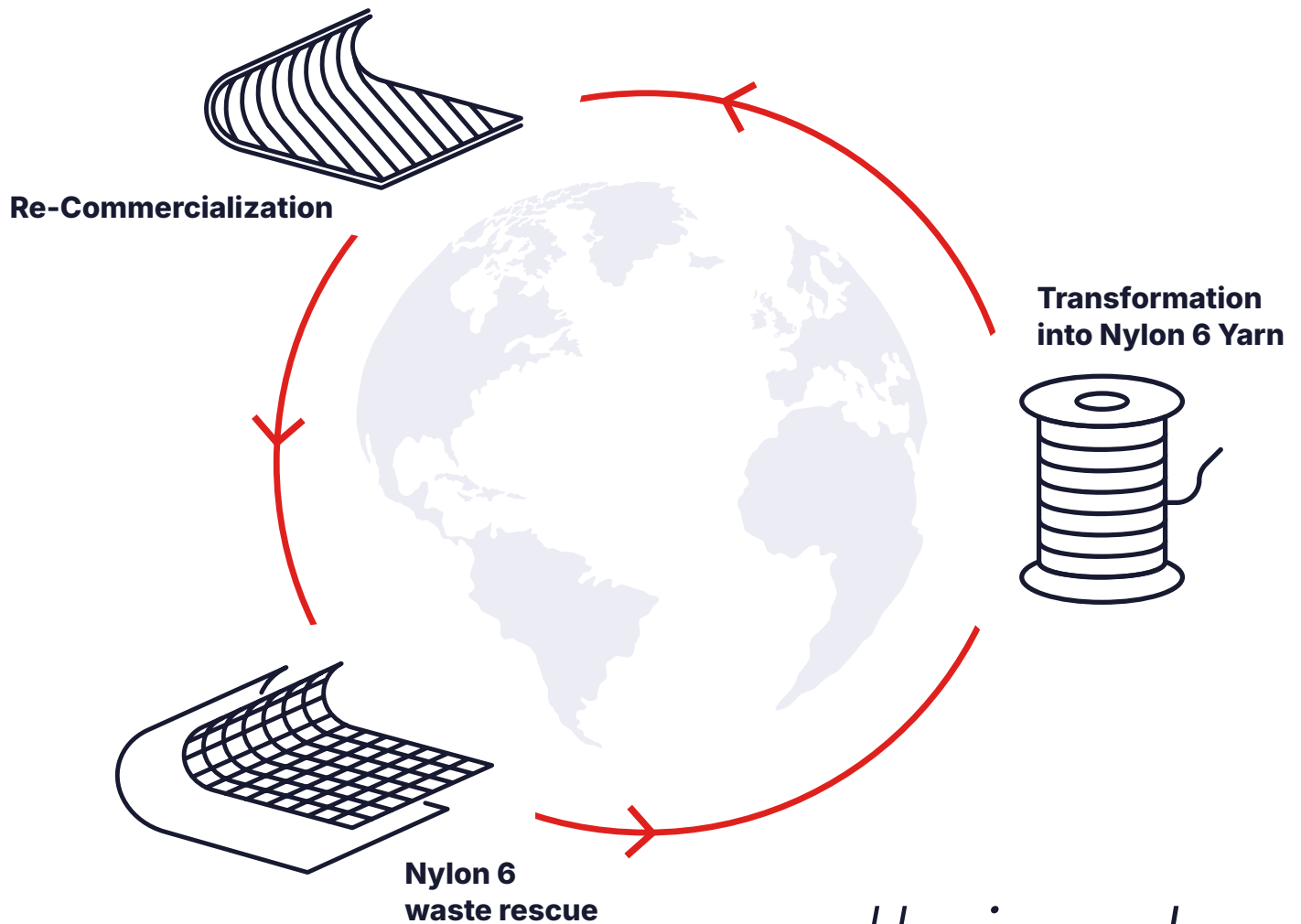
As a long-standing partner of Aquafil, an Italian yarn manufacturer with a strong commitment to ocean sustainability, ANKER supports the "Healthy Seas" initiative. This was founded by Aquafil, Star Sock and the NGO Ghost Diving to combat the problem of ghost fishing. Healthy Seas collects abandoned fishing nets and ensures that they are used as valuable resources by recycling them into ECONYL® yarn. In addition, Healthy Seas is dedicated to raising awareness of marine pollution and its prevention. The nylon fishing nets recovered by Healthy Seas are regenerated by Aquafil together with other nylon waste into ECONYL® yarn which can then be used by various brands in the fashion and interior design industries. ANKER supports and promotes such suppliers and plans to develop more and more products that can be made with these yarns in the future.

