



# Impact Report 2023/2024

colart

*inspiring every artist*

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# CEO Foreword



Looking back at 2023, our commitment to driving positive social, economic, and environmental change has never been stronger. This year, we navigated a dynamic global business environment marked by relentless change, increasing complexity, and profound geopolitical shifts. The rapid adoption of transformative technologies like generative AI added further complexity. Amid these challenges, addressing climate change and social inequities remains paramount.

I'm proud to highlight Colart's progress over the past year. We've reinforced our governance, integrating sustainability into every aspect of our organisation. Through a comprehensive double materiality assessment, we identified key social and environmental issues crucial to both our business and stakeholders.

Since obtaining **B Corp** certification, we've focused on raising awareness and fostering continuous improvement. In March, we celebrated our inaugural B Corp Month with creative initiatives and collaborations under the Winsor & Newton brand, showcasing our commitment to use **business as a force for good**.

In this Impact Report, we unveil our **Colart Manifesto**, encapsulating our purpose, guiding our actions, shaping our culture, and communicating our identity to the world.

Continuing to unite people around a common purpose, we launched Perform 2030, our mid-term strategic plan, in November 2023. The start of 2024 marked the formation of a new board for Colart, who endorse and support our transformation into an innovative and performance-led business, evident in our evolving values and behaviours.



# CEO Foreward

With the conclusion of the second phase of our global leadership programme, we're prioritising sustainable transformation through strategic thinking, change management, and the cultivation of an innovative, agile culture. Additionally, we've enriched employee access to benefits, introduced new growth and development initiatives, and refined our hybrid flexible working models.

Our **social impact** initiatives continue to evolve and include artist residency programmes, global charity donations, employee community days, and educational partnerships with renowned art institutions, all aimed at enriching and uplifting the communities we serve.

**Product innovation** remains core to our business. We're excited to launch a new range of bio-based acrylic paints under the Liquitex brand, reducing reliance on petroleum-derived components and showcasing our commitment to **sustainable product development**. Our global regulatory roadmap ensures compliance with international standards and mitigates risks associated with priority chemicals, reflecting our dedication to safety and compliance.

Our **decarbonisation** efforts at our manufacturing sites have resulted in significant reductions in CO2 emissions, aligning with our commitment to a **net-zero** future. Alongside increasing the use of renewable energy, conducting water reduction studies, minimising waste, and effectively managing hazardous waste, our new **Decarbonisation Roadmap** will guide us in meeting carbon reduction targets in the years to come.

We invite you to explore our revamped Impact Report and watch the newly added video case studies.

**“Join our movement so together we can make the world  
a more colourful, responsible, and inspiring place to create”.**



**Romain Guinier**  
Chief Executive Officer

# Launching the Colart Manifesto

We know that true success comes from a shared sense of purpose. It's this common purpose that unites all of our stakeholders. To crystallise this unity, we proudly introduce the new Colart Manifesto. Our Colart Manifesto is not just a document—it is our north star.

The manifesto charts the course for our future, setting a clear direction that informs decision-making at every level. It's a call to action that ignites passion and motivation, inspiring our internal teams and external partners alike. Whether you're a customer, supplier, retailer, distributor, or partner, our manifesto rallies everyone around our vision, fostering a collective drive towards our goals.

Transparency and integrity are at the heart of the manifesto, building trust by openly sharing our values and commitments. This openness is crucial for nurturing long-term relationships with our stakeholders. Moreover, our manifesto is a magnet for talent, attracting individuals who resonate with our values and aspirations, and ensuring inclusivity with like-minded people.

**"Above all, we will use the positive outcomes of our endeavours to be a force for good in the world as we drive our transformation to net zero."**

leaders stay aligned with our values and long-term vision.

## Perform 2030

In November 2023, we embarked on an exciting journey with the launch of Perform 2030, our mid-term strategic business plan.

Designed to propel Colart into a new era of competitiveness, this plan is our blueprint for creating a value-driven model that is profitable while championing sustainable growth.

**"United by a common purpose, our people thrive in a collaborative community, fuelled by a collective passion and an unwavering commitment to quality"**

To bring this vision to life, we present the Colart House, a comprehensive summary of Perform 2030. It embodies our mission, vision, strategic focus areas, and the core values that will guide us to our goals.

This strategic roadmap is our pathway, ensuring every step we take leads us closer to our ambitions.



# Launching the Colart Manifesto

## This is our creative movement

We are a house of leading creative brands united by the desire to inspire artists.

Artists who want to better themselves, their art, their society.

We stand with those who value a beautiful planet. Because we believe that, together, we can pioneer our movement towards a more sustainable and inclusive world of colour creation.

Since 1720, we have used our creativity and innovation to build a leading portfolio of world-class art materials inspired by artists. And that mission continues today.

United by a common purpose, our people thrive in a collaborative community, fuelled by a collective passion and an unwavering commitment to quality.

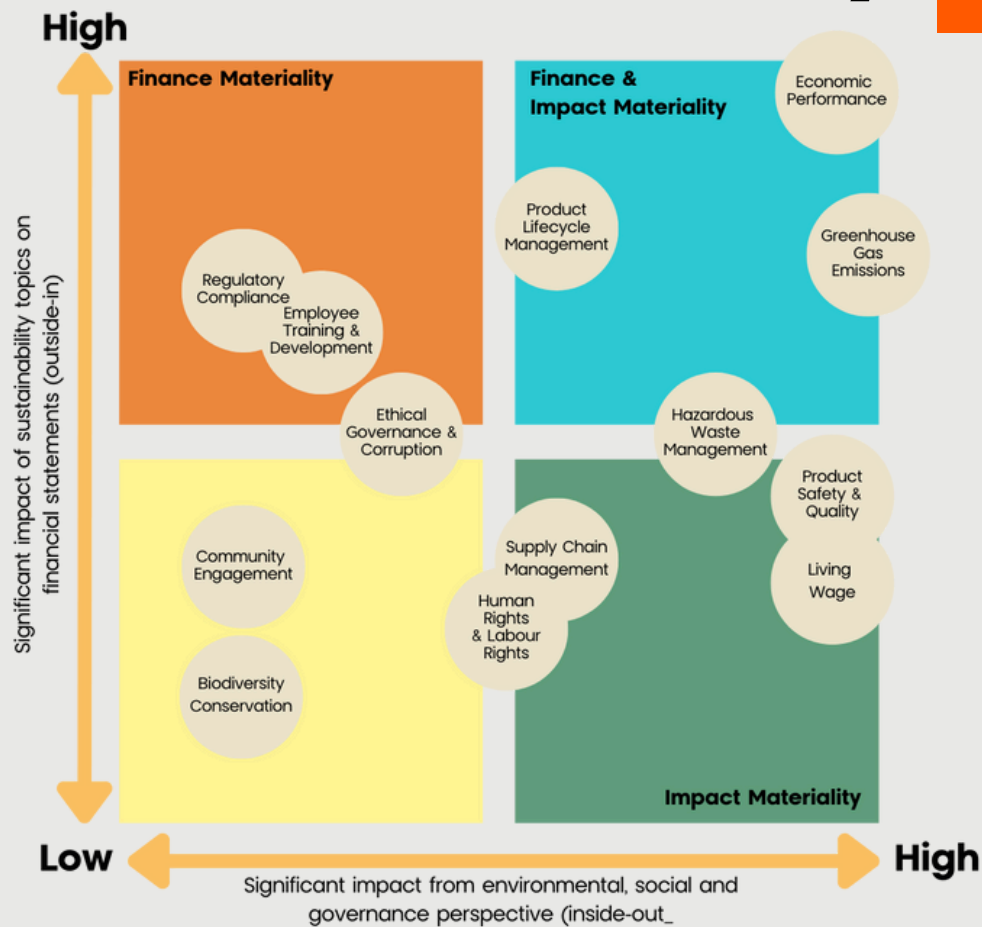
Above all, we will use the positive outcomes of our endeavours to be a force for good in the world as we drive our transformation to net zero.

Join our movement so together we can make the world a more colourful, a more responsible and a more inspiring place to create.

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*inspiring every artist*

# Governing Sustainability



## Double Materiality Assessment

Last year, we focused our efforts on developing a comprehensive and robust governance structure as a foundation for concerted action across our key topics and issues. This year, we continued to take action against our targets and strategic goals, refining governance processes that were already in place to ensure action on sustainability is embedded throughout the organisation.

