

we are arco

we make tables

WE LIVE TO LAST

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

arco

Kottenseweg, Winterswijk
N 51°56.647" E 6°46.384'

**WE
ARE
ON A
JOURNEY AND
CONSTANTLY
LOOKING
FOR NEW
WAYS TO
DO BETTER**

arco

MANIFESTO

we are arco

we make tables & objects to complement them

we seek for balance between men and nature when we design, develop and manufacture

we love to make beautiful things that matter to people, communities & the world

we are proud to be the new craftsmen combining skill, nature & technology

we are family, tradition & the contemporary

we are on a journey & constantly looking for new ways to do better

we love what we do



ABOUT ARCO

Family-run company Arco has been designing and producing tables and matching items of furniture at its own production facilities in Winterswijk in the Netherlands since 1904. The company's core values are genuine craftsmanship, sustainability and innovation. Using the latest technologies, the table specialist manufactures furniture that is synonymous with ingenious detail and a high-quality feel.

Since 2011 the company has been managed by the fourth generation in the person of Jorre van Ast. The industrial product designer graduated from the prestigious Royal College of Art in London and the University of Applied Sciences in The Hague. As owner and Creative Director he now has the task of preserving the appreciated Arco style and is doing this in his own inimitable way, focusing on the design, development and manufacture of tables and matching items of furniture. As of 2018, the management of Arco has been expanded with Jan Tichelaar as Managing Director.

Tables play a central role in our lives. Whether at home or in an office, restaurant or library, tables are where we talk, work, eat, meet and celebrate. And Arco makes tables suited to all these different locations and occasions. For Arco, innovation is an ongoing process, so the company always uses the latest technologies and materials. Arco has set itself the goal of making attractive, sustainable and socially relevant products. This aim will be accomplished by combining the knowledge and skills of our tradespeople with new technologies. The family-run company is committed to developing existing traditions according to 21st-century vocational practices, creating a new craftsmanship that focuses on the integration of nature, workmanship and technology. Arco has a long-term vision based on local production. An excellent example of this is its "Local Wood" collection, where Arco works across the supply chain with partners from the region, from sourcing the raw material through sawmill processing to in-house production. As well as producing its standard range, the company owned factory also specialises in bespoke furniture. This is how Apple ended up with Arco. In 2017 Arco made an important contribution to the furniture for the new head office of Apple in Cupertino.

In the day-to-day running of the business, Jorre van Ast and Jan Tichelaar are supported by a team of around 50 dedicated staff members. Together they produce tables and matching pieces of furniture for the home or workplace. Half of the company's revenue comes from sales in the Netherlands, the other 50 percent from exports. Global sales are managed from Winterswijk and through a national and international network of dealers and representatives. Arco maintains permanent showrooms in Amsterdam (Cruquiusweg 111m) and Cologne (Deutz-Mülheimer-Strasse 22a).

OUR PHILOSOPHY

114 years of Arco

Arco was founded in Winterswijk in 1904. Craftsmanship and a passion for woodworking has been the company's focus for four generations. Here superior workmanship and modern technology go hand in hand. Every piece of furniture that leaves our factory is designed and built with a great deal of dedication. Product quality is always top priority for us. Because a good table will last for generations.

Proud of our people

In a globalised world, Arco has opted for a transparent, smallscale way of working. The Winterswijk factory employs 50 people who love our products. Because a good product is not only nice to see, but is also made well. We nurture everyone's talent and are proud that Arco employees stay with us on average 15 years.

Quality is sustainability

Our tables offer limitless dining - because an Arco product is for life. In an era when things are losing their value increasingly faster, we want to do the opposite and add value. That's why we make sustainable choices whenever possible and aim to do this more and more with each passing year.

Timeless signature. We consciously opt for a subdued style that is not all that susceptible to fads and trends, which is why our furniture lasts for generations.

On-demand production. We don't make a furniture item until you've ordered it, thereby preventing accumulation of unsold pieces.

European wood. We primarily work with European wood that is sustainably felled. And we try to source the wood from the closest possible locations.

Sustainable partners. We like to work with partners who are focused on the future, such as fabric suppliers De Ploeg and Kvadrat. For the Local Wood collection we work together with the Gelderland Landscape and Castles foundation (Geldersch Landschap en Kasteelen). They provide us with the wood of crookedgrowing trees, for example. We also purchase other materials at preferably local - and exclusively Dutch or German - suppliers, who - just like us - make sustainable choices when possible.



made in Holland

Made in Holland. We are committed to quality and craftsmanship. Our tables are therefore produced by the best craftsmen in our own factory in the Netherlands. Also our cabinets, small furniture and most of our chair collection is produced in the Netherlands. And we take pride in it.



made in Germany

Made in Germany. For a small part of our chair collection we avail ourselves of the knowledge of our neighbours just across the border. Germany is a country known for its high performance and quality.



