



Kasthall & THE ENVIRONMENT

AT Kasthall WE TAKE OUR *environmental responsibility* VERY SERIOUSLY, BECAUSE IT IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE HIGH QUALITY THAT WE REPRESENT. We don't just focus on a few selected aspects of the environment, such as recycling; instead we base our work on a holistic perspective that encompasses all areas. Our environmental efforts are highly significant to our production methods and the company's future development. In our day-to-day work this means that we constantly implement improvements to reduce our environmental impact. Such changes include everything from creating a healthy workplace, to contributing to a beautiful and sustainable natural environment.

WE OWN OUR *factory in Sweden*. This means that we control the entire production chain and can ensure compliance with our Environmental Policy in every stage of the process. It also means that we comply with all environment-related EU and Swedish legislations and regulations. Our head office, including our Administration and Design & Marketing Departments, is directly adjacent to our factory, which cuts our transport requirements.

WE WORK WITH *suppliers within the EU*. Our linen yarn comes from Italy, and we buy our wool yarn in Norway, Germany and Spain. At We also work with subcontractors in Denmark, Germany and Spain. We perform supplier evaluations on a continual basis to ensure that our partners meet our environmental requirements. Many of our partners are ISO certified, and our linen yarn and some of our wool yarn are Okotex certified, meaning that they do not contain harmful substances. We are part of the Blulino project, which means that we only use flax from Normandy in France that is harvested in a natural way, with respect for the environment.

Thanks to our European partners we not only buy our yarn in Europe but also dye it in the EU: the linen yarn in Italy and most of the wool yarn locally – less than five minutes from our factory in Kinna. This minimises transports, and – equally important – ensures that the yarn dyeing process complies with EU legislation and entails neither direct danger for staff who come into contact with the chemicals nor discharges or emissions to the environment.



KASTHALL

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WE ARE ISO 14001 *certified*, which means that we work systematically and actively to achieve environmental goals. The company sets new environmental targets annually; these are followed up and documented, so that we constantly make improvements to minimise our environmental impact. This includes everything from small improvements, such as buying locally produced and organic fruit for the staff, to larger goals, like active waste management to cut the volume of waste and ensure that the proportion that is recycled increases. We have also achieved major energy savings in the factory: since 2003 Kasthall has been connected to the municipal district heating network instead of using oil-fired heating. In 2007 many of the factory windows were replaced with double-glazing to save energy.

OUR PRODUCTS ARE *sustainable*. Kasthall stands for quality – in design, materials and manufacture. In all, this means that Kasthall's rugs are long-lasting in terms of both quality and design. Furthermore, all our woven and handtufted rugs are made to order – we do not have stocks of finished rugs that are transported to shops for resale; each rug is made specially for an endcustomer. We thereby minimise waste and unnecessary transport.

WE SAFEGUARD A *good working environment*. At our factory in Kinna, all our employees are employed under good and ethically sound conditions that comply with Swedish employment laws. Our products are not made by minors. The vast majority of Kasthall employees stay with the company for a long time – many have worked for us for more than 20 years. Our employees are proud of our products and of the company and its philosophy.

For further information, visit
www.kasthall.com
www.iso.org
www.oeko-tex.com
www.blulino.it



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