This year, we also undertook a comprehensive double materiality assessment to identify the social and environmental issues that have the greatest impact on our business and our stakeholders. The rigorous process involved engaging with internal and external stakeholder groups and topic experts, followed by a workshop with

the senior leadership team to validate and agree on the key topics.

Our sustainability strategy will address the material topics identified through this process, with progress against targets for each topic area shared through regular progress updates, including this annual report.

Further actions to strengthen the governance of sustainability across Colart include:

- ✓ Our Sustainability Council has continued to meet regularly to drive forward action on key topics
- ✓ We have continued to champion and support the Sustainability Ambassador Network, with ambassadors from across the organisation helping to raise awareness and engagement with sustainability every day, for every role.



It has been a year since we achieved our B Corp certification, and we have taken a number of steps since then to raise awareness amongst the organisation and make plans for continuous improvement across the five B Corp pillars..



Entrants to the Winsor & Newton B Corp Month Competition

## B Corp Month

March 2024 was Colart's first B Corp Month since certifying last year. We celebrated the occasion in true Colart style: Winsor & Newton held a competition to create the B in B Corp using our materials and a chance to win a prize of sustainable materials. We also collaborated with Artfinder, a fellow B Corp, by donating prizes for its competition. Our sustainability manager was an external speaker at the event, sharing our certification story.



Entrants to the Winsor & Newton B Corp Month Competition



## Plans for Improvement

### Step-by-step Approach with Commitment from the Senior Leadership Team

Implementing changes to improve our B Corp score requires a systematic and strategic approach. We started by conducting a comprehensive assessment of our current performance against B Corp standards, identifying areas for improvement and prioritising them based on impact and feasibility. We then developed a roadmap with specific goals, timelines, and responsible individuals or teams. We secured commitment and support from the senior leadership team to allocate resources, provide guidance, and champion the initiative throughout the organisation.

### Holistic Approach, with a Key Focus on People and Supply Chain

Taking a holistic approach means considering all aspects of our business operations, from internal practices to external relationships. We have focused on areas where we can make the most significant difference, such as promoting employee well-being, diversity and inclusion, fair labour practices, ethical sourcing, and reducing environmental impact throughout the supply chain. Implementing these policies, practices, and initiatives ensures we continue to prioritise people and the planet while also supporting the company's long-term success.

### Continuous Improvement

Improving our B Corp score is an ongoing journey that requires continuous improvement and adaptation. We regularly monitor progress, track key performance indicators, and solicit feedback from our stakeholders.



Entrants to the Winsor & Newton B Corp Month Competition

# About this Report

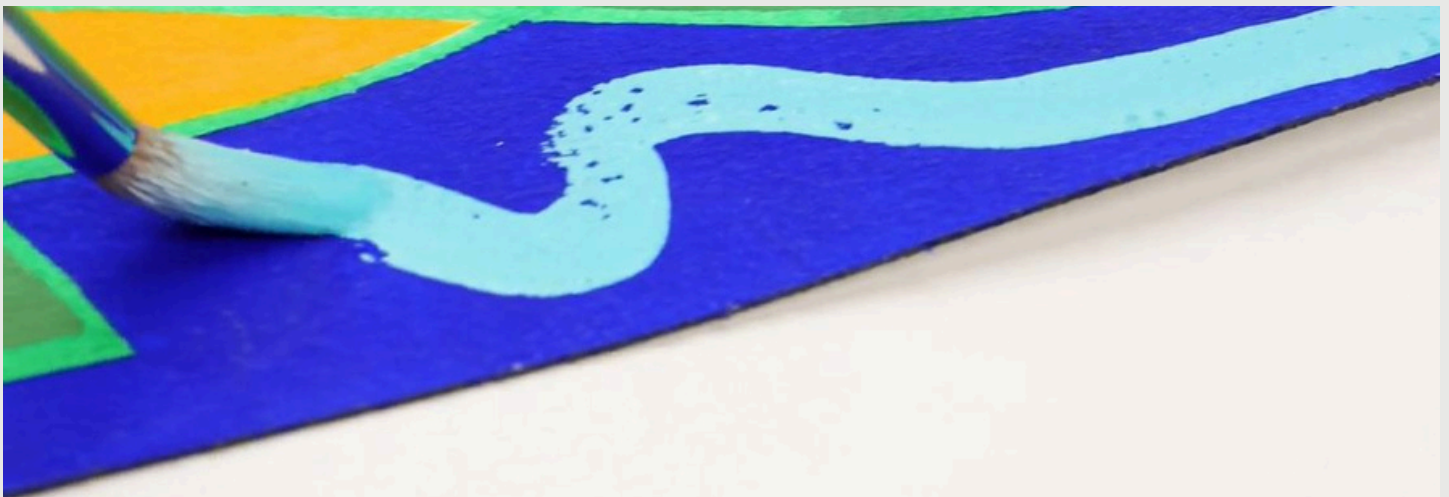


This report is in line with the requirements of the parent company, Lindéngruppen, which requires all companies to report on how they are meeting their ambitions to make sustainability 'business as usual'.

This impact report provides an overview of Colart's progress in fulfilling its sustainability ambitions through the key workstreams, detailing actions to address environmental and social topics material to the business.

This report covers actions carried out between **June 2023 and May 2024** by Colart in line with its sustainability strategy.

This report does not have external assurance, but all progress has been transparently reported against company-agreed targets and performance indicators.

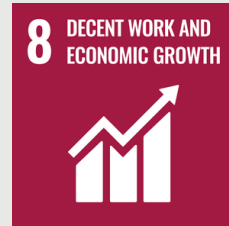


# People with Impact



## Impact Assessment Area:

- **Workers**  
**Our Score: 22.6**
- **Community**  
**Our Score: 14.1**



Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) for People with Impact

At Colart, we want our people to feel motivated and empowered to take the lead on the challenges of tomorrow. Their well-being is important to us, as we see people as the cornerstone of a sustainable business. That is why we're working to ensure Colart is a safe and healthy place to work.

We are committed to eliminating risk in the workplace whilst ensuring the health, safety and mental wellbeing of our people. This starts with educating our leadership on important social issues such as mental health, wellbeing and diversity, equity, and inclusion.

We also want the communities in which we operate to benefit from our presence and it is a priority to identify and consult with local community stakeholders close to our operations, as well as give back via our charity partnerships around the world.

## Focus For This Year



**Creating a positive shift in leadership**



**Re-energising our culture**



# People with Impact

## Our Sustainability Progress and Targets



# People with Impact

## Key Achievements This Year

### Employee Engagement and Retention

We continued to refresh and expand our employee benefits, development programmes and other internal structures to provide the optimal support for our employees. In 2023, we received a positive increase in response rate to our annual Employee Engagement Survey, Our Net Promoter Score decreased from +22 in 2022 to +16. This is the same as our 2021 score and something we will continue to explore and monitor in 2024, with the ambition to increase this score in future years.



Wellbeing activities across the regions

Actions undertaken to maintain employee engagement include:

- Building on the success of Colart's first **Leadership Development Programme** last year, including the "Empowering People for People Managers" training, we launched the second phase of the programme in 2023. Learn more about the new Leadership Development Programme on [page 18](#).
- **Launching the Lateral Growth Platform**, enabling individual growth by offering an inclusive way for people to develop and expand their horizons, no matter where they currently work.
- **Commencing our annual code of conduct training** to ensure all employees uphold our values and expectations.
- **Launching a new version of our employee intranet**, with improved navigation and information so that our employees can easily find information on joining, needs, growth and development, wellbeing, and more.
- **Reviewing our flexible working model**, including a review of the Hybrid Ways of Working policy to ensure it meets best practice and employee needs.
- **Refining our virtual town hall structure**, our celebration of work anniversaries, and other important events and internal communication processes

# People with Impact

Next year, we plan to collate learnings from the second phase of the Leadership Development Programme and roll out a condensed version of the programme that applies to employees across the business. We also plan to launch a Privacy Ambassadors model to support our Business Code of Conduct training programme.



Wellbeing activities across the regions

## Reducing Staff Sickness

High absenteeism levels can indicate poor employee well-being, resulting in productivity losses that affect our sustainability. This year, staff sicknesses exceeded our target slightly, 3.19% vs <3%. In 2024, we will refresh the absence management training in the UK (having successfully been introduced in France), as part of our continued efforts to reduce unnecessary absenteeism.

## Wellbeing

Our commitment to the wellbeing of our people is at the heart of everything we do. We recognise the need to adopt a holistic, 'whole person' approach to how we think about the wellbeing of our workforce. We believe this is the best way to foster our common purpose that unites action.

