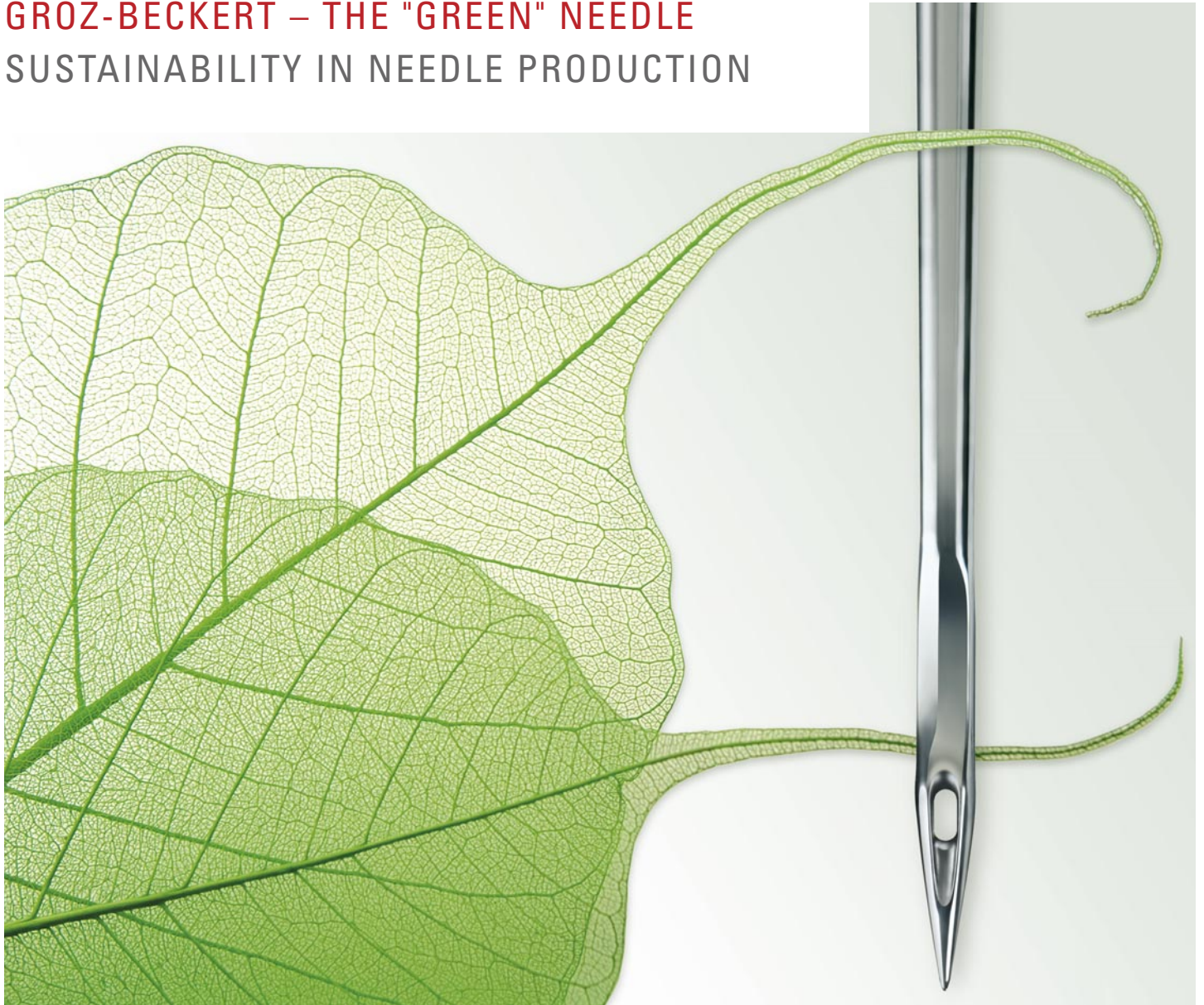


GROZ-BECKERT – THE "GREEN" NEEDLE
SUSTAINABILITY IN NEEDLE PRODUCTION



Groz-Beckert: a name which stands for the manufacture of quality needles coupled with an awareness of responsibility for mankind and for the environment – in its needle production too.