#### Addition:

Goal 14 of the UN Charter, "Life below water", aims to promote and protect the sustainable use of marine and coastal ecosystems and to protect them. It emphasizes the importance of marine resources and maritime heritage for sustainable development. The initiative also includes the protection and restoration of ecosystems, the reduction of marine pollution, the minimization and management of the effects of ocean acidification, and the sustainable management of fishing, aquaculture, and tourism activities. Companies like ANKER are helping to achieve this goal by integrating environmentally friendly practices into their business processes and partnering with organizations dedicated to ocean conservation.

# **Total:** *more than* **36.000 kg** **returned to Aquafil**

The company ANKER collects the yarn waste that arises during production and then has it recycled by Aquafil into a new raw material.



*#circular*

## SDG 15

### Life on land

ANKER Gebr. Schoeller GmbH + Co. KG actively supports the protection of terrestrial ecosystems and manages 33.8 hectares of its land for this purpose. The company currently manages and protects 7.88 hectares of forest, parts of the Rur river, 13.58 hectares of meadow orchards, and agricultural land. To protect and preserve the native flora and fauna, the company encourages the natural growth of trees and plants on various meadows. These areas are completely fenced off to protect the flora and fauna that live there, and only a few selected people have access to maintain and monitor the area. This protection contributes significantly to the preservation of local animal and insect populations.

A special project since 2024 is the establishment of our own beehive, which is home to 20 bee colonies. Bees play a crucial role in the pollination of plants and thus contribute significantly to the preservation of biodiversity. They not only pollinate fruit trees and wild plants but also promote the spread of numerous flowering plants, which in turn provide habitats and food sources for other insects and animals. This strengthens biodiversity across the entire site and supports the stability of the ecosystem.

In the future, the company plans to further enrich the fauna through targeted planting. These measures are intended to create additional habitats for native animal species and promote the natural balance of the environment. With this commitment and the protected, carefully managed areas, ANKER Gebr. Schoeller GmbH + Co. KG wants to make a long-term contribution to the preservation of regional biodiversity and sustainably strengthen the ecological functions of the managed areas. .

#### Addition:

Goal 15 of the UN Charter, "Life on Land", is designed to protect, restore and promote the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems. It emphasizes the protection, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems. It also includes combating desertification, halting and reversing land degradation and biodiversity loss. Initiatives such as those of ANKER help to raise awareness of the protection and sustainable management of terrestrial ecosystems and to promote a healthy balance between human activities and nature.

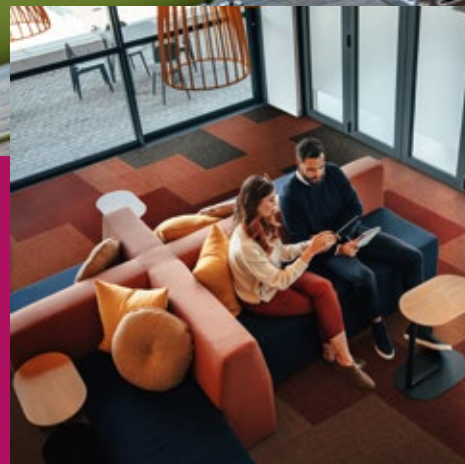
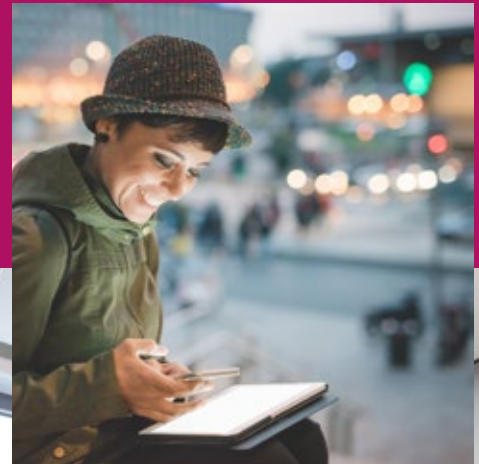


