

#### Contents

About Visaka	10
1.0 Visaka products	29
1.1 Product range	30
1.11 Asbestos cement sheets	30
1.12 VNext	32
1.121 VBoard	34
1.122 Vpremium	41
1.123 VPanels	44
1.13 Atum	49
1.14 Wonder Yarn	57
1.15 Atum Life	63
1.2 Production capacity	64
1.3 Product sales	66
2.0 Visaka's contribution to people and the earth	67
2.1 Our social footprint	70
2.2 Our material footprint	77
2.3 Reclaimed products	82
2.4 Water resource management	84
2.5 GHG emissions	90
2.6 Waste management	91
2.7 Working with our supply chain to ensure greater environmental protection	92
3.0 Sustainable business model	97
3.1 Sustainability pillars	98
3.2 Long term partnerships with stakeholders	101
3.3 Materiality assessment and action	102
4.0 Pillar 1: Innovation	104
4.1 Using alternative raw materials for our products	107
4.2 Innovative product mix	110
4.3 Operational efficiency	113

5.0 Pillar 2: People	114
5.1 Agile & experienced workforce	11:
5.11 Diversity and inclusion	11'
5.12 Talent retention and growth	12
5.13 Employee benefits	12
5.14 Adequately set up for safety at workplace	12
5.15 Employee grievance mechanism	13
5.2 Robust supply chain	13
5.3 Customer engagement	13
5.4 Community	13
5.41 Organised action for CSR	14
5.42 CSR policy	14
5.43 Number of lives benefited for every activity in FY 2020-21	14
5.44 CSR spending for each activity in FY 2020-21	14
5.45 CSR team organisation	14
6.0 Pillar 3: Clean revenue	14
6.1 Diversified portfolio of sustainable products	14
6.2 Compliance to regulations	14
6.21 Corporate governance	14
6.22 Grievance redressal policy	15
6.23 Vigil mechanism	15
6.3 Building brand Visaka	15
6.31 Discipline for building trustful relationships	15
6.32 Discipline for quality excellence	15
6.33 Discipline for innovation	16
6.34 The future we want	16
6.4 Top line growth	16
7.0 Pillar 4: Science	16
7.1 Research and development	16
7.2 Building a scientific mindset within Visaka	16
Assurance Statement	17
GRI Index	17
SDG Index	17

#### **About the Report**

At Visaka, our commitment to improve the lives of people and protect the environment serves as the basis of our product offerings, operations, and overall business. We approach sustainability as a business opportunity. We welcome you to know more by reading our 1st Business Sustainability Report, titled 'Ability Responsibility Sustainability' for Financial Year 2020 - 2021.

This report presents Visaka's evolution over 40 years and elaborates on how innovation, our people, their determined focus on science and research for generating clean revenue has enabled us to leverage sustainability as a business. (GRI 102-1, 102-49)

#### **Reporting Period**

This report is mapped with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) indicators and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The report discloses information dated between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021. (102-50, 102-51, 102-52)

#### **Report Boundary**

This report reflects in full scope our overall performance, best practices and initiatives undertaken in the reporting period. The scope of reporting boundary includes all business and operations of Visaka Industries Limited unless otherwise stated. The report therefore includes operations in all locations of Visaka's plants. (GRI102-46).

#### We're located at

- Andhra Pradesh
- 2 Bihar
- 3 Chhattisgarh
- 4 Gujarat
- 5 Haryana
- 6 Jharkhand
- 7 Kerala
- 8 Madhya Pradesh
- 9 Maharashtra
- 10 Odisha
- 11 Punjab
- 12 Rajasthan
- 13 Tamil Nadu
- 14 West Bengal



Visaka Industries Limited

Ability Responsibility

Ability Sustainability

#### **Reference Standards**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the GRI Standards: Core option. (GRI102-54)

#### **Report Assurance**

Independent assurance helps in building credibility and trust with our key stakeholders. It also reassures our readers that the information is accurate, reliable and unbiased and covers all the topics of material importance to the organization's stakeholders. For our Business Sustainability Report, we have engaged Sustain Labs Paris LLP to provide external assurance on the non-financial data presented in the report.

#### **Access to the Report**

Visaka's Business Sustainability Report are accessed from the link below:

<a href="https://www.visaka.co/investors">https://www.visaka.co/investors</a>

## Data Compilation Methodology

The data published in our Business Sustainability Report has been collected through Visaka's internal reporting systems for inclusion.

Assumptions and standard calculation methodologies for estimation and quantification of data have been used. Our direct and indirect emissions and energy consumption are calculated using the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Central Electricity Authority (CEA) published emission and energy factors. The financial information presented in our Financial Statement Summary may be referred from our Annual Report for FY 2020-21 (GRI 102-45).

### Suggestions and Feedback

We welcome you to share your views, suggestions and feedback on the report at: vil@visaka.in.
(GRI102-53)





Dear readers. In a year that is unlike no other in ensuring that humanity is sustained by a vaccine, the emphasis on sustainability is greater than ever. At Visaka Industries Limited, sustainability has been the core of our business from the start. In our products and operations, our primary focus has been on being responsible towards the environment and people, while increasing revenue. I am therefore happy to present to you Visaka Industries Limited's 1st Business Sustainability Report. This report covers all matters related to the company's business sustainability for the Financial Year 2020-21 and is a reflection of our commitment to you that Visaka's disciplined and steady growth also signifies the growth of all its stakeholders.

This report presents to you what sustainability means at our company, explained through the 4 pillars - innovation, our people, clean revenue streams, science. The report then maps out VIL's materiality framework, analysing across the report the materiality topics that are important to our stakeholders and to our business The Report offers a data backed explanation of how our business model, business processes, and production process are sustainable. It also goes on to emphasize how our social commitment is evident not just

by the usage of our products in rural India and in lower income urban groups but also by our philanthropy that even predates the CSR law in India. I take this opportunity to also add that since our company's inception, we have consistently been engaged in efforts around ensuring sustainability of the company and its stakeholders. We are glad to provide you with data, case studies, and evidence to communicate to you about this journey.

Our Business Sustainability Report is prepared on the basis of the latest version of guidelines developed by the Global Reporting Initiative and is assured by Sustain Labs Paris. The world around us has dramatically changed in the FY 2020-21, many lives have been lost to the pandemic, besides affecting the priorities and daily lives of those who survive. Communicating to you about Visaka's business sustainability therefore ensures that you know that we have our finger on the pulse of these tremendous changes, that we have survived the pain, leapfrogging on the opportunities that change always offers, and are ensuring that Visaka's growth path remains high and indeed sustainable. Sincerely,

Mr. G. Vamsi Krishna Joint Managing Director, Visaka Industries Ltd.



Visaka is a diversified Company incorporated in 1981 and manufactures products that capitalize an ongoing improvement in lifestyle standards in India and abroad. The Company was started as a joint venture company promoted by Dr. G. Vivekanand, a first-generation entrepreneur and the Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation (APIDC). It is headquarted in Secundrabad, Telangana.

The Company commenced its commercial operations in the year 1985.

In 1989, APIDC divested its holdings in favour of Dr.G.Vivekanand.

Visaka then diversified and implemented the air jet spinning technology for yarns in the year 1991, thus becoming the world's largest manufacturer of twin air jet spun yarn of that time.

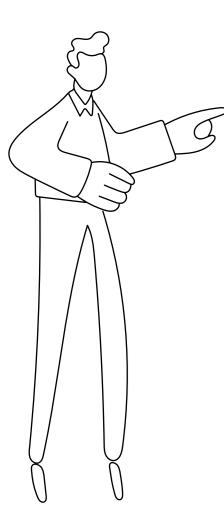
•••••

Visaka established the Visaka Charitable Trust in 2000 to support initiatives that benefit society on a not for profit basis. The Trust mainly works in the areas of water supply, education, and health.

