Environmental management

One of the main objectives in our purpose of “enabling sustainable societies with smart technology” is to strive towards a clean and low-emission future. Our environmental management practices give full support to reaching this goal.

For Wärtsilä, environmental responsibility has two dimensions: products and operations. Most of the efforts to improve our environmental performance, including our operations, are conducted as part of the product development and improvement processes. This work is supported by operational measures, which are based on achieving high environmental standards and which seek constant improvement.

Environmental management in Wärtsilä

Implementing environmentally sound cladding technology

In 2018, Wärtsilä introduced a new robotised laser cladding technology (QS50K™) for reconditioning of large bore pistons in 2-stroke engines. This technology is now replacing traditional chrome plating in which environmentally
hazardous hexavalent chromium is used. During 2019, Wärtsilä discontinued chrome plating in four service centres, and launched the new robotised and environmentally sound cladding technology in two service centres.

Our EHS management system emphasises compliance with legal requirements, identifying and reducing environmental impacts and risks, training personnel and clearly defining their responsibilities, the full documentation of activities and procedures, actions to be taken in emergencies, and the continuous improvement of environmental performance. Our subsidiaries and business units set their own targets for covering the significant environmental aspects of their operations, and for monitoring the overall performance of their management systems.

At the end of 2019, 55 Wärtsilä companies operated with a certified environmental management system. These certified environmental management systems cover roughly 82% of our total workforce.