Not only the quality of products, but primarily also their safe, environmentally responsible production, are factors that concern all of us, and which the international community has a right to expect.

As a responsible world market leader in the production of industrial needles, Groz-Beckert has made the principle of sustainability an underlying tenet of its corporate mission.

The ultimate objective of this consistent policy is to ensure optimum benefit for customers, employees, and the environment.

Groz-Beckert has the ability, motivation, and commitment to achieve this objective – in the spirit of cooperative customer partnership, and to help create a safe, future environment for society.

SUSTAINABLE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE PRACTICE – CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

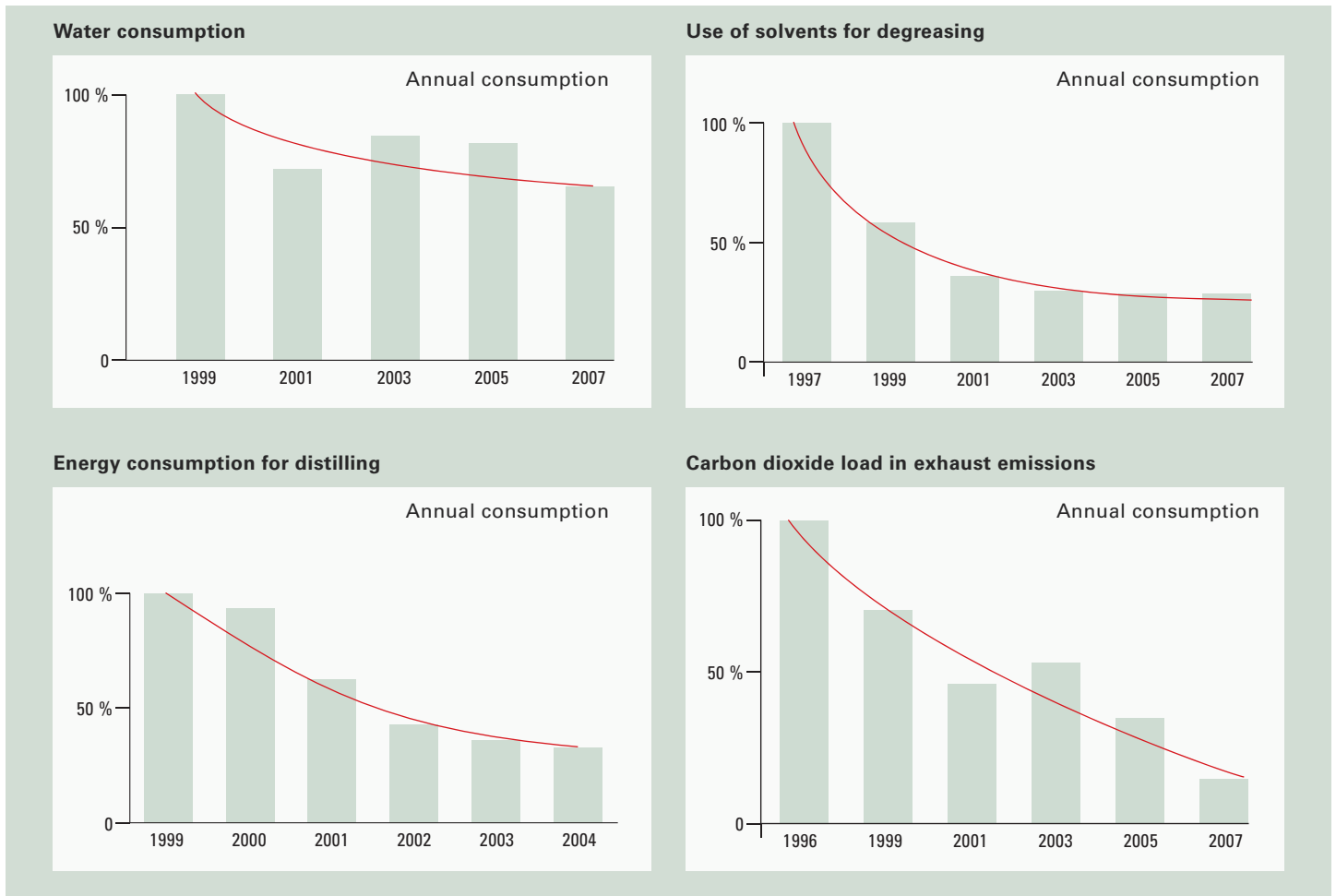
Together, product quality, customer services, and occupational safety, these are the underlying principles of Groz-Beckert's long-term corporate policy: A policy which is systematically implemented by means of management systems, and whose effectiveness and impact are audited and certified by impartial institutions.

