



Sustainability

as company principle at **GEZE**



Foundations of the GEZE environmental policy

GEZE develops, manufactures and sells innovative systems for door, window and security technology around the world and employs some 2.000 members of staff.

The considerable growth of our company means that we are constantly faced by new challenges when it comes to protecting the environment. We are constantly striving to improve the ecology of the products and manufacturing systems as well as the conservative use of natural resources. From product development through to manufacturing and sales, we are working on ensuring the most modern ecological and economic standards.

Maintaining the natural environment and the essential foundations for future generations is, as far as GEZE is concerned, part of our social responsibility.

We consider environmental protection to be an essential component of the management of the company. The implementation of this concept into specific aims, acts and behavioural standards in all areas and functions is one of our basic principles.

The declared aim of GEZE is to prevent or eliminate the damaging effects on the environment for all activities. Where this cannot be implemented, the effects of environmentally damaging emissions and use of resources is reduced to the absolute minimum.

Environment



This aim is implemented in all areas by means of the following measures:

General information

Within the framework of the country-wide, cross-industry comparison of companies „Top 100 2009“, GEZE has received multiple awards for excellent innovation management and has been appointed the „Top 100“ seal for top innovator. As one of the 100 most innovative companies amongst German middle-sized companies, our investments and constant product and process innovations secure modern technical standards.

Quality assurance

GEZE is certified according to DIN EN ISO 9001. Standardised processes in the manufacturing procedures and the supply of materials as well as constant monitoring of the implemented processes are thus ensured.

Of course, all valid environmental requirements are maintained.

GEZE employees

The dedication of our employees influences the company and its effect on the environment. In order to give the behaviour of all a common direction, GEZE has formulated the basic principles in the environmental policy. The guideline is the constant improvement of the environmental friendliness by the contributions of each individual person.

The company suggestion system and the constant improvement process enables all employees to offer suggestions to reduce the effects on the environment.

Environmental protection and waste representative at GEZE

This function is responsible for

- The organisation of internal company environmental protection
- The monitoring of the maintenance of legal requirements and state specifications
- The development of suggestions to improve company environmental protection
- The consultation and information of the board and the employees in all environment related issues
- Contact to authorities.

Research and development

Research and development are components of the GEZE environmental policy. GEZE develops ecologically efficient processes and concepts for all products and thus increases their international competitiveness.

Sustainable quality for tomorrow's needs

Sustainability aspects at GEZE even flow into the development stages of automatic sliding, swing or window opening systems as security solutions. They take account of the requirements of tomorrow's older generations and are used in new and modernised constructions. GEZE products can also subsequently be expanded and combined to create system solutions. Sustainable quality is also reflected in the durability of the systems. GEZE Service accompanies the products throughout their entire lifecycle, from the initial design planning through to After Sales Service.

Purchasing and procurement

Suppliers responsible for the proper use of the goods and services they provide within the framework of consulting and product information are made aware of the ecological principles when contracts are concluded. For the procurement and supply of purchased parts as well as the inter-company transportation, multiple-use containers are almost always used, for example, GEZE containers or EURO pallets in an exchange system, rather than packaging materials.

The proportion of air-freight dispatches to our international manufacturing sites has been considerably reduced by increasing the purchasing activities on the local markets.



Production

- Investment in new and energy-efficient manufacturing systems to ensure the lowest possible use of resources.
- When purchasing machinery, we pay attention to energy-saving engines designed to minimise the energy consumption and to ensure the lowest possible noise emissions.
- The GEZE production is monitored in regular cycles by the official monitoring authorities. This also ensure that all materials and processes are handled according to laws and regulations.
- When it comes to manufacturing and supplied materials, GEZE only uses materials that meet current technical standards and thus legal requirements.
- Avoiding the use of solvent-based paints and replacing them with powder-coating and water-based paints. Since the investment in a new environmentally friendly painting system, all overhead door closers are painted using water-based paints.
- Neutralisation of waste water from the galvanisation and the pre-painting preparation sectors, closed circuits in the washing systems and condensation of emulsions.
- The inventory of environmentally dangerous materials is kept as low as possible thanks to just-in-time ordering. Materials stored on site are stored securely in accordance with current requirements, for example, in hazardous materials cabinets or tanks.

Storage and dispatch

The stores do not use forklift trucks with combustion engines. We only use environmentally friendly, energy-saving and emission-free electrical conveyor equipment and forklifts.

When dispatching goods, we ensure that we only use treated, and thus pest-free, wood or EURO pallets that are exchanged via the „pallet pool“ system.

Facility management

- Constant reduction of energy consumption by means of modern light control in the manufacturing plants and on the machinery.
- The energy consumption is constantly monitored and analysed. After the evaluation of the data, methods are found to achieve a reduction for the entire site, for example, by optimising regulations, deactivating idle machinery etc.
- Lowest possible environmentally dangerous emissions achieved by the use of a modern heating system operated, among other things, using gas and which feed process heat back into the system.
- The heat for manufacturing and building heating systems is generated via modern boilers. Regular maintenance ensures that the systems operate efficiently.

Recycling/ disposal

- In accordance with the „Prevent – Recycle – Eliminate“ principle, we attempt to prevent waste occurring.
- In order to sustainably protect the environment and our resources, we try to keep the overall amount of unavoidable waste, and thus the waste that must be disposed off to a minimum and to ensure higher proportions are used.
- The proper and environmentally friend disposal of manufacturing related waste, leftover materials and materials and systems that are not required, is carried out by certified professional disposal companies. All leftover materials or waste from manufacturing is completely recycled.
- Thanks to the high proportion of metal raw materials, for example, steel and aluminium, GEZE is able to ensure that a very high proportion can be recycled and this means that the products are excellent for recycling.
- GEZE has been ensuring for many years that cartons brought into the system are recycled for the customer (Partner Interseroh) as soon as they have fulfilled their purpose. We strictly maintain the packaging regulations imposed by the authorities.
- The separation of waste is implemented according to the applicable legal requirements This is ensured from the place of creation through to final disposal by means of the provision of the appropriate containers and the labelling of such.

GEZE ensures their customers and partners that they will continue to work on the further development of the ecological expertise of the company and to try to meet all requirements with regard to environmentally friendliness and sustainability. Consistent continuation of the ecological aims will in future also ensure positive environmental developments in all sectors of the company.