For another year, our Wellbeing Ambassadors organised a wellbeing calendar based on a programme of physical, social and mental/emotional initiatives. Next year we will continue to prioritise the wellbeing of our people by running our wellbeing initiatives at a global and local level.

## Reducing Industrial Accidents

High injury and illness rates can indicate poor workplace safety measures, which can negatively impact employee wellbeing and lead to financial losses due to worker's compensation claims and lost productivity. We undertook several initiatives to ensure our workplaces are safe for all employees. This includes:

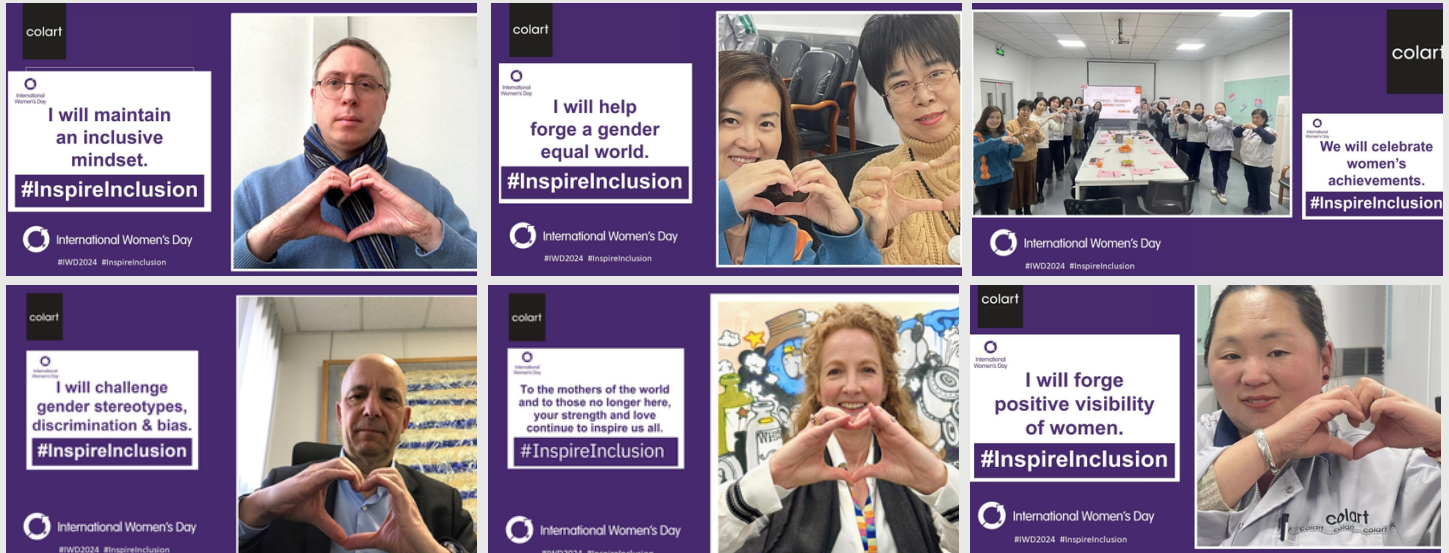
- Driving Cultural Change: including leadership commitment and employee engagement on this topic
- Promoting a Safety Mindset: including education opportunities, visible safety measures and behavioural safety programmes
- Running a Health & Safety Awareness Day across all sites
- Using a tool to capture and interpret incident data accurately.

Our efforts led to a 17% reduction in moderate accidents (15 accidents vs 18 in 2022). Next year, we will continue with our Health & Safety practices, including a Health & Safety conference to drive engagement, share best practices, and reinforce the importance of safety across the organisation.



# People with Impact

## Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)



Colart people make pledges and celebrate International Women's Day

At Colart, we know that having diversity amongst our people and creating an environment of inclusivity enables diversity of thought and action. Creating a fair and equitable workplace is not only the right thing to do, it is fundamental to superior and sustainable business performance.

This year we maintained the levels of gender equality we achieved last year. The representation of women held fast at 51% across the whole business, 26% of senior leadership, and increased slightly (+1%) to 41% of overall leadership. In France, we also achieved 93/100 points in the Professional Equality Index, a gender equality index.

During the reporting period, we carried out several actions to enhance our inclusive culture including:

- ✓ Refreshing the DEI page on our intranet to include a visual gallery of local DEI initiatives
- ✓ Reviewing the effectiveness of our DEI councils and recommending improvements for future years
- ✓ Producing Diversity Pay Reports in Europe, North America, and China
- ✓ Running an International Women's Day campaign, as well as other DEI activities across all of our sites

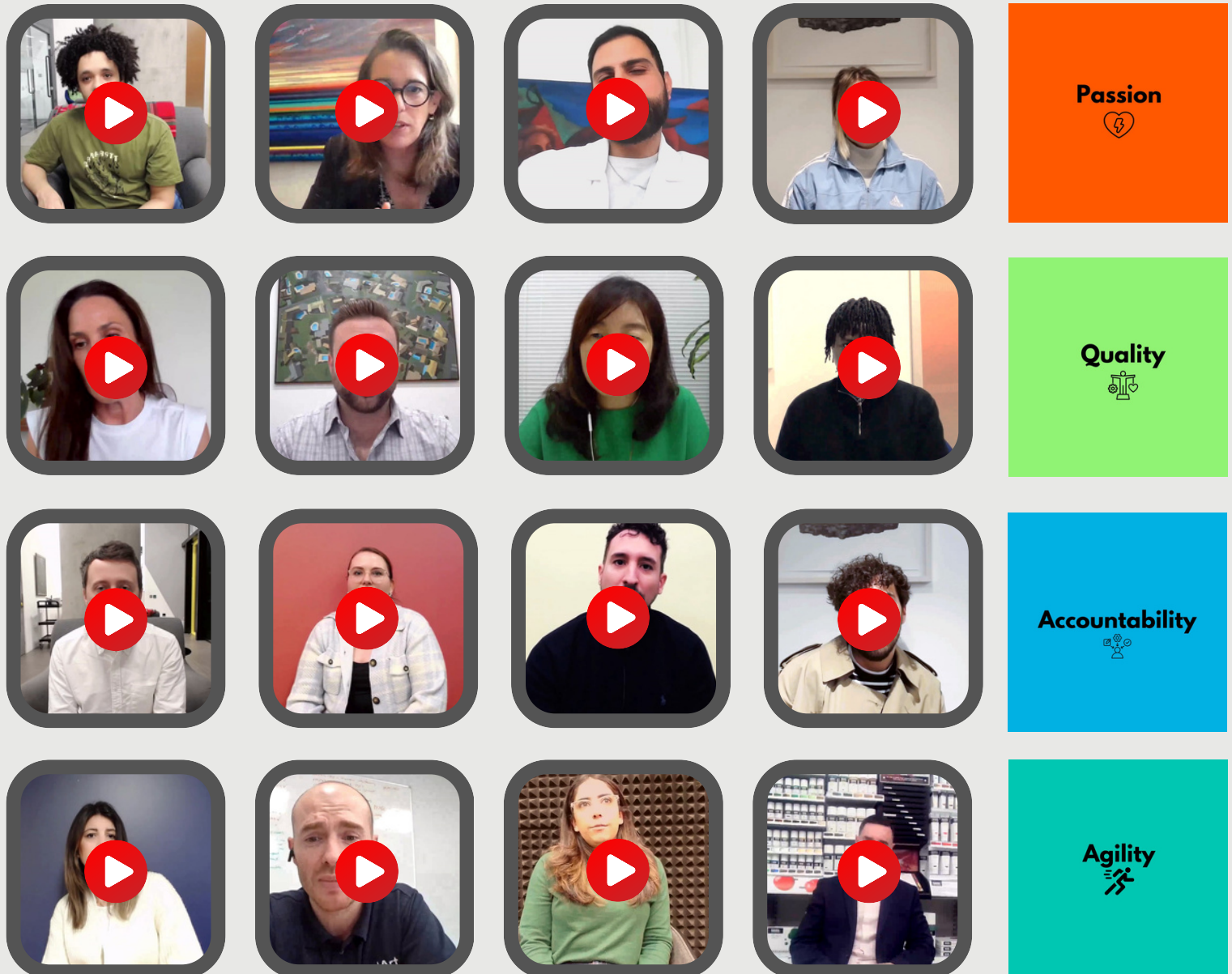
In the future, we will expand our DEI work to ensure our workplace is a safe, equitable place where our people can succeed. This will include implementing the recommendations resulting from the review of our DEI councils.