•••••

The company has steadily grown - starting from a single product single location company to a multi product multi location company - by capitalising on India's lifestyle and aspirations driven growth while leveraging sustainability as a business opportunity. In the year 2009, the company diversified into manufacturing V-Next fibre cement boards. In 2018, Visaka launched the solar roof system called Atum, which was at the time the first of its kind product in the country.

In the year 2019-20, Visaka floated an IPO. The Company's shares are listed on BSE and NSE.



The company has steadily grown – starting from a single product single location company to a multi product multi location company - by capitalising on India's lifestyle and aspirations driven growth while leveraging sustainability as a business opportunity

#### 1981

Visaka was started as a joint venture company promoted by Dr. G. Vivekanand, a first-generation entrepreneur and the Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation (APIDC)

#### 1985

Commenced its commercial operations

#### 1989

APIDC divested its holdings in favour of Dr.G.Vivekanand

#### 1991

Diversified and implemented the air jet spinning technology for yarns in the year 1991, thus becoming the world's largest manufacturer of twin air jet spun yarn of that time

#### 2000

Established the **Visaka Charitable Trust** to support initiatives that
benefit society on a not for profit
basis

The Trust mainly works in the areas of water supply, education, and health.



#### 2009

Diversified into manufacturing V-Next fibre cement boards

#### 2018

Launched the solar roof system called **Atum,** which was at the time the first of its kind product in the country

#### 2019-20

The company floated an IPO.
The company's shares are
listed on BSE and NSE

During FY 2020-21, our non-textiles non-roofing solutions generated 18% of revenues largely due to a spike in rural preference. Whereas the asbestos roofing sheets business generated 69% of revenues and the textiles business which was affected by lockdowns accounted for 12% of revenues. As a stated policy, the company intends to increase the proportion of non-textiles non-roofing revenue streams to 25% of its turnover by 2023-2024.

•••••

Visaka Industries Limited is now being stewarded by Mr. G. Vamsi Krishna, son of Dr. G. Vivekanand and Mrs. Saroja Vivekanand. In January 2021, under the leadership of Mr. G. Vamsi Krishna, Visaka has launched Atum Life, a chain of stores that sell sustainable products. Visaka's market capitalisation as on 31st March 2021 is Rs. 782 crore.



Visaka Industries Limited

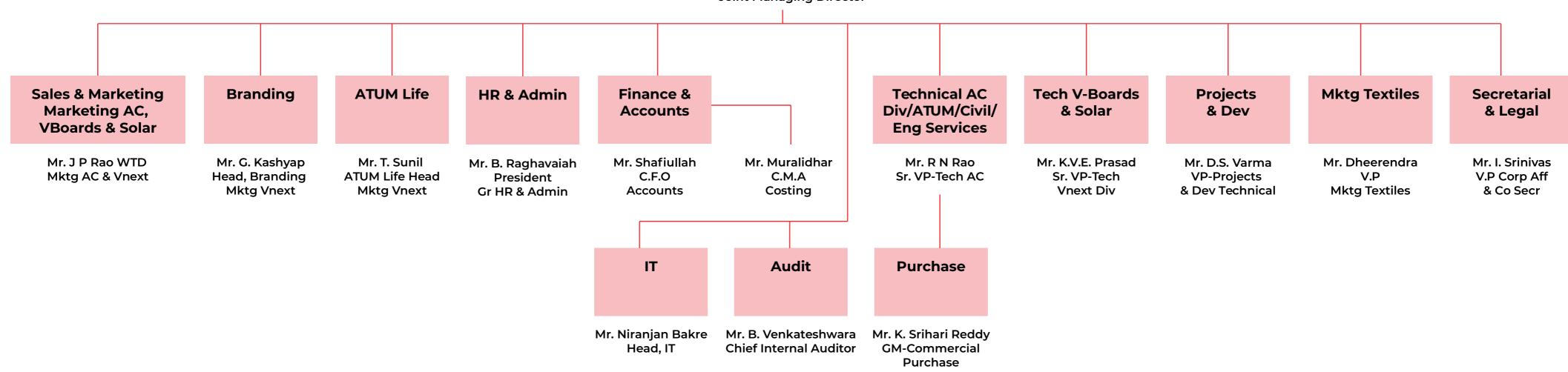
Ability Responsibility Sustainability

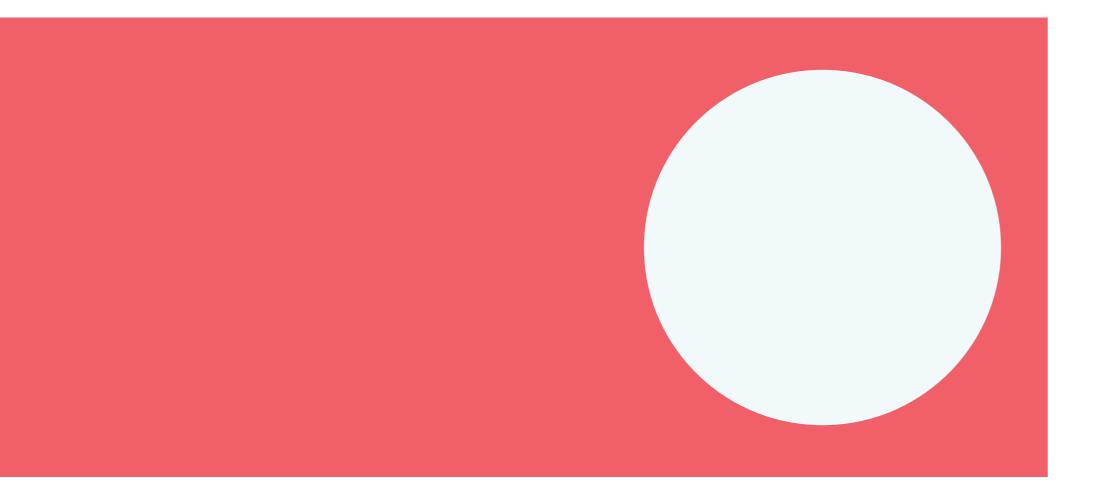
#### Organogram

**Corporate Office** 



**Joint Managing Director** 





Particulars	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Sales revenue	990 cr	951 cr	997 cr	1127 cr	1047 cr	1168.57 cr
Total revenue (including operating & other income)	1008 cr	966	1016 cr	1148 cr	1057 cr	1143 cr
Gross profit	98	123	155	156	115	
Net profit after tax	24	43	67	67	49	11064 lacs
Share capital (including preference capital)	15.92	15.92	15.92	15.92	15.92	15.92
Reserves	331	377	430	484	489	
Dividends (in %)	50	60	70	70	150	169
Earnings per share (in Rs)	15	27	42	42	31	68.47

Table 1: Financial Performance

#### Visaka makes

**Cement Asbestos** 

V-Next

Yarns

**Solar Roofing** 





- Corrugated cement fibre sheets
- Close-fitting adjustable ridges
- Apron pieces
- Cladding/Walling
- North light ridges
- Barge boards
- North light curves
- Serrated adjustable ridges
- Roof lights
- Ridge Finals

#### V-Next

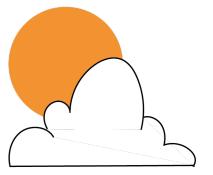
- V-boardV-premium
- V-designer
- V-plank
- V-panelV-infill

