



SUSTAINABILITY PRACTICES FACT SHEET

The Velcro Companies make products in ways that preserve our natural resources and reduce costs without compromising on quality. Sustainability is our company's commitment to helping provide a better environmental future for our customers, suppliers, employees and neighbors. This document offers a snapshot of our diverse sustainability practices and their resulting achievements.

ONSITE ENERGY GENERATION SUPPORTS SUSTAINABILITY

One hundred percent of the electrical and thermal power in the Velcro Companies' New Hampshire headquarters is self-generated. Excess heat from our electricity generators is channeled into site manufacturing and climate systems.

Benefits gained by energy optimization:

- Velcro USA Inc. reuses or recycles more than 20% of the waste it generates.
- An onsite 5 MW gas turbine generator includes a 25,000 lb/hr heat recovery steam generator.
- Steam heats buildings and water, and provides thermal energy for material processing.
- Reusing excess heat from electricity generation has reduced emissions by more than 60 tons.
- Turbine combustion technology minimizes NOx-based pollutants.
- Our newest operations are cooled by high efficiency centrifugal chillers with variable frequency drives to conserve energy use.
- Waste heat is used in absorption chillers to air condition work spaces.
- Selective catalytic reduction systems on back-up diesel generators curb NOx emissions by 80%.
- Waste heat melts snow and ice under facility sidewalks, replacing salt spreads and chemical treatments.

SUSTAINABILITY AT THE VELCRO COMPANIES



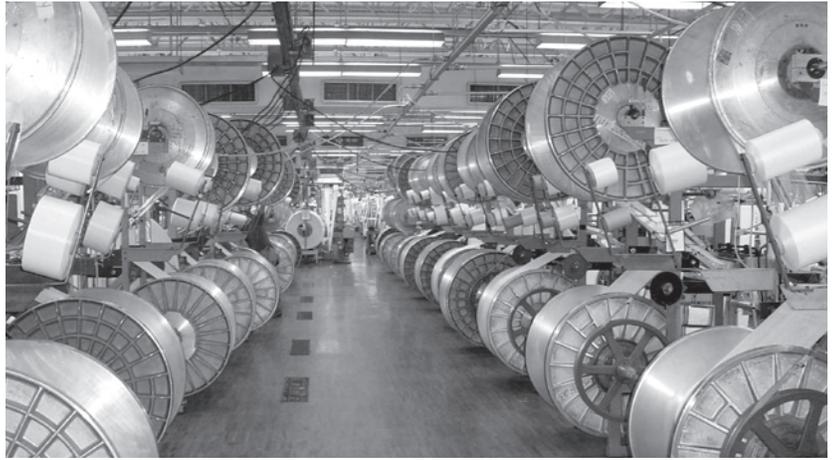
CERTIFIED TO ISO 14001 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT STANDARDS

The Velcro Companies received ISO 14001 certification for its environmental management system (EMS) which includes more than 1300 environmental aspects. While expanding our manufacturing facilities, we reduced our environmental impact by 15 percent.

VISIT US ONLINE AT VELCRO.COM

images (left to right):
Microscopic view of "Nature's Hooks";
Velcro USA Headquarters in New Hampshire;
Cockleburs- the inspiration for hook & loop fasteners;
Absorption Chiller used in manufacturing plant





ABOUT THE VELCRO COMPANIES

The Velcro Companies, known internationally as Velcro Industries N.V. and in the United States as Velcro USA Inc., form a technology-driven, global organization. We are the industry leader in hook and loop fastening. We continue to evolve and grow the technology that began with our origination of this revolutionary fastener. By making hundreds of different hook and loop products, we provide solutions to just about any fastening problem. You're using VELCRO® Brand Hook and Loop Fasteners every day and you probably don't even know it!

For more information, visit Velcro.com or call us at 800.225.0180.

images (left to right):

Aerial View of Velcro USA Inc. campus;
View of textile manufacturing where raw materials are ready to be made into hook and loop

LIGHTING EFFICIENCIES

The Velcro Companies' New Hampshire facilities are optimally lit with natural and man-made systems.

- T5 fixtures provide brighter, lower energy light than high-energy halide fixtures.
- Skylights provide operations and office areas with free, natural light.
- Occupancy sensors shut off lights in rooms not in use.

PLANT SYSTEMS ECONOMIZE ENERGY USE

In our manufacturing processes we carefully manage our power use and recycle materials and thermal energy. Along with reducing consumption, this helps us create higher quality products.

- Edge trimmings from plastic carriers are pelletized and recycled in a building-wide pipeline.
- Our coating processes are water-based (free from solvents) and minimize the use of heavy metals.
- Water is recycled for both cooling and pre-heating operations. Outgoing water is clean, cold, and compliant with environmental standards.
- Precise thermal energy controls keep fiber supplies within optimum temperature and moisture conditions to minimize waste and run times.
- Bulk material spools are retrieved from customers for re-use on new orders.

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