## ANKER Gebr. Schoeller GmbH + Co. KG

| Areas in ha                      | Forrest area | Arable land, green space, water area | Building and traffic areas | Total       |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| Birkesdorf Fl. 20, 223           | 4,88         | 5,8463                               | 0,8254                     | 11,6        |
| Birkesdorf Fl. 20, 221           | 2,998        | 4,263                                | 8,378                      | 15,6        |
| Birkendorf Sonstige Flurstr.     | 0,0028       | 0,47                                 | 1,11                       | 1,6         |
| Pößneck Fl. 4, 4712/8            | 0,0000       | 0                                    | 1,16                       | 1,2         |
| Mariaweiler Flur 15 Nr. 141, 270 | 0,000        | 2,9854                               | 0                          | 3,0         |
| <b>ANKER Total</b>               | <b>7,88</b>  | <b>13,56</b>                         | <b>11,47</b>               | <b>32,9</b> |
| Gebr. Thelen                     |              | 0,0136                               | 0,8747                     | 0,9         |
| <b>ANKER – Group</b>             | <b>7,88</b>  | <b>13,58</b>                         | <b>12,35</b>               | <b>33,8</b> |

KL 30.06.2021





# Social



## SDG 1

### No Poverty

ANKER contributes to the fight against poverty by paying its employees a fair wage. With the help of the company's own works council, it ensures that employees receive a socially adequate standard of living. In addition, the Vera Ahlemann-Schoeller Foundation supports local and international projects, including the Monze-Mission Hospital in Monze/Zambia, which is being supported both in terms of the expansion of the clinic and the further training of staff. This foundation is committed to helping blind and visually impaired children.

Projects supported by this foundation include the installation of a solar energy system to generate electricity for a school for the blind in Attiak Sub-County (Uganda) and the renewal of the audio description system in the Haus der Stadt Düren Cultural Center.

(<https://www.ahlemann-schoeller.de/#projekte>)

#### Addition:

*The first goal of the UN Charter, "No Poverty", refers to the eradication of poverty in all its forms everywhere in the world. This includes measures aimed at adequate remuneration for work, the elimination of unemployment and underemployment, and the creation of jobs.*

## SDG 2

### Zero Hunger

ANKER strives for the sustainable use of resources and avoids the use of nutrient-based plastics in its products. The use of nutrient-based plastics can lead to a potential shortage of arable land, which should be reserved exclusively for human nutrition. Instead, the company relies on recycled raw materials and waste products from related industries. In addition, ANKER cultivates its own agricultural land and operates a sustainable fishery in cooperation with the fishing cooperative of the district of Düren.

*Addition:*

*The second UN Charter goal, "Zero Hunger", aims to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. Action in this area can range from the production to the consumption level and includes the promotion of sustainable agricultural practices and the efficient use of resources.*



## SDG 3

### Good Health and Well-Being

ANKER takes the health and well-being of its employees seriously. The company's independent works council ensures that the health concerns of the workforce are taken into account, for example by monitoring ergonomic office furniture and the provision of health services. The company regularly conducts training on the topic of "Healthy Sitting" and provides its own company doctor. In addition, employees are offered subsidized, nutrient-optimized meals and free drinking water. ANKER also motivates its workforce to adopt an active and healthy lifestyle. This is demonstrated, among other things, by its participation in the 2nd Düren Company Run, in which the company was represented by its own team. Outside of its own workforce, ANKER is committed to sports sponsorship, for example at the 17th Indeland Triathlon. These initiatives not only promote the health of employees, but also strengthen cohesion and the sense of community within the company.