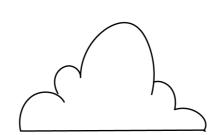
#### **Yarns**

 Cotton-touch air-jet-spun polyester yarns

#### Solar roofing

ATUM



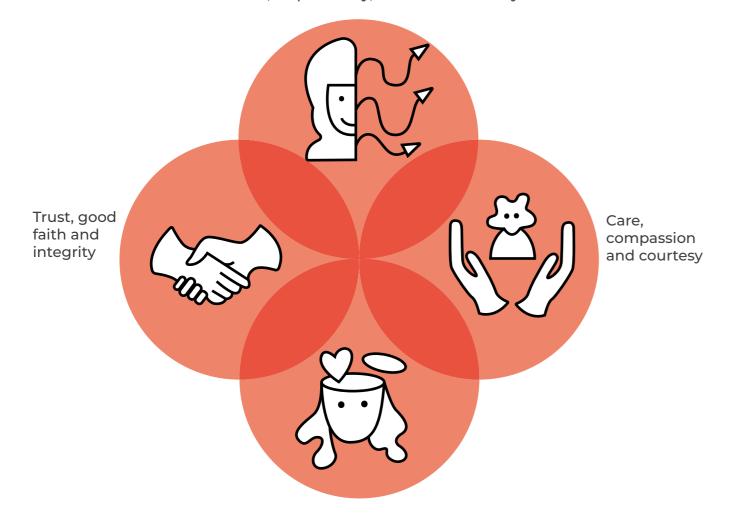






#### Our values

Initiative, responsibilty, and accountablility



Ethical functioning, fairness and transparency

#### Vision

Committed to be a 'credible', 'passionate', and 'innovative' solutions- providing company.

#### Mission

To be a complete costeffective and qualitative
building solutions provider
To identify potential
products, which add to social
needs.
To explore and enhance our
niche textile markets.
To create value and trust

among all stakeholders

Visaka Industries Limited Ability Responsibility Sustainability

#### Our competitive positioning



Innovate & excel



Cost advantage



Visaka's **Strategy** 



Responsible Corporate Citizenship



Supplier of Choice



Robust People & **Practices** 



Innovate & excel

Key

enablers

distribution

terms of trade

endurance

Nurtured a culture of cost

management, qualitative

Focussed on cost management

through investments in superior

manufacturing technologies,

scale, integration and superior

Emphasised superior product

product customisation (in the

textiles business) and product

Facilitated personal and

Engaged in community

the company's various

manufacturing facilities

professional development,

strengthening people retention

and superior use of knowledge

strengthening initiatives near

quality, operational transparency,

exellence and efficient



Cost advantage



Supplier of Choice



Robust People & **Practices** 



Responsible Corporate Citizenship

Materials issued

Invested in cutting edge technologies, introduced innovative products like ATUM

Commenced manufacturing operations in Jhajjhar to cater to the North Indian market

Produced quality products that were accredited with relevant certifications

Allocated 2% of the profit towards CSR activities

Addressed capex through accruals, strengthening the balance sheet

Manufactured. intellectual and

Capital

financial

impacted

Financial and social

Intellectual, manufactured and social

Intellectual and human

Social and natural

**Ability Responsibility Sustainability** 24 25 Visaka Industries Limited

#### **Awards**

- Highest productivity award from the Andhra Pradesh Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry in 1987.
- Best Management award from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the year 1987.
- Best Entrepreneur of the year award from the Council for Industrial and Trade Development for the year 1990-91.
- Diversified and implemented a totally new technology Air Jet Spinning in the year 1991 and became the World's largest set up for manufacture of Twin Air Jet Spun Yarn.
- Highest Productivity award from the Council for Industrial and Trade Development for the year 1995.
- Best Industrialist award from the Government of Tamil Nadu for the year 2000.
- Best performance in Large and Medium Sector for the year 2001 awarded by All India Manufacturers' Organization, Andhra Pradesh State Board.
- A.P. Distinguished Industrialist Award for the year 2003 awarded by Exhibition Society.
- Best Practices in Investor Relations in Fibre Cement Sheets Industry Category 2012 by the IR Society.
- Awarded Green Pro by CII for VNext range of Products.
- Awarded "next Fortune 500 Companies" by Fortune 500.
- Awarded Most Trusted Brand 2021, by CNBC TV18.
- Our Managing Director Mrs. Saroja Vivekanand has been awarded Most Promising Women Leaders 2021 by The Economic Times.

#### Visaka's credit rating

Long term bank facilities of Visaka are accredited with CARE AA- rating (Double A Minus; Outlook: Stable) Other loan facilities are accredited with CARE AI+

Triple bottom line highlights FY 2020-21

Source: careratings.com Visaka Industries Limited January 07, 2021)

Visaka Industries Limited Ability Responsibility Sustainability

#### **External initiatives and associations**

(102-12, 102-13)

As responsible corporate citizens, we are driven towards creating shared value for our stakeholders. Through memberships in industry associations and trade forums, we seek to learn from our peers and share our own experiences in order to strengthen the ecosystem that we are operating in. Visaka is a member at three industry associations, Federation of the Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Confederation of Indian Industry, Fiber Cement Products Manufacturers Association (FCPMA). We have not yet signed up to any international or national environmental, economic or social principles and charters.

#### 1.0 Visaka's Products

Founded by Dr. G. Vivekanand in 1983, Visaka Industries Ltd. currently offers products in building materials and textiles - Asbestos cement sheets, the VNext range of reinforced building boards made of fibre cement, Atum solar roofing systems, and Wonder Yarn. In 2021 the company is also launching Atum Life, a chain of retail stores selling sustainable products. There is a focused effort to leverage sustainability as a business opportunity.

We sell our building products directly to our retailer network instead of the traditional approach of working solely with distributors. This helps us keep in touch with the latest market realities. We are able to thus gauge customer preferences and trends directly. Keeping in step with the changing needs of customers, we therefore gradually expanded our product offering to our existing retailer network. This is why, starting with Asbestos cement sheets in 1983, Visaka Industries Ltd. launched in 2009 its asbestos-free range of boards and panels under the VNext brand. We decided to further develop our range of sustainable building products, and pioneered in the sunrise industry of solar roofing systems with the launch of Atum solar roofs in 2018.

Continuing to cater to basic needs of customers that includes shelter as well as clothing, in 1992 we also diversified into textiles. We launched the Wonder Yarn that today offers a range of yarns to textile manufacturers.

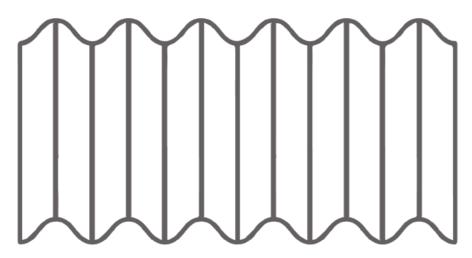
In 2021, our Atum Life stores will showcase and offer to customers not only Visaka's range of sustainable building materials and textiles but also sustainable products manufactured by other companies. Atum Life will be designed sustainably, operated in a paper-less manner, with zero-waste practices. Customers will be able to experience an environmentally responsible and sustainable living at Atum Life.

This section of our Business Sustainability Report presents more detailed information about our products.

Visaka Industries Limited

Ability Responsibility Sustainability

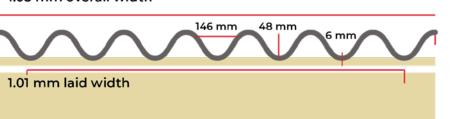
#### 1.11 Asbestos cement sheets

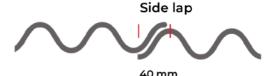


ISO 459:1992

#### **Dimensional details**

1.05 mm overall width





Established in 1981, Visaka's first factory in Patancheru in Telangana commenced production of asbestos cement sheets in 1985. Visaka's asbestos cement sheets consist of white chrysotile asbestos fiber used to reinforce cement. The product meets IS–459 standards.

