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# The Benefits of UK Manufacturing & Sustainability in Cleaning Products

# > Scot Young Research Ltd



Manufacturing cleaning products locally offers significant economic, environmental, and logistical advantages. In an era where sustainability is a priority, UK manufacturing plays a crucial role in reducing carbon emissions, minimising transportation impact, and supporting the local economy. The cleaning industry, in particular, benefits from domestic production, ensuring high-quality standards, reducing reliance on overseas supply chains, and aligning with sustainability goals (*Make UK, 2023*).

SYR is committed to sustainable UK manufacturing, leading the way in low-carbon production, innovative recycling programs, and efficient product design to help businesses meet their sustainability targets.

### > THE ENVIRONMENTAL COST OF OVERSEAS MANUFACTURING

Many cleaning products are imported from countries such as China, contributing significantly to global carbon emissions. Research shows that shipping goods from China to the UK generates approximately 1.9kg of CO<sup>2</sup> per tonne of freight per kilometre (*Department for Transport, 2023*). This means that by manufacturing cleaning products in the UK, companies can drastically cut their carbon footprint. Overseas manufacturing also contributes to higher levels of plastic waste and energy consumption.



Plastic production alone accounts for about 5% of all global carbon emissions and is expected to triple by 2050 (World Economic Forum, 2022)

# > SYR'S COMMITMENT TO UK MANUFACTURING

SYR is proud to manufacture a wide range of its products in the UK, ensuring highquality standards while reducing environmental impact. Some of SYR's Britishmade products include:

- **O Bulldog Bucket** Designed with an innovative dirt sump and sloped design, manufactured locally to reduce emissions.
- **Recycled Product Range** Includes Lucy-R, TC2O-R, and LTS-R, all made using recycled materials to support the circular economy.
- **Q Switch Framework Initiative** SYR's sustainability program repurposes end-of-life plastic products into new cleaning solutions, minimising waste and extending product lifecycles.

By manufacturing locally, SYR maintains strict quality control and ensures compliance with UK regulations, which mass overseas production often lacks *(British Standards Institution, 2023).* 

### > REDUCING CARBON FOOTPRINT THROUGH SUSTAINABLE MANUFACTURING

SYR actively reduces carbon emissions through three key strategies:

#### Operational Efficiency & Waste Reduction

SYR minimises waste by using advanced manufacturing techniques that ensure very little scrap material is left behind. Any waste that is produced is repurposed into new products, reducing reliance on virgin materials. Recycling plastic saves between 30-80% of carbon emissions compared to producing new plastic *(European Environment Agency, 2023).* 

*Example:* The **LTS mopping combo** is lightweight and plastic-efficient, yet extra durable. Less than 1% of scrap is left during production, and even this small amount is recycled.

#### Product Quality & Durability

SYR designs long-lasting cleaning tools, reducing the need for frequent replacements and, therefore, cutting plastic production and emissions. For example, the **LTS-R** recycled mopping combo lasts 6 times longer than a standard Kentucky mop bucket, reducing virgin plastic use by nearly 70%.

#### **3** Localised Manufacturing & Supply Chain Efficiency

Manufacturing in the UK eliminates the need for long-haul shipping, which is one of the largest contributors to global transportation-related CO<sup>2</sup> emissions. International trade-related transport accounts for 30% of emissions within the transport sector (*UNCTAD*, 2023). By reducing the mileage of its products, SYR drastically minimises environmental impact.

*Example:* Products like the **Lucy-R Bucket** and **Bulldog Bucket** are manufactured in the UK, eliminating the emissions associated with overseas shipping.



## > ECONOMIC & INDUSTRY BENEFITS

Beyond environmental sustainability, UK manufacturing also provides key economic benefits:

- **O Supports local jobs** Strengthens the UK workforce and promotes skilled labour.
- **C** Ensures quality control UK manufacturing regulations enforce higher standards.
- **Reduces supply chain disruptions** Less reliance on overseas suppliers means more consistency and reliability.
- **Contributes to UK's Net Zero Target** Supporting domestic production aligns with the UK's 2050 Net-Zero Strategy (*UK Government, 2023*).

# > CONCLUSION

Choosing UK-manufactured cleaning products is a practical, sustainable, and highquality choice. By investing in locally made solutions like SYR's **Bulldog Bucket**, recycled product ranges, and the Switch Framework, businesses can significantly lower their environmental impact while benefiting from superior durability, supply chain reliability, and long-term cost savings.

SYR's dedication to sustainable innovation ensures that businesses can meet their environmental, ethical, and operational goals while actively reducing their carbon footprint.





#### Make UK (2023) – The State of UK Manufacturing www.makeuk.org/insights/reports/manufacturing-outlook-2023

**Department for Transport (2023) – Environmental Impact of Shipping & Freight** www.gov.uk/government/publications/transport-and-environment-statistics-summary

UK Government (2023) – Net Zero Strategy: Reducing UK Carbon Emissions www.gov.uk/government/publications/net-zero-strategy

British Standards Institution (2023) – Quality Assurance in UK Manufacturing www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/about-bsi/

European Environment Agency (2023) – Carbon Dioxide Emission Reductions www.eea.europa.eu

**World Economic Forum (2022) – Reducing the Carbon Footprint of Manufacturing** www.weforum.org

UNCTAD (2023) – Review of Maritime Transport 2023 www.unctad.org

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