

# IMPACT REPORT 2022

Because  
we care







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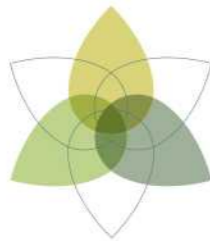


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A WORD  
FROM  
OUR CEO

# Because we care

SAS International is proud to present its first Impact Report. More than ever before, our goal to design and deliver quality products comes with a commitment to be mindful of the well-being of others and of our planet. Because we care.

We will take responsibility to work towards zero emission, minimising our carbon footprint through design and production innovation. We are making the move to 100% circular design by 2035. Based on that commitment, we will continue to work with major architects and designers, helping them with our knowledge and engineering expertise. We will realise innovative projects all over the world, designing and building active spaces that enable serene focus.

We believe that success in business is not separate from successfully operating without causing harm to others or to the environment we all share. They are one and the same kind of success. The kind that forms a sustainable legacy we can proudly pass into the hands of the next generation. It is our most important challenge going forward.

**Gert van Doormalen**  
CEO SAS International



## SAS International

We are a family-owned business with some 800 employees, operating internationally. We are based in the UK with our global headquarters located in Reading, England and our ceiling production sites in Bridgend, South Wales and Maybole, Scotland.

We design, develop and engineer innovative products in close partnership with architects, project developers and property owners. You have probably encountered our ceilings in workplaces, airports, train stations, universities, schools and health clinics around the world. They meet the highest aesthetic standards while helping to create an atmosphere that enables serene focus.



- Regional Offices / Warehousing
- Regional Sales Teams

### USA

- Sales Office (New York)

### UK

- Global Headquarters (Reading)
- Manufacturing
- Export Sales Office

### IRELAND

- Sales Office (Dublin)
- Warehousing

### EUROPE

- Sales Manager
- Technical Resource
- France, Italy, Portugal, and Spain Representation

### MIDDLE EAST

- Regional HQ (Dubai)
- Operating throughout MENA
- Local Warehousing / Stock

### AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

- Regional HQ (Sydney)
- Local Warehousing / Stock
- New Zealand Representation

## Our Triple Bottom Line

Today's world is full of uncertainty. Monumental challenges - including climate change and inequality - are becoming ever more pressing. One thing that is not uncertain is the need for change.

SAS International wants to actively be part of that change by implementing a sustainable business strategy. That is why we commit to a responsible social and environmental impact while safeguarding the economic viability of our business. It is our Triple Bottom Line.



Although businesses have historically been the greatest contributors to negative impact on the environment, they also hold the key to driving positive change. It is our conviction that a purpose-driven business strategy will increase sustainability by steadily growing the overlap between business, social and environmental interests.

We squarely acknowledge our responsibility in this respect. We want to consider the long-term effects of our decisions and take a more holistic approach to our operations as we move from purpose to performance, meeting the Triple Bottom Line. We believe it can create a sustainable business model that benefits not only the company but also society and the planet we all need to survive. This will mean success for SAS International now and in the future, as we create value for *all* stakeholders impacted by our business decisions.

*We believe it's possible to do well by doing good.*



# Our circular economy



## Metal

Metal is at the heart of SAS design and production. It is a unique material with outstanding structural, aesthetic and health-related properties.

Its wide-ranging functionality gives designers vast creative freedom for innovative ideas that bring value to its application. It is flexible, strong and perfect for ceiling construction because it is easy to disassemble, clean and maintain. It has a long lifespan.

This longevity, as well as its optional modular application and recyclability make metal the perfect material for creating circular design strategies.



### Did you know...

... that the oldest interior metalwork, in use since 1888, can be found in St. Edmunds Church in Beresford Chapel? It is a ceiling above a tomb with panels painted by Alice M. Erskine. This impressive example of the material's longevity demonstrates its value to our architectural and cultural heritage.



## Recycling

Steel is the most recycled material in the world, with an estimated 630 million tonnes of steel scrap being recycled annually (BIR, 2021/22), the equivalent of 242 Eiffel towers. This saves some 950 million tonnes of CO2 emissions per year. However, the increasing demand for steel, now 50% greater than ten years ago, and the long life of products made from steel delay its availability as scrap.



Globally, 80% of steel is recycled. In the UK, 94% of steel used in construction is recovered. Steel is endlessly recyclable, yet its properties will remain.

