

# SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2024

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# THE THONET PHILOSOPHY

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Thonet boasts a legacy of sustainability dating back to 1819.

Our pioneering advancements in resource-efficient production, bending steel and natural wood, have left an indelible mark on the history of furniture. Throughout the years Thonet has consistently demonstrated that furniture manufacturing can be conducted sustainably, fostering a legacy for generations to come. Our dedication to sustainability is encapsulated in the following nine principles.

# THE PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE BUILDING

German Federal Ministry of the Interior and  
German Sustainable Building Council (DGNB)

| PROTECTED RESOURCES |                           | ECOLOGY  | ECONOMY  | SOCIOCULTURAL   |
|---------------------|---------------------------|--|--|---|
|                     | Sustainability in general | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natural resources</li> <li>Natural environment</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capital / values</li> <li>Economic performance</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health</li> <li>Social and cultural values</li> </ul>  |
| PROTECTION GOALS    |                           | ECOLOGY  | ECONOMY  | SOCIOCULTURAL   |
|                     | Sustainable building      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natural resources</li> <li>Global and local environment</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capital / values</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wellbeing</li> <li>User satisfaction</li> <li>Functionality</li> <li>Cultural value</li> </ul>   |
| PROTECTION GOALS    |                           | ECOLOGY  | ECONOMY  | SOCIOCULTURAL   |
|                     | Sustainability in general | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protection of natural resources / careful and considerate use of natural resources</li> <li>Greater efficiency</li> <li>Less pollution / reduced environmental impact</li> <li>Protection of the earth's atmosphere, soil, groundwater and water resources</li> <li>Promotion of environmentally friendly production</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lower life cycle costs</li> <li>Lower subsidy expenses</li> <li>Lower debt</li> <li>Promotion of responsible entrepreneurship</li> <li>Creation of sustainable consumer habits</li> <li>Creation of a dynamic and cooperative international business environment</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protection and promotion of human health</li> <li>Greater social cohesion and solidarity</li> <li>Preservation of cultural values</li> <li>Equal opportunities</li> <li>Securing of employability and jobs</li> <li>Tackling poverty</li> <li>Education / training</li> <li>Equal rights</li> <li>Integration</li> <li>Security / quality of life</li> </ul> |
| PROTECTION GOALS    |                           | ECOLOGY  | ECONOMY  | SOCIOCULTURAL   |
|                     | Sustainable building      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protection of natural resources</li> <li>Protection of the ecosystem</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lower life cycle costs</li> <li>Improved economic efficiency</li> <li>Preservation of capital / value</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preservation of health, safety and comfort</li> <li>Guaranteed functionality</li> <li>Securing high-quality design and urban development</li> </ul>  |

Source: Guide to sustainable building, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community

# THE KEY ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR FURNITURE IN BUILDINGS

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DGNB and Assessment System for Sustainable  
Building for Federal Buildings (BNB), Federal  
Ministry of Building and Urban Development

ECOLOGICAL QUALITY

ECONOMIC QUALITY

SOCIOCULTURAL AND  
FUNCTIONAL QUALITY

## ECOLOGICAL QUALITY

PERMANENCE

ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPACT DURING  
LIFE CYCLE  
(UP TO 50%)

FOOTPRINT  
(SCOPE 1, SCOPE 2)

## ECONOMIC QUALITY

DURABILITY

LIFE CYCLE  
COSTS

OPERATING  
COSTS, FLEXIBILITY  
AND  
CONVERTIBILITY

## SOCIOCULTURAL AND FUNCTIONAL QUALITY

WELLBEING  
(MATERIALS ETC.)