# People with Impact

## Evolving Our Values

Our company values - Passion, Quality, Agility and Accountability - are more than just words on a page. They define our behaviours and shape our ways of working. With the launch of our Colart Manifesto and Perform 2023, our mid-year business strategy, we undertook a process to evolve our company values to better reflect our drive toward a performance-led business. To ensure inclusivity and authenticity we held workshops to understand how these values are interpreted and brought to life by our people, across the business.

The videos below showcase how Colart employees live our values through their actions,, with more value-led behaviour videos coming in 2024 reinforcing our commitment to our values.



# People with Impact

## Case Study - Leadership Development Programme

We believe in the importance of our leaders being enablers of achieving our vision and mission. Our leaders provide direction, shape and uphold our values, culture and behaviours. In the context of business today we need a mindset shift amongst leaders to enable us to make decisions in pursuit of a more sustainable world. Our Leadership Development programme aims to support this shift.

Building on the trust and communication skills developed in the first year of our Leadership Development programme, this year we helped leaders understand their role within the wider Colart ecosystem. The training provided leaders with theory, tools and examples to inspire their teams towards more innovative thinking and better decision making to take ownership and lead us to become a more sustainable business.

Our leaders left this training feeling energised, with increased understanding and engagement in the part they play in driving sustainable transformation in the business. They have gone on to apply the tools from these sessions with their teams, driving better outcomes in their immediate work and across the wider business.

Click on the video below to view the Leadership Development Programme case study.





# People with Impact

## Social Impact

Overall this year, we donated almost £500,000 worth of products to communities across the globe. Social impact is core at Colart, and both globally and locally, we work together with charities and local organisations to positively impact our people and our communities.

This is carried out in three ways: -

### 1. Supporting the Art Community

At Colart, our vision is to inspire every artist in the world. In pursuit of achieving our vision, our brand and commercial teams form partnerships to sponsor programmes and events to empower and support the creative community.

Examples of this include: -



Winsor & Newton continued its partnership with the mental health charity, Hospital Rooms, contributing over £400,000 in art materials to fill boxes for over 750 secure and day mental health units across the UK. This ensures every service user has access to high-quality artist materials to create art.



Winsor & Newton donated art products to Hospital Rooms latest digital art school initiative

# People with Impact



Liquitex continued its Just Imagine residency programme, providing the opportunity for four local emerging artists to have the space, materials, and support to release their creative energy. They also sponsored several Open Studios artist events to bring local art to new audiences.



## Images

Above: Residency programmes are hosted at the Manufacturers Village at East Orange, New Jersey,

Right: Artist Lauren Portada attended the Liquitex Residency Programme last year. [@portada](https://www.instagram.com/portada/)/[laurenportada.com](https://www.laurenportada.com)



# People with Impact

## LEFRANC BOURGEOIS

PARIS - 1720

This year, Lefranc Bourgeois supported art school Beaux-Arts de Paris (ENSBA), providing product donations, financial aid, and workshops led by laboratory researchers to enhance students' knowledge of art mediums and techniques. Collaborating with Ecole Emile Cohl (EEC), similar support was extended, including competitions like the one with École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Appliqués et des Métiers d'art (ENSAAMA) to create plant-themed works using Linel gouache.

Additionally, Charbonnel has been a patron of contemporary art and various free art festivals, offering emerging artists visibility in their Paris store and supporting engravers through events and awards.

### Images

Top: Artist, Agathe Chebassier exhibits in Charbonnel window display.

Photo by: Thomas Leloup

Middle: Lab researchers teaching at Beaux-Arts ENSBA

Bottom: Young artists offered space to exhibit art in Charbonnel store.



# People with Impact

## The Young London Print Prize

The Young London Print Prize is pioneering grassroots climate art programme. Working with young people and schools over a period of six months each year on a four-stage programme to inspire and showcase their creativity, using the medium of printmaking. All the work is created and judged by young people themselves, and themed around the concept of climate art.



Colart UK donated materials and worked closely with The Young London Print Prize, which enabled the running of 57 workshops in 34 primary schools, engaging 1,935 young people aged 9-11 years old. They also offered the opportunity for 18 'Young Curators' to engage in a 5-week personal and professional development programme.

Colart UK donated materials and worked closely with The Young London Print Prize, which enabled the running of 57 workshops in 34 primary schools, engaging 1,935 young people aged 9-11 years old. They also offered the opportunity for 18 'Young Curators' to engage in a 5-week personal and professional development programme.

The top 37 young artists got to exhibit their works at Woolwich Contemporary Print Fair, where they were seen by more than 8,000 visitors. Plus, the top three winners were announced on the Piccadilly Lights and celebrated all their achievements at an inspirational awards ceremony.

## Supporting Emerging Artists: Colart UK's Collaboration with Top Art Schools

The University College London (UCL), University of the Arts London (UAL), City and Guilds, and Royal College of Arts (RCA) are world-renowned art schools. They attract students globally, offering top-tier education and support for emerging artists and designers.

Colart UK aids these aspiring artists and designers during their studies at these institutions. This support includes bursaries, hardship funds, materials research, and funding for large-scale mural projects, which would otherwise be prohibitively expensive. These opportunities and the ability to experiment with materials are crucial for fostering new ideas and innovation. Colart consistently collaborates with these institutions to provide targeted support where it is most needed.



# People with Impact

## 2. Increasing Wellbeing Through Art with Charitable Donations

We believe in the power of art to support wellbeing for all people. That's why every year we support initiatives to bring art to those who need it most.



UK-based artist and art educator Lisa Milroy established Hands On Art Workshops in 2015 with backing from the Vodafone Foundation and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), focusing on primary and secondary students in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya. The programme facilitates practical art workshops through video conferencing, mobile messaging, and in-person visits, featuring educational initiatives like a scholarship for girls and bursaries for secondary school graduates to run art workshops independently. The programme aims to foster creative thinking and skill development in diverse art forms among students. Stephanie Nebbia joined as Co-director in 2020, collaborating closely with Joy Maraka, a UNHCR Education Assistant based in Kakuma.

Hands On Art Workshops is funded through the artistic practices and networks of Lisa and Stephanie, as well as donations from partners like Colart, the Slade School of Fine Art (UCL), and Book Aid International.

Colart has been a significant contributor, providing multiple shipments of art materials that are essential for the workshops' success. In July 2023, a recent mission visit involved leading art workshops with 55 participants who created a set of paintings titled "Painted Sound," now displayed in various locations within Kakuma.



Hands On Art Workshops: Participants and their paintings created during the 'Painted Sound' workshop, Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya, July 2023. The paintings now hang in school Art Clubs and in UNHCR and Windle International Kenya offices across the camp.

The materials donated by Colart reach 300 learners across 10 school Art Clubs and a community learning center, supporting both in-person activities and online courses offered by the Slade School of Fine Art.



# People with Impact

Furthermore, Snazaroo donated time and face paints to organisations that bring joy and creativity to children in need,



Whilst our colleagues in China supported the non-profit Guarding Wilderness, delivering outdoor painting workshops to engage children in sustainability through painting and creative works.



# People with Impact

## 3. Supporting Issues Our People Care About Through Community Days

Each person at Colart has one community day per year, and we support them to use that day for an initiative that matters to them. If they care, we care. This year, our colleagues used their Community Day in a variety of meaningful ways, from volunteering at animal shelters and food banks, to litter picking or fundraising for a project for the right to education and well-being of children in Benin.

The team at Colart London not only supports our charity partner by donating and sponsoring art product boxes but also actively engages in a team community event during their Community Day. This marks the second year of their participation. Watch the video to hear more about their experiences.



Tim Shaw  
Co-founder  
Hospital Rooms

For more information on Colart Community Days go to <https://www.colart.com/en/our-story/community/> and view our global image galley.

# Operations with Impact

Certified



Corporation

## Impact Assessment Area:

- **Governance**  
**Our Score: 16.2**
- **Environment**  
**Our Score: 19.1**



Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) for Operations with Impact

A key action for our sustainability plan this year was to put the science behind the art. In operations, this means transforming our production and our supply chain to be more good, and less harm to our people and planet. We will source from responsible suppliers and will work collaboratively with our stakeholders to ensure they operate according to the same standards as Colart. Together, we will work with our suppliers to reduce hazardous waste, minimise waste to landfill, and reduce water usage across our operations.

