



AGC is Britain's first B Corp<sup>TM</sup> certified interior design collective. We believe in making a positive impact on the world by acting and evolving as a responsible company.

We will never be sustainable as there is always room for improvement. So instead of sustaining and maintaining our performance, we have prioritised plans to regenerate and commence a never ending journey towards sustainability.





# WE ARE NOT SUSTAINABLE

BUT WE ARE A FORCE FOR GOOD (WITH A B CORP)



- We commit to proving to you that we can make a positive impact on the world by acting and evolving as a responsible company.
- We promise to direct our efforts on measures that deliver the biggest impacts, aiming to continuously review and improve AGC's environmental performance.
- We pledge to play our part in building an industry that is filled with, and supports talent from all backgrounds, abilities, ages and identities.



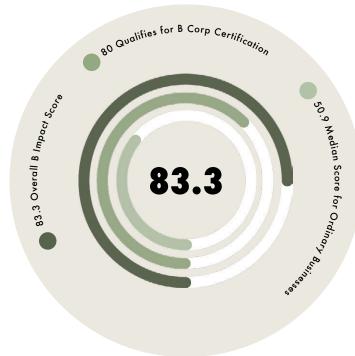
- To create a positive impact on society. We support the Red Cross and charities that mean the most to our people.
- We understand that being a
   'Force for Good' is a journey
   without a destination and we are
   committed to continuously improve
   and evolve our business for good.



# THE B CORPORATION MOVEMENT

B Corps<sup>TM</sup> are defined as businesses that want to achieve more than just making a profit. Their company goals and values are committed to creating a positive impact on their employees, communities, clients and suppliers throughout strategic decisions and operations - (that's us!)

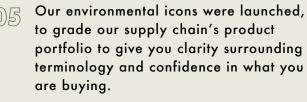
Every B Corp attains a baseline score against established standards. Here at AGC we appreciate how B Corp provides us with a framework to elevate our scores, enabling us to continuously improve and take greater pride in our efforts.





# THINGS WE ARE PROUD OF

- Pioneering our industry & becoming the first B Corp™ certified interior design collective.
- Our sustainability manifesto is inspired by Walpole's own manifesto to create consistency and pioneer new benchmarks across the luxury industry.
- Our four sustainability pillars show commitment to twelve ambitious targets across both environmental and social aspects.
- We have launched a planet friendly range called the Conscious Collection.
- to grade our supply chain's product are buying.







- We foster knowledge and awareness within our supply chain, and an eco grading system has helped us to establish how environmentally responsible our industry is and how far there is to go.
- Our environmentally preferable purchasing policy supports our sustainability pillars and ambitions to ensure that we have the processes in place to work collaboratively towards our environmental goals.
- Our supplier code of conduct strives to achieve mutually beneficial supplier relationships built on common values and expected behaviours.
- Our internal DEI and Eco Warrior teams ensure (0)that the improvements that we wish to make as a business are fully embedded into our culture and that we are collectively dedicated to achieving our manifesto ambitions.
- Our dedicated B-Keeper has full ownership for maintaining standards and ensuring improvements are ever evolving.



### **GOVERNANCE**

We have assessed all internal process, structures and legalities, making sure our business is accountable to people and planet.

## **WORKERS**

We have deployed numerous employee friendly practices including ownership opportunities, job flexibility and fair chance hiring policies.

### **CUSTOMERS**

We obtain feedback to ensure that our product has a positive impact on our client's, referrers and their property investments.

## **COMMUNITY**

We commit to donating a minimum of 2% of our profits each financial year. Profits are split between three charities, one of which is the British Red Cross and the other two will be nominated & voted for annually by our team.

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### **CIRCULARITY**

We are dedicated to reusing and repairing our products and extending their life cycles. Any furniture that reaches the end of its usefulness will find a new purpose through donation to the British Red Cross or our education partner at The University of The Arts. Where the item cannot be accepted by these initiatives, we aim to avoid landfill through our recycling partners who have a 0 to landfill mission; they even turn waste into energy which gives us piece of mind.