COMFORT,  
ERGONOMICS,  
USER-  
FRIENDLINESS

DESIGN AND  
CULTURAL  
FACTORS

... LEAD TO THE  
9 THONET PRINCIPLES

## ECOLOGICAL VALUE

MATERIALS

RESOURCES

PRODUCTION

## ECONOMIC VALUE

DURABILITY

REVITALISATION

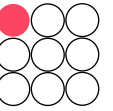
LONGEVITY

## HUMAN VALUE

WELLBEING

FUNCTION

CULTURE



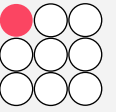
## ECOLOGICAL VALUE

# MATERIALS

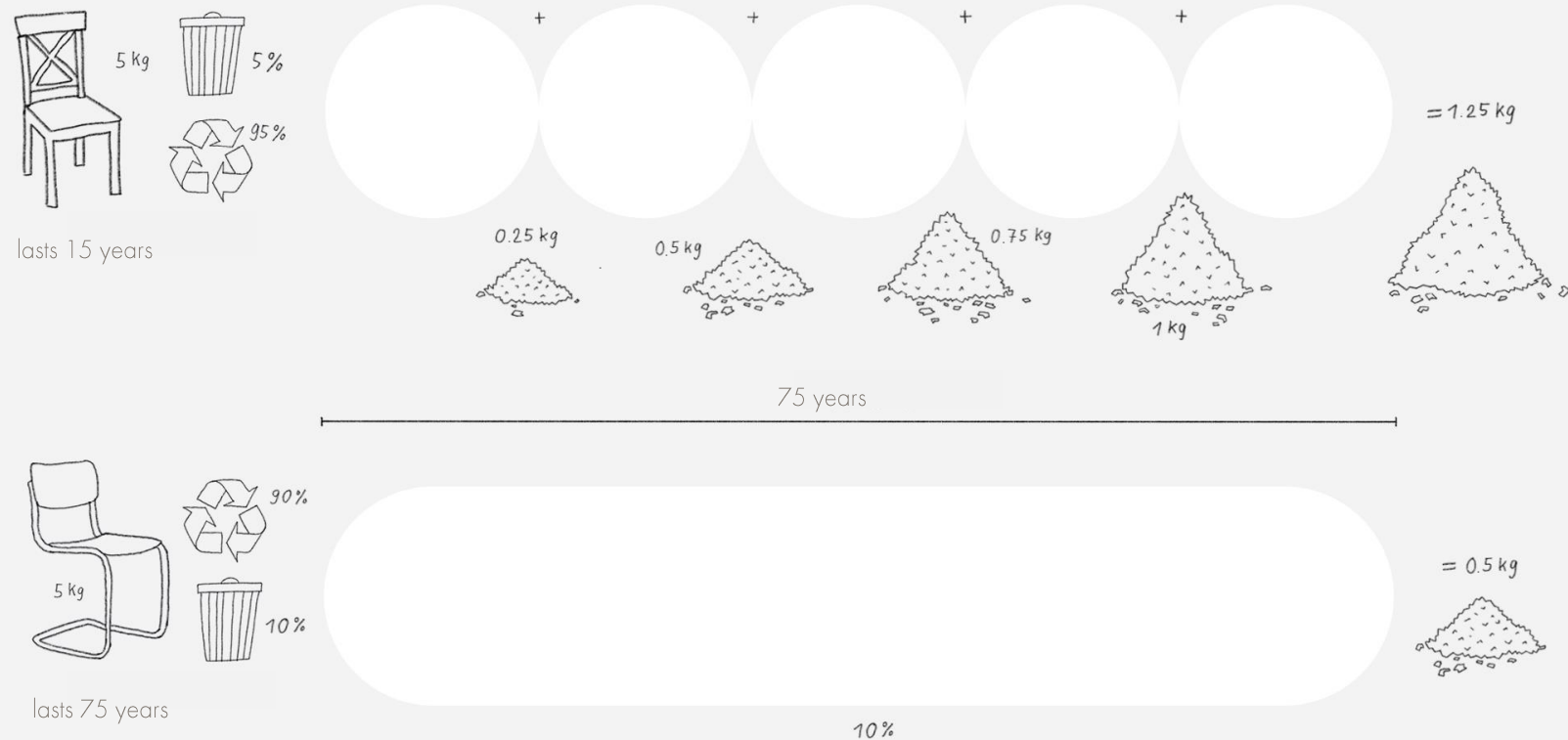
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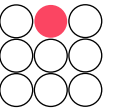
Thonet upholds a steadfast commitment to utilising natural materials. With over two centuries of expertise, we have refined the utilisation of domestic wood in furniture crafting and have seamlessly integrated steel for over a century. Our aim is to attain exceptional recycling rates. However, paramount to our ethos is the creation of enduring products. Crafting furniture which is built to last is foremost in our materials conservation strategy.





