

# Tork Sustainability FAQ

## Purpose

This document supports you with answers to frequently asked questions about our Sustainability Platform and enables you to help your customers be more sustainable in their business.

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### I. Tork Sustainability platform – Sustainable Life Away from Home

#### What is Tork’s position on Sustainability?

Tork is a global leader in the Professional Hygiene category and its mission is to make life away from home as sustainable as possible. Tork helps their customers improve their businesses by focusing on three areas where they believe Tork has the largest Sustainability impact:

#### What does Sustainability include?

Sustainability includes three perspectives: social, environmental and economic. Tork works with all three perspectives of Sustainability categorizing them as “Well-being”, “More from Less” and “Circularity”



#### Well-being

For Tork, well-being means caring for people by raising hygiene standards and improving well-being in the workplace. For example:

- Tork offers solutions that reduce workplace stress, for example through more efficient cleaning or more ergonomic packaging
- Tork invests in research, education, training and tools to improve hygiene practices for people away from home everywhere

#### More from Less



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Making more from less is about using fewer of the Earth's resources, without compromising on quality. Tork therefore works with continuous improvements of the products and services that bring reductions in both product use, waste and carbon emissions to their customers. For example:

- Improves their use of scarce resources by designing products that minimize use and waste
- Reduces the amount of packaging for their products
- Offers solutions that enable customers and end-users sustainable consumption and reduce their carbon emissions

### **Circularity**

Circularity means that instead of producing and using resources in linear ways we use a circular approach, where resources can be recycled and reused, rather than going to waste.

For example:

- Closed Loop Recycling for office paper in the US
- Compostability for responsible end-of-life

## **II. Essity's Sustainability approach**

### **What is Essity's Sustainability approach in summary?**

Essity is the mother company of Tork. Essity is a global leader in sustainable solutions for hygiene and health, dedicated to contributing to wellbeing, responsible consumption and a circular society through the products and services they offer. Sustainability is an integral part of their business, focusing on value creation for people, nature and society.

### **What are Essity's ambitions in Sustainability?**

Essity has two overarching ambitions in Sustainability. By 2030, Essity aims to:

- Improve the well-being of people every day
- Offer better solutions with less environmental footprint
- Develop products and services for a circular society

Essity is committed to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals, partners with pioneering organizations such as the Ellen McArthur Foundation and have been awarded for their Sustainability work on several occasions.

### **How does Essity contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?**

Essity and their brands work to contribute to the UN's 17 SDGs. Essity prioritizes goals 3, 5, 6, 12, 13 and 15, where the company has the greatest possibility to make a difference.

- 3. Good health and well-being
- 5. Gender equality
- 6. Clean water and sanitation
- 12. Responsible consumption and production
- 13. Climate action
- 15. Life on land

Read more about Essity's Sustainability ambitions and achievements at <https://www.essity.com/sustainability/>

## **III. Customer value**

### **Why should your customers care about Sustainability?**

Sustainability is about doing what is right for both people and the planet, but it can also benefit your business. Healthier staff means better efficiency and less costs for absenteeism, solutions that reduce consumption mean less waste and lower costs, and a strong sustainable image can make you the choice for consumers on where to eat, stay, or work.

### **How can Tork help your customers reach their Sustainability targets?**

Tork offers a range of products and solutions that can help your customers reach their Sustainability targets:

- Tork can help your customer reduce waste, by offering solutions that reduce consumption and – in some regions – with services that collect and recycle their waste.



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- Several of Tork's solutions also have a lower carbon footprint than comparable alternatives.
- Tork can improve the well-being of your staff, for example by offering data driven cleaning solutions for more efficient facility management, and ergonomic packaging to reduce physical strain.

#### What products and services do you offer from the Tork brand that will enable customers to:

- **Improve well-being**
  - Tork EasyCube®, a data driven cleaning service platform that allows for more efficient facility management.
  - Tork EasyHandling®, an ergonomically approved system for handling our products, which minimizes the risk of work injuries due to lifting.
- **Make more from less.**
  - Xpressnap®, a dispenser system that reduces the use of paper napkins by up to 25%.
  - Tork PeakServe®, zero waste from stub rolls and more efficient transportation since the towels are compressed by 50%.
- **Go circular**
  - Closed Loop Recycling (North America). This program is set up to assist universities, hospitals and businesses with their zero waste to landfill goals by giving advice on how to optimize their recycling processes, including LCAs.

#### Can Tork help customers win points towards green building certifications, like LEED?

Yes, Tork has many products that can help customers earn important points for LEED certifications. For example, by switching to third-party certified tissues the customer can earn up to two LEED credits, for Green Cleaning and Environmentally Preferable Purchasing. For more information, please see the Third Party Certifications brochure.

#### IV. Additional Sustainability-related questions

##### What is Essity's position on tissue fibers?

Essity's target is that "All fresh fiber in our products is to be FSC® certified, or fulfill the FSC standard for controlled wood." The outcome of 2017 was 99.9%.

##### What is a Life Cycle Assessment?

A life Cycle Assessment (LCA) is a way to systematically assess environmental impacts associated with all the stages of a product's life. From raw material extraction through materials processing, manufacture, distribution, use, repair and maintenance, and disposal or recycling.

##### Are Tork products compostable?

Tork offers compostable products, certified by the Biodegradable Products Institute ([www.BPIworld.org](http://www.BPIworld.org)), or an independent verification from a composting facility. In the North American market, all of the Universal and Advanced Tork napkins, including custom print, are certified as compostable.

##### Are Tork products biodegradable?

To be biodegradable means that an item is capable of being broken down naturally by e.g. microorganisms in a way that is not harmful to the environment. Many Tork products are biodegradable and certified by the Biodegradable Products Institute ([www.BPIworld.org](http://www.BPIworld.org)). All of our Universal and Advanced Tork napkins, including custom print, are certified as compostable in municipal or industrial aerobic facilities.

##### Where does Tork stand regarding plastic and packaging?

Tork is focusing on doing "more from less" and is working extensively with compressed and/or less material, such as smaller sheets or coreless products. These actions lead to less plastic packaging waste and transports. Tork only use paper and plastic packaging that is recyclable.

##### What ecolabels does Tork have?

Tork products hold a wide range of labels and certifications. For the North American market, the most relevant are:



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- Green Seal
- Ecologo
- FSC