

# SUSTAINABLE LABORATORY SOLUTIONS



SCIENTIFIC  
LABORATORY  
SUPPLIES

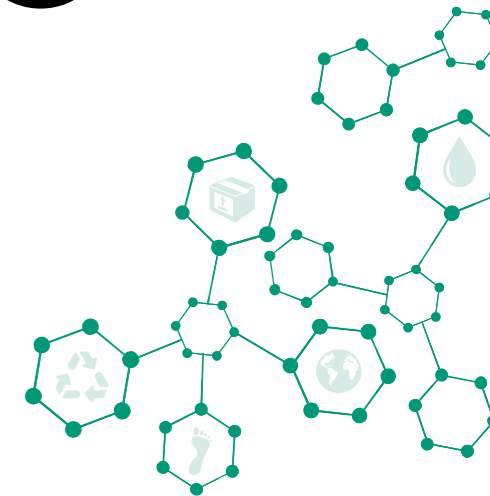


## OUR COMMITMENT

At SLS, from our supply chain to our in-house practices we aim to be the most sustainable and environmentally friendly distributor to the laboratory market. We have a continuous commitment to offering sustainable products that offer the highest levels of build quality and performance, the longest lifespan and the lowest running costs. Through our dedicated sustainability team, we continuously review our range whilst ensuring our own practices meet the highest environmental standards.

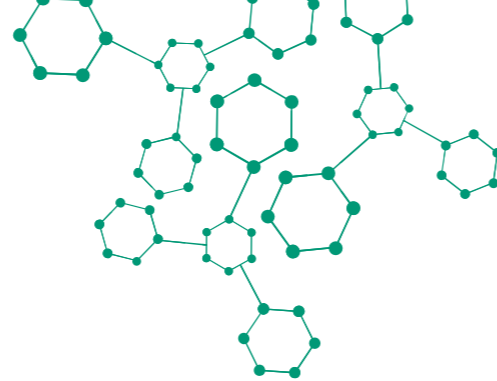
It is our promise to support our customers in their efforts to eliminate needless expenditure and minimise the environmental impact of their research and processes.

**Working closely together, we remain committed to helping our customers achieve their own sustainability targets, delivering a better world for us and future generations.**



We produce all our promotional literature including catalogues on FSC certified paper and offset the impact of our promotional activity by printing on World Land Trust carbon balanced paper. We also support the One Tree Planted initiative.





# OUR VISION, MISSION & VALUES

## VISION

TOMORROW'S SCIENCE depends on what we do today. We aim to contribute to a healthier, smarter and safer world by supporting science and the people who work within it

## MISSION

WE ENDEAVOUR to be the scientist's supplier of choice by delivering the highest quality products and services supported with a fast, flexible and friendly approach

## VALUES

### PASSION:

Passionate people are at the heart of the company, exceeding standards of excellence through energy, drive, creativity and positive attitudes

### INTEGRITY:

It is vital our employees embrace moral and ethical principles working with trust, transparency, respect and honesty in their roles

### PRECISION:

We strive to get it right, on time and first time in everything we do

### EMPOWERMENT:

We provide our people the responsibility, authority and opportunity to achieve the best results by owning the task through to completion

### SIMPLICITY:

We strive to make decisions quickly and pragmatically by focusing on what's essential, delivering clarity in complexity

# SUSTAINABILITY BEGINS AT HOME

Here are a few of the initiatives we're currently running:



Implementation of a new paperless Warehouse Management System

saving approx.

**160,000** SHEETS  
of paper a year

**£150K**  
INVESTMENT

in a new **insulated roof** to the Nottingham site, reducing heat loss, leading to less gas usage



We reuse any

**VOID** FILLER  
MATERIAL  
sent by our suppliers

**WEEE** WASTE

**100** fluorescent tubes recycled  
**245kg** non-obligated WEEE waste recycled  
**101kg** hazardous non-obligated WEEE waste recycled



England & Wales: 0115 982 1111



Scotland: 01236 431 857



sustainable@scientific-labs.com



scientificlabs.co.uk

# SUSTAINABILITY BEGINS AT HOME

## Continued...

We believe in looking at our own impact on the environment and continuously work to look for ways in which we can lessen it through alternatives and innovation.

