



# Verbrugge International B.V. Environmental Policy





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Page: 1/11

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### Table of contents

1. Purpose and scope of this policy .....	2
2. Environmental vision and strategic objectives .....	4
Climate action: reducing GHG emissions .....	4
Energy efficiency and renewable energy .....	4
Waste reduction .....	4
Pollution prevention .....	4
Stakeholder engagement and collaboration .....	4
3. Key environmental topics and KPIs.....	5
Energy consumption and GHG emissions (primary focus) .....	5
Waste management.....	5
Pollution .....	6
4. Operational measures and improvement initiatives .....	7
Energy and GHG emissions reduction .....	7
Waste reduction .....	8
Pollution prevention .....	8
5. Collaboration and supply chain responsibility .....	9
Sustainable supply chain engagement.....	9
Industry cooperation and local stakeholder dialogue .....	9
Internal collaboration and awareness.....	9
6. Governance and roles.....	10
7. Monitoring, reporting and review .....	11
Policy versioning .....	11



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Version: 1.0  
Page: 2/11

## Verbrugge International B.V. Environmental Policy

# 1. Purpose and scope of this policy

At Verbrugge International B.V., we recognize our responsibility to minimize our environmental footprint and support the transition to a low-carbon economy. This Environmental Policy sets out our overarching approach to managing and improving our environmental performance across all terminal activities in Terneuzen and Vlissingen as well as road logistics operations.

This policy applies to all operational activities of Verbrugge International B.V., including bulk and general cargo handling, road transport, marine activities, container operations, storage, maintenance, and supporting office functions. It covers all three terminal locations (Terneuzen Terminal, Scaldia Terminal Vlissingen, and Zeeland Terminal Vlissingen) and our garage (for road transport), applies to both direct operations and indirect environmental impacts within our control, and is aligned with international sustainability frameworks such as ISO 14001 and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Our environmental policy and continuous work with the environmental issues are supported by our focus on the following two UN SDGs:

- UNSDG No. 7: Affordable and clean energy - Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all.
- UNSDG No. 13: Climate Action - take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
- UNSDG No. 17: Partnerships for the Goals - strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

Due to the nature of our core business - port terminal operations with high energy intensity and heavy equipment use - our primary environmental focus is on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving energy efficiency. Nevertheless, our broader sustainability strategy also addresses topics such as waste reduction and pollution prevention.

We are committed to:

- Minimizing our impact on the environment and preventing pollution in all areas of operation
- Implementing an effective environmental and energy management system in line with ISO 14001 (implemented at Verbrugge Internationale Wegtransport B.V. but not yet implemented at Verbrugge Terminals B.V. due to infractions that result from our core terminal operations and are inherently difficult to address)
- Continual improvement of our environmental and energy performance, through clear objectives, internal audits, and regular reviews
- Full compliance with applicable legal and other regulatory requirements at the regional, national, and EU levels

Our goal is to provide environmentally responsible logistics solutions to our customers while operating a sustainable and energy-efficient terminal network. This includes improving performance through optimized facility design, smart infrastructure upgrades, and process innovation. We will achieve this by:

- Ensuring the availability of relevant environmental data
- Deploying the necessary technical and financial resources
- Actively engaging our employees, clients, suppliers, and stakeholders in realizing our environmental ambitions



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Date: 2025  
Version: 1.0  
Page: 3/11

## Verbrugge International B.V. Environmental Policy

This environmental policy is reviewed at least annually and updated to reflect new insights, legal requirements, or operational changes. The policy is made available to all employees and stakeholders and forms the foundation of our company-wide sustainability governance.

Terneuzen, May 2025

Martin Verbrugge



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Version: 1.0  
Page: 4/11

## Verbrugge International B.V. Environmental Policy

## 2. Environmental vision and strategic objectives

Verbrugge International envisions a future where port and terminal logistics contribute to a climate-neutral economy, without compromising on operational excellence. As a key logistics partner in Europe, we are committed to leading by example in reducing environmental impact, increasing energy efficiency, and driving innovation in sustainable terminal operations.

We believe that by investing in cleaner technologies, fostering a culture of responsibility, and aligning our operations with global climate goals, we can actively contribute to a more sustainable logistics sector. To turn our vision into action, we have set clear strategic objectives that will guide our environmental performance and continuous improvement efforts over the coming years:

### Climate action: reducing GHG emissions

- Achieve a measurable reduction of Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, targeting a progressive decrease in CO<sub>2</sub> per ton of cargo handled
- Transition from conventional fuels to renewable alternatives such as HVO and electrification of terminal vehicles and cranes
- Implement energy/emissions monitoring across terminals to enable data-driven decision-making

### Energy efficiency and renewable energy

Improve overall energy performance of terminal operations through:

- Phased LED lighting upgrades across all warehouses and building
- Implementation of smart sensors and automated control systems for lighting and HVAC
- Enhanced equipment efficiency through use of softstarters, high-efficiency motors, and power management systems
- Increase the share of renewable electricity, including on-site generation through solar panels and exploration of wind energy partnerships

