



**uvex**

uvex sustainability label

protecting planet

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protecting people



# protecting planet

## **uvex protects people and the planet**

### **uvex's corporate mission of "protecting people" is more relevant than ever!**

uvex's commitment to protecting people also includes responsibility with respect to society and the environment. As a family business, sustainability has been at the forefront of the company's thoughts and actions for many years.

uvex has set itself ambitious goals in terms of the environment, the economy and society. In its manufacturing facilities, uvex is working hard to increase energy efficiency and doing everything it can to become carbon-neutral in the near future.

High quality standards for products are combined with the development of recycling concepts and the use of bio-based materials. The durability and long service life of uvex products helps to reduce waste and conserve resources.

**Under the motto "protecting planet", uvex is presenting a complete product system of environmentally friendly products for the first time.**





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We have been protecting people in sports, leisure and at work since 1926. “protecting people” is our mission.

“protecting planet” is the natural continuation of this mission when it comes to treating people, society and nature responsibly.

With “protecting planet”, we have created a label that offers maximum transparency and information about our sustainability activities: from resource-saving products and innovative measures in our factories through to social commitment and social projects.

“

Michael Winter, Managing Partner of the uvex group





Examples for the new “protecting planet” label:



protecting planet

by using recycled material

In order to **conserve resources and protect the environment**, the uvex group processes various types of **recycled materials**. These include, for example, recycled polyamide from production surplus and recycled PET plastics from drinking bottles, which in turn are used to manufacture frames for our safety glasses and eyewear products, headbands, as well as reading glasses made from at least 70 percent post-consumer recycle.



protecting planet

by using no harmful substances

The uvex group refrains from the use of substances that are hazardous to health in accordance with the **REACH** regulation (EU). In addition, the group has developed its own list of **Restricted Substances**. The uvex group pursues a corporate policy of exclusively offering products that are **free from hazardous ingredients**, so that neither the user nor the environment is impacted in an adverse manner. In particular for products that come into contact with the skin such as PPE, the uvex safety group enforces the most stringent criteria that go beyond the applicable EU directives.



protecting planet

by reducing waste

To protect the environment, the uvex group works to cut waste at as many different places as possible. To this end, we regularly scrutinise **the use of resources** in our production facilities on site in order to verify to what extent **procedures and processes** can be improved. The first specific example of a measure we are implementing in this context is a concerted effort to **reduce cardboard material** by changing packaging sizes and reusing shipping boxes. In the case of trade fair equipment, the uvex group also relies on **loan concepts** – this guarantees that the materials can be reused by other companies at a later date.



protecting planet

by saving energy

Environmental protection starts with electricity. For this reason, the uvex group uses **green energy** across its locations in Germany. This also applies to the locations of uvex safety Cagi in Italy, Swedsafe in Sweden and Heckel in La Walck (Alsace), France. ISO 50001 obliges the uvex group to verify that it has made **continual energy savings**. However, the uvex group does not simply rest on its laurels there: **saving electricity along the value chain** also has a high priority. The uvex group ensures **sustainable production** by continuously implementing sustainability measures at its own production facilities around the world. Individual measures include, for example, LED lighting, state-of-the-art machinery and heat recovery processes.



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[uvex-group.com/en/responsibility/protecting-planet](https://uvex-group.com/en/responsibility/protecting-planet)

## The uvex sustainability label: a promise to people and the environment

“protecting people” is the mission behind all uvex group brands.

The aim is to offer people exactly the right protection they need with uvex products. **Protection** in this regard takes on meaning in a wider social, ecological and economic context. **protecting people** therefore naturally leads to **protecting planet**, i.e. expanding this promise to include protecting society and the environment.

