

Waste Disposal Procedures

Background

Geobear prides itself in being a responsible custodian of the environment and this is reflected in the way in which we deal with our waste. We are guided by the European Waste Hierarchy, and the list below summarises how we accomplish this.

Prevention and Minimisation

Top of the hierarchy are the requirements to prevent and minimise waste generation. The Geobear process of resin injection creates very little waste or mess on site especially when compared to alternative solutions such as piling, underpinning, and compensation grouting. This means that quantities of waste to be handled and movements from site to place of disposal are kept.

Reuse

Next in the hierarchy is the requirement to reuse, i.e. to give products and materials a second life before they become waste. Examples of waste reuse from Geobear include IBCs that are too old for reconditioning. These are collected and sold off to the agricultural sector where the metal frames are used as feed cages. IBCs that are still in good condition are collected, reconditioned, and sold for reuse. Empty steel drums, of which Geobear generates hundreds annually, are also sent for cleaning and reconditioning. Another example is of the wooden pallets used in the delivery of our materials, which are collected and put to use by a local transport company. All of these examples are of little or no cost to Geobear.

Recycle

Recycling is a well known route for dealing with waste, and we work closely with our waste broker to find the best, and most cost effective solutions. All metals waste is recycled, especially waste steel injection tubes which are brought back to base from where they are taken to a licensed scrap dealer. In our main office, all paper, card, tin cans and glass bottles are collected for recycling.

WASTE HIERARCHY



Recovery

Recovery is not something Geobear itself does on a significant scale, but our general waste collector puts all collections through a recovery process before final disposal.

Disposal

Most of the waste Geobear send for disposal consists of cured geopolymer, a dense foam-like material that is non hazardous to the environment. The waste is collected in bags (which are biodegradable), and can easily be transported without creating any mess.

Duty of Care

All Geobear's waste collections are logged, showing the date, quantity, and European Waste Code for every movement. Collector's licenses, all Waste Transfer Notes and Consignment Notes retained held on file.