#### ISI specification data

**Standard length** : 3.00, 2.75, 2.50, 2.00, 1.75, 1.50

in meters
Thickness

: 6 mm : 146 mm

Pitch : 146 mm
Depth : 48 mm

Overall width : 1050mm Effective width : 1010 mm

Minimum end lap
For slopes 18° and above

**Tolerance (in mm)** : +5, -10, +Free, -0.5, +6, -2, +3,

: 150 mm

-5, +10, -5, +10, -5

Maximum unsupported

overhang : 300 mm

Maximum purling space

for roofing : 1.4 m

Minimum purling space

for vertical cladding : 1.7 m

Section modulus : Z<sub>8</sub> - 75 cm<sup>3</sup>

Z<sub>1</sub> - 85 cm<sup>3</sup>

Moment of rupture : 200 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>

Running meters per tonne : 78

approx

Colour : Light grey

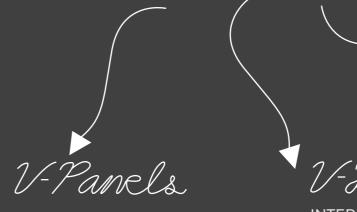
Accessory name	Purpose
Close fitting adjustable ridges	To close the roof at the ridge
Serrated adjustable ridges	To close the roof at the ridge
Apron piece	To cover the angle formed between a sloping roof and vertical cladding or walling
Roof lights	To allow light inside from the wall
North light ridges	To cover the ridge of the roof's north light
Ridge finals	To close the ends of the ridge
Barge boards	To cover the verge of a roof or corners of cladding
Ridge finials	To close the end of the ridge-line
North light curve	To cover the curve of the roof's north light

Table 2: Accessory Manufacturing

Ability Responsibility Sustainability

# 1.12 VNext A space designed and constructed using V-Next products

# V-NEXT



V-Bremium EXTERIOR GRADE

V Plank

V Stone



V-Board

INTERIOR GRADE



V Oceanic





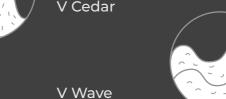
V Lake & Hill





**Salient Features** 

Fire resistant Water resistant Termite resistant Environmentally friendly Asbestos free



V Valley

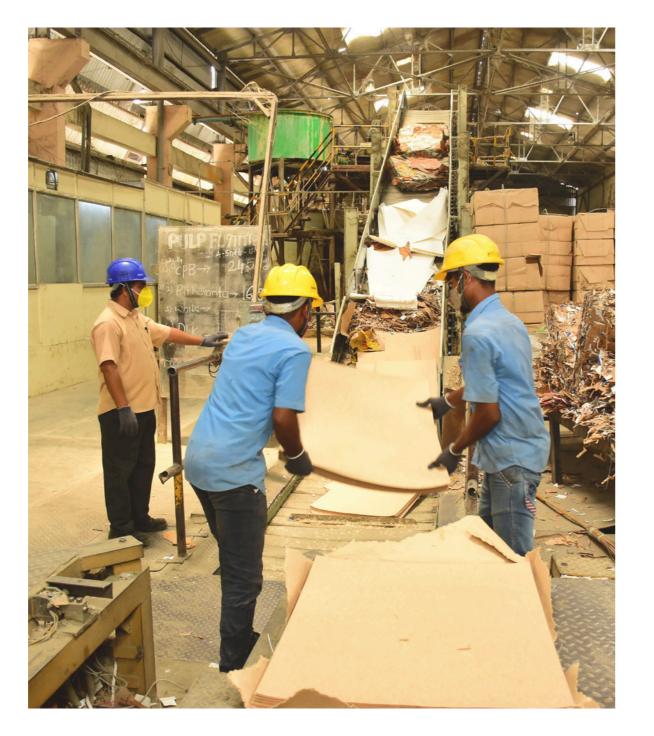


#### 1.121 VBoards

Vboards are flat reinforced building boards made of fibre cement for interiors of buildings with applications such as false ceilings, doors, partitions, prefabricated structures, wall paneling, backliners.

Vboard is composed of special grade cellulose fibres, ordinary portland cement, fine silica, quartz, and some mineral additives. Vboard fibre cement boards are manufactured by the Hatschek process. The product is then cured using the HPSC technology, using high pressure steam to give the product strength and stability.

Vboard is Exova Warrington fire-rating resistant and meets the IS 14862:2000 standards



Sl. No.	Properties	Units	Performance
	Physical Characteristics		
1	Apparent density	kg/m³	>1200
2	Standard weight (for 6mm)	kg/m²	8.9
3	Thickness of boards (range)	mm	4-25
4	Dimension of boards	Mm	1220*1830, 1220*2440, 1220*2745, 1220*3050
	Mechanical Characteristics		
5	Modulus of rupture EMC- Minimum	MPa or N/mm²	10
6	Free moisture content	%	6
7	Water absorption- 24 hours	%	36
8	Lamina bond strength	MPa or N/mm²	0.9
	Other Characteristics		
9	Thermal conductivity (K) (30° C mean temperature)	W/m.k	0.172
10	pH value	-	10.4
11	Acoustic insulation (8 mm thick Vboard)	dB	29
12	Screw withdrawal (on face)	N	1220
13	Nail withdrawal (on face)	N	1010

Table 3.1: Technical & Physical Specifications (VBoard)

Visaka Industries Limited Ability Responsibility Sustainability

<b>Application Matrix</b>	Thi	ckne	SS								
Internal	4	6	8	9	10	12	14	16	18	20	25
False ceiling			<u>.</u>					<u>:</u>	<u>:</u>	: :	: : :
Wall partitions	<u>.</u>							<u>.</u>	<u>.</u>		: : :
Wall paneling	<u>.</u>						<u>.</u>		<u></u>		
Mezzanine flooring											
Doors											
Wet areas		<u> </u>	<u>.</u>								
Kitchen Cabinets/	<u>.</u>		<u>.</u>		<u>:</u>	<u> </u>	: : :				
External	<u>.</u>		. 17				<u>.</u>				
Prefab structures	<u> </u>	<u>.</u>									
Wall cladding	<u>.</u>										
Sign boards											
Roof underlay											
Duct covering											

Table 3.2: Application Matrix (VBoard)

36 Visaka Industries Limited

Authority /	Particulars of test / certificate / report	Reference	
BIS	Product license no.	License No.CM/L-6922884	
ISO 9001- 2015  Manufacture & supply of fibre cement boards  Cl. Groop Broducts and Cortificator Groop & Groop Bro Cortification and		IAS/QMS/C2366	
CII Green Products and	Certificates – GreenCo & GreenPro Certification and	VNext Boards (GPV106001)	
Services	qualifies as a Green company & Products	VNext Designer Boards (GPV106002)	
		VNext Panels (GPV106004)	
		VNext Premium Planks (GPV106006)	
		VNext Premium Boards (GPV106007)	
Shriram Institute for Industrial Research	V-Board – Test certificate / Test results Modulus of elasticity	-000267496-	
	V-Board – Test Certificate / Test Results Modulus of rupture (Dry & Wet)	-000272626-	
	Nail Withdrawal	-000272626-	
	Free Moisture Content	-000267494-	
	pH (Extract)	-000267527-	
	Compressive Strength	-000267531-	
	Density	-000267493-	
	Absorption test certificate	-000267530-	
	Screw Withdrawal	-000267526-	
	Modulus of rupture, bending strength, MPa; Frost resistance ratio, Soak-dry test ratio; Warm water test ratio; apparent density; dimensions; shape; swelling in water; water absorption; compressive strength; tensile strength perpendicular to surface; tensile strength parallel to surface; screw withdrawal test; nail withdrawal test; modulus of elasticity; pH value.	C1/000072332/13.02.2017	