### Waste reduction

- Reduce operational waste per handled ton by improving source separation, recycling, and executing a proactive waste prevention plan
- Ensure compliance with waste regulations and continuous improvement through internal audits

### Pollution prevention

- Minimize and prevent all (minor) spills from terminal operations by enforcing and adhering to strict operational protocols in line with local regulations

### Stakeholder engagement and collaboration

- Strengthen collaboration with local authorities, clients, suppliers, and industry peers to drive shared sustainability goals
- Engage employees through awareness programs, training, and cross-functional working groups
- Provide transparent reporting on progress to internal and external stakeholders via the annual sustainability report



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Page: 5/11

## Verbrugge International B.V. Environmental Policy

### 3. Key environmental topics and KPIs

This section outlines the most material environmental topics for Verbrugge International and the key performance indicators (KPIs) we use to measure and improve our impact. These aspects are derived from our materiality assessment, operational characteristics, and our commitment to environmental management under ISO 14001.

#### Energy consumption and GHG emissions (primary focus)

Energy consumption and associated GHG emissions are the most significant environmental impact areas across our terminal operations, due to our reliance on diesel-powered handling equipment, electricity for warehouses, and gas for heating.

KPI	Unit	Target
Total energy consumption	kWh/year	10% yearly reduction
Electricity from renewable sources	% of total	100% in 2030
Scope 1 GHG emissions	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	10% annual reduction compared to 2020 levels
Scope 2 GHG emissions	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	100% renewable electricity by 2030
Scope 3 GHG emissions	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	Target to be set upon completion of Scope 3 activity-based calculation
GHG intensity per ton of cargo	kg CO <sub>2</sub> e/ton	Target to be set upon completion of Scope 3 activity-based calculation

#### Waste management

While waste is not our most material environmental impact, we are committed to continuous improvement in this area, especially given the increasing complexity of waste streams due to diversified cargo types.

KPI	Unit	Target
Total waste generated	Tons/year	3800
Waste recycling rate	% recycled	70%



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Date: 2025  
Version: 1.0  
Page: 6/11

## Verbrugge International B.V. Environmental Policy

### Pollution

Though pollution events are infrequent, our operations carry risk of local pollution such as minor spills of oil-based products, dust emissions, or stormwater runoff. Given that we also handle hazardous substances, preventing and minimizing pollution events is central to our terminal activities. These are closely monitored and controlled in line with legal requirements and environmental permits.

KPI	Unit	Target
Reported incidents	#/year	0 yearly incidents
Share of hazardous substances of total cargo	%	5% yearly reduction compared to 2020 baseline



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Date: 2025  
 Version: 1.0  
 Page: 7/11

## 4. Operational measures and improvement initiatives

To realize our environmental vision and meet our strategic objectives, Verbrugge International is implementing a coordinated set of improvement actions across all operational sites. These actions are based on the outcomes of energy audits, site-level evaluations, materiality analysis, and relevant permit conditions.

We focus primarily on energy and emissions reduction, while also addressing waste and pollution prevention through targeted programs.

### Energy and GHG emissions reduction

Measure	Description	Timeline	Status
Installation of solar panels	Installation of 77,000 solar panels with 50 MW capacity	2021–2022	Complete
Transition to blue diesel for cranes	Partial replacement of conventional diesel with HVO to reduce Scope 1 emissions	2024	Implemented
Smart lighting controls	Daylight and presence sensors to minimize unnecessary use	2023–2025	Ongoing
Phased LED lighting upgrade	Annual CAPEX investment in high-efficiency and smart lighting in warehouses and offices (across 727.000 m <sup>2</sup> warehousing)	2023–2026	Ongoing
Monitoring improvements	Systematic review and digitalization of meter data	2024–2025	Ongoing
Electrification of small terminal equipment	Deployment of electric forklifts (<8 tons) and utility vehicles	2023–2025	Ongoing
Charging infrastructure development	Installation of charging infrastructure and batteries for large tugs, trucks, and forklifts >8 tons	2025–2027	Planned
Electrification of heavy equipment	Electrification of heavy-duty terminal equipment (>8 ton trucks, forklifts, tugs)	2027–2030	Planned
Use of HVO100 for residual equipment	Transition to HVO100 biofuel for remaining non-electrified equipment	2027–2030	Planned
Green Shore Power Supply (shore power)	Providing solar-powered shore power to moored vessels at Vlissingen terminals	2027–2030	Planned
Introduction of energy-efficient motors	Gradual upgrade to IE3/IE4 motors and softstarters	2024–2027	In planning



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Version: 1.0  
Page: 8/11

## Verbrugge International B.V. Environmental Policy

### Waste reduction

Measure	Description	Timeline	Status
Waste stream complexity review	Audit of new cargo types (big bags, liners) and their waste impact	2024	Completed
Improved source separation	Refinement of internal logistics to enable separation at terminal level	2024–2025	Ongoing
Staff awareness	Training and visual materials for correct disposal and recycling	2025	In planning

### Pollution prevention

Measure	Description	Timeline	Status
Spill reporting improvements	Enhanced procedures and tracking of environmental near-misses	2024	Implemented
Biodiversity-friendly site management	Designated nesting zones, mowing restrictions, and duck shelters	2024	Implemented
Substitution of hazardous substances	Identify and replace higher-risk inputs with safer alternatives	2024–2026	Ongoing



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Page: 9/11

## Verbrugge International B.V. Environmental Policy

### 5. Collaboration and supply chain responsibility

As an essential link in international supply chains, Verbrugge International recognizes the importance of extending its environmental responsibility beyond its own operations. Through active collaboration with partners, suppliers, and clients, we aim to drive sustainability performance across the entire logistics chain. As part of our double materiality assessment, we actively engaged diverse stakeholder groups directly regarding sustainability matters and used their input to prioritize key environmental topics.