We are also developing our manufacturing systems to continually improve our sustainability performance and minimise our footprint. Centralising paste production whilst utilising regional sites for filling, final assembly and distribution minimises overproduction and the environmental impact of our production processes.

## Focus For This Year



**Reducing hazardous waste**



**Minimising waste to landfill**



**Reducing water usage in production**

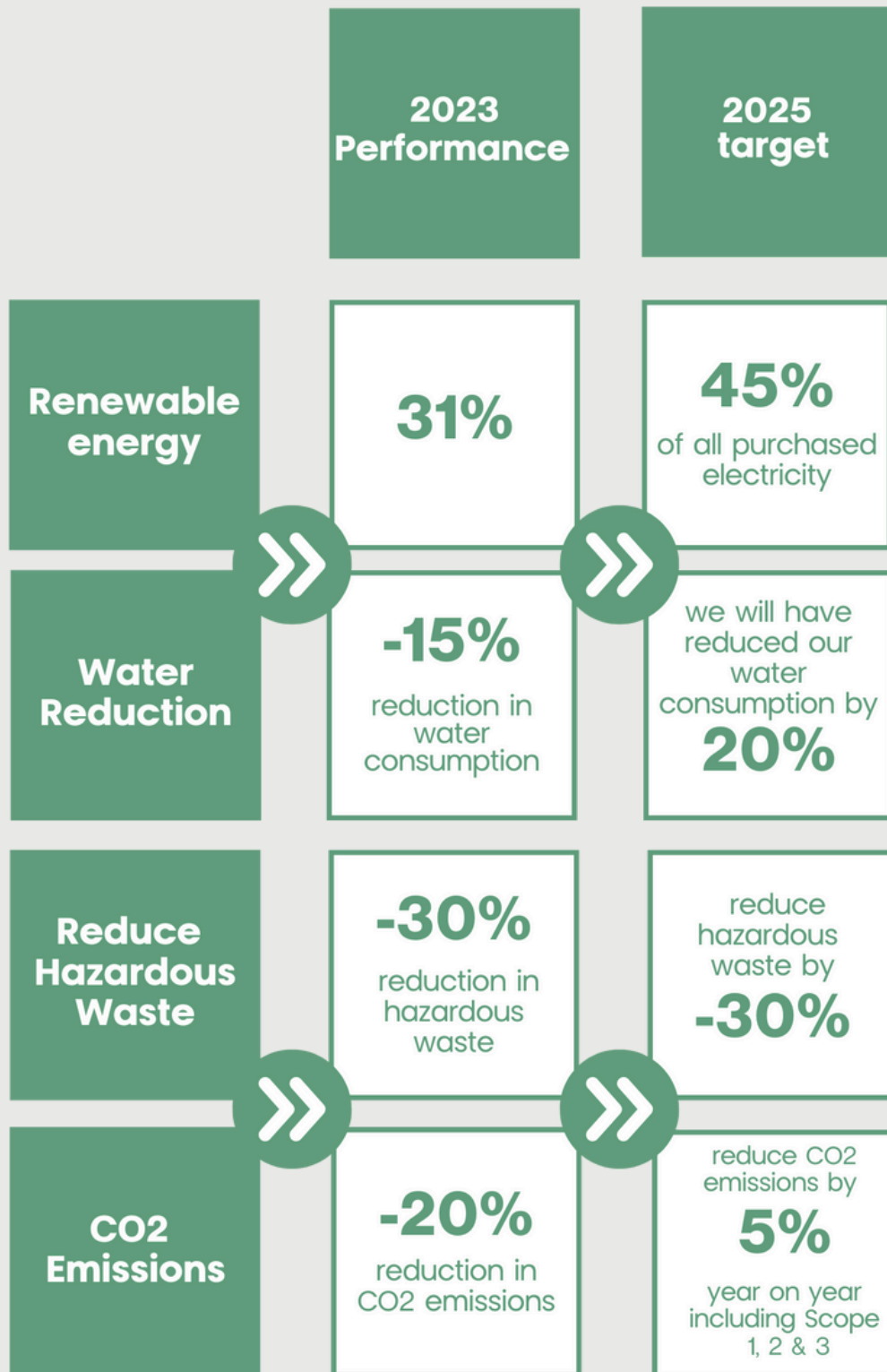


**Building our decarbonisation map**



# Operations with Impact

## Our Sustainability Progress and Targets



# Operations with Impact

## Key Achievements This Year

### Renewable Energy

Increasing the proportion of low-carbon energy from our energy consumption is vital if we are to move towards a low-carbon future.

This year we increased our share of purchased energy from renewable sources by 5% compared to 2022, to a total of 31%. This was achieved by switching sites such as at Kidderminster, UK to a 100% renewable energy contract. Our distribution centre in Piscataway, New Jersey reduced its total energy consumption by 21% compared to last year through education about energy saving and behaviour change amongst the team.



Solar panels installed at Piscataway, in collaboration with landlord.

To remain on track to reach our targets, we will increase our share of purchased energy from renewable sources by switching to renewable contracts at other sites (where feasible). We also plan to install renewable energy (such as solar panels), including installing solar panels to supply 41% of our total electricity requirements at our Kidderminster site, reducing our carbon emissions by over 26,000kg per year.

### Water Reduction

Water is essential to our operations, especially with our main manufacturing plant in Le Mans, France, a water-stressed area. Therefore, it's crucial to manage and reduce our water consumption to ensure future availability for both our operations and the local community. This year, we conducted a water study to investigate the technical and economic feasibility of reducing water at Le Mans.



Effluent water treatment plant at Le Mans, France

The study was a success and found multiple actions that can be taken to reduce water consumption in our manufacturing processes, including investing in rainwater collection vessels for use in washing and manufacturing water-based paint during wetter times of the year. This supported us in reducing our water consumption by 15% across our entire operations. The study also helped to raise awareness and educate employees on the importance of water conservation.

In 2024, we will maintain our water-saving initiatives and continue raising awareness among our employees.



# Operations with Impact

## Reducing Waste

We reduced the volume of waste produced by 16% compared to last year, in large part due to a reduction in production, and improvements in our waste management processes. This year we reduced our production of products by nearly 15%, focusing on selling pre-existing excess stock. By doing this, we avoided having obsolete stock that would end up as waste, supporting our reduction target.

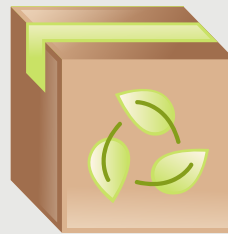
We are also improving our waste management processes to reduce waste. Our distribution centers have implemented these processes, and our Kidderminster centre maintains zero waste by reusing materials to pack boxes.



Recycled package is repurposed as inner packaging at our distribution centre at Kidderminster.

We are also committed to being 'zero waste to landfill' where possible. In North America, we reduced our waste to landfill this year to 37%, after an increase in 2022. Moving forward, we will continue to prioritise the recycling or incineration of our waste where possible, exploring new options in North America to prevent any waste going to landfill.

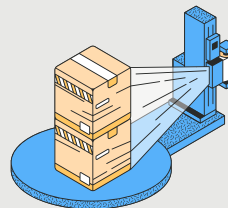
Other actions to reduce waste in our supply chain taken this year include;



Switching from single-use plastic to recycled paper to secure cases to pallets and for securing multiple product packets together



Change all single-use plastic pillows to recycled plastic pillows to ensure the safety of products in transit



Switching to biodegradable shrink wrap to secure products in transit

In the future, we will improve the analysis of waste in our supply chain to better understand its origins and causes. We can then develop targeted actions to reduce waste, to be implemented in partnership with our suppliers in subsequent years.

# Operations with Impact

## Hazardous Waste

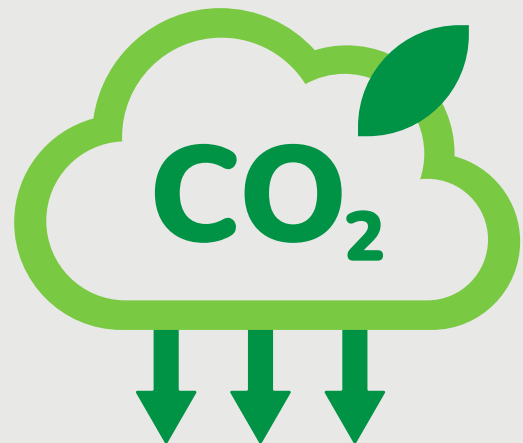
While it is important to manage all types of waste, at Colart we place particular focus on limiting hazardous waste in our operations. We continue to separate the production of cadmium paint to ensure that our hazardous waste is kept to a minimum, managed safely, and does not contaminate non-hazardous waste.