#### Addition:

SDG 3 of the UN Charter, "Good Health and Well-Being", aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. This encompasses a wide range of issues, from reducing maternal and child mortality and combating disease to improving health and well-being at work.



## SDG 4

### Quality Education

ANKER supports its employees in their professional development by continuously offering training and further education. The selection of training courses is based on requests from the respective employee and is open to everyone.

To this end, the company conducts an annual survey of its workforce. ANKER is currently planning to offer English courses to improve communication between the logistics department and the drivers of the transport companies. This training is, of course, open to the rest of the workforce to participate in as well. To make it easier to access training materials, new methods such as LinkedIn Learning or other online learning platforms are to be tested.

#### Addition:

SDG 4 of the UN Charter, "Quality Education", emphasizes the importance of inclusive and quality education for all and the promotion of lifelong learning. Education is a fundamental human right and a crucial factor in promoting sustainable development.



4 QUALITY  
EDUCATION



*Total #invest*  
*of over **70.000 Euro** in further training*  
*for employees in 2023*

## SDG 5

### Gender equality

ANKER has been run by family dynasties for around 170 years and places a high value on family friendliness. It supports employees in planning their parental leave and helps them re-enter the workforce. Flexible working models such as flexitime, part-time, and mobile working enable ANKER to better reconcile work and family life. The company has created a gender guideline for linguistics in the company to clarify the use and addressing of gender-specific terms.

#### Addition:

Goal 5 of the UN Charter, "Gender Equality", aims to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and girls everywhere. It emphasizes the need to address gender inequalities in all areas of life, from education and the labor market to health care and political participation.



## 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



### SDG 8

## Decent Work and Economic Growth

ANKER is committed to ensuring human rights and decent working conditions for suppliers and partners. This commitment to decent work and fair pay is verified unannounced and regularly during audits. In addition, the company prefers suppliers from Europe for the European market, ideally with the shortest delivery routes. To ensure decent work along the supply chain, ANKER has renewed its Code of Conduct in accordance with the new supply chain due diligence.

The company promotes and employs people with physical and mental disabilities. The company appoints a representative for disabled employees for this group to take the concerns and needs of these people into account. The carpet samples in the sample cards are produced by the REHA Erftland company, a workshop for people with disabilities.

For Anker, integrating social responsibility for employees, the Düren region and partners is more than just a theoretical mission statement. These values were introduced by the company's founder Leopold Schoeller and passed down over six generations. For ANKER, "Made in Germany" not only stands for outstanding quality, but is also synonymous with "Made by Family". The company sees itself as a family working on the legacy of future ANKER generations, developing ideas and flooring visions and implementing them together.

#### *Addition:*

*SDG 8 of the UN Charter, "Decent Work and Economic Growth", emphasizes the importance of full employment and decent work for all. It promotes sustainable economic growth and productivity as well as the improvement of working conditions worldwide. This goal recognizes that economic growth and decent work are closely linked and together contribute to the creation of stable and inclusive societies.*

**SDG 10**

**Reduced Inequalities**

ANKER maintains a constant exchange and transfer of knowledge with the team of its parent company, OFC in China. The company is firmly committed to equal treatment and equality as well as fair working conditions and pay for all its employees – including those working for the OFC Group in China. In addition, ANKER is committed to the promotion and integration of marginalized groups, such as people with physical and mental disabilities or people from socially disadvantaged educational groups. To ensure that the needs of these groups are taken into account in the works council, the company has installed special representatives for these groups. In the future, ANKER plans to intensify its efforts to address the intercultural needs of its employees. One example of this would be to adjust the shift schedules of employees during Ramadan.