# A product with a long service life is much more environmentally friendly than having to recycle.





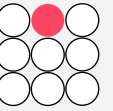
## ECOLOGICAL VALUE

# RESOURCES

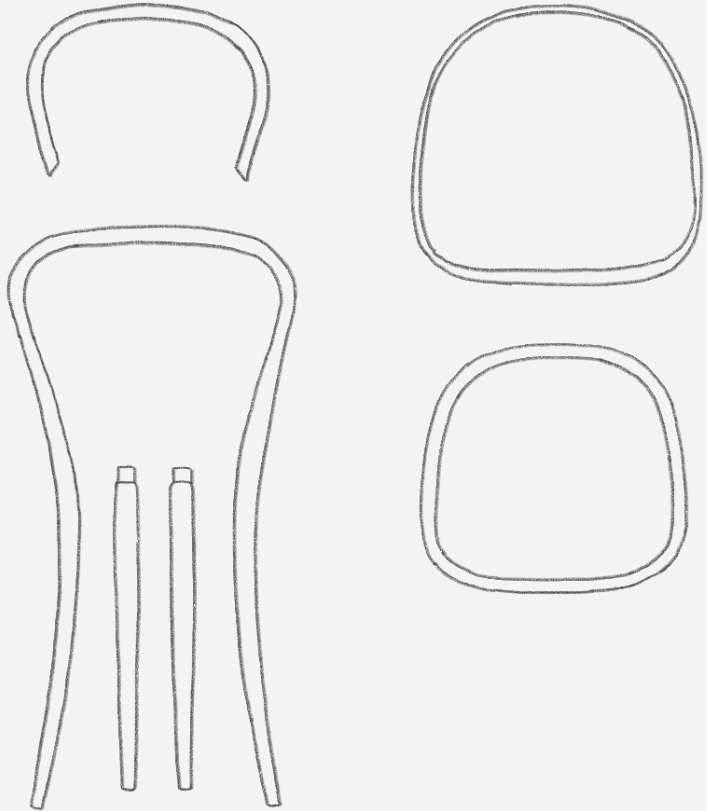
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“Less is more” holds particular significance, especially concerning the environment. Thonet is dedicated to utilising materials with utmost efficiency, thus conserving precious resources. This principle was ingrained into our industrial furniture production over 150 years ago, marking our enduring commitment to sustainable practices.



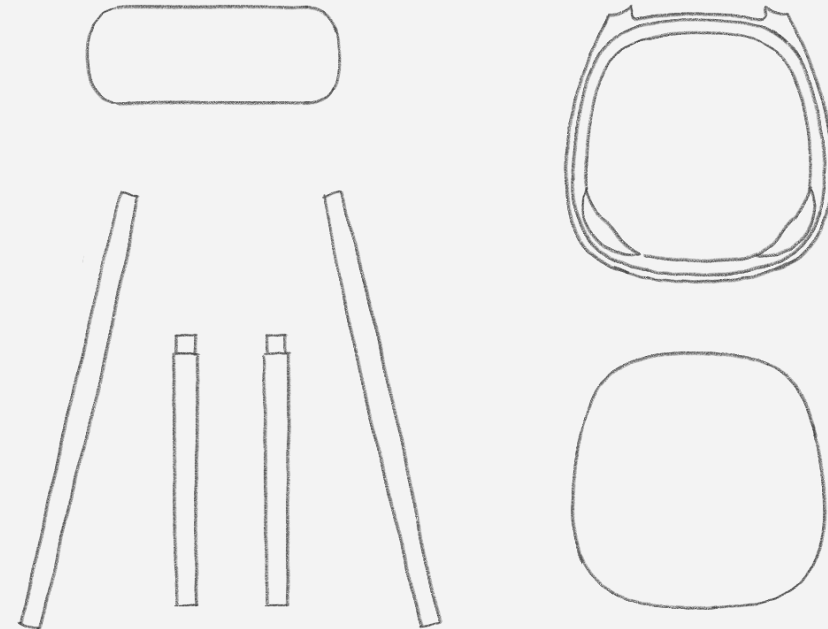


# Conserving resources for more than 200 years



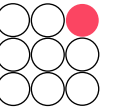
Components of 214

Design year: 1859



Components of 118

Design year: 2018

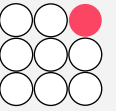


## ECOLOGICAL VALUE

# PRODUCTION

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Thonet's manufacturing process prioritises environmental friendliness, and our production sites are situated in Germany. We collaborate with local and meticulously chosen suppliers. Ensuring adherence to social and ecological standards, we guarantee that all our partners uphold ethical and environmental principles.