### **CHARITY CHALLENGE SUPPORT**

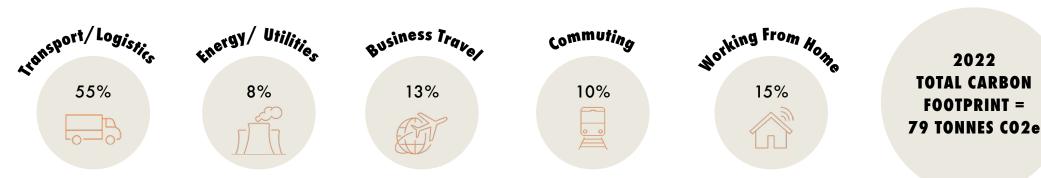
If an AGC crew member is participating in a charitable challenge or initiative, AGC will match the donations that AGC employees have collectively donated to this cause.

### **CHARITABLE HOURS**

Every AGC crew member receives 24 charitable hours each year to dedicate to raising money and awareness for their chosen charities.

# **HOW WE ACHIEVED A CARBON NEUTRAL 2022**

In accordance with AGC's Sustainability manifesto and our ambition to safeguard the environment and preserve its natural resources, we have undertaken a thorough Scope 1 & 2 carbon audit of our 2022 operations.



### **2022 OFFSET**

Our Offset Strategy revolves around investing in Forest Carbon's gold standard re-afforestation projects. Through these investments, we actively contribute to projects both within the UK and internationally, resulting in an immediate impact on achieving carbon neutrality. Furthermore, these initiatives allow us to store carbon credits for the future, reinforcing our commitment to long-term sustainability.

INTERNATIONAL AT URUGUAY: 40 tonnes CO2e Forestal el Arriero

INTERNATIONAL AT BOLIVIA: 40 tonnes CO2e Cochabamba

UK: 50 tonnes CO2e

#### **NEXT STEPS**

- Pioneering the industry by setting ambitious target to achieve net zero emissions by 2033.
- Align with the Scope 1 and 2 requirements of the SBTi (Science Based Targets initiative).
- Dedicated to ongoing education of our supply chains and collaboration with industry bodies to facilitate the collection of Scope 3 emission data.







# PARTNERING WITH FOREST CARBON

Forest Carbon leads the way in developing woodland creation and peatland restoration projects for carbon capture and ecosystem services in the UK. They have planted over 10.3 million new trees in 220+ new woodlands since 2006 with their partners removing over 2.1 million tonnes of CO2e from the atmosphere, as well as providing a host of other benefits to society, including habitat creation, biodiversity support, flood mitigation, river ecosystem improvement and public access.

Outside of the UK their partners have offset a further 1 million tonnes CO2 and protected or planted in excess of 3 million trees.

# **OUR PROJECTS IN DETAIL**

#### **URUGUAY - FORESTAL EL ARRIERO**

This project represents the conversion of land in the east of Uruguay previously under extensive grazing by beef cattle to high quality and high value timber production, used for long-lived products and so ensuring continued carbon storage. Forests are replanted after felling, providing continuous rotations of carbon capture. The projects contribute to sustainable development in Uruguay, mainly through:

- Increased employment and quality of employment
- Rural development (decentralization)
- Improved national balance of payments through exports and value-added activity in country
- Biodiversity preservation
- Improvement and preservation of soil quality

#### **BOLIVIA - TSB AT COCHABAMBA**

Forest Carbon's first non-UK project was Cochabamba, in Bolivia. As well as capturing CO2 the project will help halt the aggressive deforestation that has been occurring in the western Amazon Rainforest & also save CO2 losses there. The overall project aims for:

- Improved and sustainable land use with a total participation of 2,000 smallholders and over 2,700 site
- On-farm establishment of 5,000 has of small scale mixed native species forestry plantations
- On-farm establishment of 1,000 hectares of agroforestry or silvo-pastoral plantations
- Production of a continuous flow of export quality hardwood timber and improved market access
- Livelihood improvement through incomes generated from the sale of plantation timber under fair trade conditions.

The project is quality assured under the Gold Standard, one of the world's leading independent carbon and climate change project certification standards.

#### UK

We have joined their Carbon Club 50, through which we will be responsible for planting around 200 trees each year. They will grow in permanent new woodlands at Doddington in Northumberland, Corriechuillie in the Scottish Highlands & Tom's Wood near York in North Yorkshire. They will accrue 50 carbon credits per year over time to address 50 tonnes of CO2 emissions. Once fully grown these trees will capture a considerable proportion of our annual carbon emissions and help us on our journey to net zero.









# **CIRCULARITY**

'A circular economy is a model of production and consumption, which involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling existing materials and products for as long as possible.'

### **BREAKING IT DOWN**

Having achieved our B Corp certification, we are in the process of setting ourselves an ambitious emissions reductions target and we want to do more! Extending the product life cycle is something we can continually look to improve, through both our furniture collections, and our circularity approach.