*Addition:*

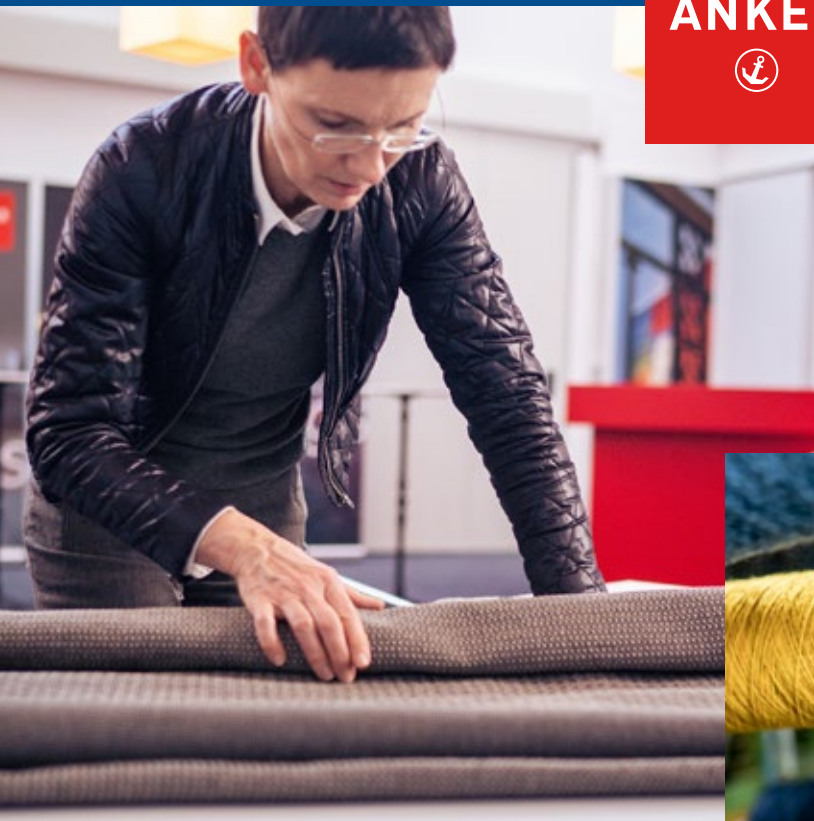
*Goal 10 of the UN Charter, 'Reduced Inequalities', aims to reduce inequalities within and among countries. It recognizes that income inequality is increasing and that economic growth is often insufficient to reduce poverty if it is not inclusive and if it does not reach the poorest people in society. By promoting social, economic and political inclusion regardless of age, gender, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status, countries can reduce inequalities in their societies.*



# Governance



**ANKER**  
⌨





## SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Sustainability, ecology, recycling, and environmental compatibility are central components of ANKER's corporate strategy. The company's vision is to achieve complete sustainability through resource-neutral and socially responsible production. Of course, this goal can only be approached and there is still a lot to be done and improved. But the motivation to do the right thing and to continuously get closer to the goal drives the employees of the company every day.

ANKER is constantly looking for new ways to help shape the transition to more ecological floor coverings, backing constructions, and fiber materials through product innovations. A good example of this is the solution-dyed fiber, which is already used in 80% of ANKER products.

This technology is not only attractive from a design point of view, but also enables energy-efficient production processes and saves valuable process water and wastewater. The company has played a major role in the development of the environmentally friendly Econyl fiber from Aquafil. ANKER was the first European manufacturer to address the ecological issues of the future recycling and the use of recycled materials. Today, ANKER uses its experience with these new materials to ensure production and process reliability. Almost all of the polyamide 6 yarn waste from production is fed into the recycling process. The fiber manufacturer Aquafil collects this yarn waste and processes it into recycled Econyl fibers, which are then further processed into new ANKER carpets.

However, there are still technical hurdles that prevent the recycling of fibers from installed carpeting. Therefore, thermal utilization is an alternative. The calorific value of synthetic carpeting is about the same as that of heating oil, so it can be burned in incinerators to generate energy.

ANKER carpets are high-quality, durable products designed for the toughest commercial applications in high-traffic areas. With proper care and cleaning, they can often remain in use for many decades without any quality defects requiring replacement.