Authority / Institution issuing certificate or test report	Particulars of test / certificate / report	Reference
Shriram Institute for Industrial	Swelling in water	-000267495-
Research	Tensile strength	-000267498-
	Tensile strength (perpendicular to the plane)	-000267499-
National Test House (Eastern Region) - Government of India (GOI)	Fire Test Certificate (2 numbers)	NTH(ER)CIV(G)/2016/00970 1463646617659
Electronics Test & Development Centre	Test Report- High Voltage test at 10KV(rms	ETDC(HY)/TR/T-312/16-17 dated 03.04.2017
Central Institute of Plastics Engineering & Technology	Test Report	No.1606283 / 20.03.2017
Center for Testing and Evaluation of Wood Composites / Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute	Termite Resistance Test	No.Dir./VIL/4821/Bio-6690/2015 dated 30.11.2015
ARAI (The AUTOMOTIVE Research Association of India)	Sound Test Report	NVH/4481/2015-16/590 (V-2)-1 / 14.09.2015
	Sound Test Report	NVH/4481/2015-16/590 (V-2)-3 / 14.09.2015
	Sound Test Report	NVH/4481/2015-16/590 (V-2)-4 / 14.09.2015

Authority / Institution issuing certificate or test report	Particulars of test / certificate / report	Reference
Central Institute of Plastics	Thermal Conductivity	Report No.47841 / 26.08.2015
Engineering & Technology, Chennai	Thermal Conductivity	47441 / 07.07.2015
	Thermal Conductivity	02940 / 08.06.2015
	Thermal Conductivity	47112 / 08.06.2015
Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee	Thermal Conductivity Evaluation Report	Ref: 15(1)/EB/2009 / 15.09.2009
TDV SUD, PSB Singapore	Thermal Conductivity test	No.7191061185 – 04 – MEC 13 – DLM dated 28.05.2013
	Water Vapour Resistance	No.7191061185 – MEC 13 / 03 – KSY dated 17.06.2013.
EXOVA Warringtonfire, UK	Fire Resistance	WF Report No. 321029 / 08.02.201

#### Table 3.3: Product certifications (VBoard)

VBoard is Exova Warrington fire-rating resistant and meets the IS 14862:2000 standards. Details of proofs, certifications and tests for VBoards are listed above.

Visaka Industries Limited Ability Responsibility Sustainability



#### 1.122 VPremium

VPremium is also made of special grade cellulose fibres, ordinary portland cement, fine silica, quartz, and mineral additives using the Hatschek process. It is then cured using the HPSC technology, using high pressure steam to give the product strength and stability. Vpremium is manufactured as per ISO 8336/IS 14862/ASTM C1186 standards. They are available in smooth and textured finishes.

There are 4 variants of Vpremium: Vnext Premium Plank, Vnext Premium Stone, Vnext Premium Sandstone, Vnext Premium Valley.

For example, the Vnext
Premium Plank is a textured
Vnext Premium Board cut
into 150 mm or 200 mm wide
strips, used as an exterior grade
material for applications such
as façades, external cladding,
and siding.

SI.	Properties	<b>Test Method</b>	Units	Requirement	<b>Test Results</b>
	Physical Characteristics				
1	Dimensional tolerances				
а	Length & width	ASTM C1185	%	<b>↑0.5</b>	Pass
b	Thickness	IS 14862	%	<b>↑10</b>	Pass
С	Straightness & squareness	ISO 8336	mm/m	3 & 4	Pass
2	Density	ASTM C1185	kg/m³	>1250	1298
3	Flexural Strength (MOR- wet condition)	ASTM C1185	N/mm²	>7.0	8.8
4	Water impermeability	ASTM C1185	-	No droplets	Pass
5	Moisture movement	ASTM C1185	%	-	0.061
6	Water absorption	ASTM C1185	%	30- 36	30.64
7	Moisture content	ASTM C1185	%	4-8	4
8	Water vapour transmission	ISO 12572	g/m²	-	40.6
9	Glue line shear force/ strength	ASTM D1037	N	-	3264.2
10	Direct screw withdrawal resistance	ASTM D1037	N	-	989.7, 643.3
	Durability				
11	Freeze- thaw resistance (50 cycles)	ASTM C1185	-	-	Pass
12	Warm water resistance	ASTM C1185	-	-	Pass
13	Soak- dry resistance (50 cycles)	ISO 8336	-	-	Pass
14	Heat- rain resistance (25 cycles)	ASTM C1185	-	-	Pass

SI.	Properties	Test	Units	Requirement	<b>Test Results</b>
	Fire				
15	Ignitability	BS 476, Part 5	-	Class P	Class P
16	Fire propagation index	BS 476, Part 6	-	Lower Values	2.79
17	Surface spread of flame	BS 476, Part 7	-	-	Class 1
18	Fire resistance (integrity and insulation)- in minutes for non- load bearing, insulated, double- skin partition	BS 476, Part 22	Both in minutes	>120	171 & 148
19	Surface burning characteristics				
а	Flame spread index	ASTM E84	N/mm²	Lower Values	0
b	Smoke developed index	ASTM E84	-	Lower Values	0
С	Class	ASTM E84	%	Lower Values	Α
	Acoustic Characteristics				
20	Sound transmission co-efficient	DIN 52210/			
а	Bare board (8mm thick)	ISO 140	dB	-	29
b	Typical portion (with 10 mm facing sheets, 72 mm stud, 50 mm glass wool, 48 kg/m³)	ISO 140	dB	-	45
	Thermal Characteristics				
21	Thermal conductivity	ASTM C518	W/m.K		0.0748

Table 4: Technical & Physical Specifications (VPremium)

Visaka Industries Limited Ability Responsibility Sustainability

#### 1.123 VPanel



Table 5: Technical & Physical Specifications (VPanel)

Sl. No.	Properties	Test Method	Units	Requirement	Test Results
	Physical Characteristics		.,		
1	Nominal weight per sq. Metre	Weight	kg/m²	34	46
2	Axial load				
	Sample Size 2.5 m, 0.6 m	ASTM E72	KN/m	54 (SF 2)	90 (SF 2)
	Sample Size 1.5 m, 0.3 m	ASTM E72	KN/m	65 (SF 2)	100 (SF 2)
3	Multi point load				
	2.9 metre span	ASTM E72	kg/m²	125	150
	2.4 metre span	ASTM E72	kg/m²	200	250
	1.5 metre span	ASTM E72	kg/m²	450	500
4	Uniform distributed load (bag test)	ASTM E72	KN/m	1	0.9
5	Tensile strength parallel to surface	IS 2380 1977	N/mm²	0.3	0.35
6	Modulus of rupture	IS 2380 1977	kg/cm²	42	31
	Thermal Properties				
7	Thermal resistance	IS 3346 1980	M²K/W	0.3	0.55
8	Overall thermal transmittance	IS 3346 1980	W/M²K	1.8	1.5126

Sl. No.	Properties	Test Method	Units	Requirement	Test Results	
	Acoustic Properties					
9	Sound transmission class	ISO 9901	dB	33	36	
	Fire related properties	***************************************	•			
10	Fire rating	BS 476: Part 20	Minutes	60	120	
11	Surface spread flame	BS 476: Part 7	Class	Class 1	Class 1	
12	Fire propagation index	BS 476: Part 6	Index	3.4	3.3	
13	Ignitability	BS 476: Part 5	Performance	Class P	Class P	
14	Combustibility	BS 476: Part 4	Performance	Not combustible	Not combustible	
	Resistance to air and water					
15		BS 4315.2 1970	-	•	No dampness, no leakage, increase in weight is 4.5% maximum	

