

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

The company's main commitment is to minimize environmental impact, preserving our surroundings so that they can be enjoyed by future generations once mining activity has concluded.

MATSA's management is focused on making its activity a sustainable operation, compatible and integrated with the natural environment. The company fulfils this commitment through careful planning of production, throughout implementation of monitoring plans and management of every environmental issue arising from our activity.

The company's environment department conducts environmental monitoring and control tasks to ensure the compliance with the applicable regulations and to minimize the potential damages.



USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND RAW MATERIALS

In MATSA, the use of natural resources is always measured, monitored and controlled, to ensure that the company makes a sustainable management of them.

The company is currently developing a pilot project to test the effectiveness of the use of wetlands in the treatment of contact water generated in the MATSA facilities. The system is based on a passive treatment in which plants are used to reduce sulphate and metal concentrations in underground waters. This technology has low operating and maintenance costs, which is why it is considered sustainable in the long term.

Among its additional benefits, we highlight its high capacity for self-regulation, the perpetuation of these systems over time and the opportunity to create habitats for animals and plants.

Since 2015, MATSA has reduced the consumption of water from natural sources by 80%. This has had a direct impact in the reduction of our water use footprint.

Since 2016, MATSA has been part of the first water footprint platform in Spain, EsAgua, a pioneer network of organizations committed to reduce the water footprint in Spain.



RESTORATION PLAN



MATSA has a Restoration Plan for each operation centre: Aguas Teñidas, Sotiel and Magdalena in compliance with Royal Decree 975/2009, on the management of waste from extractive industries and protection and restoration of the areas affected by mining activity.

At present, some of the measures including in the Restoration Plan are already in progress. Restoration of areas of the landscape designated as rubble landfills and mine waste dumps are the main examples.

CULTURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION

MATSA is committed to the preservation of cultural heritage. That's why the "Window to the Past" archaeological project afforded us a welcome opportunity to perform some remedial and restoration work in the old Aguas Teñidas mine area. To ensure the archaeological remains of this 1st century AD industrial establishment could be protected and made available for visitors, MATSA undertook the clean-up of historical contamination from the site.



ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING AND AWARENESS-RAISING

Our environmental department delivers continuous environmental education every year and provides workers with information about Good Environmental Practices.

Regular updates in environmental matters are mandatory for every MATSA employee and are achieved through in-house training courses and workshops.



ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

The Company's environmental management system includes regular inspections and comprehensive controls to identify improvement opportunities. These encompass continuous monitoring of air and water quality in the surrounding areas, as well as responsible waste management.