Two-thirds of ANKER's premises are planted with flora and fauna, creating a particularly balanced design.

ANKER owns and protects its own tree population.

The company operates its own research department, which can test innovative products, such as 100% recyclable floors or particularly light floors for the airline sector. ANKER always strives to keep the use of materials as low as possible to develop efficient products.

*Addition:*

*The ninth goal of the UN Charter, "Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure", focuses on building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and supporting innovation. This goal recognizes that sustainable infrastructure and innovation are key drivers of economic progress and jobs. By developing high-quality, reliable, and sustainable infrastructure, countries can increase their productivity and economic performance and contribute to the creation of sustainable communities.*

### **Packaging Material**

Recycling of packaging materials is an essential aspect of global environmental protection. To this end, the total amount of packaging materials worldwide should be considered, which is composed as follows:

- **Cardboard cores:** 15.896 kg
- **Pallets:** 75.923 kg
- **Cardboard boxes:** 55.317 kg
- **Film:** 7.388 kg
- **Total:** 154.524 kg

Each of these materials has specific recycling properties and challenges:

- 1** Cardboard cores are often made from recycled paper and are themselves easily recyclable. Their recycling reduces the need to extract virgin materials and contributes to reducing waste.
- 2** Pallets are mostly made of wood and can be recycled or used for energy recovery. Wood scrap can be shredded and made into new products or used as biomass for energy recovery.
- 3** Cardboard boxes are a common packaging material and easy to recycle. Recycling cardboard boxes saves energy and raw materials since manufacturing paper products from recycled material is less energy-intensive than from fresh wood.
- 4** Plastic film is more challenging because it often consists of different types of plastic. Nevertheless, there are an increasing number of technologies and processes for effectively recycling plastic film as well effectively recycled.

According to the company's data, 98% of cartons are reused once and then landfilled, while 2% of cartons are discarded and sent directly to landfill. 100% of adhesive tape goes directly to the recycling center.

From a global perspective, recycling packaging materials is an important step in reducing the consumption of resources and minimizing environmental pollution. Effective collection and separation systems, innovative recycling technologies and consumer awareness about correct disposal play a crucial role in increasing recycling rates and reducing environmental pollution.

# REVIVE TILES by ANKER

## – a return system for carpet tiles

ANKER's Revive Tiles program represents an important milestone in promoting a sustainable circular economy. This take-back and recycling system enables useful reuse or recycling of used carpet tiles, thus conserving valuable resources and minimizing waste. The service is not only aimed at ANKER products, but is also available for carpet tiles from other manufacturers, to provide the most comprehensive and environmentally friendly solution possible.

The process is described here as an example:



### Evaluation of the goods (i.e. the carpet to be taken back)

In addition to direct reuse and full recycling, there are other ways to sustainably recycle carpet tiles at the end of their life cycle. These options offer alternative approaches to minimizing waste and recovering valuable resources:

- 1 Second-hand tiles:** Second-hand tiles: If the carpet tiles are still in good condition, they can be thoroughly cleaned and reused as second-hand products. These tiles are donated to social institutions, non-profit organizations or other projects with lower quality requirements. This extends the life of the tiles and reduces the need for new materials.
- 2 Partial recycling:** This method recycles only certain parts of the carpet tiles. For example, the yarn (polyamide 6) can be reclaimed and used to make new yarn. Other parts, such as the tile backing, can be reprocessed for use in the cement industry or other purposes. This method offers an opportunity to recycle specific resources, even when full reclamation is not possible.
- 3 Thermal Recycling (Energy Recovery):** When neither re-use nor recycling is possible, the carpet tiles can be sent for thermal recycling. These tiles are used in an incinerator to generate energy. This method is the last resort, but still offers the advantage that the tiles do not simply end up in a landfill, but are used as fuel for energy generation. In the cement industry, tiles are converted into secondary fuels, which can reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions compared to fossil fuels.

