



## Environmental protection and environmental management

**The production of industrial gases accounts for the lion's share of our eco footprint. However, we also pay close attention to environmental protection in all of our non-production processes.**

### Environmental protection in the Gases Division

In our Group Corporate Responsibility policy, we make a firm commitment to protecting the environment and conserving natural resources. At Linde, environmental protection refers to the various measures taken within and by our company, for example at our production sites. Environmental protection in the Gases Division includes the certification of locations to ISO 14001, measures to cut energy consumption, reduction of direct and indirect greenhouse gas and other air emissions, waste management, eco-friendly management of water consumption and wastewater disposal, documentation and, where applicable, a reduction in materials consumption (metal, packaging materials) and reporting on key environmental indicators. One of our big current projects in this area involves raising minimum environmental standards as part of the existing Integrated Management System (IMS). This is based on a more detailed impact analysis and an action plan to better monitor, reduce or – even better – eliminate our environmental impact in certain areas. Regular training and audits will ensure compliance with the new standards. And our Corporate Responsibility Report will document improvements here.

See Corporate Responsibility at [linde.com](http://linde.com) for further information on environmental protection projects within the Gases Division and details of the environmental gains our customers can enjoy by deploying our gases and technologies.

### Environmental plant engineering concepts

The Engineering Division operates over twenty locations worldwide, the majority of which are planning offices. Here our facility management activities ensure the careful use of resources such as energy and water. We measure the ecological footprint of this division's locations by largely the same criteria applied to the Gases Division, with the exception of plant-specific data. However, the scale of consumption here pales in comparison to that of a production site.

So our engineers take all the more care in plant planning, considering both materials consumption (e.g. tonnes of steel required for plant construction) and energy requirements, plus air, noise and wastewater emissions during future operation of the plant. Communication with our customers is very important in this respect, to convince them of the merits of the latest green technologies. We generate a detailed environmental protection plan for every plant we engineer. This comprises an emissions list, a framework for obtaining official environmental clearance and specifications for noise protection measures. The emissions list, in turn, consists of a drainage and wastewater treatment plan and an air pollution control concept. These are incorporated in the plant operating manuals.

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