

Jute xpo[®]
beyondthebag



beyond
**the
bag**

Company
Information



Jutexpo®

Jutexpo is the UK's leading provider of jute and juco bags. Our ethically-produced reusable bags are frequently used as an ecologically-friendly replacement for plastic and cotton bags and are regularly seen on most high streets. In addition to being used as shopping bags, they lend themselves to a multitude of versatile applications:

- Client and employee gifts
- Conference gifts
- Shareholder and board meeting events
- Business anniversary promotions
- Sponsored public events and trade shows
- New product launches
- Dual-branded marketing opportunities with charity organisations

Our clientele range from Food and Clothing Retailers (including ASDA, Sainsbury's, Tesco & Waitrose), Airlines, Ferry Companies, Railway Companies, Charities, Pharmacies, FMCG Organisations, Mobile Phone Manufacturers and Retailers, Banks, Wine & Spirit Manufacturers and Retailers, Restaurants, Cosmetic Companies and many more.

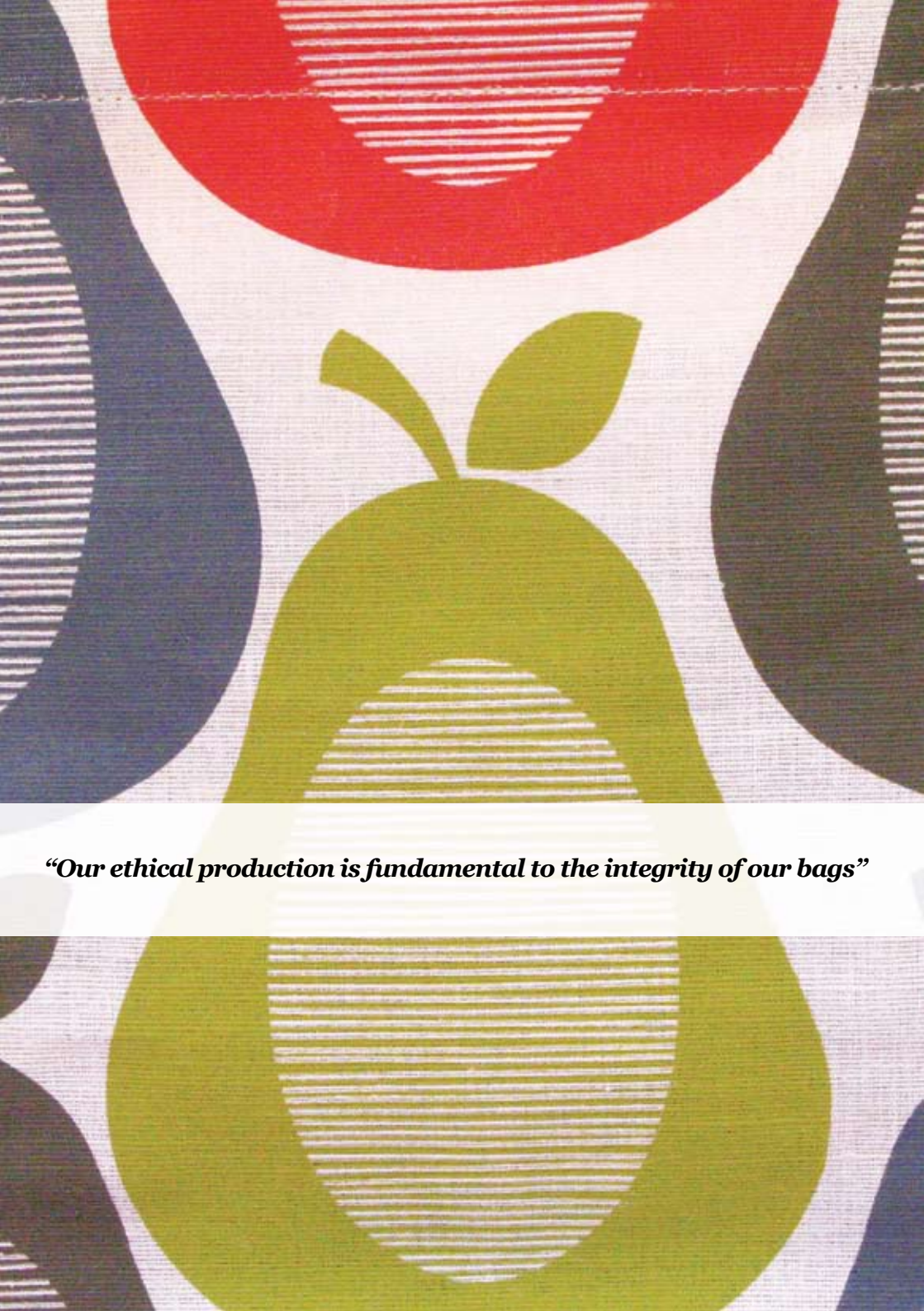
"Market leaders in ethically-produced reusable bags"

As an organisation we operate under the core principle of 'Beyond the Bag', which embodies the following values in everything we do:

- Ethical Production
- Social Responsibility
- Quality and Trust

To date we have sold over 30 million bags. If every bag was used as intended, billions of plastic bags could be saved from landfill.