Since 1995, the quality management system has been certified in accordance with DIN EN ISO 9001, and the Groz-Beckert KG environmental management system has been certified to DIN EN ISO 14001 since 2000. This system is applied around the world, and makes both the regional and the usually more stringent German regulations a binding requirement in every individual factory.

This ensures the use of environmentally compatible and safe production techniques, the assurance of health and safety for our partners and employees, and also the sparing use of natural resources.



THE FACTS – THE DRIVE FOR SUSTAINABILITY IN FIGURES



ECOLOGICAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITY



Ecological achievements

The downward development of consumption figures for energy, water and chemicals, as well as a reduction in air pollution (see adjacent graphs) all testify to the highly advanced awareness of ecological responsibility which is integral to the production processes in place at Groz-Beckert.

Ensuring the sparing use of resources, implementing release procedures for hazardous substances and the preferred use of substitute materials, have all resulted in a steady positive development – and given rise to a continued commitment to minimizing factors which could potentially harm our environment.

A steadily growing customer base is confirmation of our endeavours to improve quality and service.

And the work goes on. Since 2008, the aspects of occupational health and safety have been integrated into our management system, and certified in accordance with BS OHSAS 18001. We also lend support to selected environmental projects such as the **DHL Go Green**.

Groz-Beckert does more than pay lip service to environmental protection: It lives and breathes it.

Partnership and responsibility

Groz-Beckert pursues a policy of cooperative partnership with its suppliers, service providers and customers, with a view to improving performance on every level.

Groz-Beckert prefers to deal with companies and organizations which contribute directly or indirectly to sustainable development. Its business associates are encouraged to make an active and positive environmental and social impact.

By taking on this responsibility, we are able to make a tangible contribution to the conservation of resources and to preserving an intact environment to pass on to present and future generations around the world.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT = CUSTOMER BENEFIT



Customer support means environmental benefit

The sustainability movement is gaining in momentum. To allow their own environmental objectives to be implemented and to ensure adherence to statutory requirements along the whole of the value-added chain, buyers of textile and leather goods the world over are demanding declarations of conformity from their manufacturers.

Groz-Beckert supports its customers where required with:

- Declarations of conformity in respect of **REACH, ROHS**, the Hazardous Substances Act and other legislation
- Advice on questions of relevance to certain regulations in respect of needles, machines and their application
- Support in disposal and recycling-related questions

In this way, Groz-Beckert's endeavours towards the achievement of sustainability can help contribute towards the economic success of its partners and associates.

Properties and conformity of industrial sewing machine needles from Groz-Beckert

- Groz-Beckert KG has environmental certification to DIN EN ISO 14001

Groz-Beckert needles and their packaging

- are **bio-compatible** and contain no substances which impair the health of machine operators or pollute the environment
- can be **recycled** or **disposed of without a negative environmental impact**
- contain **no hazardous substances** – as defined by the Hazardous Substances Act
- are in conformity with **ROHS** (Restriction of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Devices)
- are in conformity with **REACH** (Regulation on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemical Substances)