**On show at the BAU 2023 trade fair:**

**Sustainability at GEALAN**

The GEALAN booth at BAU 2023 will have a sustainability wall. Why is this topic becoming a separate stand component? Because it has been practised and developed for decades at the PVC system provider.

GEALAN produces high-quality PVC profiles for windows and doors - this is done in a way that conserves resources and is therefore responsible and environmentally friendly. For more than 25 years, GEALAN has proven that this is not a contradiction to the company's profitability. But the achievements to date should only be a stopover: GEALAN is initiating further measures in all areas. The goal is to become even more efficient and sustainable.

Especially in the manufacturing industry, the challenge of working sustainably and affordably is becoming ever greater. GEALAN has been using necessary resources such as electricity, water, PVC and additives sensibly, efficiently and demonstrably responsibly for more than 25 years. Processes, recipes and technical equipment are constantly reviewed and brought up to date. A forward-looking approach that saves GEALAN resources, especially now - in challenging times.

GEALAN is not only committed to efficient, environmentally friendly solutions and responsible use of raw materials in production. The entire company is regularly put to the test with regard to its processes. The result: ever new measurable and demonstrably recurring successes and improvements in sustainability - across almost all areas.



**Sustainable in all areas of the company**

GEALAN innovations conserve raw materials and resources: optimised thermal insulation values of GEALAN profiles as well as the continuously developed surface technology GEALAN-acrylcolor® ensure particularly energy-saving and even more durable windows. For decades, GEALAN's commitment to conserving resources has extended to all areas of the company.

**Using recycled materials - saving raw materials and CO2**

Since the late 1990s, GEALAN has taken recycling into consideration during product development. This applies to the design of new tools for profile production. In the production of the profiles themselves, but also when it comes to the recyclability of the end product. GEALAN products are designed to be sustainable from the first sketch to the recyclable end product. An already considerable use of recycled materials in production saves large amounts of CO2: for every ton of recycled material used, that's about two tons of CO2. In concrete terms: In 2022, GEALAN usedmore than 20,000 t of recycled material, thus saving a good 40,000 t of CO2 compared to the use of virgin material.

Ein Bild, das Stein enthält.

Automatisch generierte Beschreibung

Already around 33% of the PVC used at GEALAN is recycled material - and the trend is rising. In addition to old windows, GEALAN also returns 100% of its own production residues to the highly efficient recycling circuit.

**Saving energy - reducing CO2 emissions**

Large amounts of energy are needed in production. Working efficiently and saving resources is not only sustainable, but also an important cost factor for companies.

GEALAN has already achieved significant savings with various measures: By automating extrusion lines, GEALAN now saves around 100,000 kWh per year. Indoor and outdoor lighting has been modernised, switched to LED and light regulation by motion detectors, which means annual savings of about 1.5 million kWh for GEALAN. GEALAN has already saved around 5 million kWh cumulatively since cooling was produced using heat pump technology, using the principle of heat recovery and reducing heating oil consumption in the process.

Since 2020, both the administration at GEALAN headquarters in Oberkotzau and the plant in Tanna, Thuringia, have been completely supplied with renewable energy. GEALAN covers its entire electricity needs at both sites with energy that comes 100 per cent from biomass. The complete conversion has been certified by E.ON Deutschland GmbH.

By switching to green electricity, GEALAN saves a total of about 18,000 tons of CO2 annually at both sites. The company's ecological footprint is thus further improved, since the generation of green electricity produces neither CO2 emissions nor radioactive waste.

**Certified sustainability**

Since 1996, GEALAN has successfully put its corporate sustainability to the demanding test of the European Environmental Management System EMAS - at the headquarters in Oberkotzau as well as at the production and logistics site in Tanna. GEALAN was one of the first companies in the PVC industry to demonstrate social responsibility in this way. GEALAN is also a long-standing partner of the largest European recycling initiative, VinylPlus®.

Learn more about sustainability at GEALAN - either at the BAU trade fair booth or at: <https://www.gealan.de/en/about-gealan/sustainability/>

**About GEALAN**

The GEALAN group of companies is one of Europe’s leading manufacturers of PVC profiles for window systems and doors.

GEALAN profiles are designed, manufactured and distributed in-house. They are the basis for making window systems, doors and modern sliding solutions that are strikingly beautiful, exceptionally robust and particularly secure – and equipping them with top thermal insulation values. GEALAN manufactures the extrusion tools used for profile production in its in-house, highly automated tool shop.

As an innovative system provider for PVC window and door profiles, GEALAN can offer its partners a comprehensive range of services. Our architectural consulting and construction engineering services support architects and planners in their everyday work. Intelligent tools simplify planning and tendering. Training courses and seminars bring our partners up to date with the latest GEALAN solutions.

Across Europe, GEALAN employs 1,600 people and generated an annual turnover of EUR 390 million in 2022. Since 2014, GEALAN has been part of the family-run VEKA AG, based in Sendenhorst, Westphalia.