## OVER HALF

of our deliveries are **100% carbon offset**



## OUR VAN FLEET

have Euro 6 engines

The Euro 6 standard sets out the acceptable limits for exhaust emissions since September 2015.

## TONER WASTE RECYCLING

In partnership with Clover Environmental solutions, each collection raises money for charities, Bullying UK & Leeds Children's Hospital. Approximately 240 recycled in the past 12 months



In 2020, we will have planted 1000 trees which will offset 33.33 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> (per year) – minimising our impact on the environment and our carbon footprint

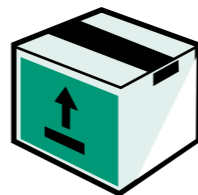
**1.020 tons** of waste glass recycled to new glass  
**21.6 tons** of cardboard recycled, (1.8 tons p/m)  
**2.904 tons** mixed plastics recycled, (0.242 tons p/m)  
**4.5 tons** of office paper recycled (379 tons p/m)



## 32.95 TONS

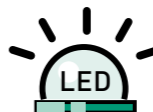
 of waste converted to energy

100% waste diverted from landfill equating to a CO<sub>2</sub> reduction equal to four cars off the road for a year or 33 trees planted over their lifetime



All cardboard boxes bought for packaging are from

## FSC CERTIFIED SOURCES



## OVER 75%

of our Nottingham facility uses low energy motion sensor **LED lighting**



**EVERYONE** at the Nottingham site has been given **reusable cups** to eliminate the use of approx

## 60K PLASTIC CUPS

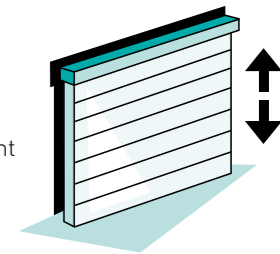
from the vending machine per year

## 14%

**REDUCTION IN ELECTRICITY** consumption between 2016 and 2019 despite operating longer hours

## £7K INVESTMENT

in a **high speed environmental automatic door** at goods in, to prevent heat loss leading to less gas usage



We have joined Nottingham's

## Tram2Work scheme

to encourage more employees to use public transport

## 1.663

## TONS

 of empty tip boxes

removed from customers' sites under our waste to energy scheme. We are currently trialling a **Plastic2Purpose** scheme. Visit [scientificlabs.co.uk/sustainability](http://scientificlabs.co.uk/sustainability) for more information



England & Wales: 0115 982 1111



Scotland: 01236 431 857



[sustainable@scientific-labs.com](mailto:sustainable@scientific-labs.com)



[scientificlabs.co.uk](http://scientificlabs.co.uk)

# OUR PRODUCT OFFERING

We have identified product areas that either have potentially high energy usage or need to be recycled where possible.

We are working with the relevant suppliers to consider sustainability as a key feature within these product ranges. We work closely with our supply chain around areas of sustainability and look to source greener alternatives to give you the choice.



Look out for the SUSTAINABLE ICON on our website and in our catalogue (2020–2021 version)

We have assigned this icon to products that have sustainable features (e.g. energy consumption is comparatively lower than similar models)

## Examples of EQUIPMENT

- ULT freezers
- -20°C freezers
- Refrigerators
- Incubators
- LED microscopes
- Laminar flow cabinets
- Lab Armor® beads for water baths

- iWash slide cleaner
- Eco friendly drying cabinets
- Astell eco friendly autoclaves
- EcoDyst evaporating systems



## Examples of CONSUMABLES

- Pipette tip boxes – recycling “Plastic2Purpose” scheme
- SLS Lab Pro Reload pipette tips (Generates **90%** less packaging waste)
- Kimberly Clark RightCycle glove recycling initiative
- Bio-Bin **96%** recycled paper-based waste containers





- Duran silicone beaker lids – environmentally friendly alternative to onetime use covers and films
- Glass spreaders
- Wire loops
- Glass petri dishes
- Glass tissue culture ware
- Use paper autoclave bags over polypropylene – where possible

Please get in touch to discuss your individual requirements for sustainable products.