The design of SAS products has always leveraged the strength of metal but now its longevity can shape the entire supply chain. The goal of SAS is to reduce our need to recycle metal waste by employing circular economy strategic principles in our product design, engineering, and manufacturing to positively manage products at the end of their service lives.



## Waste management

We design our systems to minimise waste through efficient cutting of material. Any waste produced can be collected and recycled, reused or repurposed. In our production process, the metal waste that is created during manufacturing and on-site installation is recycled, which means that no metal waste is sent to the landfill.



The goal of SAS is to reduce our metal waste by 50% and overall waste by 70% by 2030, with zero waste going to the landfill.

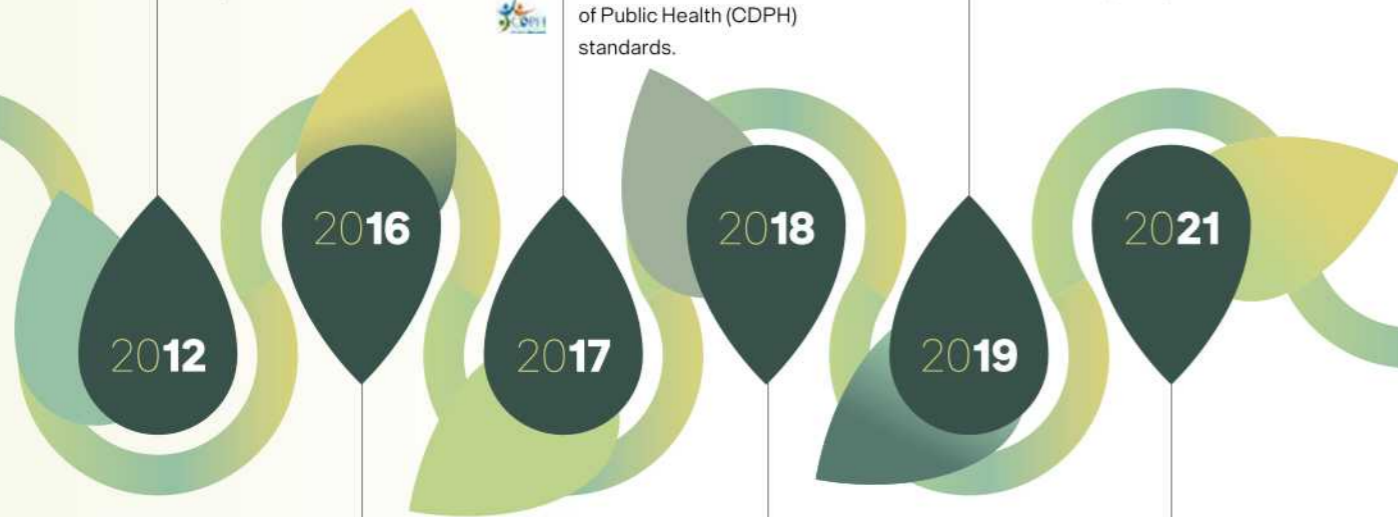
We produce waste each year. Melting this down would create additional carbon emissions. That is why we seek alternative uses for this waste stream by working directly with waste management partners and other stakeholders to maximise waste metal life before recycling. Moreover, the remelting of metal will become CO2 neutral or free in the near future. This way, we're building a circular economy business model going forward.



# Net zero carbon – The past decade, the coming decade

Our sustainability journey has been ongoing for a number of years. These are some important milestones from the past decade:

- 2012** Metalast Limited partnership to use waste metal purchasing in ship ballast.
- 2017** SAS products tested for VOCs to Indoor Air Comfort Gold and California Department of Public Health (CDPH) standards.
- 2019** All SAS products have type III Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs).



**2016** One Carter Lane – London  
Engineering consultancy, Cundall, reuse the SAS330 Cat A ceilings in their HQ to achieve the accolade of the first WELL Certified project in Europe.

**2018** Bloomberg – London  
Foster + Partners design the world's highest rated BREEAM Outstanding project for Bloomberg HQ. Each ceiling panel integrates acoustics, LED lighting and thermal comfort.



**2021** The Crystal – Victoria Dock, London  
SAS metal ceilings used in the largest UK LEED Platinum project.

**The International Towers – Sydney**  
The first Global GreenTag certified SAS products installed in International Towers, Sydney.

