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## PUUSTELLI NOW SUPPLIES CARBON-NEUTRAL KITCHEN FURNITURE

Puustelli has launched the responsible **Natural Steps programme**. The programme aims to further reduce emissions originating in the production process for kitchen furniture, and in the long term to offset the plant's carbon footprint through selected partners. Puustelli is committed to offering its customers carbon-neutral kitchen furniture, the environmental impacts and emissions of which have been minimized and offset in accordance with the new programme.

Natural Steps is an important demonstration of Puustelli's unwavering environmental commitment to be a responsible company. The programme builds on the development of the Miinus ecological kitchen range, which was introduced to the US and UK market in 2016.

Puustelli's carbon offset partners under the Natural Steps programme are Ilmastokummit, Puuni Oy and John Nurminen Foundation. These organisations engage in activities ranging from afforestation of wasteland to cleaning of the Baltic Sea. With the help of the Natural Steps programme, Puustelli's carbon offset will be at least 3,800,000 kg/CO<sub>2</sub>/p.a. Around 32,000 kg of blue-green algae is removed from the Baltic Sea each year.

"The Natural Steps programme is a concrete step towards carbon-neutral production facilities. Good indicators to monitor emissions more accurately are needed to reach the end results. It is important to establish the direct and indirect emissions and to calculate the carbon footprint for the company's entire operations," says Puustelli Group Oy's CEO Jussi Aine.

"Puustelli Group Oy is committed to reducing its carbon dioxide emissions so that its production facilities are carbon neutral by 2035. Since the turn of the millennium, the company has operated systematically in line with those values. A major leap forward took place in 2013, when a start was made on using Finnish biocomposite as the material in various furniture parts. These parts are fully recyclable, re-usable and have a formaldehyde content of 0%."

Puustelli's kitchen production is toxin free. No substances containing heavy metals are used in the manufacture or created during the process. Nor are any glues with added formaldehyde used at any stage in the production process. All surface treatment agents are water based.

Puustelli has invested in energy-efficient production machinery and efforts have been made to minimize adverse environmental impacts. The electricity supply is generated by hydropower and is free of emissions. In addition, the production facilities have their own solar power plant. Electricity consumption has been cut by 10%, by investing in more energy-efficient machinery and by switching to LED lighting. Heat production takes place by incinerating wood waste originating from production. Furthermore, Puustelli is committed to reducing waste and to using material as accurately as possible in production. In packaging materials, cardboard has replaced plastic. Transport is also strictly optimized.

Puustelli's production facilities are in Harjavalta, Finland. The company employs 330 people, with 250 of them working in production.



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*The Finnish family enterprise **Puustelli Group Oy** is part of the century-old Harjavalta Group, which also includes Kastelli Group Oy and Lapti Group Oy. Group turnover in 2019 was €491 million and the Group employs around 1,100 people.*