To communicate these numerous measures, a label concept has been developed that describes the uvex group's sustainability projects with compelling statements.



protecting planet

by using bio-based material

The uvex group believes that **plant and bio-based materials** represent the future. For this reason, bio-based HDPE (high density polyethylene) made from sugar cane, Lavalan (pressed wool), Prolan (pressed Bavarian sheep's wool), rapeseed oil-based PU foams, textiles made from recycled PET bottles in addition to bamboo fibres, bio-based polyamide and other plastics developed on the basis of castor oil are already used in a wide variety of uvex products.



protecting planet

by creating durable products

The uvex group stands out from the competition by offering **improved product quality** that can be empirically verified. This can be seen in the coatings used for our safety glasses, for example. Accordingly, uvex group customers have to buy new products less often because the products can **withstand everyday use** for a longer period of time. This not only saves money over the long term; it also saves **valuable resources** and generates **less waste**.



protecting planet

by reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

The uvex group has set itself the goal of continually reducing its own CO<sub>2</sub> emissions across various levels. For example, within Germany the uvex group sources **green energy** on the basis of 100 percent renewable energies in addition to **CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral gas**. In so doing, the uvex group uses infra fürth gmbh to offset CO<sub>2</sub> emissions produced by gas combustion processes and supports **climate protection projects**. Innovative products are produced and services for the global market offered at uvex's own production plants, many of which are located in Germany and Europe. This firstly guarantees **high quality**, while also ensuring that transport routes are kept as short as possible. The uvex group makes a key contribution to reducing its ecological footprint by regularly implementing sustainability activities at its production facilities.



protecting planet

by using environmentally-friendly packaging

As part of its **sustainability strategy**, the uvex group has defined a target of continually increasing the proportion of **environmentally friendly packaging** it uses. In this context, for example, climate-neutral (a status achieved with the use of offsetting measures achieved by way of climate protection projects) and 100 percent recyclable packaging is used, which is occasionally even **plant-based** in the form of grass-based cardboard. Further examples include the use of grass and stone paper in addition to recycled packaging film and bags made from **renewable raw materials** such as Tencel.

The uvex sustainability label **protecting planet** can be found on products and their packaging, as well as at trade fair stands or in uvex group catalogues, for example. With this approach, uvex wants to not only emphasise its commitment to these areas of sustainability, but also raise awareness of environmentally friendly and socially responsible business practices.

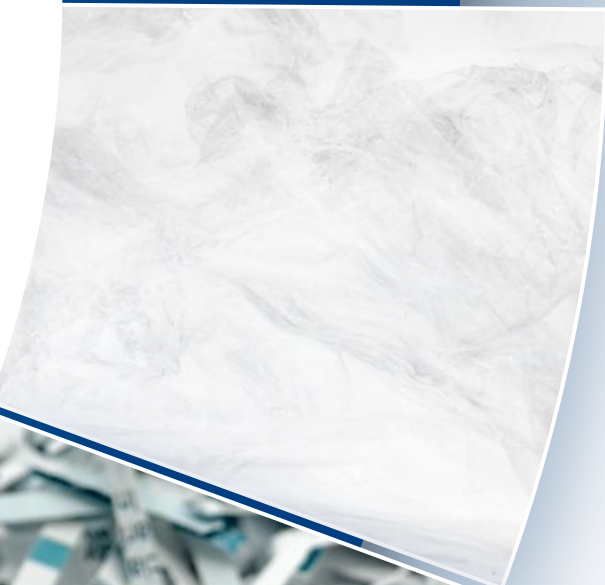
**uvex**

An example of the **planet series** product system is the

# uvex i-guard planet







## protecting planet

by using recycled material //  
by using bio-based material

39 percent of the side arm is made from bio-based material. The castor oil plant is used as the renewable raw material and the energy used in the eyewear production is from biomass sources. The soft face seal of the guard version is made from more than 35 percent recycled granulates which come from production waste.



## protecting planet

by using environmentally-  
friendly packaging

The films of the polyethylene bags used consist of up to 70 percent recycled material, which is obtained from production waste. All cardboard cartons are made of over 90 percent recycled paper.



## protecting planet

by reducing waste

By using a smaller format for our eyewear user instructions has reduced the amount of paper used by 30 percent. Increasing the packaging unit from 5 to 10 pairs of glasses resulted in an additional reduction in the amount of cardboard required and also produces significantly less waste.

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An example of the **planet series** product system is the

# uvex pheos planet

uvex pheos planet B-WR // uvex pheos planet B-S-WR







## protecting planet

by using recycled material //  
by using bio-based material

The helmet shell is made of up to 30 percent bioplastic. The organic raw material, sugar cane, is converted using a process that complies with the strictest quality requirements and achieves high stability and strength. 50 percent of the material for the headband is made of helmet shells. This significantly reduces process-related waste during production.