## 2022

The year 2022 saw SAS make significant strides as a result of our sustained efforts.

\* The effect is less use of metal and paint with decreases of 20% and 30% respectively.  
\*\* It will reduce our electrical energy usage by up to 30% and save over 242 tons of CO2 per year.

**-242 tonnes CO2 PER YEAR**

- Installation of Autoline tile production in Bridgend.\*
- Project started for the installation of solar PV system in Bridgend.\*\*
- Electrification of forklifts across the company.
- Cradle to Cradle version 4 application submitted for 75% of standard products.

For the coming decade, we have set clear objectives:

Reduce our metal waste by 50% and overall waste by 70% by 2030, with zero waste going to the landfill.

Realise net zero carbon emission for all SAS International operations by 2030.

Cradle to Cradle certification for 100% of our product portfolio in 2030.

Develop products to reduce embodied carbon and support the Circular Economy strategy by 2030.

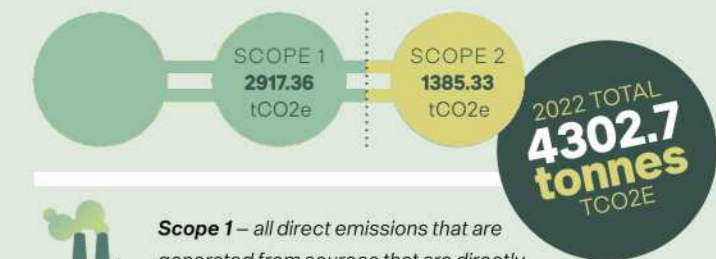
Exceed the expectations of BREEAM, LEED and WELL Building Standards, providing products and services that go beyond benchmark criteria.

## 2022

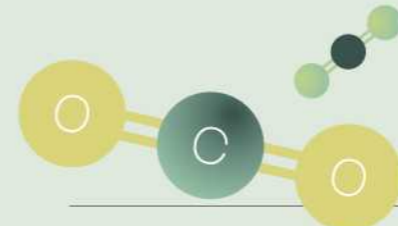


### GREEN HOUSE GAS EMISSIONS (GHG)

In 2022, we have measured and qualified our Green House Gas emission for our manufacturing and operational activities in the UK. This will act as our baseline to set future emissions objectives and help us to deliver our 'Net Zero' ambition by 2030.



- Scope 1** – all direct emissions that are generated from sources that are directly owned or controlled by an organisation. For example, factory fumes from manufacturing goods.
- Scope 2** – all indirect emissions from the generation of the electricity purchased and used by an organisation. For example, the energy that you buy for heating or cooling buildings.





## Certifying our sustainability journey Cradle to Cradle

Over the past 12 months, SAS has been working toward achieving Cradle to Cradle Version 4 Certification for our ceiling products via the Cradle-to-Cradle Products Innovation Institute (C2CPII).



This first leg of our Cradle-to-Cradle journey will be completed in early 2023 with SAS International being awarded the Bronze Level Certification for over 75% of its metal ceiling systems. SAS International aim to achieve the Silver Level within the next three years.

SAS has adopted and integrated the five key Cradle-to-Cradle principles. These focus on Material Health, Social Fairness and Human Rights, Water and Soil Stewardship, Product Circularity as well as Clean Air and Climate Protection.

### Carbon Champion Programme – Maybole

Our factory in Scotland is starting a programme for sustainable production. The University of the West of Scotland is leading a project to deliver support and training to enable organisations across South Ayrshire to meet the national Net Zero goals.



The fund aims to support the people and communities most in need across the UK through pilot programmes and new approaches to prepare for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. It invests in skills, community and place as well as local business and helps people find employment.

SAS Maybole has benefitted in many ways from becoming a Carbon Champion. The management joined training and workshops session to gain knowledge of our energy use and emissions. Training has also enabled SAS staff to gain new qualifications in energy and climate including PAS2060: 2014 An Introduction and Foundation to Carbon Neutral. This helps us to manage and plan our carbon emission reduction strategy.

## Social responsibility

SAS International is committed to adopting a socially responsible approach to doing business. These are some of the ways in which we followed through on that commitment in 2022.

