KARL ANDERSSON & SÖNER
SINCE 1898

ENVIRONMENTAL WORK

Sustainable since 1898.
When Master Cabinet-maker Karl Andersson started his company and began to produce "well-made furniture, durable and sustainable" over 125-years ago, he was thrifty with resources. He did everything at home in the factory by wood that came from the neighborhood and with as little waste as possible. He made solid wood furniture that would last for generations. Sustainability was a natural part of his everyday work.
We still think that way, four generations later. Our factory is driven by lean production with as few shipments as possible and sustainability as a core value. Still, we manufacture well-made furniture that will last for several generations. All manufacturing is done in our factory in Huskvarna, Sweden. Here we are more than 35 people that work every day with making well-made furniture – With as little waste as possible.

The everyday environmental work at the factory - Recycling, Sorting and Waste
We at Karl Andersson & Söner sort all kind of waste. Metal, corrugated cardboard, glass, paper and wood is sorted and recycled. Residues of chemicals are disposed as hazardous waste and taken care of by certified companies in a controlled manner. Since we produce our own wooden blockboard in the appropriate format for the specific product, we have a minimal amount of wood waste. Waste in the form of chips are sold, among other things, to horse owners, while end and side trim are sold to farmers for chipping that is used for heating. The remaining wood waste is processed into pellets.

Packaging
The packaging varies from furniture to furniture but generally the first protection layer is a plastic bag and packed in a carton with corner protection. In some cases the product is packed with wooden boards. To the extent possible our products are packed together to reduce volumes which reduces packing material and transportation that gives ultimately greater environmental benefits. Karl Andersson & Söner is connected to the “Näringslivets Producent Ansvar” = the business sector's producer responsibility, which drives the development towards circular packaging.

Transport
Most of our suppliers are located in our immediate vicinity (within a 150 km radius). The transport distance is therefore short and thus contributes to less overall environmental impact. Wherever possible, we try to coordinate transportation. The carriers contracted for transportation to customers following the transport industry laws and regulations. For deliveries within Europe trucks are used and for long distance export we always use sea transportation.

Energy
Since 2003, our entire property is warmed up with locally made district heating. Electrical energy that we use is made from renewable sources such as wind and hydropower. To avoid unnecessary energy consumption all electrical power to equipment and lighting in the factory are turned off every night. Further steps in our energy consumption are the new solar panels that were installed on the factory roof. These will now generate power for our facilities and machines.

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Environmental work at Karl Andersson & Söner. So far.

We at Karl Andersson & Söner believe that small continuous environmental improvements have a significant impact in the long run. Therefore, we work assiduously and long-term to find improvements all the time. Here are some examples of what we have done over the years:

1999	Waste Sorting is introduced. Metal, cardboard, paper, glass, wood are sorted into separate containers.
2000	Electricity is turned off in production premises every night to avoid unnecessary consumption of machinery and lighting.
2003	Changing from oil heating to district heating.
2005	Heat exchanger installed in all ventilation and exhaust systems except for one paint booth.
2007	System developed to recycle materials used for building our exhibition stands.
2008	A switch to water-based adhesive for bonding foam.
2009	Electricity only from renewable energy sources such as water and wind energy.
2010	New compressor invested to reduce electricity consumption.
2012	Changing from acid-cured clear coat to water for application on less exposed surfaces.
2013	Exchanging air powered tools to electric to reduce electricity consumption.
2014	Changing to veneer glue that contains a minimal amount of formaldehyde and that meets the requirements of Möbelfakta.
2015	Replacement of the oxygen curable pigmented lacquer to water-based lacquer for application on less exposed areas.
2015	Investing in a new ventilation system with a heat exchanger for the last paint booth.
2015	Certified with Swedish möbelfakta for the products Collar, Slope, Front and Ridå.
2017	Certified with Swedish möbelfakta for the table Press.
2018	Solar panels are mounted on the factory roof for own production of electricity.
2019	Certified with Swedish möbelfakta for products Cap, Kanecct, Kamon, Locus, Shell stool, Study, Tailor.
2020	Investment of an automatic spray system for water-based paints. Certified with Swedish möbelfakta for products Arc, Facile, Kaz, Milo, Part.
2021	Certified with Swedish möbelfakta for products Ell, Hygge, Meander Rollo, Shell chair Rollo, Woodwork.
2022	Certified with Swedish möbelfakta for product Colo Chair.
2023	The company's vehicle fleet has transitioned to hybrid cars. Certified with Swedish möbelfakta for products Pivå, Ondulé, Ridå, Sander Conference and Sander Lounge.
2024	Products are equipped with formaldehyde-free adhesive. Certified with Swedish möbelfakta for products Ondulé Club, Peel, Taverna.
2025	The following products are certified by Möbelfakta: Opera, Sander Bar, Sander Café Chair, Sander Meeting Chair and Woodwork Light. All fluorescent lighting in the building has been replaced with LED lighting.
2026	A 1.5 mm thick veneer option is available for all veneered panels. All products are now finished with a water-based primer and a two-component water-based topcoat. The Ondulé Screen and Soigné products are certified by Möbelfakta. All windows in the 1940s building have been replaced with single-glazed windows.