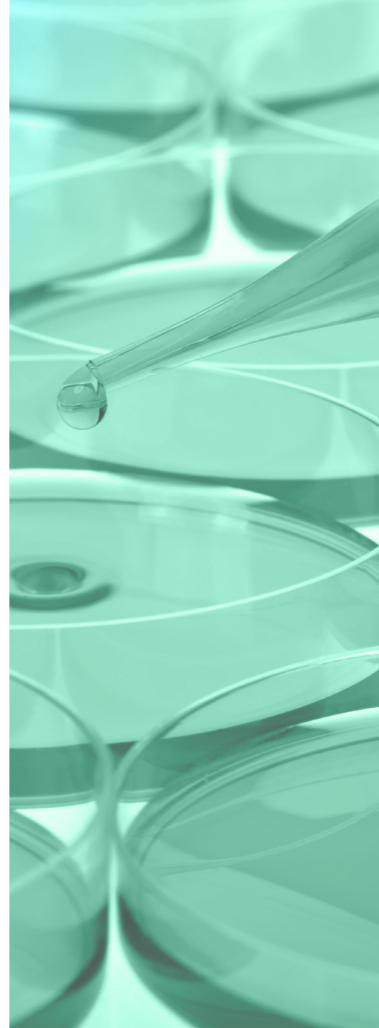
# TIPS FOR A SUSTAINABLE LAB

## Single-Use Plastics

- Where possible substitute plastics with glass, card or paper

	Centrifuge tubes	→	Glass centrifuge tubes
	Pipette tips	→	Volumetric (bulb) pipettes or graduated if Class A accuracy is not required. <1mL – use microsyringe with repeating dispenser attachment
	Weighing boats	→	Weighing papers or glass boats, FSC certified paper or weighing boats
	Tubes & bottles	→	Substitute glass wherever possible

- Whilst it is good to recycle it's even better to re-use or reduce. Where sterility isn't critical e.g. teaching labs, reusing will not only cut plastic waste but reduce costs
- If possible, reduce the size of tube or container that you use
- Try to cut down on packaging – buy in bulk and share resources with others

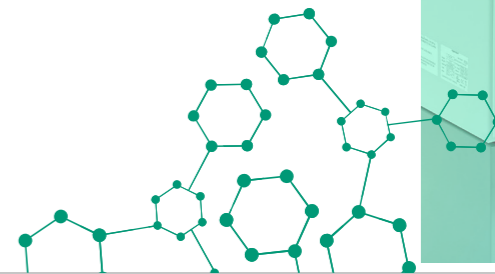


## Saving Energy

- **ULT Freezers** – by increasing the temperature from -80 to -70 the energy consumption is potentially reduced by up to 37%. Not only that, it puts less strain on the compressor and lengthens the life of the freezer!
  - Use racking – prevents big temperature changes
  - Keep an inventory so old samples aren't taking up valuable space – cutting down the need for more freezer space
  - Keep opening times down to a minimum
  - Defrost regularly
- **Fume Hoods** – generally ventilation systems and fume hoods can fall into two categories – Constant Air Volume (CAV) and Variable Air Volume (VAV). The amount air flowing through VAV fume hoods can be adjusted by the height of the sash. If the sash is lowered the speed of the exhaust fan and the volume of air being exhausted is reduced. The energy savings could be as much as 40%
- **Drying Cabinets** – use a timer switch so these aren't left on overnight or over the weekend
- **Laminar Flow and Biosafety Cabinets** – turn off when not in use. They can consume around 15kWh/day – about half as much as an average house!
- **Energy** – anything that's used for heating or cooling can consume a lot of energy so switch it off when not in use. Alternatively use timer switches so equipment can be turned on and ready for use first thing – if needs be. Remember the heat generated from freezers, water baths, Dri Blocks, ovens etc will also make your lab's air con work harder and in turn increase energy usage
- **Don't Bin It, Fix It!** – get items fixed or serviced. We have our own service centre – for more information please email: [servicecentre@scientific-labs.com](mailto:servicecentre@scientific-labs.com)

### Did you know...

Labs consume three to five times more energy than the equivalent sized office



# TIPS FOR A SUSTAINABLE LAB

Continued...

