

Environmental Policy Statement 2024

Labcold is a well-established provider of specialist medical and scientific refrigeration, supplying across the UK.

Labcold was founded in 1932 as Boro Dairy Laboratories and Appliance Company Limited. Originally the primary business was to provide a laboratory analytical service to London's small dairy suppliers who often kept cows in a back yard or even a basement.

During WW2 the analytical laboratory suffered a decline as small dairies ceased to exist and free national testing of milk was available, however, after the war the laboratory turned to testing ice cream and the company became appointed analysts to the Ice Cream Alliance.

In 1946 the company moved to Catford, and in the following years closed the analytical laboratory to further develop its growing laboratory equipment business, including supplying specialist temperature control equipment for the medical, food, pharmaceutical and life science related applications. The company shortened its name to Boro Labs to reflect this change of direction.

In 1974 the company relocated to Aldermaston to be closer to its customers which included the Milk Marketing Board, Heinz, Associated Foods, AWE Aldermaston and the NHS. By this time Boro Labs was gaining a growing reputation for the supply of Ultra Low Temperature Freezers, sparkfree laboratory refrigerators and freezers and blood banks. These products were all sold by the growing 'Labcold' division of the company, which was beginning to seriously outperform other areas such as LabHeat, which sold autoclaves etc. and the equipment division.

In 2007 Borolabs was renamed Labcold to coincide with the company's 75th Anniversary. The success the company had supplying and manufacturing quality medical and scientific refrigerators and freezers meant that the decision was taken to concentrate on this specialism and this was now the direction the company would take.

This change of direction was so successful that December 2012 saw Labcold celebrate not only their 80th year in business but starting to look for even larger premises to house the rapidly growing business and in December 2014 we moved to our current location in Chineham Park – after we'd extended the building that is!

The Products

Today, Labcold is well established as a leading specialist manufacturer and supplier of medical and laboratory refrigerators and freezers in the UK. Labcold refrigerators and freezers have developed a reputation with large corporate and medical establishments for being safe, secure and reliable. Labcold registered medical device blood bank refrigerators are now the UK market leader, complemented by a variety of other temperature related products for a blood transfusion department use such as platelet agitators and reagent refrigerators.

Labcold were the first UK manufacturer of Blood Bank refrigerators to gain medical device registration for their products.

In 2012 Labcold launched the all new IntelliCold® range of pharmacy refrigerators with a range of new features including integral data logging and alarm battery backup. These pharmacy fridges have since become the preferred brand for a number of NHS Trusts due to their 24/7 automatic data recording, digital lock option and alarm battery backup. At a time when most UK business halted investment, 2019 saw Labcold release a new range of IntelliCold® refrigerators with a new touch screen controller designed to be easy clean and to prevent the settings being change inadvertently.

As you would expect, all Labcold products are CE marked to confirm they comply with current EC safety and other directives and are manufactured in accordance with ISO9001. Later this year we hope to have finished testing on a new range of laboratory refrigerators too.

Reducing the environmental impact of our operations

Labcold understands that our operations and activities have the potential to have an impact on the environment and our approach to environmental performance uses the principles of the ISO 14001 management system.

We set annual targets against our environmental objectives:

Scope 1 –

Moving to Hybrid or all electric company vehicles, encouraging the use of public transport and virtual meetings thus reducing carbon emission from travel.

Investigating with our Landlords energy reduction programmes such as the installation of heat source pumps and solar panels.

By continuous product development within on site production replace R134a which has a GWP property of with 1430 with R600/R290 with a GWP properties of .02-3.

Scope 2 –

To increase the LED lighting on site and install light sensors to control usage.

Installation of Waterless urinals to reduce water flows, replace existing taps with sensor taps to reduce water wastage.

Scope 3 –

Continue our work to shorten our supply chain by engaging with UK and EU manufacturers/suppliers reducing our products carbon footprint.

Continue our work to increase the proportion of recyclable material in the manufacture and shipment/delivery of our product.

The Board take their responsibilities very seriously and are working with the management team to ensure that the company carbon reduction plan is understood and implemented.

Our Objectives

Achieving Net Zero by 2045 in line with our Net Zero plan and aligned with UK Government PPN06/21 requirements.

Minimising our vehicle fuel consumption

Reducing energy usage across Labcold leased building, working with the landlords

Minimising waste generated and address sustainability monitoring across the business

Raise awareness with our colleagues, customers and other stakeholders about our environmental impact and share best practice to facilitate improvement.

Our current plan to support the delivery of net zero objectives outlined above

Labcold Ltd is committed to minimising the impact of its activities on the environment and in line with the overall stated objectives has adopted the following practical activities to ensure the Company meets or exceeds all legislative and regulatory instructions regarding environmental pollution and waste management appropriate to our business. This is monitored by regular reviews aimed at minimising waste by evaluating operations and ensuring that they are as efficient as possible.

- refrigerant gases, volatile solvents and potentially toxic or harmful liquid materials are not released to the environment but will be collected and passed to a suitable qualified and registered organisation for disposal in an approved manner.
 - All waste is assessed for recycling and where technical solutions exist the Company will endeavour to re-use or recycle waste products such as packing materials, or if not possible ensure that such waste is disposed of in an environmentally responsible manner.
 - All units are unpacked and sited at customers' premises and packing materials removed for recycling.
 - Paperless office principles are followed.
 - Hand dryers are provided to reduce paper towels.
 - Minimise toxic emissions through careful selection and use of its fleet and encouragement of the use of public transport, video/ telephone conferencing where appropriate.
 - All staff are trained to assess the 3 R's
 - Reduce
 - Review
 - Recycle
 - Policy reminders are sent by email
 - Where choice exists to seek to use key suppliers who adopt a responsible attitude to environmental issues and are actively reducing their carbon footprint. Similarly, where possible, products and component parts or materials will be selected with consideration of environmental impact, sustainability and future disposal needs.
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- It is the responsibility of each member of staff to observe and engage with the Board's policy and actively promote recycling both internally and amongst its suppliers
 - It is the responsibility of Managers to ensure that staff engage with initiatives, discussing at management meetings and reporting progress to the Board and completing training matrixes.
 - It is the responsibility of the Board to check progress and review ongoing initiatives to adopt a continuous improvement policy and communicate via Management and staff communications by email.
 - At end of life products are recovered and disposed of under WEEE regulations.

- Although not currently accredited with ISO14001 Labcold is working towards achieving this and reducing our carbon footprint.

Should you require any detailed information of our processes and initiatives please contact Labcold.



Suzanne Clubley
Managing Director
2nd September 2024