Evaporator used in the hazardous waste treatment process at Le Mans, France.

This year we further reduced hazardous waste in our operations by 5.5% since 2022, representing a 30% reduction since 2019. Reductions this year were largely due to improvements at our largest site, Le Mans, which is responsible for 83% of our hazardous waste production.

## CO2 Emissions



We are committed to reducing our carbon emissions in accordance with scientific guidelines, aligning with the 1.5°C target outlined in the Paris Agreement.

This year, we achieved significant progress in lowering both our direct (scopes 1 and 2) and indirect (scope 3) carbon dioxide emissions. This resulted in a reduction in our emissions by 20% compared to last year.

## Reducing Emissions

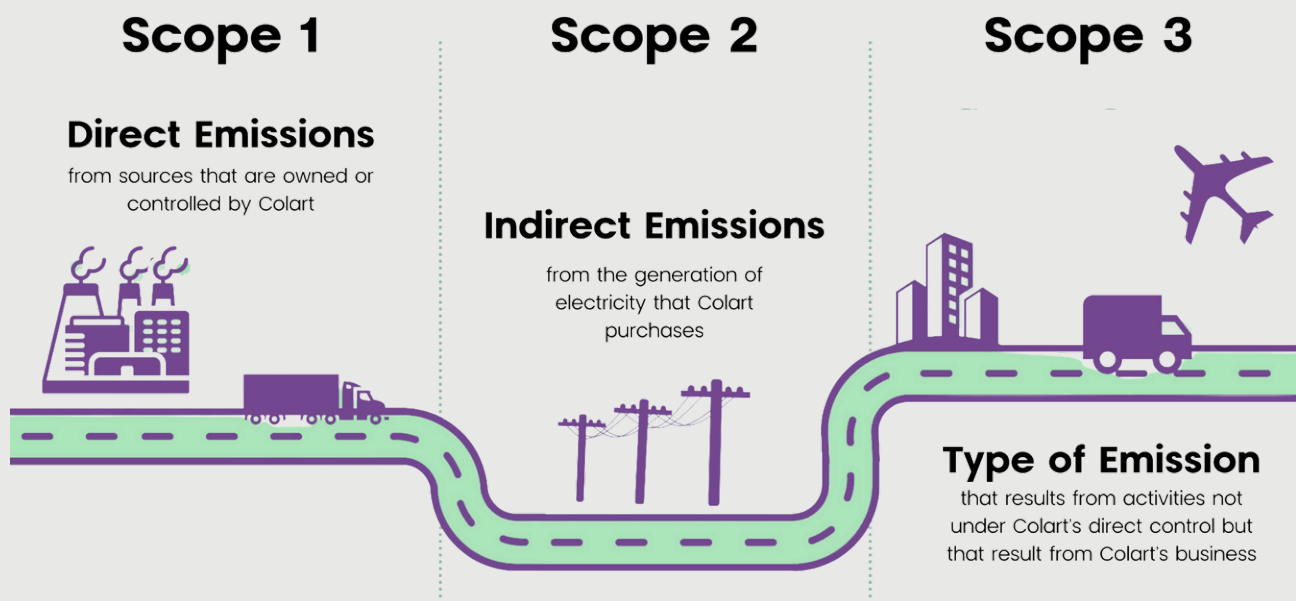
### Reducing Direct Emissions – Scopes 1 & 2

The reductions in our scope 1 emissions were mainly due to actions at our three largest sites (US, China, and France), for example, the unseasonably warm September at our Le Mans site limited the need for additional heating. Meanwhile, our UK Lowestoft site saw reductions in scope 1 emissions due to actions taken to increase the efficiency of the gas boiler. Next year, Lowestoft will undertake a process of replacing and upgrading its heating system to further increase efficiency and reduce emissions.

# Operations with Impact

This year we achieved reductions in scope 2 primarily due to a reduction in production (14.2% decrease in volume) resulting in a reduction in electricity consumption. Our Lowestoft site took action to reduce its energy consumption, including ensuring 100% of the lights are powered by more efficient LED bulbs and decommissioning a sprinkler.

Next year we will continue to introduce new processes and systems that improve energy efficiency across all sites to reduce our overall energy consumption.



## Reducing Indirect Emissions – Scope 3

We are committed to reducing our indirect emissions, focusing our efforts on reducing emissions resulting from transporting our goods across the world. We look to use sustainable transportation options and improve efficiency of transportation where possible, including continuing to support the FRET21 programme, a voluntary commitment by shippers to reduce its environmental impact. As part of this initiative, we have put in place a target to raise our container fill rate to 86% and will monitor this important metric as a measure of efficient transportation of our products around the world. We also signed up for the PICS program with Amazon when transporting our goods by road, a programme designed to streamline the delivery process, consolidating deliveries and further reducing unnecessary transportation of goods.

This year, we also developed our new Decarbonisation Roadmap, which will further support us in meeting our carbon reduction targets in future years. Find out more about the Decarbonisation Roadmap and how it is being implemented at our largest site in Le Mans, France on [page 32](#).

Next year, we plan to measure our scope 3 emissions more comprehensively, including creating a scope 3 reduction plan and engaging with our procurement team in order to reduce our carbon impact across our value chain. We will also continue to explore opportunities to decarbonise emissions resulting from the transportation of our products, including increasing the fill rate of our shipping containers to 86%.

# Operations with Impact

## Case Study - Decarbonisation Roadmap for Le Mans

In order to meet the 1.5°C target outlined in the Paris Agreement, rapid transformation is needed, including an investment in clean energy and efficiency[1].

Our factories' material production is a major source of our carbon footprint, making decarbonisation efforts essential. This year, we introduced the Decarbonisation Roadmap for the Le Mans factory in France, aiming for net zero by 2035.

Innovations such as sensor installations to measure emissions, the formation of an energy-saving ambassador team, and an investment plan to eliminate gas consumption—featuring new heating systems, improved roof insulation, and solar water heating—have been implemented.

These actions have not only aligned decarbonisation efforts but also boosted employee engagement and awareness across various teams, ensuring a focused and impactful decarbonisation journey.

Click on the video below to review the Decarbonisation Roadmap case study.



[1] <https://www.wri.org/insights/2023-ipcc-ar6-synthesis-report-climate-change-findings#:~:text=The%20world%20must%20rapidly%20shift,zero%20in%20the%20early%202050s.>



# Products with Impact



Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) for Products with Impact

Our ambition is to deliver a product portfolio with products that are easy to produce, with less complex production processes, and that have a minimal impact on the environment. We will achieve this by making use of standardised formulations, operating a low-waste and energy-efficient manufacturing system and supply chain, using packaging from more sustainable materials, and reducing unnecessary packaging.

