

Waste

On the subject of waste, the materiality analysis revealed that

- as a significant negative impact: increased waste intensity for products due to the unavoidable generation of residual waste in the production process;
- no significant positive impacts for people and the environment;
- no significant risks for the company;
- no significant opportunities for the company.

The process for identifying material impacts, risks and opportunities (ESRS 2 IRO-1) is described in the section entitled Material sustainability matters at Vossloh (page 71 et seq.).

The fact that there are waste-intensive processes in certain areas of Vossloh's production, such as the milling of cast blocks or the grinding and milling of rails, was assessed negatively in the materiality analysis.

By recycling, the company tries to minimize the amount of waste that ultimately has to be disposed of or sent to landfill. Thanks to economically sensible recycling programs and processes, particularly at the production sites, this quantity is falling steadily. To date, the data has not been recorded and documented in a standardized group-wide reporting system. Although Vossloh has not yet defined specific, measurable targets on this topic, data collection was systematically carried out for all sites for the first time in the course of preparing this 2024 report, which will make it possible to measure the recycling rates achieved against comparable targets in the future. The supplement to the sustainability guideline already mentioned under the topic of the environment on page 90 should also contain a group-wide approach to this topic, including the development of targets for a more sustainable handling of residual and waste materials. This will provide Vossloh with a basis for systematically tracking the effectiveness of the concepts and measures in relation to the material impact in the area of waste in the future. The effectiveness of the measures taken is evaluated on the basis of the expanded data collection. A reference period has not yet been defined.

Steel scrap and plastic, the main types of waste from production, are recycled at all Vossloh sites. At several sites, Vossloh Fastening Systems is using reusable transport containers. Vossloh Tie Technologies recycles process water on a large scale. Customized Modules processes the packaging material from the delivered raw materials in France and uses used turnout rib plates into the manufacture of new products. Downcycling, i.e. the reprocessing of materials without preserving their original quality, is another way to extend the lifecycle of a material. At Vossloh Rail Services, for example, residues from grinding wheels that cannot be reprocessed are used as an additive in slag production. This creates new raw materials that can be used for a wide range of applications. Production processes or the approach to services are usually redesigned for such solutions.

Vossloh's production units use separate, safe disposal routes for each type of waste. The selected disposal companies are regularly audited. In 2024, Vossloh recorded waste quantities and types for the first time group-wide according to uniform criteria. The quantities incurred for processing and disposal were documented and verified by invoices from the respective disposal companies and recycling partners. As invoices from waste disposal companies were still outstanding in some cases, provisions were recognized in some cases for the months of November and December, which were evaluated on the basis of the previous reporting periods. Here, the total amount of waste generated is divided into hazardous substances and non-hazardous waste, subsumed into waste that can be reused (recycling and treatment) and waste that must be landfilled or sent for thermal utilization.

The following table shows the waste volumes determined in the Group:

		Hazardous waste (in t)	Non-hazardous waste (in t)
Total amount of waste for recycling 2024			
Preparation for reuse		0	1,266
Recycling		2,348	9,035
Other recovery operations		1,035	12,700
Total	26,384 (70 %)	3,383	23,001
Total amount of waste for disposal 2024			
Combustion		107	947
Landfill		223	9,471
Other disposal		476	30
Total	11,255 (30 %)	807	10,448
Total waste volume 2024			
Total	37,639 (100 %)	4,190	33,449

Vossloh's foundries in the Customized Modules division use X-ray methods in quality control to check turnout crossings for defects before they leave the factory. This also generates small quantities of radioactive waste – 0.55 metric tons in total – which is disposed of in accordance with the applicable legal requirements.