We procure more than 90% of our raw materials and supplied products from within a radius of less than 380 km.



### Product: moulded plywood

Location: Brakel

Distance from factory: 96 km

Cooperation dates back more than 35 years

### Raw material: tubular steel

Location: Michelau

Distance from factory: 259 km

Cooperation for 29 years

### Raw material: solid wood

Location: Würzburg

Distance from factory: 254 km

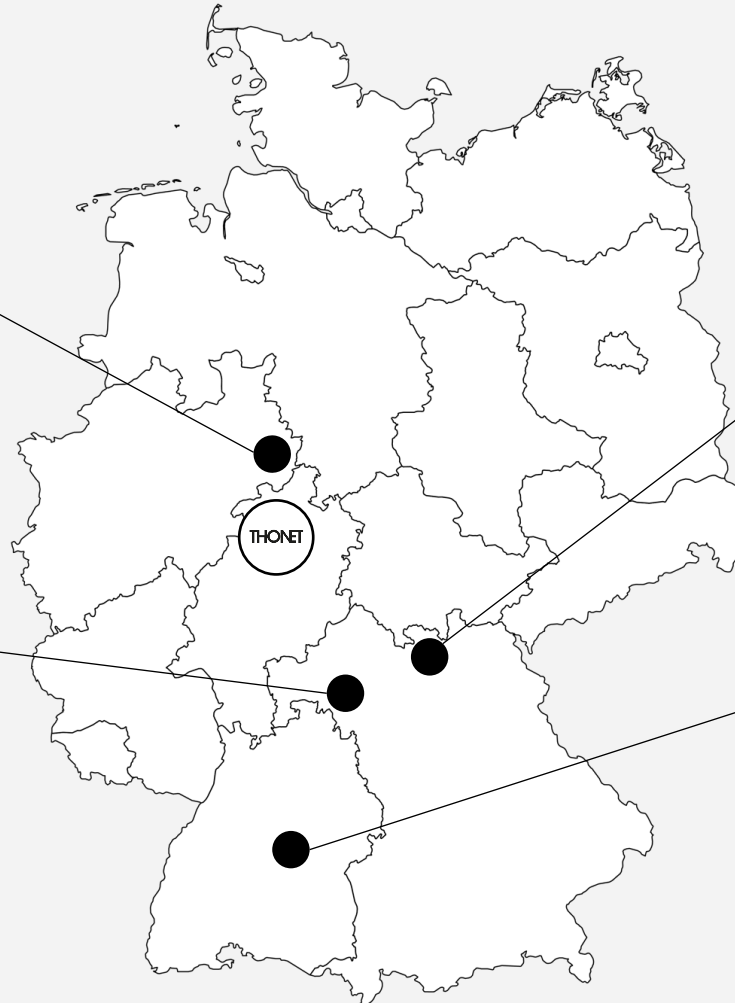
Cooperation dates back 10 years

### Product: leather

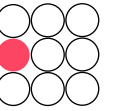
Location: Metzingen

Distance from factory: 369 km

Cooperation for 21 years





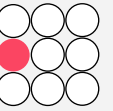


## ECONOMIC VALUE

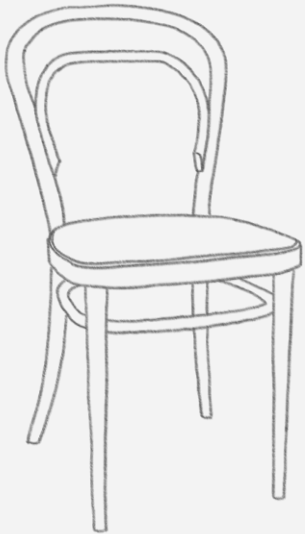
# DURABILITY

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Thonet furniture is crafted for longevity and timeless appeal, destined to be cherished for generations to come. Its exceptional durability transforms it into a sustainable investment, offering enduring value for future generations.



Countless Thonet products have proven their durability across generations, being handed down through families over many years.



