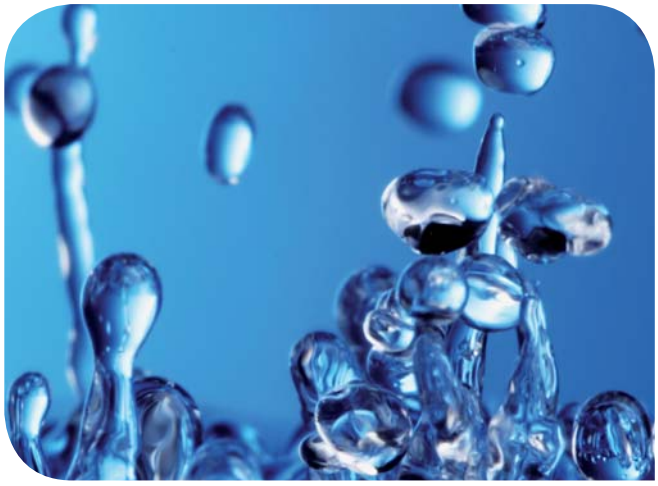

Sustainability Report 2008

+GF+

GEORG FISCHER

Efficient management benefits the environment and business

2008 was a year of extremes for Georg Fischer. Until autumn many production sites – most notably those belonging to GF Automotive – were working at and above their capacity limits. The collapse of the markets brought a dramatic reversal in fortunes, however, and production facilities found themselves with substantial surplus capacity in just a matter of weeks. This roller-coaster ride has impacted on GF's key sustainability figures.

Ecology. The key ecological figures are on a par with the previous year. Emissions and resource consumption remained stable, despite the many energy-intensive special shifts that were worked in the foundries. More efficient production methods also played their part. Although energy costs rose, this was not due to greater consumption, but to huge increases in energy prices. While prices fell temporarily in autumn as a result of the economic crisis, it is very likely that electricity, oil and gas prices will increase once more as the business climate picks up. Energy-efficient management remains an important subject from the cost perspective as well as in environmental terms.

For example, the GF Automotive Corporate Group has worked with a neighbouring factory belonging to food manufacturer Nestlé to install a heat exchanger at its site in Singen (Germany). Since January 2009 this exchanger has been intercepting waste heat from the foundry and diverting it into the production of Maggi ready meals. This step is also reducing carbon dioxide emissions. GF's research and development efforts continue to focus on ecologically oriented products. The acquisition of Central Plastics and JRG Gunzenhauser added two domestic installation and water supply specialists to the GF Piping Systems Corporate Group. As a result, GF is able to make an even greater contribution to ensuring that the valuable resource of water is transported without any wastage.

People. Despite the high level of production activity for large parts of the year and its impact on the workforce, the figures for absences and work-related accidents are virtually unchanged on the previous year. Many corporate subsidiaries started to roll out occupational health and safety management systems that comply with the OHSAS 18001 standard. This process will reach its conclusion with certification in 2009. These and other measures will help to reduce absence and accident rates in 2009. Much to the regret of management and the workforce, there was one fatal accident in a foundry in 2008. The official investigation concluded that the tragedy was not due to either a failure of the safety installations or to third-party negligence.

The strong labour market that persisted until autumn 2008 encouraged more employees than in previous years to take up new positions outside GF. Furthermore, GF continued to increase its workforce in growing economies where people frequently change jobs more regularly than in the established markets. The result was significantly higher fluctuation (11 percent) than in 2007.

GF's commitment extends beyond its corporate boundaries. The Executive Committee approved the introduction of a Supplier Code of Practice, which makes sustainable management a precondition for a business relationship with GF. Compliance with this Code of Practice is reviewed at regular intervals. Thus GF is making an indirect contribution to enhancing sustainability in other companies.

By contrast, the Clean Water Foundation is making a direct contribution to helping people in developing countries. Over 10 000 people benefited from the six aid projects financed by Clean Water all over the world in 2008.

Further information and contacts:

Corporate Sustainability
Manfred Leyrer
phone +41 (0) 52 631 34 12
fax +41 (0) 52 631 28 71
manfred.leyrer@georgfischer.com

Communication
Bettina Schmidt
phone +41 (0) 52 631 26 74
fax +41 (0) 52 631 28 63
bettina.schmidt@georgfischer.com

GF publishes a full sustainability report every two years. The last such report was published in 2007 and can be ordered from the company or read on the GF website.

Georg Fischer AG
Amsler-Laffon-Strasse 9
8201 Schaffhausen/Switzerland
phone +41 (0) 52 631 11 11
www.georgfischer.com

FINANCIAL KEY FIGURES

Georg Fischer reports financial data in detail in its 2008 Annual Report. The report can be downloaded from www.georgfischer.com. Alternatively hardcopy versions are available to order.