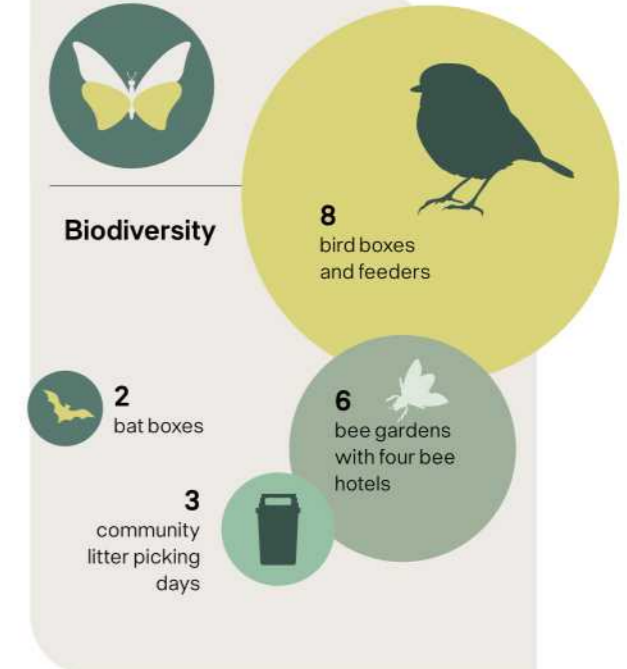


### Community Engagement

- Surge Water Event, Dubai
- Youth Rugby sponsorship, Wales
- Youth Women's Football sponsorship, Berkshire
- Dig Deeper 2022 supporting Anthony Nolan Charity and 353
- £4,000 raised via British Red Cross for Ukraine
- Food Bank Donations of over £2,000



### Biodiversity



### Responsible Business Practices

- We recognise that our social, economic and environmental responsibilities to all of our stakeholders are integral to business. We therefore aim to demonstrate these responsibilities through our actions and within our corporate policies to create positive impact in the way we work and live.
- We are a Living Wage Employer
  - Apprenticeships: 8 / Training courses: 82 / Higher Education Qualifications: 12
  - More than a quarter of our staff are enrolled in company-sponsored training or qualifications.



### Objectives by 2030

- Gender Diversity: Our goal is to see a correct reflection of society in the composition of our workforce.
- All SAS facilities to be certified ISO 14001 & ISO 9001.
- Ensure our management systems continue to offer the highest level of products, services and assurance to all of our stakeholders.
- Build on our high standard of business ethics and integrate this into our day-to-day operations.





**CYCLE TO WORK**

In 2022, we expanded our staff Cycle To Work scheme to include electric bicycles. This will incentivise the use of bikes for commuting as well as support healthy lifestyles for employees. Over 2022, our staff clocked up over 1,500 miles per week by bike, the equivalent of cycling from London to Madrid and back.



**ELECTRIC VEHICLES**

This year, SAS invested in a fleet of electric vehicles for staff use in business travel. This supports our objective of halving our annual travel emissions of 425 tonnes by 2030. The reduction would be equivalent to an individual taking 2,118 return flights between London and Paris.

SAS is proud to support Trevor McGarrigle who leads a local beach clean-up initiative on the Welsh coast. An employee of our Bridgend factory, Trevor receives funding for all necessary equipment and runs events for the whole community to take part in.



*“Everything we do now is for the next generation. All that is taking place today is only partly affecting us; future generations will feel it more and we need to act for our kids. The rubbish you see on beaches is harmful to our planet – animals consume it and die from it, which causes a knock-on effect. This leads to fewer fish and animals which would eventually lead to the end of life as we know it. I’m very grateful to SAS International for sponsoring me for four years ever since I started the beach clean group in February 2018. SAS has committed to sponsoring me till 2024, and I am determined to make even more of a difference through this initiative. Thank you to the 915 members who have joined my Facebook page to support this initiative.” – Trevor McGarrigle*

As SAS International, we are on a journey towards full sustainability, aware of the need to act and committed to achieving results as soon as possible.

We will work to balance economic, social and environmental objectives.

We will integrate sustainability goals into our design and manufacturing process as well as our corporate decision-making, while striving to meet and exceed those goals.

We will track our performance and report transparently on progress to all our stakeholders.

As our sustainability journey progresses, we will continue to deliver our high quality innovative products, building active spaces that enable serene focus.





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