“Our ethical production is fundamental to the integrity of our bags”

Ethical production

Throughout our entire processes, we have completely ethical production methods and we are transparent in demonstrating this. The jute industry is not largely mechanised and most stages of production are done by hand, so it is imperative to ensure that workers are treated fairly and ethically.

Our factories have regular independent ethical audits, derived from the ETI (Ethical Trading Initiative) base code. These ensure that no child labour is involved, all workers are paid decent wages, have safe working conditions and that the factories fulfil environmental standards.

All stages of the production processes are audited - from sourcing raw material to delivery of the final product - and we ensure that all our suppliers adhere to the same codes of practice as ourselves. As part of our transparent approach to compliance, we have always welcomed visits to our production facility from our clients.

Our audits are loaded onto Sedex, a system that allows its members to access site information, audits and other supplier information. Most major retailers are Sedex members.



www.sedex.com



“Reusable bags from a sustainable source”



Social responsibility

Reusable

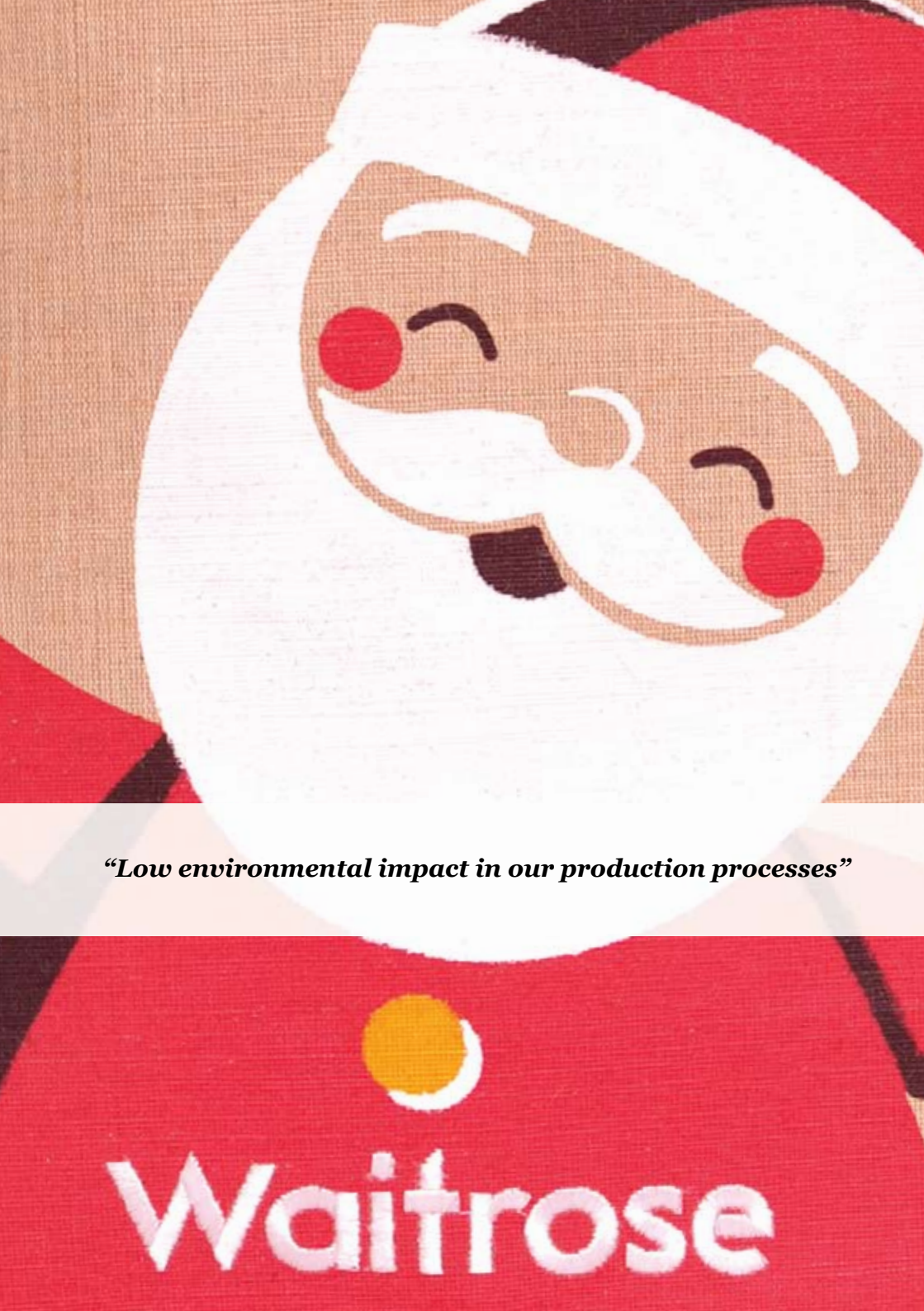
One of the key ecological benefits of our bags is their reusability. With a life of approximately 3-4 years, each bag replaces the need for around 600 plastic bags, which in turn stops the production of large quantities of Co2. To date, Jutexpo has sold more than 30 million bags, thereby playing a huge part in the drive to reduce landfill waste.