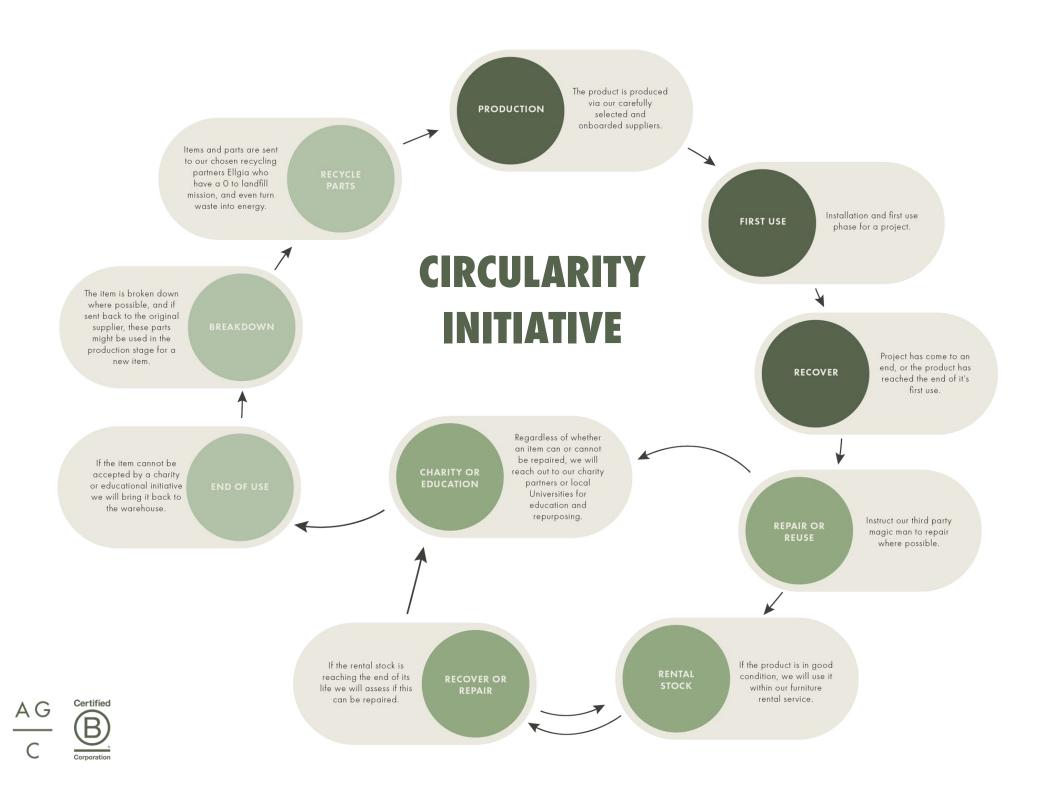
Saying goodbye to cheap, low-quality materials, our new furniture collections were designed with the future in mind, and selected products come with a 'Lifetime Guarantee'. We have introduced our new Conscious Collection, using a range of suppliers, and with each piece telling its own story.

Not only that, but we have saved 1000s of furnishing items from landfills over the years with our rental offering, which sees furniture lovingly restored before being sent to its new address.



### **HOW WE ARE IMPLEMENTING THIS?**

- An internal onboarding process means our suppliers have been consciously selected, and we are also in communication with our manufacturers to positively influence the materials they're using.
- Following first use of the products, when given the opportunity, we will assess the damage, if any, and put one of the following actions into play.
- Some products will be in near perfect condition, in which case they will be selected for our rental service as a second use.
- If repairs are required, our magic man will work his magic and try to bring the product back to life, allowing it to be used within our rental offering.
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- If repairs are required, our magic man will work his magic and try to bring the product back to life, allowing it to be used within our rental offering.
- If the product has reached the end of its lifecycle with AGC and we cannot use the product within our rental offering, we will reach out to our charity partners, British Red Cross, to sell the products on within their stores, or the University of the Arts London (UAL), who will be able to use the pieces for education and repurposing.
- Where the item cannot be accepted by these initiatives, we will break down the items where possible to limit the amount of waste we are sending to landfill. The final broken down items can be reused by our suppliers, and used in the production of making a new product, where the lifecycle begins again. Our chosen recycling.