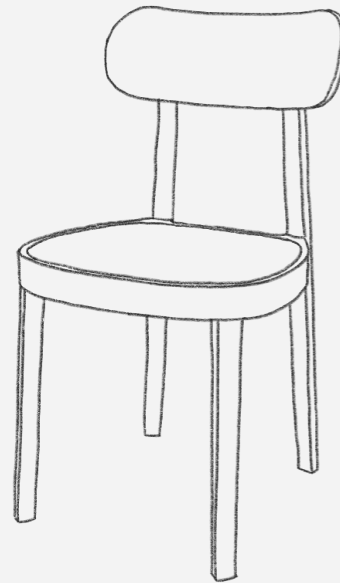
214

Location: Deutschland  
Purchase date: 1861  
Generation: 6



S 43

Location: Deutschland  
Purchase date: 1932  
Generation: 4

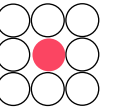


118

Location: Deutschland  
Purchase date: 2018  
Generation: 1

“When I’m buying new furniture, I look for high-quality materials and excellent craftsmanship. I want my furniture to last throughout my life and to be used by my children someday. What I love best are timeless pieces which outlast the trends that come and go. That’s why I love Thonet!”

– Friederike Stelter  
(Interiors blogger)



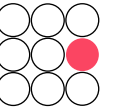
## ECONOMIC VALUE

# REVITALISATION

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Thonet furniture enjoys multiple life cycles. Our pieces are easily repaired and refurbished, with a guarantee of unlimited availability for spare parts. We firmly believe that reusing furniture is far more sensible than recycling it.

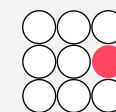




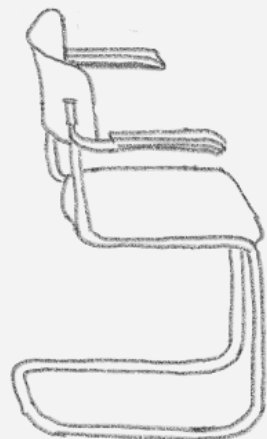
## ECONOMIC VALUE

# LONGEVITY

Thonet furniture exudes timeless elegance and versatility. Second-hand Thonet pieces remain highly sought-after, retaining their appeal even decades after their creation.



# In use for more than 90 years ...



S 43

Design: 1931

1933

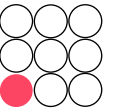
Delivery of the S 43

Today

S 43 still in use





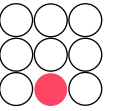


## HUMAN VALUE

# WELLBEING

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Thonet furniture is meticulously crafted with people in mind. The aesthetics are tailored to cultivate feelings of wellbeing and joy. Renowned for their ergonomic design, Thonet pieces make a significant contribution to creating healthy and comfortable spaces.



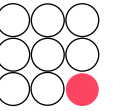
## HUMAN VALUE

# FUNCTION

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Thonet furniture serves as a catalyst for social interaction and human communication, whether in public, professional or private settings. This role is deeply ingrained in our DNA: no other furniture brand is as closely linked to European coffee house culture. Coffee houses epitomise communicative environments, and Thonet's presence within them underscores our commitment to fostering connection and dialogue.



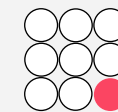


## HUMAN VALUE

# CULTURE

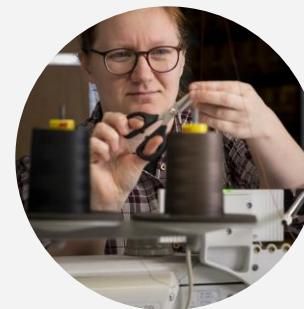
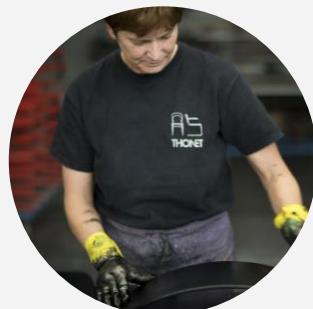
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Thonet furniture cultivates a distinct sense of identity. Its timeless design embodies the principles of sustainable consumption. Much like the company's enduring values, its furniture epitomises durability, international appeal and diversity, all while remaining rooted in our regional heritage.



# Diverse, international and yet regionally rooted since 1819.

We live and breathe our Code of Conduct.







# ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS

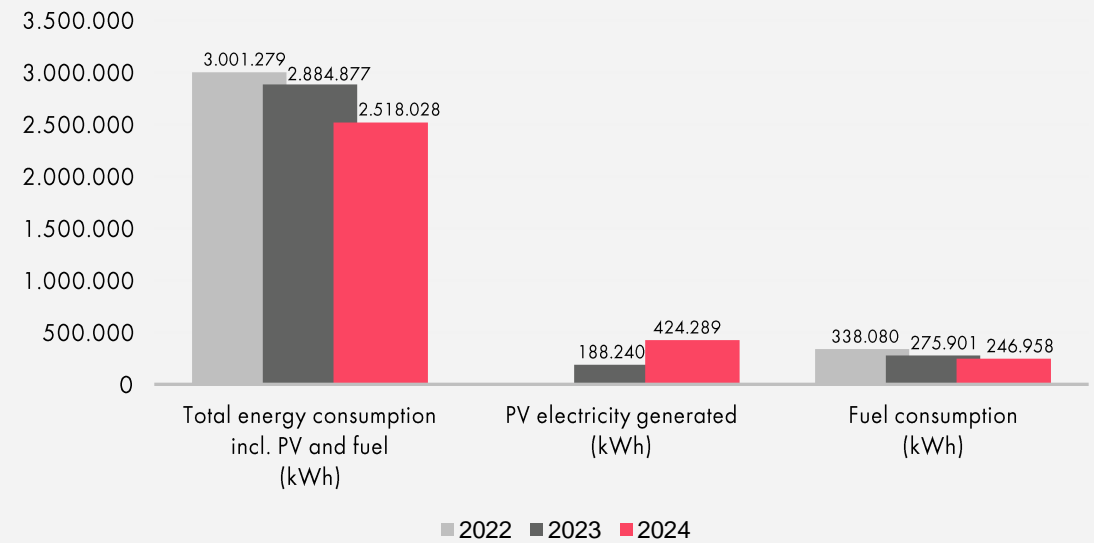
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## Measures

- Reduction of energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions:
- Use of electricity from 100% renewable energies.
- Continuous switch to LED lighting.
- Optimisation of route planning to reduce transport emissions.
- Reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from annual business trips by car by supporting a regional climate protection project.
- Reducing the amount of waste and promoting resource efficiency:
- Separating waste by type and waste avoidance.
- Development of resource-saving packaging concepts.
- Definition of packaging regulations for suppliers and shipping.
- Documentation of waste statistics for continuous improvement.
- Use of UV-hydro lacquers and recycling of cleaning thinners to reduce volatile organic compounds (VOC).
- Reduction of specific water consumption:
- Installation of water-saving fittings.
- Documentation of water consumption to identify potential savings.