#### Sustainable supply chain engagement

We are committed to integrating environmental and social responsibility into our procurement and vendor management practices. Our approach includes:

- Phrasing in sustainability clauses in supplier contracts, covering compliance with environmental legislation, safety, human rights, and ethical conduct
- Supplier screening based on People, Planet and Profit criteria
- Encouraging suppliers to adopt energy-efficient machinery, use clean fuels, and limit packaging waste where relevant
- Preference for partners with verifiable environmental performance, transparency in emissions, and circular logistics initiatives

This is particularly relevant for subcontracted transport partners, equipment vendors, and waste processing contractors.

#### Industry cooperation and local stakeholder dialogue

Verbrugge actively engages with public and private partners to support a more sustainable port ecosystem. Examples include:

- Membership in industry networks and working groups, including Portiz, Port Connect, and VNO-NCW
- Dialogue with local authorities and Natura 2000 stakeholders, especially regarding noise, light, emissions, and habitat protection
- Cooperation with regional educational institutions to train and upskill future logistics professionals in sustainable practices (via Verbrugge Training Center – VOC)

#### Internal collaboration and awareness

Cross-functional cooperation is critical to embedding sustainability throughout the organization. Internally, we ensure:

- Active involvement of the Sustainability Committee, with representatives from key departments (see 6. Governance and roles)
- Clear roles and responsibilities for implementing environmental actions at site level
- Awareness programs for staff and subcontractors on energy, waste, and pollution control
- Integration of environmental criteria and measures into procurement, operations, and facility management



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Page: 10/11

## 6. Governance and roles

Effective environmental management at Verbrugge International is embedded in our organizational structure and overseen at both operational and strategic levels.

The **Directors Team** holds ultimate responsibility for environmental and sustainability performance. Environmental matters are regularly reviewed in management meetings and integrated into decision-making at the highest level.

A cross-functional **Sustainability Committee** is being formalized to coordinate the implementation of environmental and social responsibility measures across the terminals. It includes representatives from: Legal/Compliance, ESG, QHSE VIW, HR, and Procurement

The committee's responsibilities include:

- Setting and reviewing sustainability goals and KPIs
- Coordinating improvement initiatives (incl. design, investment approval, and execution)
- Monitoring compliance with ISO 14001 and other standards
- Preparing input for sustainability disclosures (e.g. EcoVadis, CSRD)

Coordination at site-level is managed top-down. Once an initiative has been signed off by the Executive / Investment Committee based on a business case, the ESG Manager is responsible for selecting the most suitable team members for execution at site-level.

Lastly, **environmental performance** is integrated into:

- Procurement decisions, with sustainability criteria for suppliers
- Operational planning, including maintenance, energy use, and waste management
- Employee onboarding and training, through VIC and site-specific induction programs



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Page: 11/11

## Verbrugge International B.V. Environmental Policy

# 7. Monitoring, reporting and review

To ensure the effectiveness and credibility of our environmental management approach, Verbrugge International maintains a structured process for monitoring performance, reporting progress, and reviewing results.

**Environmental performance** is monitored using quantitative and qualitative indicators aligned with our key impact areas highlighted in section 3 of this document. Each member from the Sustainability Committee is responsible for collecting relevant data from their department. Financial data is collected from the finance department (not part of the Sustainability Committee). We aggregate and review data on an annual basis with the Sustainability Committee.

We **report** environmental data through multiple channels, including:

- The Verbrugge Sustainability Report, made available to any clients and stakeholders at request through our website (note: the structure and content of this report is currently under revision to align with the Voluntary reporting standard for SMEs (VSME), our first VSME report will cover FY2025 and will be published in Q1 of 2026)
- EcoVadis assessment documentation
- Environmental permits and regulatory filings

Where possible, we align our reporting with international frameworks such as ISO 14001, GHG Protocol, and relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). All supporting documentation is retained and version-controlled where appropriate to ensure traceability and audit readiness.

This Environmental Policy and its associated KPIs, targets, and initiatives are reviewed at least annually to assess:

- Progress against targets
- Effectiveness of implemented measures
- Compliance with legal and permit obligations
- Relevance of environmental priorities

Updates are made as needed based on new data, stakeholder feedback, or changes in legislation or business operations.

## Policy versioning

Version	Description of change	Date	Approved by
1.0	Creation of an overarching, holistic environment policy for Verbrugge International that synthesizes underlying policies, initiatives and efforts into a coherent narrative	May 2025	Directors Team