# **OUR ENVIRONMENTAL ICONS**

At AGC, we believe in transparency and responsible sourcing. To forever increase our offering of responsible products, we need to seek full traceability from our handpicked suppliers. The role of the environmental icons is to grade our supply chain's products, whilst giving you clarity and confidence in buying from us. You will find these icons labelled on all our furniture pieces across our Curated Furniture Pack collections by BoxNine7.



#### **ORGANIC**

Product is made up of >70% naturally occurring raw materials, without the use of chemical or other artificial elements.



#### THOUGHTFUL FURNITURE

Item is reclaimed, recycled or upcycled usually an antique or vintage item given a new life.



#### SUSTAINABLE SUPPLIER

Actively sustainable and have an ESG and/or Sustainability strategy/ Eco Manifesto in place with defined targets to achieve over a given period of time.



#### CONSCIOUS SUPPLIER

Working towards becoming sustainable with an awareness and ad hoc initiatives set out.



#### NON-TOXIC

Product is guaranteed to be free of harmful chemicals.



#### **FSC TIMBER**

Wood has been harvested in compliance with rules and regulations to protect our natural resources.



#### FABULOUS FILLINGS

#### & TOPPINGS

Foam, Fibre, Wool, Fur and Feather fillings are sourced in the UK for maximum quality assurance and are cruelty-free.



#### NO PLASTIC FANTASTIC

100% of product packaging is reusable or widely recyclable.



#### MADE IN THE UK

Product is manufactured or assembled within the UK.



#### MADE TO ORDER

Made in accordance with our customer's specifications to minimise wastage in production.



#### ETHICAL

Supply chain conforms with all relevant International Labour Organisation (ILO) policies surrounding child labour, workers rights, freedom of association, minimum wages & health & safety.



#### HANDCRAFTED

Products and/or elements have been handcrafted by artisans to preserve craft traditions and support independent artisan businesses.





# DIVERSE & INCLUSIVE SUPPLIER

Supplier celebrates the values of equality, diversity, and inclusion by being an actively diverse supplier and promoting inclusivity and opportunity.



#### **CARBON CONSCIOUS**

Supplier is carbon neutral or has plans in place to get to achieve this. They are able to inform us of the carbon footprint of the product they supply.

# FURNITURE OF THE FUTURE

# The Conscious Collection













This 'Conscious Collection' has been designed by us, Britain's first B Corp™ certified interior design collective. It isn't labelled the 'sustainability' collection for a very good reason. You see we're not 100% sustainable, and that's a fact. But we're on our journey towards a more sustainable design future, and so we're conscious of our every step.







Our designers have worked their graft sourcing suppliers for each furniture piece, with an aim to redefine the way your property is furnished. Designed for longevity, our furniture has been crafted to last, with the use of durable and high-quality materials that will withstand the demands of everyday use. From handcrafted and carbon conscious, to non-toxic and organic, our transparency on this is illustrated through 'Environmental Icons' which you will find labelled and explained on all our products.





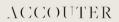
# WHO ARE THE ACCOUTER GROUP OF COMPANIES?

AGC is Britain's first B Corp certified interior design collective with a portfolio of international award winning interior design brands.

The Accouter Group of Companies which is home to Accouter, A.LONDON, BoxNine7, Bazaar, SWAG and an innovative Build-to-Rent service, deliver world-class interior architectural design and furnishings to the global property market, private clients and consumer market.

In 2021, Accouter Group of Companies announced their membership with Walpole alongside Britain's leading luxury brands.





INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN



P.LONDON

LUXURY INTERIOR DESIGN & SHOW HOMES



**BOXNINE7**<sup>+</sup>

DESIGN-LED TURNKEY FURNISHING SOLUTIONS





BUILD TO RENT





SPECIALIST WINDOW
ATELIER GUARANTEED





THE FINEST FURNITURE COLLECTIONS





"We are proud to be the first British interior design collective to join this community of change-makers, alongside a global movement of people using their business as a force for good. B Corp™ is a holistic approach for us. It shapes our culture and encourages us to acknowledge our business impact and act. Most importantly, it gives us a framework for continuous improvement, so that every day, we become a little bit prouder of what we do"

# **CO-FOUNDER & GROUP DIRECTOR, STELLA GITTINS**





"B Corp™ shows that those that really want to make a change, are making a change, and that they are willing to operate in a way that puts people and the planet first, and profit second. For companies like us, the priority is to meet the highest social and environmental standards, and do so with authenticity, transparency, and full accountability."

# **CO-FOUNDER, ALEC WATT**