To ensure that carpet tiles can be sustainably recycled within the Revive Tiles Program, certain conditions must be met. First, the goods are inspected by a selected expert from ANKER to categorize the tiles for second-hand use, partial recycling, or thermal recovery. The carpet tiles must not exhibit any significant contamination, such as sprinkler water, paint, or oil stains, and should have a regular lifespan in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications. Another advantage of the program is that ANKER offers this service not only for its own products but also for carpet tiles from other manufacturers, providing a comprehensive and sustainable solution.

# ReVive *instructions*

## – for customers



### Contact us

Get in touch if you wish to return your carpet tiles. We will be happy to advise you individually.



### Cleaning and preparation

Clean the carpet tiles thoroughly. ANKER provides detailed instructions on how to do this.



### Packaging

Use the boxes (50×50 cm) provided by ANKER. Stack the tiles pile on pile and backing on backing to avoid damage.



### Storage and collection

Store the boxes in a dry place. We will coordinate the collection with one of our logistics partners



### Reuse categories

Your carpet tiles are categorized into one of three categories: direct reuse, recycling or material recovery. We rely on sustainable solutions in collaboration with partners.



### Certificate

After the return, you will receive a certificate for the CO<sub>2</sub> savings and the environmentally friendly processing of your carpet tiles.

## SDG 11

# Sustainable Cities and Communities

ANKER strives to maintain a positive and sustainable relationship with its local community, the city of Düren, and the surrounding district. One example of this is the use of the company car park, which residents living nearby can use free of charge. In addition, former shareholder Vera Ahlemann-Schoeller was involved in the maintenance of several foundations, such as a foundation for people with visual impairments. In addition, as a founding member of the Dürener Bauverein AG, the company has supported social housing construction in Düren for more than a century as a shareholder. In 2017, the company sold its shares to the district of Düren in the public interest. In addition, ANKER maintains, protects, and cares for its own landscape area, which borders the company's production. Parts of this area are made available to the public as a recreation area without endangering the fauna and flora. The aim is to make the landscape area even more accessible to the public through signposted hiking trails (outside the fenced area). The company plans to introduce a twice-yearly clean-up day to maintain the surrounding forests and paths.

### Addition:

*The eleventh goal of the UN Charter, "Sustainable Cities and Communities", aims to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. This goal takes into account aspects such as access to safe and affordable housing, improving urban infrastructure and air quality, and providing access to green spaces and public spaces. It also recognizes the need to counteract the negative environmental impacts of cities by using urban resources efficiently and reducing waste. ANKER's commitment to creating and maintaining community spaces and getting involved in the local community reflects the goals of this initiative.*



## 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES





## 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



### SDG 16

## Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

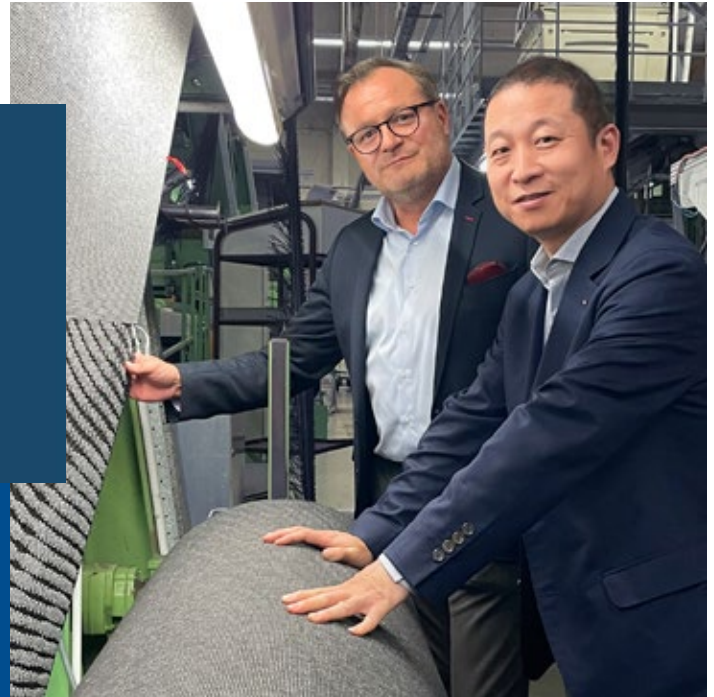
ANKER Gebr. Schoeller GmbH + Co. KG is actively committed to building a more peaceful, inclusive society. The company is committed to the ongoing equality and equal treatment of its employees. Minorities and groups of other religions are not excluded and are equally represented in the works council. The company aims to be a role model in the region for the management and development of its employees.