## Focus For This Year



**Innovating for safe and sustainable products**



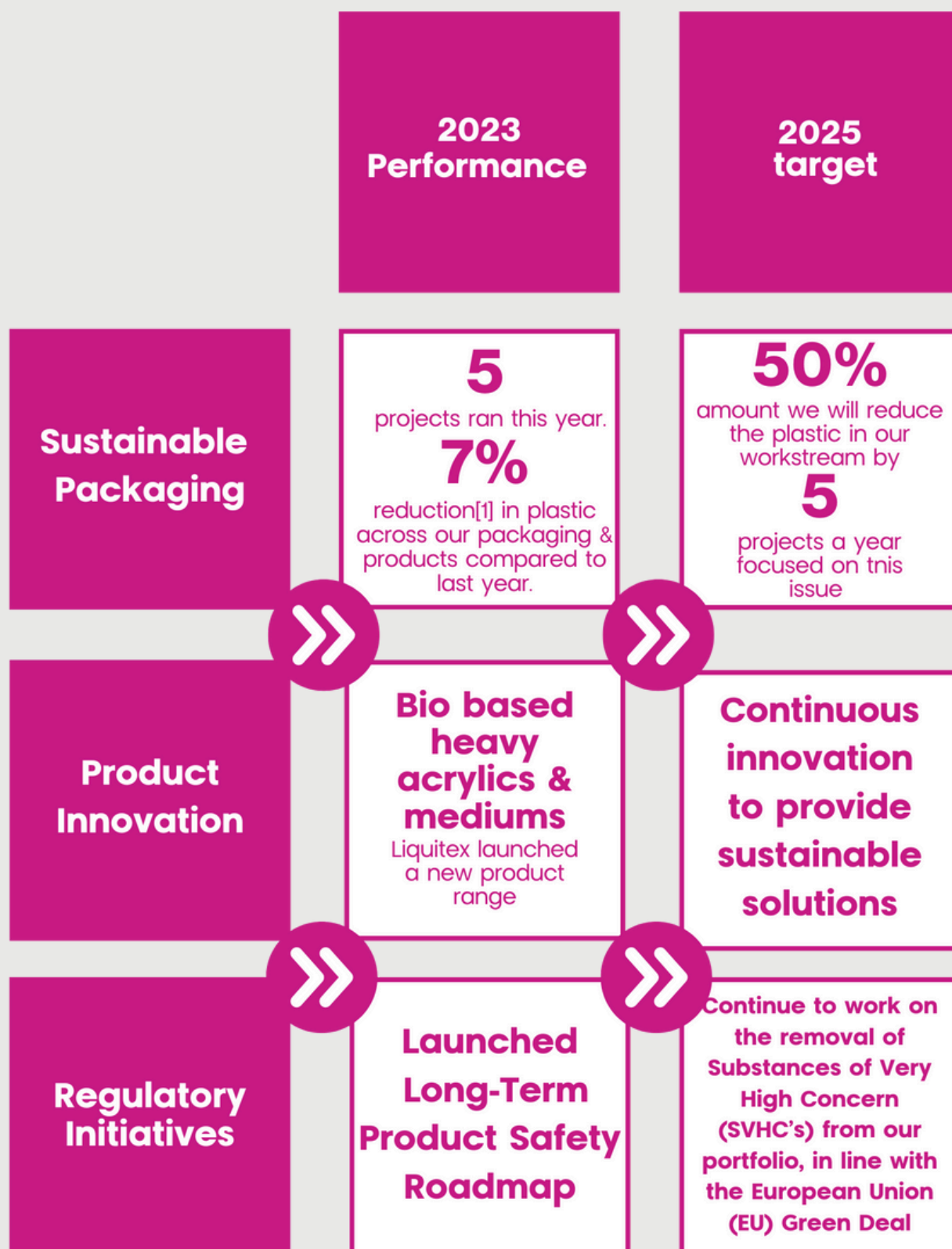
**Removing virgin plastic from our workstream**



Liquitex Recycled Canvas on display at the Colart stand during the Creative World Trade Fair in Frankfurt, Germany held in January 2024.

# Products with Impact

## Our Sustainability Progress and Targets



[1]when the first five months of 2023 were compared with the first five months of 2024

# Products with Impact

## Key Achievements This Year

### Sustainable Packaging

We know that the impact of our excessive consumption of plastic is negatively impacting our planet. As the majority of plastics are fossil-fuel derived when not recycled (i.e. burned or dumped in the natural environment) they release carbon dioxide emissions. Unfortunately, only about 9% of plastic is currently recycled[2]. We support a transition to a low-plastic economy, looking to reduce our total use and use non-virgin plastic where possible. Actions to reduce our plastic consumption and waste across our products and packaging this year included:

# Liquitex®

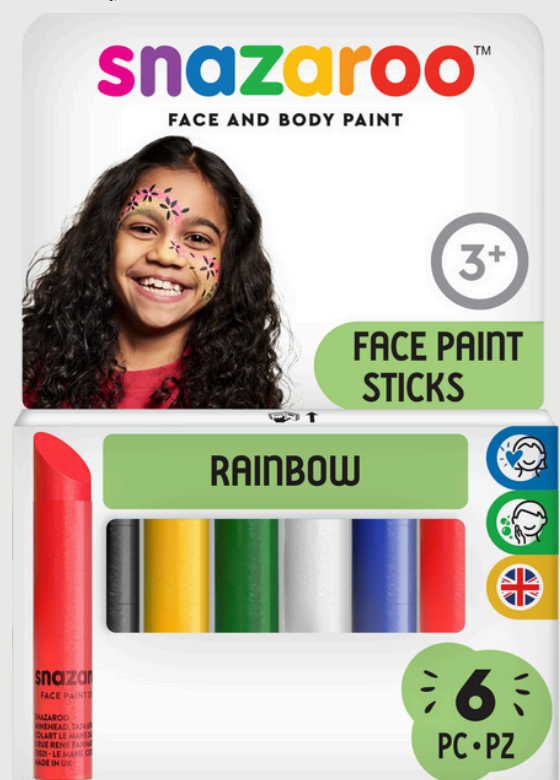
Liquitex removed the plastic inserts from their paint sets where possible, replacing with recycled plastic if necessary and using recycled and recyclable packaging as part of our innovative work creating the Liquitex bio-based formulation. Read more about this innovation on [page 40](#)



[2] <https://www.weforum.org/impact/accelerating-reuse-models-world-free-of-plastic-waste/>

# snazaroo™

Snazaroo changed the packaging of their crayons and brush pens from plastic to Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified card





# Products with Impact



Winsor & Newton Promarker, Fineliner and Studio Collection sets (39 Promarker sets, 5 Fineliner sets, and 19 Studio Collection sets) switched from virgin plastic to FSC-certified cardboard packaging. They also changed the wallets of their Promarker from plastic to 'Waste2Wear' traceable, recycled material and the plastic components of their Oils, Mediums, and Varnishes bottles from virgin plastic to 100% post-consumer recycled plastic.



Winsor & Newton Fineliner Pens



Winsor & Newton Promarkers



Winsor & Newton Studio Collection



# Products with Impact

## Product Innovation

We are continually innovating our products to ensure they are not only providing quality fine art but are sustainable and positively benefiting people and the planet. Key innovations this year across our brands include:

# Liquitex®

## BIO-BASED: PAINT WITHOUT COMPROMISE

Average of 50% bio-based formulation.  
Recycled\* and recyclable packaging.  
The performance you expect from Liquitex.

### WHAT DOES BIO-BASED MEAN?

Made from plants or other natural, renewable sources, instead of from non-renewable materials like petroleum.



- Thick consistency
- Lightfast & archival
- High pigment load
- Compatible with other acrylics & mediums
- Core fluid & gel acrylic mediums
- Fully cleanable pot to reuse or recycle

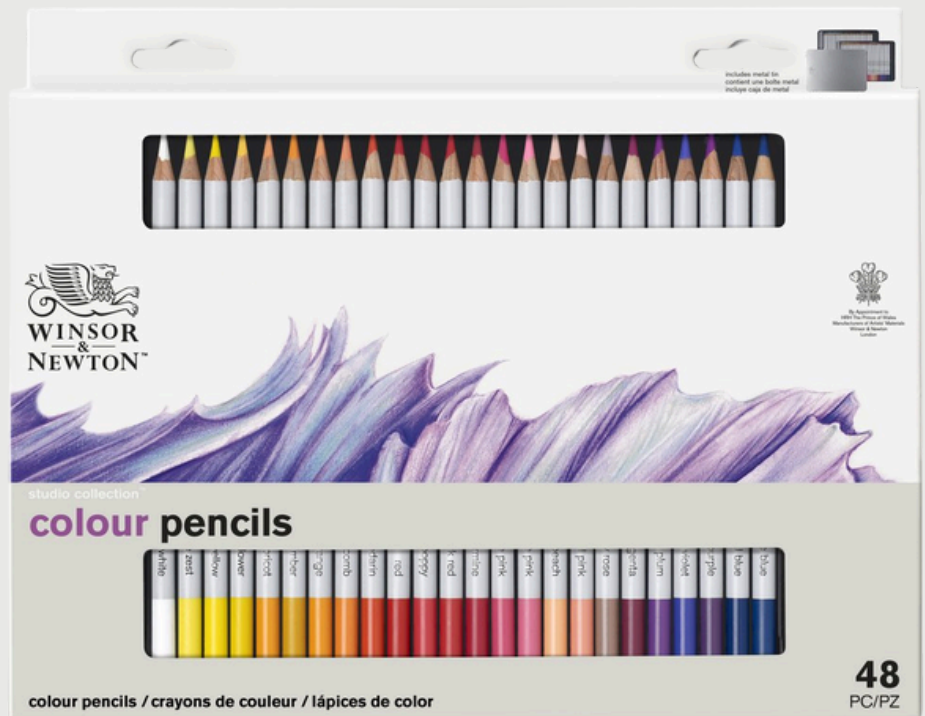


Liquitex developed and launched a range of Bio-Based Acrylic products with an average of 50% bio-based formulation, reducing reliance on traditional petroleum-derived components. Read more about this innovation on [Page 40](#)

Liquitex expanded the availability of its range of recycled canvas made from 100% traceable and sustainable textiles, launched last year in partnership with Waste2Wear.