Sustainable

Unlike plastic, jute is a sustainable natural product and in terms of production it is the second most important natural fibre in the world. The growing process is predominantly manual. Requiring very little help to grow, it is used in a crop rotation system with rice or vegetables, providing the farmers with a profitable crop all year round. All of the plant is used - the leaves for food, the husk for firewood and the pith to make the fibre.

Ecologically sustainable - It is estimated that there is enough jute in the world to provide everyone with 2 jute bags!

Ethically sustainable - The jute industry in India, the biggest in the world, provides direct employment to about 0.26 million workers and supports the livelihood of around 4.0 million farm families.



“Low environmental impact in our production processes”

Waitrose

Social responsibility

Following extensive research into key characteristics associated with reusable bags, from the table below you can see that jute performs well in every category - making it the most ecologically-friendly option.

	Reusability	Sustainable	Carbon	Water
Jute	High	Yes	Low	Low
Cotton	Medium	Yes	High	High
Plastic	Low	No	Medium	Medium

Carbon Footprint

Detailed carbon footprint models have confirmed jute bags as having one of the lowest carbon footprints when compared to polypropylene or cotton. At Jutexpo, we are part of the JP Morgan Climate Care initiative (www.jpmorganclimatecare.com) which offsets our carbon footprint, from farm to final customer, by helping fund renewable energy and energy efficient projects, so all our bags are carbon neutral.

Water Footprint

The water footprint is one of the most impressive environmental aspects of our bags. Jute has one of the lowest water footprints as it is one of the lowest users of fertiliser, is largely rain fed and does not rely on irrigation. Unlike bleached and dyed cotton, jute is untreated in its natural state.



“Quality products from a trusted source”

Quality and trust

Modern facilities for quality production

Our modern unique production facilities operate under our 'Beyond the Bag' principle. Our factories in Kolkata are the biggest producers of jute bags in India, so we have the capacity to produce large volumes of quality products. Unlike most other suppliers, all production takes place under one roof so that quality can be maintained and monitored. We are ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 accredited. Through constantly striving to improve our processes, we have helped change a traditional artisan industry into a modern process.

A trusted brand

We understand that one of the most important things for our clients is protecting their own brand identity. As we provide transparency and independent proof of the ethical integrity of our bags, we are entrusted with some of the world's largest brands.

Creative design

Our in-house design team is highly experienced and has worked with the company since its inception. All designs are bespoke according to client requirements and in line with their branding guidelines.



***“If every bag we sold has been used properly,
based on its 4-year lifespan, to date we have saved
6.5 billion plastic bags from landfill”***




10 interesting facts about jute and jute bags

1. The contents of 3 single-use plastic bags will fit 1 average sized jute bag.
2. Use 1 jute bag each week for a year and save 156 plastic bags.
3. 1 lorry load of jute bags (35,000) will replace 5.5 million plastic bags in a year.
4. In its lifetime of approximately 4 years, each jute bag will replace over 600 plastic bags.
5. 1 lorry load of jute bags (35,000) will replace 21 million plastic bags in a 4-year life time.
6. Compared to plastic and cotton, jute has one of the lowest carbon footprints, largely due to the manual processes involved in production.
7. Jute, a rain-fed crop using little or no fertilisers or pesticides, has one of the lowest water footprints of materials used in reusable bags.
8. It is estimated that there is enough jute in the world for everyone to have 2 jute bags.
9. The jute industry in India alone supports the livelihood of 4 million farm families.
10. Dundee in Scotland was the hub of the jute industry in the 19th century.



Jutexpo recently launched its new Juco range. Made from 75% jute and 25% cotton, it was developed to take the best properties of both fibres to create an ecological alternative to cotton and canvas bags that:



- is just as strong and reusable
- is a sustainable resource
- has a lower ecological impact
- has a lower carbon footprint
- has a lower water footprint

Juco has all the qualities and versatility of jute and cotton, so can be used in much the same way – shopping bags, fashion bags, wine bottle bags and sandwich bags to name but a few of its applications. With its excellent environmental credentials, it is by far the most ecologically-friendly alternative to cotton and canvas-based products.

Barrie Turner, CEO of Jutexpo says: *'By combining the best characteristics of jute and cotton, we have provided a new eco-friendly alternative to help further drive the reduction of plastic bags and landfill waste in our environment.'*



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