



# Greenmetal Project for Sustainable Goals



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## Safety washer production in a long-term perspective

Durable fastening solutions, investments in research, renewable energy and a responsible Environmental Management System: Greenmetal Project is Growermetal's response to achieve ambitious sustainable development goals.

Since January 2016, 193 countries have been called to adopt new measures in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. Today, halfway to the deadline, enterprises have faced a complex, challenging picture, with consequences on many aspects of their production and management.

A situation that involves Growermetal, an Italian safety washer manufacturer that during the last three years invested resources to rethink its productive model, setting a new phase of its business.

Actually, an ecological approach is not new to its history. In 2006 Growermetal obtained the certification UNI EN ISO 14001 for the Environmental Management System (EMS) and, four years later, it installed a photovoltaic plant on the headquarter roofs, in order to produce part of the electric energy on its own.

## Flexibility and reliability meet technical evolution

One of the strengths of the Italian fastener manufacturer lies in its wide portfolio of products, with a variety of safety washers and parts according to customers drawings, that covers the needs of a large number of sectors: from automotive and railway to aerospace, from energy production to electro mechanics, including different industrial applications.

In particular, the challenges of this period include the rapid evolutions in the automotive and transport fields, which led Growermetal to expand its range with new technologies.

Among the latest products introduced, there are high thickness and precision flat washers, special shaped blanked and bended parts, metallic parts with glued or moulded inserts and the technology of Grower SpheraTech®, an innovative preassembled set of a spherical top washer and a conical seat washer. Innovations that will be displayed by Growermetal at the booth 2208 in hall 3 of the Fastener Fair Global 2023 in Stuttgart (Germany) that will take place from 21st to 23rd March 2023.

## Planning an environmental-oriented development: the Greenmetal Project

The company's answer to future expectations is the Greenmetal Project: a program created to align its conduct

to sustainable short-term and long-term goals. Among the objectives, there is the achievement of Carbon Neutrality by 2050, as set by the 2015 EU Green Deal for Carbon Neutrality, but also the purpose to optimize Growermetal's environmental profile, to enhance the energy efficiency and to boost a circular economy.

In synergy with the internal code of ethics and the Policy for Quality, Environment and Safety, the Greenmetal Project provides guidelines for a strategic sustainable development, focusing on four aspects: suppliers, raw materials, processes and resources.

With regard to the supply chain, Growermetal puts great attention in the selection of its partners that must guarantee the full compliance to the Italian and international environmental protection regulations, in line with the manufacturer's sustainable management goals.

This aspect goes hand-in-hand with the selection of low-impact materials and treatments, where the research of advanced resources merges with the need to reduce the ecological footprint of the supply chain. In addition, Growermetal works to create durable solutions, making the customer's investment profitable and sustainable over time. To offer this benefit, effective coatings are essential, as they enhance the characteristics of the washer design, create long-lasting fastening systems and protect the pieces from corrosion whilst maintaining their performance in the most challenging conditions.

Talking about process, a large part of Growermetal's investments has been addressed in improving the performance of the Environmental Management System, through interventions aimed at equipping the production departments, the quality control division and the R&D laboratory with cutting-edge and low-impact technologies.

Finally, resource optimization covers different aspects of the manufacturing process, ranging from energy efficiency to the replacement of dangerous chemicals with more eco-friendly products. Among the main key intervention, Growermetal includes the recycling and reuse of oil and water, the reduction of CO2 emissions through greater energy efficiency, the increment of electricity production from alternative energy sources, the heat recovery to warm the company's departments, the reduction and responsible disposal of waste and the recovery of every liter of water through the industrial rainwater harvesting system. ■