In addition, ANKER strives to make generous donations of materials to crisis regions and local institutions. For example, ANKER has made an extensive carpet donation to Ukraine and also equips kindergartens and schools in the region free of charge. The goal for the production site is to expand independence to secure jobs for its employees.

In line with these principles, ANKER also endeavors to act transparently and in a solution-oriented manner in disputes. The European Commission provides a platform for online dispute resolution for this purpose (OS): <https://ec.europa.eu/consumers/odr>. ANKER has agreed to participate in dispute resolution proceedings before a consumer arbitration board.

#### Addition:

*The sixteenth goal of the UN Charter, "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and establish effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. ANKER's commitment to equality and integration in the workplace, as well as its charitable giving, helps achieve this goal.*



## SDG 17

### Partnerships for the Goals

To support the common goals of fighting poverty and building a better society, especially in developing countries, the company has been running fundraising campaigns in the EU and its own foundations worldwide for many years.

In the last century, the municipality of Düren has received many foundations and donations from the founding family Schoeller. For example, the Anna-Schoeller-Haus for the blind and senior citizens and the retirement and nursing home called "Schenkel-Schoeller-Stift" was founded.

The shareholder, who died in 2024, also set an example with her foundation for the construction of schools in Africa. (<https://www.ahlemann-schoeller.de/#projekte>)

Another important parameter for achieving the goals is the ANKER branch in Shanghai/Wuxi. By exchanging expertise in production and supply areas, ANKER was also able to cooperate with the sustainable yarn supplier Aquafil in China. This means that sustainable quality can be delivered worldwide. The goal for the future is to increase sustainability even further by using a higher percentage of recycled material in the backing of the carpets. To achieve this, ANKER is always looking for suitable new partnerships worldwide.

#### Addition:

*The seventeenth goal of the UN Charter, "Partnerships for the Goals", calls for strengthening global partnerships for sustainable development, particularly those partnerships that support the transfer of technologies, trade, and policy coherence for sustainable development. ANKER's fundraising and foundation work represents an active commitment to achieving this goal.*

## Closing remarks

In this report, we have shown how ANKER Gebr. Schoeller GmbH + Co. KG has understood the 17 sustainable development goals of the United Nations and integrated them into its corporate strategy. The commitment ranges from combating poverty and hunger to creating good working conditions and economic growth, to initiatives to improve education and health. In addition, ANKER is continuously working to reduce inequalities and promote inclusive and sustainable communities. Our initiatives for climate protection, conservation of marine and terrestrial ecosystems, and strengthening of peace, justice and strong institutions testify to our commitment to a sustainable future.

Finally, ANKER recognizes the importance of strong partnerships to achieve these goals and has forged partnerships at the local, regional and global level to promote sustainable development. ANKER and its employees are proud of their achievements. At the same time, it is recognized that there is still much to be done.

ANKER therefore remains committed to striving for continuous improvement and intensifying sustainable practices. This ESG report is a sign of its commitment transparency and accountability. The company is committed to contributing to the global effort to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals and is grateful for the support of all stakeholders and partners on this journey. Further progress and achievements will be shared transparently in future reports.

Do you have any questions?

Then contact our team at: [sustainability@anker-dueren.de](mailto:sustainability@anker-dueren.de)

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All information can also be found at: <https://anker-carpets.com/rechtliches/impresum-und-agb>

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**ANKER**

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*... and simply everywhere!*