

PIRAMAL GLASS

NEWSLETTER

Environmental Sustainability

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WELCOME



In a volatile and uncertain world, organizations today need to constantly improve the social, environmental, and economic conditions

in which it operates. These are the three pillars of sustainability, even if one pillar is weak then the system as a whole is unsustainable.

At Piramal Glass, we take responsibility for the environment around us by constantly cultivating our environmental footprint. In this regard, we have many ongoing projects and initiatives across our facilities and we would like to share some of them through this newsletter.

Vijay Shah,
Director, Piramal Glass Limited

Piramal Glass has assimilated environmental sustainability into all its business practices.

Over the years we have made significant transformation in our processes to achieve our sustainability goals. As an ISO 14001 certified organization, we have constantly invested in the field of environmental preservation. Today, we not only meet our regulatory requirements but also make a significant contribution to the environment as a result of our ongoing initiatives.

A vital element in our environmental sustainability is to use raw material and energy responsibly. We have successfully reduced energy usage, cut carbon emissions, increased the amount of recycled glass, and created a safer and greener work environment. In our manufacturing process of glass packaging, we create value towards all the three important pillars of sustainability – i.e. economic, social, and environmental.

For our commitment to the society and the environment, we have tied up with the Social movement, *Believers in Glass*, which highlights the benefits of using glass and the health hazards pertaining to the usage of plastic.

Recycling improves the environmental balance, both ecologically and economically

At Piramal Glass, we have been recycling glass for more than three decades. Reusing used glass has vastly improved the environmental balance of our glass production. We have reduced our emissions and waste production because of recycling and other sustainable initiatives. We are maximizing the intake of cullet (crushed glass ready to be remelted) in our furnaces. For the production of clear and amber glass, we can use up to 60 percent of the used glass. For us, the quality of the used glass material that is collected and how it is processed is of utmost importance. As an end-to-end glass packaging specialist, we need to regularly invest in the right setup and processes to collect, sort, distribute, and recycle used glass, to scale up the sustainability.

In this regards, we have further enhanced our Cullet-Sorting capabilities by installing a fully-automatic high speed, optical camera based, cullet sorting equipment from Binder+Co Austria called Clarity (see image). It will ensure cullet sourced from open market is completely free from any impurities and sorted according to colour. It has the ability to sort glass even in the smallest sizes from 1mm onwards.



GOING GREEN WITH SOLAR

As part of our sustainability strategy, we have added a renewable power source, Solar Energy, in our consumption portfolio. We have successfully installed Solar Roof-top system of 300 kW at our Kosamba, India facility and of 3 MW at our Ratmalana, Sri Lanka facility



These systems are future ready and are gaining significant popularity as a viable means to reduce carbon emissions. Solar Energy generation is not only contributing to green power generation but also helping us in rationalizing the energy cost. In the near future, we are planning to install more such Solar Roof-top systems and also large-scale Solar-Farms.



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Post-Consumer Recycled glass campaign

To increase the quality and quantity of glass to be recycled, we have launched a Post-Consumer Recycled (PCR) glass campaign to support glass recycling by local consumers. Majority of PCR glass waste doesn't get re-melted back to glass and this creates problem both for the environment and for the local authorities. Hence, we designed this campaign, to collect PCR glass from end-consumers through dedicated collection bins placed at various strategic locations. Collection bins were also placed at schools to spread awareness.

At Piramal Glass Sri Lanka, we are collecting waste glass from independent waste collectors covering the entire island and then recycling them. We have made glass collection centers at all major divisional secretariats, which enables households and corporates to dispose of the waste glass. To further support this, our local team there has taken a lead to form an association for waste recycling namely 'Sri Lanka Recyclers' Association'.

Efficient Energy Consumption

Our furnaces are designed to create better efficiency and minimum emissions. As a preferred energy source, with very low level of Sulphur, Natural Gas (NG) is used in our furnaces for more than 90 percent of the time. All our furnaces are equipped to handle dual fuel systems. To make the furnaces more energy efficient, few of them are equipped with electric boosting along with NG. Glass recycling also helps us in saving energy as cullet melts at a lower temperature than raw materials. Thus, less energy is required for the melting process.

Water Conservation Initiatives

Through rainwater harvesting, we regularly recharge the groundwater. The water levels have increased by more than 30,000 cubic meters/ year and on the other hand, the levels of Total Dissolved Solids have reduced. We have defined multiple surface rainwater harvesting points across our facilities. By efficient recycling and reusing of Effluent Treatment Plant treated water and Sewage Treatment Plant treated water, we have reduced groundwater drawal and saved more than 70 cubic meters /day of raw water

We have Reverse Osmosis (RO) systems in all our facilities. We are supplying RO-water not only to our employees and employees' quarters but also to the local population in the nearby villages. We have also installed RO-systems in the nearby schools and villages for their usage. We have started to use RO-reject water in our Batch Mixer (for Batch Preparation) on a trial basis and we are planning to save up to 10 cubic meters /day of RO-reject water.

Tree Plantation Programs

To create an ecological balance, we have regular Tree Plantation Programs both inside our facilities and in the neighbourhood. Inside our facilities, we continuously monitor the progress and track the number of plants.

