



**K&M** STANDS FOR THE **ENVIRONMENT**





König & Meyer, known for contemporary design, intelligent functionality, and exceptional longevity, has been a byword in the world of music performance and sound reinforcement for over 60 years.

With a staff of 250 dedicated employees at our facility in Wertheim, Germany, we manufacture approximately 1,200 products, distributed to over 75 countries worldwide. Our broad musical assortment includes product groups like music stands, instrument stands, microphone stands and speaker stands, among others. In addition, K&M is a supplier for the field of medicine (stands for radiation lamps) as well as the field of home-entertainment (stands for Dolby-Surround-Sound speakers).

Through continual modernization of our manufacturing operations, and the ongoing elevation of our design and engineering expertise, König & Meyer has become one of the most sophisticated and specialized production enterprises dedicated to stands of every kind. Our quality management received ISO 9001 certification in 2007.

Ultimately one goal stands behind our every effort: premium quality and performance products that satisfy musicians worldwide.



Our products are well known for their longevity and the first-class quality of the materials used. This quality provides not only for satisfied customers, but also for an effective use of raw materials, and therefore reduced environmental impact. A contributing factor is our long-standing replacement service, which leads to products not being thrown away but rather to be used further. In fact, extra care is taken during the products' design process so that parts are easily removable, and can be recycled when they have reached the end of their lifespan.

Through extensive measures over the past several years, we have succeeded in continually reducing the environmental effects of our operations. Our successes include, among others:

#### **Material Usage and Handling**

Over the past several years, through the employment of the most modern machinery and production processes, K&M has optimized the material usage and has therefore significantly reduced steel waste. Remains of production materials are, when possible, recycled or further processed as filling material. Through this aggressive waste management program, we have been successful in reducing more than 50% of our waste accumulation over the last 10 years.

We promote environmentally friendly practices with our vendors through supplier evaluations.

In an effort to save on gasoline, we encourage car-pooling to the workplace. In-house bulletins are posted and gasoline vouchers provided to promote wider usage of car-pooling.

In the cleaning of parts, we abstain from using any cleaners which contain CFC or CHC agents; in the production of synthetic materials we exclusively use materials free of plasticizers. The varnishing of the components takes place in our modern powder-coating facility, which, in comparison with a wet varnish process, is a much more efficient and environmentally friendly procedure. Powder which is not inherently used on components is recaptured and fed back into the facility, yielding only minimal residues.

#### **On-the-Job Safety and Noise Exposure**

We are constantly mindful that the working conditions and production methods play a significant part in maintaining the health and safety of our staff members; specially trained safety staff representatives are charged with this responsibility. In addition, we hold regular voluntary workplace safety inspections, conducted by an independent assessor.



For the advancement of individual health and safety consciousness, special workshops, such as Healthy Back Training, are conducted on an ongoing basis. In order to reduce excess noise exposure, noise reduction measures are continuously introduced, such as relocation and isolation of machinery, or the use of specialized baffles or soundproofing material. Through these measures we have been able to reduce exposure in noise-prone areas an average of 10%.

### **Water Consumption**

Using modern water treatment facilities throughout its operation, König & Meyer provides for both economical handling of its water resources, and as well as water purification. Two specialized examples of water use efficiency include electroplating cascade connections which allow for the multiple-switch use of water, and automatic water shutoff and water extraction protocols which optimize the water consumption. Through the extensive use of such water conservation methods we have been able to reduce our water consumption by 94% since 1979.

### **Energy Consumption**

Besides the efficient and environmentally sensitive use of raw materials, water resources and recyclables, König & Meyer is committed to the most efficient use of energy, reduction of CO2 emissions, and the use of renewable resources. Our production techniques and machines have been improved and refined specifically to provide for an economical handling of energy. A state-of-the-art wood-heating installation has recently been added to the operation, and each building is optimally insulated. In addition, our highly efficient lighting systems also automatically adjust their output in response to ambient lighting conditions.





As a business that embraces the importance of operating in the most socially and ecologically responsible manner, we have firmly integrated environmental protection into our operation. Since 1998 König & Meyer has held accreditation under the EC Environmental Audit Act. In 2000, K&M was also granted world-renowned ISO 14001 certification.

In the future we will also be continually reassessing our products and processes with regard to quality and environmental sustainability. To meet these ends we have developed various mechanisms:

#### **K&M Elements in Environmental Protection**

##### **The Environmental Management System**

The foundation of our efforts to protect the environment is the K&M Environmental Management System (EMS), which aligns itself with the requirements set by the EMAS II (Eco Management and Audit Scheme) and the ISO 14001. The EMS, which is reviewed annually by an independent assessor, helps us improve our cycles and processes on a continuing basis.

##### **The Environmental Handbook**

Our environmental handbook serves as a guide for our Environmental Management System. It documents all of the innovations and changes which impact the environment, and delivers a complete overview of the workings and processes of the EMS. Adherence to the operational principles outlined in the environmental handbook is obligatory for our staff members.

## The Staff Members

An environmental management representative is responsible for overall environmental management oversight. However, the entire staff is actively responsible for protection of the environment and is, through training, sensitized to their own contribution to meeting that objective. Our management monitors the adherence to the environmental laws in each division, and identifies and addresses any need for improvement.

The K&M Idea Initiative, which offers everyone an opportunity to submit suggestions for improvement measures, has been created to motivate our staff to engage directly in the protection of the environment. Staff members even earn a financial share of the economic benefits derived for K&M from their suggestions.

## The Environmental Program

König & Meyer regularly prepares an environmental program, in which the goals for the environment are defined. The attainment of these goals is evaluated annually.

*Excerpts from our current environmental goals:*

- *Optimization of the insulation of buildings*
- *Implementation of various water conservation methods*
- *Energy optimization of the air pressure net*
- *Various measures to optimize the use of materials*
- *Installation of a ventilation system with energy recovery*

König & Meyer is an active participant in a variety of organizations devoted to environmental protection. Furthermore we participate in cross-company environmental projects. The "Energy Efficiency" project is a collaboration with other businesses from the region to save energy and use renewable energy resources. The "Material Efficiency" project is working on developing new possibilities for saving materials.

For our outstanding accomplishments and advancements in the operational protection of the environment, and in recognition of our environmentally oriented business management, König & Meyer has been distinguished with the Environmental Prize of the state of Baden-Württemberg in December 2006.

## CONTACT

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