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

	Unit	2005	2006	2007	2008
Energy					
Total energy consumption	1 000 GJ	5 852	6 326	6 979	6 870
- Electricity	1 000 GJ	2 257	2 449	2 683	2 775
- Natural gas	1 000 GJ	1 489	1 400	1 456	1 588
- Coke/coal	1 000 GJ	1 958	2 205	2 597	2 245
- Oil	1 000 GJ	144	237	208	207
- Other energy sources	1 000 GJ	4	35	35	55
Air emissions					
Nitrogen oxides (NO_x)	1 000 m.t.	0.95	1.11	1.24	1.21
Sulphur oxides (SO_x)	1 000 m.t.	2.18	2.41	2.71	2.59
Methane (CH_4)	1 000 m.t.	0.49	0.64	0.70	0.75
Volatile organic compounds (VOC)	1 000 m.t.	0.25	0.24	0.20	0.19
- VOC from production processes	1 000 m.t.	0.18	0.16	0.10	0.09
CO_2 emissions					
Total CO2 emissions	1 000 m.t.	564	631	698	689
- direct emissions: energy consumption	1 000 m.t.	274	297	334	310
- direct emissions: processes	1 000 m.t.	3	3	3	0
- indirect emissions: electricity and district heating	1 000 m.t.	287	323	353	371
- indirect emissions: business travel	1 000 m.t.		8	8	8
Water and wastewater					
Total water consumption	1 000 m^3	2 391	2 645	2 603	2 812
- drinking water from public supply	1 000 m^3	901	495	510	565
- cooling/industrial water from own supply	1 000 m^3	1 490	2 150	2 093	2 247
Wastewater volume	1 000 m^3	648	755	861	879
Waste and recycling					
Normal waste, recycling	1 000 m.t.	292	297	322	292
Normal waste, landfill or incineration	1 000 m.t.	24	36	44	37
Hazardous waste	1 000 m.t.	9	20	26	27
- Hazardous waste to recycling	1 000 m.t.			18	15
Monetary values					
Expenditure on environmental protection	Mio. CHF	29	24	31	26
Energy costs	Mio. CHF	114	146	170	216
Water and wastewater costs	Mio. CHF	4	4	5	4
Waste disposal costs and recycling credits	Mio. CHF	0	-2	-3	6

SOCIAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

	Unit	2005	2006	2007	2008
Employees					
Headcount	Number	12 403	12 385	12 986	14 326
Part-time employees	Number	293	294	313	311
	Percentage	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.3
Female employees	Number	1 707	1 775	1 916	2 073
	Percentage	14.4	14.5	14.8	15.1
Women on management boards	Number	51	48	66	62
	Percentage	9.2	8.6	10.7	10.0
Employees with disabilities	Number	271	250	245	278
	Percentage	2.1	2.0	1.9	2.0
Departures, total	Number	1 008	879	1 071	1 515
Departures for controllable reasons	Number	273	302	369	558
Employee fluctuation, total	Percentage	8.1	7.3	8.5	11.2
Employee fluctuation, controllable	Percentage	2.2	2.5	2.9	4.1
Employee surveys, employees surveyed	Number	4 500	3 400	7 400	5 000
Employee surveys, Number of companies	Number	27	29	55	34
Incidents of discrimination	Number		0	2	5
Training and professional development					
Employees participating in off-the-job training	Number	6 500	7 400	8 400	8 900
	Percentage	52	61	66	66
Off-the-job training days	Number	18 000	21 600	30 000	26 100
Off-the-job training days per employee	Number	1.5	1.8	2.4	1.9
Student interns	Number		115	175	129
Apprentices	Number	451	454	446	483
Health and safety					
Work-related accidents involving injury	Number	825	925	921	988
Accident rate, Accidents per 1 000 employees	Number	66	77	73	73
Fatalities, work-related	Number	0	0	0	1
Absence days due to work-related accidents or illness	Days	10 600	10 300	10 300	11 000
	Percentage	0.38	0.38	0.36	0.36
Absence days, work-related and non-work-related	Days	132 000	122 000	133 000	141 000
	Percentage	4.7	4.4	4.6	4.6
Community					
Order volume, workshops employing disabled people	Mio. CHF	2.0	2.7	2.7	2.4
Charitable donations	Mio. CHF		1.7	2.4	2.7

The social data relates to all Georg Fischer companies with more than ten employees. All companies with their own production or logistics activities compile key environmental figures. Full details of the scope of validity can be found on pages 10 to 11 and 53 of the 2007 sustainability report.