PRODUCTS & PRODUCTION

refurbish

Refurbish. You can rely on our Arco dealers for the refurbishment of e.g. the Essenza table. They take your table to our factory, where we will take care of it. Afterwards it will be returned to you as new.

reduce

Reduce. Arco aims at reducing the consumption of raw materials during production.

flatpack

Arco flatpack. The packaging is made, whenever possible, as flat as possible so it takes up less volume, resulting in less transport on an annual basis.

duramas

Arco duramas. These table tops have a core of less scarce wood species, with a solid wooden layer glued at the top and bottom. Through this method scarce solid wood is efficiently dealt with, without compromising on quality.

CO2-Emissions and energy consumption. Arco is constantly looking for opportunities for energy savings, as well as for purchasing green energy. For example, recently we purchased a completely new extraction system that, by means of a smarter control system, consumes on the average almost 50% less energy.

recycle

Recycle. We develop our products in such a way that they can be easily disassembled at the end of their service life. This will ensure that the various materials are highly recyclable.

repair

Repair. You can rely on our Arco dealers for the repair of your table.

local wood

Arco Local Wood. With the collection Local Wood we maintain the production chain as short as possible. The collection is produced, from the beginning to the end, by local parties: from raw materials and processing (sawing and drying) to production. All the wood for this collection comes from the immediate vicinity of our plant in Winterswijk: the Netherlands and West Germany. This saves a lot of kilometres and thus a lot of energy.

lightweight

Arco lightweight. We use as much lightweight materials in the product as possible so that weight is not unnecessarily high. This allows the most effective use of energy sources both in terms of transport and processing by people.

Solar panels. Preparations are being made to place solar panels on 60% of the surface area of our factory. In this way 20% of our energy consumption will come from renewable resources. Our goal is to increase this to 50% by 2025.

(RAW) MATERIALS

Wood

Wood is a sustainable and CO₂-neutral material. The wood used by Arco is for 75% FSC- or PEFC-certified wood. The remaining part is imported mainly from Germany, a country known for its sustainable forest management. In addition Arco consciously chooses not to use tropical hardwood for the tables.

Lacquers

Arco started tests in 2018 for completely changing over to water-based lacquers. In the first quarter of 2019 one of our paints will be replaced by a water-based lacquer. Our aim is to change over completely to water-based lacquers in 2020.

Powder coatings

Arco applies powder coatings for overcoating metal surfaces. Powder coatings are not environmentally harmful.

Adhesives

The adhesives used in Arco's products are almost exclusively water-based. For other adhesives we are constantly looking for alternatives that are less harmful to the environment.

Metals

The metal elements of Arco's products are fully recyclable at the end of their useful life. This makes the metal a durable material.

Foams / filling materials

Most of the foams / filling materials that are being processed in Arco's products meet either the ÖKOTEX class 1 or class 2. "Ökotex Standard 100" is a health mark for textiles. The foams are tested on substances harmful to health. We work with limit values in the final product, meaning that the health mark indirectly regulates the use of environmentally harmful substances as well.

Fabrics

Arco's chairs are available with many fabrics of different manufacturers. Among others Arco partners with Kvadrat, Febrik and De Ploeg, considering that sustainability is an important part of their vision for them as well. They deliver long life quality products, meaning that their fabrics are already durable by definition. Kvadrat, for example, has certified a number of products with an EU-Ecolabel, while fabric supplier Febrik intends to undertake the same certification process. De Ploeg as well pays attention to sustainability in their politics and offers sustainable choices in fabrics.

Leather

To produce leather, tanners have to comply with strict environmental regulations. Leather is an entirely durable material having excellent properties. A large part of Arco's leather collection is certified with a Reach or Blaue Engel label. Arco also offers leather that is mineral tanned.



Packaging

Our packaging is produced by means of an “on-demand packaging” packaging machine. The goal is to have the right packaging, at the right time and with lowest possible costs. The packaging is exactly tailored for each product, using a minimal amount of packaging material. Moreover in this way the product is optimally packed and therefore optimal protected during transport.

Transport

Arco collaborates with carriers that focus on sustainability. Our transporters reduce the CO₂-emissions through, among others, the use of cleaner engines, the effort in reducing fuel consumption, optimizing the loading space and of course an optimal planning.

In 2019 100% of the wood we use for our products will be FSC or PEFC certified.

In 2018 we will launch our first circular product.

In 2020 we will use exclusively water-based lacquer for all our products.

In 2023 20% of our collection will be circular.

(reduce, refurbish, recycle, repair)

In 2025 we will be able to provide for 50% of our own energy needs.

CERTIFICATES

FSC

Arco obtained the FSC CoC-certification. CoC-certification means that all companies of the supply chain, from sawmill to manufacturer of the finished goods, are able to separate the FSC-certified wood products from the other wood product, both on administrative as physical level, and that a certifier has determined that those companies comply with all applicable rules.



Het keurmerk voor
verantwoord bosbeheer
FSC® C127701

PEFC

Arco's Local Wood collection - Base, Base Oval, Base Round, Base Bench and the Trestle table - is fully made of PEFC-certified wood. Meaning that the wood used for this collection derives only from sustainably managed forests. The trees of these forests are only being harvested because of sustainable reasons, for example to make room for new trees. It is forbidden to cut more trees than can grow again.



Promoting
Sustainable Forest
Management
www.pefc.org