## protecting planet

by using environmentally-  
friendly packaging

All individual packaging is made of regranulated material and has been taken from the recycling economy. The packaging is single-grade and can be returned to the recycling chain after use. This also saves fossil resources. The user instructions are printed on 100 percent recycled paper.

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An example of the **planet series** product system is the

# uvex Bamboo TwinFlex<sup>®</sup> D xg planet







## protecting planet

by using bio-based material //  
by using recycled material //  
by using no harmful substances

By using bamboo viscose uvex is utilising a renewable raw material and recycled polyamide. Together, these sustainable materials account for 45 percent of the material used. The gloves also offer greater protection to the health of the wearer than stipulated by REACH regulations as they comply with the uvex list of banned substances and the skin compatibility has been dermatologically approved by the proDERM institute.



## protecting planet

by using environmentally-  
friendly packaging

The glove packaging has been minimised significantly. Paper wrap is used instead of rubber bands to secure bundles. Polyester bags have not been used by uvex in it's glove packaging for over 11 years.



## protecting planet

by having a  
CO<sub>2</sub> neutral production

uvex safety gloves is certified according to both Environmental Management ISO 14001 and Energy Management ISO 50001 and has CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral production rating based on direct emissions from production. To achieve this, we have been sourcing electricity from 100 percent renewable energy sources since 2014, and through the certified green electricity product we have been promoting the construction of new renewable energy plants in the region. We use green gas to operate the highly efficient CHP plant at our site, thereby offsetting the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions produced by gas combustion processes. Through carbon offsetting, we invest exclusively in climate protection projects that are certified by internationally recognised quality standards (Gold Standard or VCS (Verified Carbon Standard)) and thereby promote, for example, the construction of new plants in India for the generation of solar and wind power.

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An example of the **planet series** product system is the

# uvex 1 G2 planet







## protecting planet

by using bio-based material //  
by using recycled material //  
by using no harmful substances

The upper part of the safety shoe is made from 100 percent recycled polyester made from PET bottles. The penetration resistant midsole is also made from 100 percent recycled materials. 40 percent recycled TPU is used for the TPR scuffcap. The shoe's distance mesh lining is made from 52 percent recycled polyester and 18 percent bamboo fibres. The replaceable comfortable climatic insole is also made of 100 percent recycled PU foam and polyester. The entire safety shoe is manufactured without using any harmful substances as listed in the banned hazardous substances list created by uvex and goes beyond that of REACH.



## protecting planet

by using environmentally-  
friendly packaging

All uvex shoe boxes are made from 90 percent recycled cardboard. 100 percent recycled tissue paper is used and the instructions for use are also 100 percent recycled paper.



## protecting planet

by reducing waste //  
by reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

The uvex plant in Ceva, Italy, was already completely converted to green electricity and green gas a few years ago and has been certified according to the environmental management system ISO 14001 since 2017. In addition, the plant uses renewable energy with a photovoltaic system. uvex places a special focus on waste prevention. For example, some years ago, the shape of the soles were redesigned and as a result significantly reduced the amount of waste. The cleaning and injection process is also continuously optimised. For some time now, all PU waste is collected and processed into granules ready for reuse. For example, it is used to create our shock absorbing insoles. Up to 10 percent recycled PU waste from uvex's production is used for the TPU outsole of the uvex 1 G2 planet.

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An example of the **planet series** product system is the collection

# uvex suXXeed greencycle planet







## protecting planet

by using bio-based material //  
by using compostable material //  
by using no harmful substances

All of the material components of the clothing are completely compostable and all products carry the cradle™ seal of approval. In addition to the cotton, the use of a special polyester stands out for its ability to decompose when the garment is composted. The cradle to cradle™ clothing uses only substances that have been proven to not affect human health. Furthermore, the cradle to cradle™ Gold certificate ensures that no process chemicals enter waste water. When the clothing has been worn, the components of the clothing can be fed back into circulation by composting.



## protecting planet

by using environmentally-  
friendly packaging

The individual packaging, including all hang tags and labels, is also biodegradable.



## protecting planet

by saving energy

Renewable energy is used to produce the clothing. At the same time, at least 50 percent of direct on-site emissions are compensated for. Production in Europe and the associated short transport routes ensure that there are no unnecessary environmental impacts.



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