

Hegenberger Medical – Environmental Sustainability Statement 2026

Environmental sustainability is a core priority in today's world. As a responsible medtech device company, Hegenberger Medical is committed to minimising our environmental impact and contributing to a more sustainable future. This statement sets out our principles and the practical steps we take to reduce our footprint while delivering safe, high-quality medical devices.

Environmental Responsibility

We are committed to operating in an environmentally responsible manner and continuously reducing our carbon footprint. We comply with all applicable environmental laws and regulations and aim to exceed them wherever practicable. We regularly review our operations to identify opportunities for improvement.

Waste Reduction and Recycling

We actively reduce waste and increase recycling. This includes minimising paper use, optimising packaging, prioritising digital communication, and ensuring that waste is handled responsibly with recyclable materials diverted from landfill wherever possible.

Energy Conservation

We work to lower energy consumption across our activities. Practical measures include switching off equipment and lighting when not in use, selecting energy-efficient appliances and systems, and exploring renewable energy options. Energy use is monitored so that further efficiencies can be identified and implemented.

Water Conservation

We conserve water by promptly addressing leaks, using water-efficient fixtures where feasible, and promoting responsible water use. Water consumption is reviewed periodically to support ongoing improvements.

Sustainable Procurement

Environmental performance is a key consideration in our procurement decisions. We prefer suppliers who demonstrate a clear commitment to sustainability, responsible material sourcing, and efficient production methods.

Employee Engagement

Our team is central to our sustainability efforts. We promote environmental awareness and encourage colleagues to adopt more sustainable practices both at work and outside it.

Continuous Improvement

We monitor our environmental performance, set practical targets for impact reduction, and review progress regularly. This enables us to adapt our approach as technologies, regulations, and best practices evolve.

By embedding these principles into our daily operations, we aim to reduce our environmental impact and support a more sustainable future.

Why the Hegenberger Retractor is a single-use device made from HIPS material

High-performance materials are essential in the manufacture of many medical devices. The unique properties of HIPS (High Impact Polystyrene) — including its density, strength, temperature tolerance, and processability — allow purpose-designed devices to be produced efficiently and cost-effectively while meeting the stringent safety and performance requirements of clinical use.

Single-use versus reprocessing

Single-use surgical retractors significantly reduce the risk of patient-to-patient cross-contamination and eliminate the time, cost, and complexity of reprocessing. Reusable instruments carry inherent infection-control risks associated with cleaning, sterilisation, and handling failures.

Cost and risk considerations

Single-use instruments are designed to be ready for immediate, safe use at the point of care. Any perceived savings from reusable metal retractors are typically offset once purchase cost, manual handling, storage, washing, sterilisation, transport, and the risk of instrument failure are taken into account.

Common reprocessing issues include insufficient cleaning facilities, incomplete adherence to manufacturers' instructions, inadequate inspection, and improper storage of sterile items — all of which can compromise patient safety.

Weight and logistics

The Hegenberger Retractor weighs only 35 g. This low weight brings advantages in transport, packaging efficiency, reduced material use, improved ergonomics for clinicians, and ultimately better outcomes for patients.

Manufacturing

The Hegenberger Retractor is manufactured in Sweden by Cetro AB Medical, which is certified to ISO 14001:2015. This internationally recognised standard requires organisations to operate an effective environmental management system focused on efficient resource use, waste reduction, and systematic management of environmental responsibilities.

For any questions, please contact customer.service@hegenbergermedical.com.