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# Industrial sustainability project

# Actiu Spain

In partnership with:

With financial support  
from the EU



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### Company´s Description:

The company was established in 1968 as a small craftsman shop with furniture. Years later in its place, a company specialised in household furniture was created. With a 45 years' experience the company can offer products that provides wellbeing at their users. In 2011 the company received the Green Enterprise prize which endorses the introduction of good practices in environmental management. Also the company has received the Green Good Design of Chicago prize.

### Sub-sectors affected:

- X Furniture (2nd Transformation)

### Implementation Process:

The initiative of the technology park arise as a result of the awareness of the responsibility to produce sustainable industrial wood, respecting the environment, integrating innovation, sustainability, territory, industry and architecture, adopting practices of development of sustainable construction to create an industrial avant-garde complex.

The industrial production processes and sustainability go together, where the eco-design and healthy environments are key to new workspaces. The company has developed a production process that is sustainable, analysing the life cycle of the product to achieve a responsible consumption of resources and productive efficiency allowing costs stability, taking into account:

- ARCHITECTURE, considered as a fundamental tool for innovation, so that the innovation, the space and the furniture conjugate in more comfortable and efficient work environments
- TECHNOLOGY, investing in the latest technology, improving the capacity of manufacturing oriented towards higher growth, higher productivity and a higher international position. For example the technology has allowed coating all metal products organically, avoiding the emissions of CO2 into the atmosphere.

- RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, being a leader in product design, which protects its customers with patents for the concept, design and specifications for each product.
- PRODUCTION AND LOGISTICS, to make sure that the over 90,000 references of the company are adapted to the technical requirements of each project, with a guarantee of efficiency and quality. The logistics system is organised through a network that has multiple distribution platforms and a network of vehicles of last generation with minimal emission of polluting gases. Packaging protocols are in continuous review, with special interest in implementing sustainable packaging and new designs and ideas that seek to minimize waste and reduce costs.
- HEALTHY AT WORK, the working space and equipments have a decisive influence on the motivation, performance and health of the people. The quality of the work environment is the second most important factor that determines the satisfaction of employees, behind the wage.

### Initiated practices:

ACTIU is a company that fully aware of the need for quality and the environmental protection since many years. As a result, most of the products were designed and produced in accordance with the pertinent European regulation and following a strict quality control, in addition to the continuous commitment with the environment, which took the company to:

- Adopt the norm IN ISO 14006:2011 of environmental management for the design and development, implementing Eco design or product development that minimize the environmental impact in every stage of its useful life.
- Use only of wood from certified forests, the products of the company are made from wood proceeding from species quickly renewable and with a responsible forest management.
- Adopt the Certificate of the Chain of Custody (PFEC) that guarantees that the wood used in the production process comes from a sustainable source.
- Engage with Global certification Compact, it is contributed by the World Agreement (principles based on human, labor and environmental rights)
- Produce fiches of Enviromental Product Declaration.
- Analyse the life cycle of the product (material, production, transport, use and recycling)

### Results:

ACTIU was the first european company in this sector to be certified with the LEED® GOLD certification, recognised by the US Green Building Council for its commitment in sustainability and the environmentally responsible construction thanks to its Technological Park, an energy sustainable complex.

The company is an example of sustainability, since it includes in its processes:

- Collection of waters, through a rainwater collection system with a storage capacity of 12,000 m<sup>3</sup>
- Solar Installation that allows a negative carbon emission, with an energy production of 7 million Kw/year, which is 6 times more than required, thanks to the largest industrial solar plant cover in Europe that prevents the emission to the atmosphere of 8.3 mill kg of CO<sub>2</sub> per year, with photovoltaic panels of last generation and maximum energy efficiency, and embedded in the very architecture of the buildings.
- Smart lighting and efficient, optimising the artificial light.
- The replanting of thousands of indigenous plant species, which are part of interior and exterior.

## Recommendations:

Sustainability begins with the incorporation of energetic efficiency aspects in the industrial process, the improvement of internal environmental quality, the water consume efficiency, the sustainable development of spaces and material selection.

## Conclusions:

It is a solid example that sustainability should not be seen as an expense but as an investment that shortly impacts positively the company results. LEED is a form of understanding life and work, it's a culture that represents the whole entrepreneurial and productivity philosophy generating a healthy and friendly spacy for the employees. In this way a significant reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the conservation of waters and waste reduction is being implemented during the whole produce process.

### Keywords:

- X Energy
- X Training
- X Construction