# Products with Impact



Winsor & Newton certified the Studio Collection pencils with the FSC and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC). It also reformulated paints, solvents, and mediums to provide safer alternatives.



Snazaroo replaced the glitter in gel products with bio glitter



Moving forward, we will continue to work with all of our brands to support innovations that ensure our products maintain their high-quality and are more sustainable.

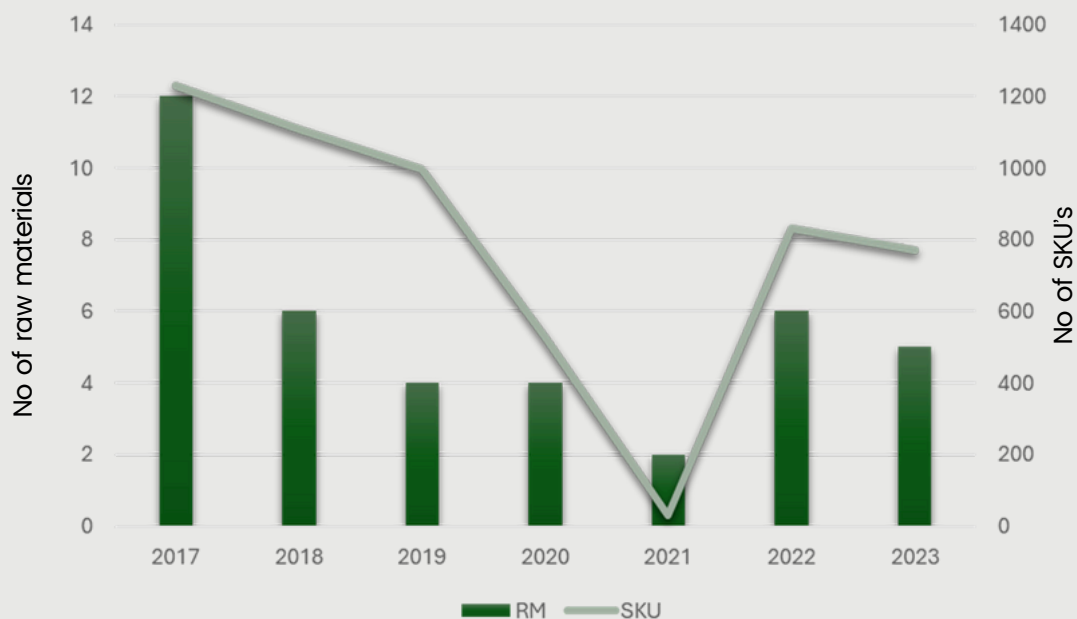
# Products with Impact

## Regulatory Initiatives

Colart is taking a proactive approach to mitigate potential harm and uphold the highest safety standards across its product portfolio.

Last year we launched a Long-Term Product Safety Roadmap aligned with the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability (CSS). This year, we began implementing our strategy, making steady progress toward meeting our Substances of High Concern (SVHCs) commitment. You can read more about our progress this year on [page 41](#)

### Colart SVHC Monitoring 2024



Next year we will focus on:

- ☑ Research & Development formulation work and supplier investigation
- ☑ Reviewing products at more of our manufacturing sites
- ☑ Increasing efficiency of Regulatory Chemical Database updates to optimise implementation of the Long-Term Product Safety Roadmap
- ☑ Continuous improvement of the Safety Roadmap, ensuring it remains fit for purpose.



# Products with Impact

## Case Study - Liquitex Bio-Based Heavy Acrylic and Mediums

Typically, acrylic paints and mediums have a resin base made from petroleum (fossil fuel) derived acrylic, a non-renewable resource which is very energy-intensive to extract. The packaging also tends to be plastic and non-recyclable, energy-intensive to produce and contributes to plastic build up in landfill.

We are therefore committed to developing an alternative product and packaging with the same high-performance standards, but that is not petroleum-based, and is made from packaging which is more environmentally responsible from cradle-to-grave i.e. from production through to disposal.

Liquitex has supported this commitment this year by developing and launching bio-based heavy acrylic and mediums to the global market. They developed this bio-based alternative by focussed research and development to firstly identify suitable environmentally friendly alternatives for the ingredients and packaging of these products that delivered the same high-performance standard. They then engaged with suppliers to develop and incorporate these ingredients and packaging of the products at scale.

The new products have now been successfully released, and are the only bio-based professional acrylic currently available on the market. They have a 50% bio-based formulation, are sold in packaging that is both recycled and recyclable, and also have a lower carbon footprint than their synthetic alternative.. Click on the video below to view the Bio-Based case study.



# Products with Impact

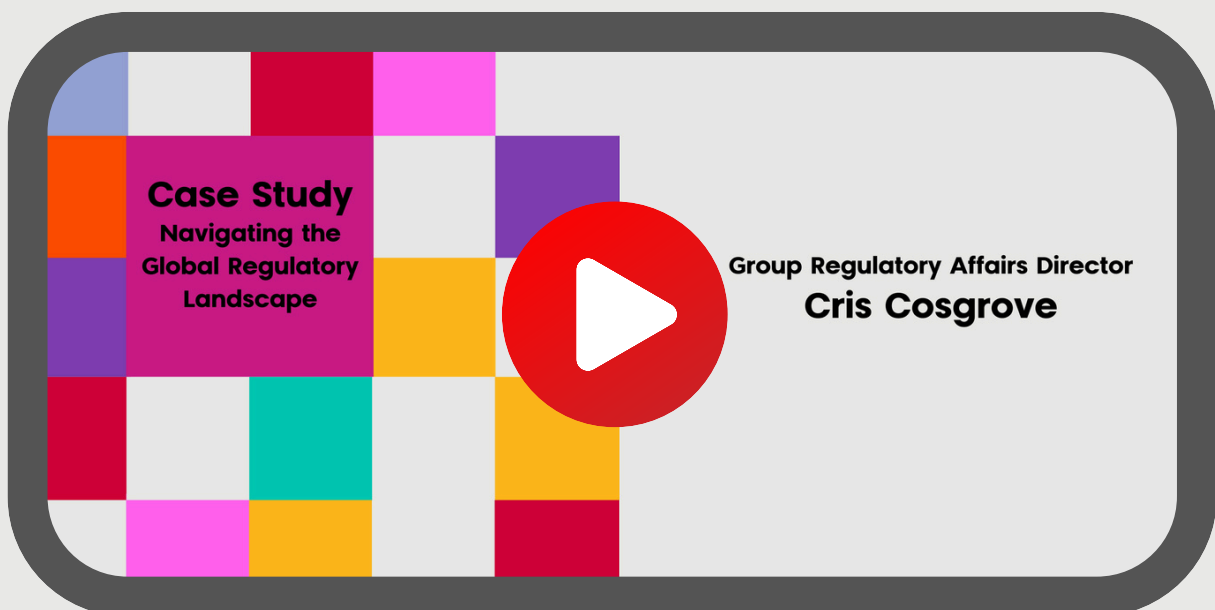
## Case Study - Navigating the Global Regulatory Landscape

Colart strives to comply with the rapidly evolving global regulatory requirements that impact our product portfolio. This includes proactively identifying and managing priority chemicals that pose risks to human health and the environment to ensure our products are safe, and in line with emerging regulation and legislation.

This year, as a part of our proactive approach to managing risks brought on by our chemicals, we commenced the implementation of our Long-Term Product Safety Roadmap. The roadmap was developed by evaluating the severity and urgency of regulatory development and comparing it to sales volume of the product. This helped us to prioritise action in order to reduce priority chemicals across our portfolio.

As we commenced implementation of the roadmap, we firstly ensured all technical teams throughout Colart were aligned and working towards this common goal, integrating the Safety Roadmap into the Research & Development (R&D) Technical Roadmap. The procurement team also began engaging with suppliers to explore safer alternative raw materials that were compliant with current and future regulation.

This work means Colart not only complies with regulatory requirements but also is setting new benchmarks for innovation, quality, and environmental responsibility in the art supplies industry. This will help to ensure the entire art supplies industry is developing products that have minimal risk to human health and the environment.





# colart

*inspiring every artist*

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