## Other Considerations



Estimated life span of product



Disposal/removal of product



Origin of product



Packaging and disposal thereof



Water consumption



Recyclability

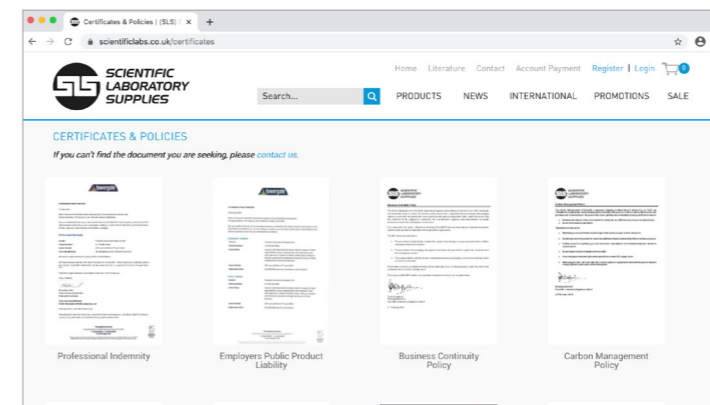
Did you know...

Single use plastic laboratory waste accounts for 2% of the whole world's plastic waste!



# CERTIFICATES & POLICIES

We take our CSR very seriously and this not only covers our sustainability goals but other areas including human rights, equal opportunities, modern slavery, environmental and waste management. All of these policies along with our quality and business certification can be found at: [scientificlabs.co.uk/certificates](http://scientificlabs.co.uk/certificates)



Look out for the following accreditations on our printed literature:

We produce all our promotional literature including catalogues on FSC certified paper and offset the impact of our promotional activity by printing on World Land Trust carbon balanced paper. We also support the One Tree Planted initiative and are ISO 14001 accredited.



# INDEPENDENT CASE STUDIES

We commission independent case studies, carried out by Green Light Laboratories, looking into different sustainable issues within the laboratory.

## Examples of case studies include:



Please visit our Case Studies page: [scientificlabs.co.uk/casestudies](https://scientificlabs.co.uk/casestudies)

If you have an idea for a sustainable case study – please speak to your local SLS representative.



### Comparison of Shaking Incubators' Energy Consumption.

Conducted at the Francis Crick Institute, King's College, London and MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology.



### Effect of racking upon temperature performance and energy efficiency with ULT freezers.

This study was carried-out in collaboration with Eppendorf at the Francis Crick Institute.



### Best practice to minimise lab freezer running costs. This study specifically looked at -20°C 'dial' type freezers – where it's impossible to know what the temperature is without taking measurements.

The study was conducted in collaboration with Liebherr and University of Warwick.



### What impact aluminium v's stainless-steel racking (if any) has upon the temperature and energy performance of a ULT freezer at the -80°C set point.

Carried out in collaboration with Wesbart and School of Plant Sciences, University of Oxford.



### Comparing the Performance of Three Different Brands of Fridges in terms of Temperature and Energy Performance.

Conducted at Healthcare Technologies Institute, University of Birmingham.



England & Wales: 0115 982 1111



Scotland: 01236 431 857



[sustainable@scientific-labs.com](mailto:sustainable@scientific-labs.com)



[scientificlabs.co.uk](https://scientificlabs.co.uk)





For further information about our initiatives and how we can help you to achieve your sustainable goals please contact us on:



**sustainable@scientific-labs.com**  
(or contact your local SLS representative)



We produce all our promotional literature including catalogues on FSC certified paper and offset the impact of our promotional activity by printing on World Land Trust carbon balanced paper. We also support the One Tree Planted initiative.



 England & Wales: 0115 982 1111  
 Scotland: 01236 431 857

 sustainable@scientific-labs.com  
 scientificlabs.co.uk