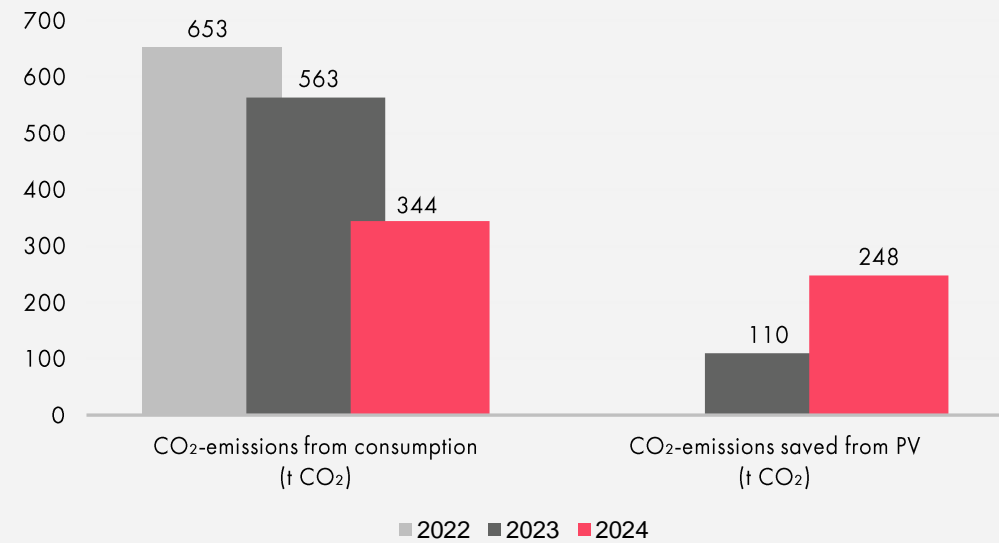
# ENERGY







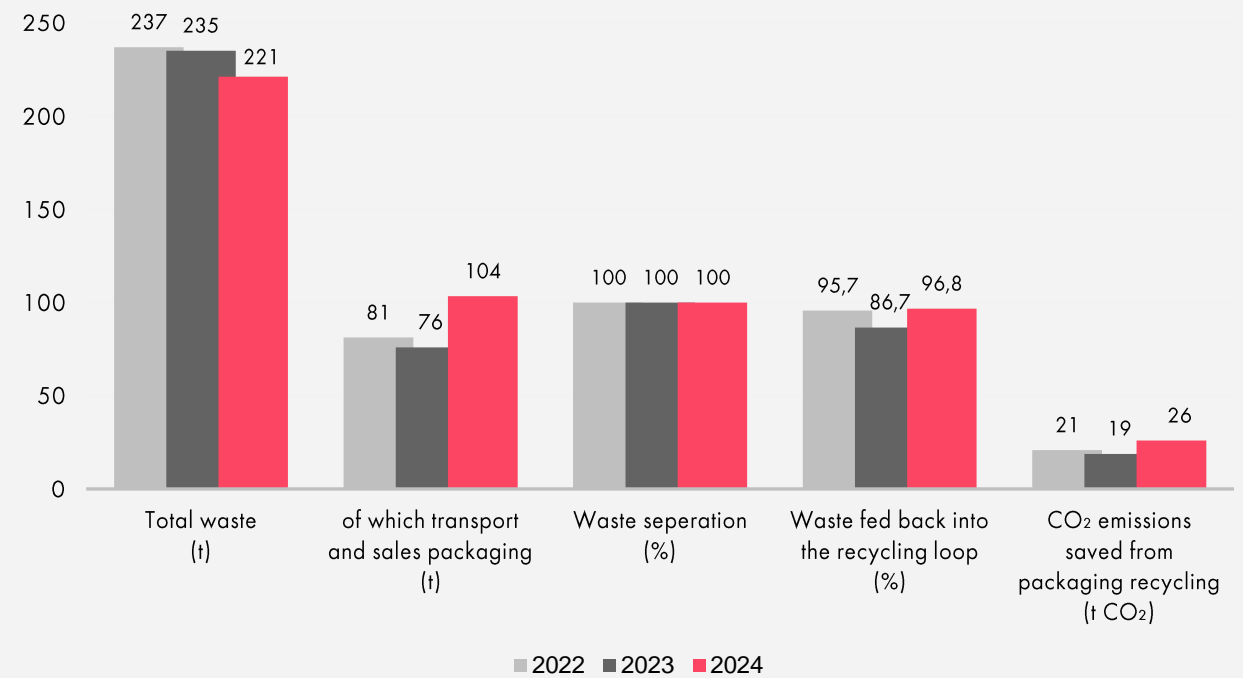
# CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS







# WASTE







# CLIMATE PROTECTION

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## Climate protection with responsibility

We are continuously working to reduce our emissions and to make our processes environmentally conscious.

For emissions that cannot currently be avoided, we are committed to regional climate protection: We support Pina Earth and promote near-natural forest conversion in Germany.

In the Altmark project (Saxony-Anhalt), we are supporting the ecological conversion of 2,600 m<sup>2</sup> of forest area into a climate-resilient mixed forest - thus enabling the additional storage of 34 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>.

In this way, we are helping to preserve native forests, promote biodiversity and strengthen regional ecosystems - where our responsibility begins.

Link:

<https://registry.pina.earth/retirements/14042025-PINAEARTH-6579d6e8>





# ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS ACHIEVED

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## Reduction:

- Energy consumption -12%
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions -35%
- VOC consumption -0,3%
- Water consumption -29%
- Total waste -5,9%

Use of electricity from 100% renewable energy sources.

Installation of an on-site PV plant.

Savings of 308 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.





# RESPONSIBILITY

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Please fulfil your personal commitment to sustainability and think about future generations.

If you have any further questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

[sustainability@thonet.de](mailto:sustainability@thonet.de)

Please also take note of our Code of Conduct.

# THONET

Sustainable since 1819