Application Matrix	Thickness (mm)			
Internal	50	75	100	
Prefab structures				
Drywall/ partitions				
Mezzanine flooring				
Compound wall				
1 hour fire rated partitions				
2 hour fire rated partitions				
3 hour fire rated partitions				
Residential partitions				

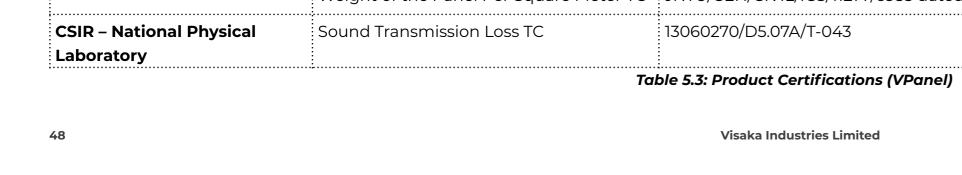
Table 5.2: Application Matrix (VPanel)

#### Table 5.1: Technical & Physical Specifications (VPanel)

Visaka Industries Limited

Ability Responsibility Sustainability

Authority / Institution	Particulars of test / certificate /	Reference
issuing certificate or test	report	
ISO 9001- 2015	Manufacture & supply of sandwich panels	IAS/QMS/C2366
Central Building Research	Toxicity and oxygen index of VPanel	Report No. F R (S) / 0239
Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee, India	Fire Resistance Test Reports (5 numbers)	Ref Test schedule references: FR / 0509, FR / 0319 Evaluation Reports:
Industrial Consultancy	Modulus of rupture - test certificate (TC)	JNTUCEH ICS CIVIL STR / 4846/09/15 dated
Services, JNTUH, Hyderabad	Tensile Strength- TC	JNTUCEH ICS CIVIL STR / 4846/09/18 dated 28.06.2010
	Transverse Load Test TC	JNTUCEH ICS CIVIL STR / 4846/09/19 dated 28.06.2010
	Axial Compressive Strength TC	JNTUCEH ICS CIVIL STR / 4846/09/20 dated 28.06.2010
	Uniformly Distributed Transverse Load TC	JNTUCEH ICS CIVIL STR / 4846/09/21 dated 28.06.2010
	Axial Compressive Strength TC	JNTU/CEH/CIVIL/ICS/11277/6955 dated 15.11.2014
	Tensile Strength Perpendicular to Surface (Bond Strength) TC	JNTU/CEH/CIVIL/ICS/11277/6955 dated 15.11.2014
	Modulus of Rupture (M.O.R.)	JNTU/CEH/CIVIL/ICS/11277/6955 dated 15.11.2014
	Transverse Load Test TC	JNTU/CEH/CIVIL/ICS/11277/6955 dated 15.11.2014
	Uniformly Distributed Transverse Load TC	JNTU/CEH/CIVIL/ICS/11277/6955 dated 15.11.2014
	Weight of the Panel Per Square Meter TC	JNTU/CEH/CIVIL/ICS/11277/6955 dated 15.11.2014
CSIR – National Physical Laboratory	Sound Transmission Loss TC	13060270/D5.07A/T-043





In the year 2018, Visaka launched ATUM, an integrated solar roofing system that offers the functions of a traditional roof, while generating energy for the resident. Essentially, these are integrated solar panels with a cement base. They have a density of 1250 kg/cubic metre and thermal conductivity of 0.072 W/mtK.

#### Advantages:

Dual purpose roof providing shelter and power Cost efficient Reduces temperatures by 35-40% as compared to traditional roofs

Rust proof, leak proof

Noise, fire, shock resistant High thermal resistance due to low thermal conductivity

20% more power output in the same area as compared to a traditional solar roof

Non polluting to the environment

Atum solar boards reduce temperatures by 35-40% as compared to traditional roofs, thus providing better insulation from heat with no need for an insulation mat under the roof. It has a lifespan of about 25 years and does not rust. For large orders, the company customises the size of the Atum solar boards. The company has partnered with battery and inverter manufacturers, to facilitate their customers' use of the Atum solar boards.

In comparison to Galvalume sheets, Atum solar boards withstand heat and rain better, do not generate noise at the time of rain, are fire-resistant, do not emit radiations, and eliminate the hazard of electrocution.



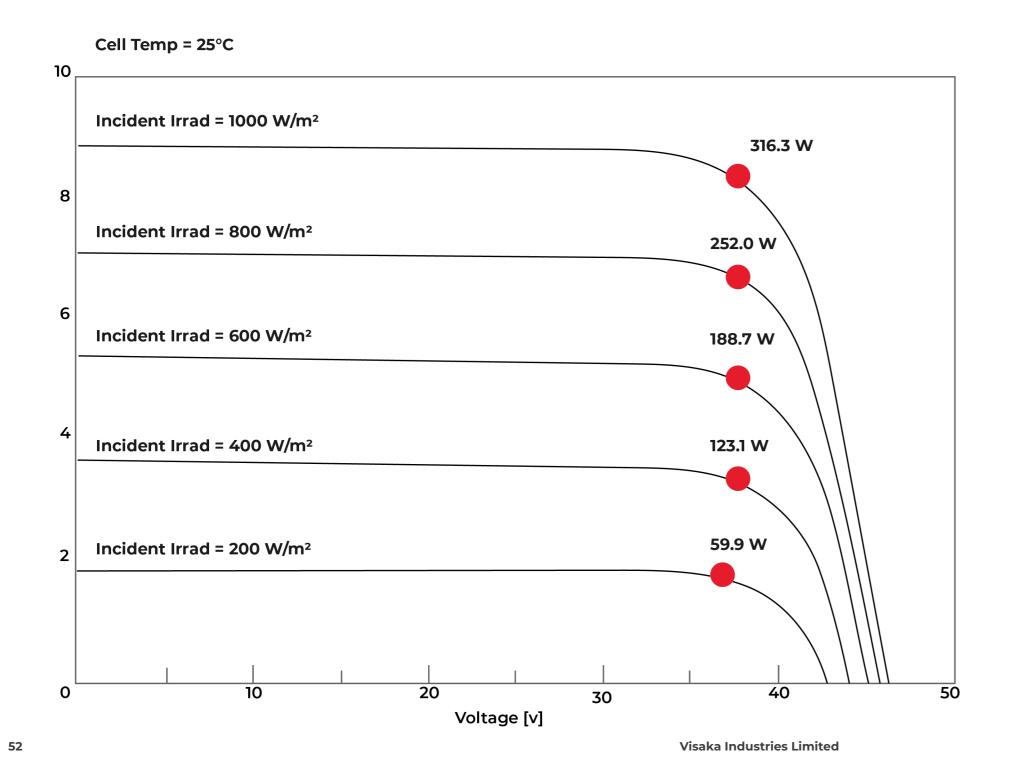


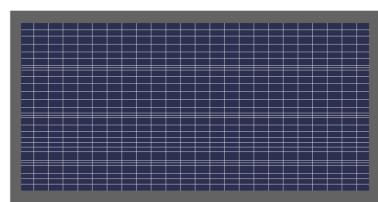
Table 6: Technical & Physical Specifications (Atum)

Electrical Characteristics at standard test conditions								
Module type	VIL 335P	VIL 330P	VIL 325P	VIL320P	VIL 315P	VIL 310P	VIL 305P	VIL 300P
Maximum power (W)	335	330	330	325	315	310	305	300
Positive power tolerance	0- 2.5%	0- 2.5%	0- 2.5%	0- 2.5%	0- 2.5%	0- 2.5%	0- 2.5%	0- 2.5%
Open circuit voltage (V)	46.24	46.24	46.21	46.18	46.15	46.08	47.95	45.65
Short circuit current (A)	9.45	9.30	9.18	9.06	8.91	8.76	8.65	8.56
Maximum power voltage	37.81	37.71	37.41	37.20	36.92	36.86	36.75	36.52
Maximum power current	8.96	8.75	8.69	8.61	8.55	8.41	8.30	8.22
Module efficiency	16.88%	16.62%	16.37%	16.12%	15.87%	15.61%	15.37%	15.11%
Mechanical Characteristics								
Dimensions	1975 * 1005 * 17 mm (board thickness 10mm)							
Weight	45 kg	45 kg						
Frame	Framed							
Cells	8 * 12 poly	8 * 12 polycrystalline solar cells						
Junction box	nction box Rated current > 15A, IP> 67, TUV & UI							
Cable	Length 10	Length 1000mm, 1*4 mar						
Connector MC4/ compatible with MC4								
Ability Responsibility Sustainability 5								

Temperature Characteristics	
Voltage temperature coefficient	(-0.3 ± 0.024%) °C
Current temperature coefficient	(-0.059 ± 0.007%) °C
Power temperature coefficient	(-0.342 ± 0.004%) °C
Maximum ratings	
Maximum system voltage (V)	1000
Series fuse rating (A)	15
Reverse current overload (A)	20
System design	
Temperature range	-40°C to 85°C
Hail	Maximum diameter of 25 mm with 23 m/s impact speed
Maximum capacity	Snow 5400Pa, wind 2400Pa
Application class	A
Safety class	В

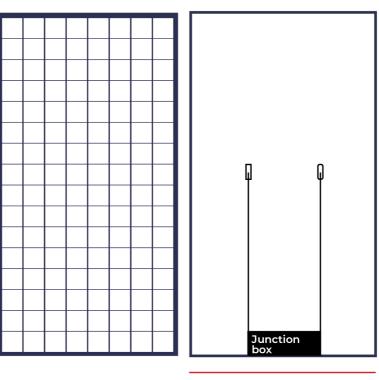
Table 6.1: Characteristics of Atum

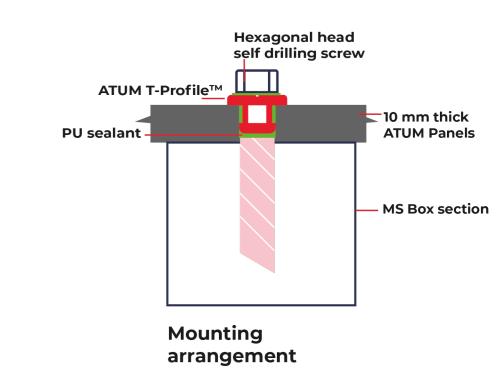
# **ATUM Sheet profile** Front view



**Back view** 







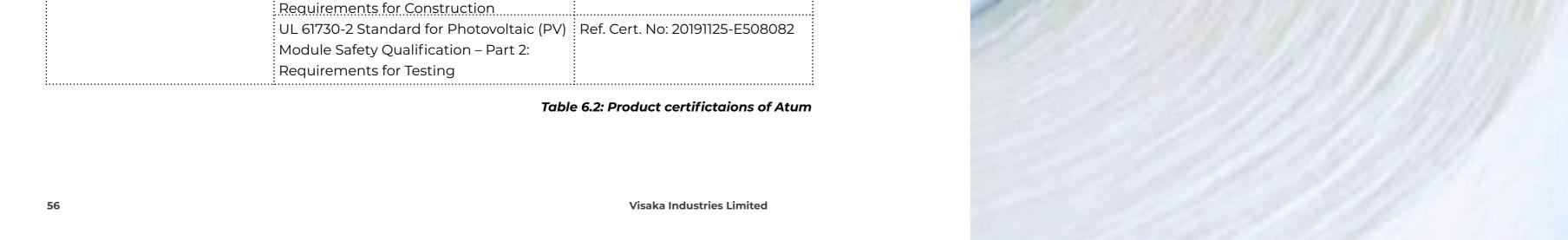
1005 mm

1975 mm

The ATUM roofing system underwent tests done at different Underwriter Labs. It has procured BIS certification: IS 14286: 2010/IEC 61215: 2005- product design qualification, IS/IEC 61730 (part 1):2004, IS/IEC 61730(part 2): 2004- quality system management certification

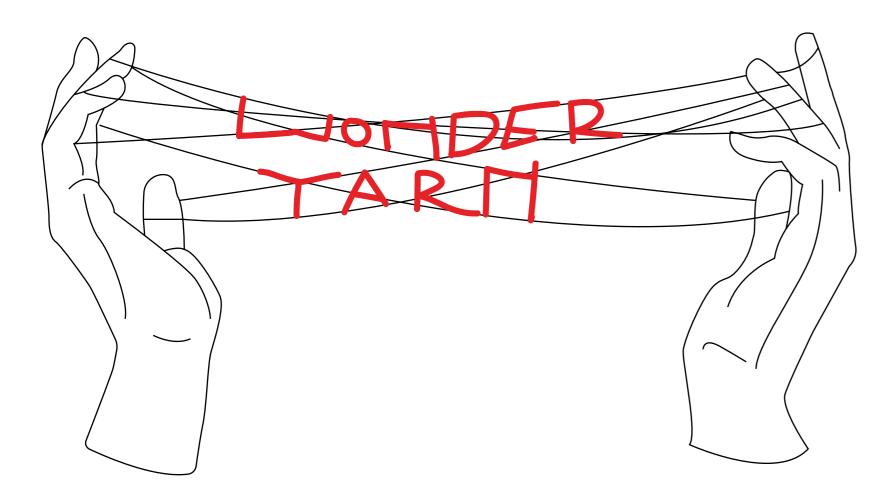
**Ability Responsibility Sustainability** Visaka Industries Limited

Authority	Particulars of test	Reference
Bureau of Indian Standards	IS 14286: 2010/IEC 61215: 2005- product design qualification IS/IEC 61730(part 2) :2004- quality system management certification	Ref no : R-63000795
IEC	61215-1-1:2016, IEC 61215-1:2016, IEC 61215-2: 2016 - product design qualification	Certif. No: US-34839-UL
	61703-1 : 2016 , IEC 61730-2:2016 - Quality management system certification	Certif. No: US-34840-U
Lean Mastro IS 14862	ATUM roof water proof certification -Evaluation of aging properties of ATUM SEALANT for its functional property as a sealing agent to prevent the water seepage through the joints	-
ALMM	Approved list of modules manufactures	-
UL	UL 61730-1 Standard for Photovoltaic (PV) Module Safety Qualification – Part 1: Requirements for Construction	Ref. Cert. No: 20191125-E508082
	UL 61730-2 Standard for Photovoltaic (PV) Module Safety Qualification – Part 2: Requirements for Testing	Ref. Cert. No: 20191125-E508082





The company diversified into manufacturing of synthetic yarn in 1992. The company's spinning unit deploys the twin air jet spinning technology procured from Murata Manufacturing Co., Ltd., a Japanese manufacturer of electronic components. Visaka's synthetic yarn features in the top 5 percentile of user standards in the world (However, can say, Air jet yarn quality is better than Other spinning technology for some parameters. But we cannot compare against Uster standards as there are no standards laid for Air jet Twin Spun yarn). The yarn has obtained ISO certification in 1994 (which ISO? The current valid certificate with QMS standards IS/ ISO9001:2015 from 15th May 2019 to 16th May 2022, License No.QM/L-7000256.7 and EMS License No. QM/L-7000710.0) and is OEKO-TEX certified since 2008 (Standard 100; 08.HIN.59035 / 21.07.2020).



8 Visaka Industries Limited

#### **Our Products (Wonder Yarn)**

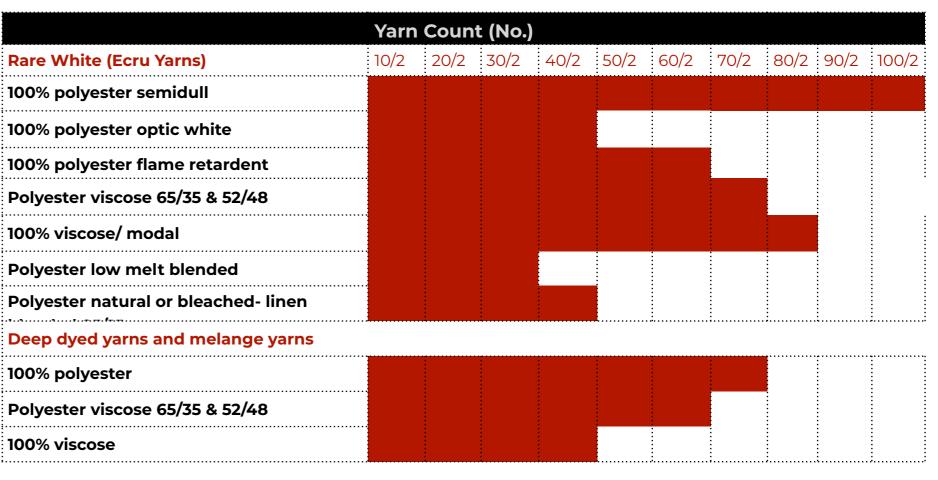
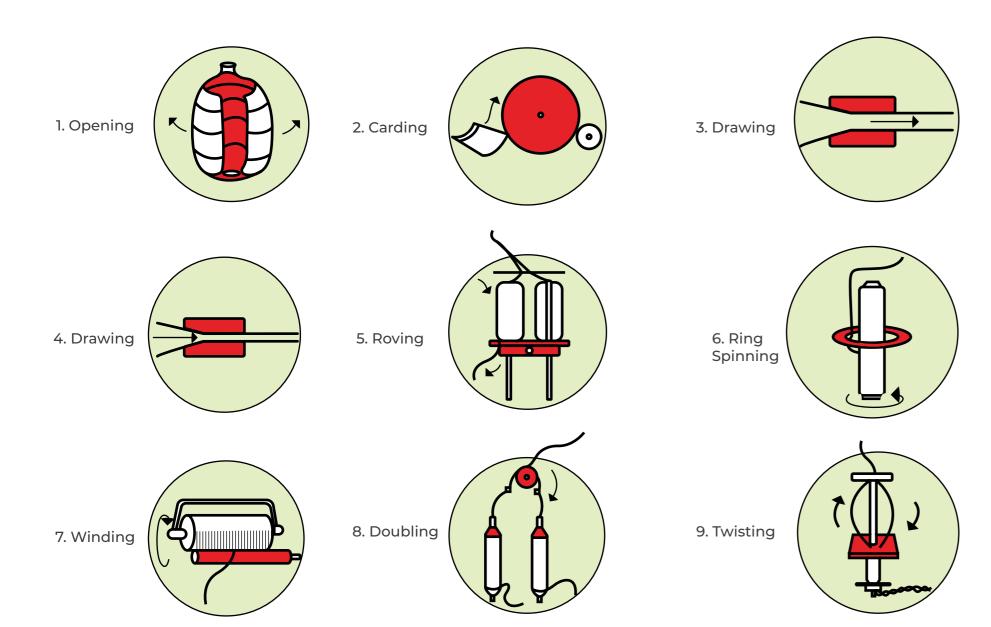
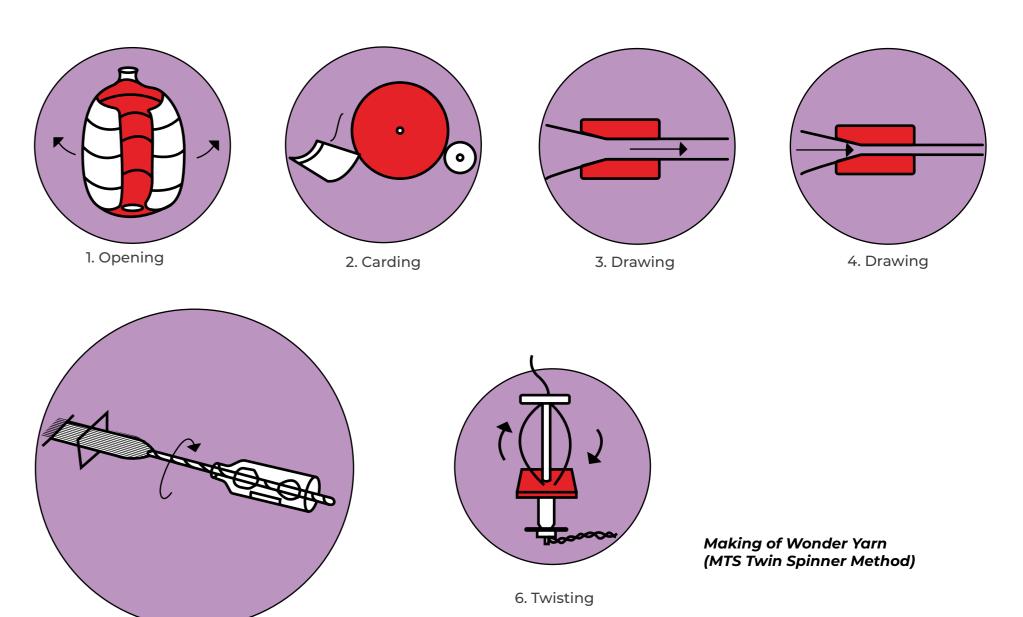


Table 7: Yarn count

#### Making of Wonder Yarn (Ring Spinning Method)





5. Murata Twin Spinning

Sl. No.	Process	Parameters	Equipment
1	Greige heat setting	Temperature -17 °C ± 2 °C Contact time 30 s Over feed 4 to 6%	Stenter
2	Pre- treatment/ scouring	Detergent 1-2 g/l Soda ash 2-4 g/l Wetting agent 1-2 g/l Lubricating agent 0.75 g/l Temperature 90- 105 °C Time 20-30 mins Followed by hot wash, cold wash and neutralisation	Jet dyeing machine
3	Drying	Temperature 140-150 °C Avoid over- drying Fabric should have 4-6% moisture content Over feed 2 to 4%	Stenter
4	Chemical finishing	Micro amino silicone 20-30 g/l Hydrophilic softener 20-40 g/l Elastomer 15-20 g/l Temperature 140°C	Stenter
5	Mechanical finishing	Decatise or sanforise	Decatising or sanforising machine

Table 7.1 : Wonder Yarn- Air Jet Yarn

#### 1.15 Atum Life

Visaka's chain of Atum Life stores across India is being set up in April 2021 to give a platform to the manufacturers of products with low environmental and social footprint to showcase and sell their products. In doing so, Atum Life will be the first sustainable retail chain in India.

Our plan is to gather all the information related to products sold through ATUM Life in terms of energy conserved during the products' production and by their usage. Customers of these products in our store will be educated about the energy, environmental, societal properties and details of these products. Therefore, as every customer at Atum Life is contributing to protecting the planet, these customers will be rewarded for purchasing products as per the sustainability characteristics of the products. We will also reward customers for giving us used plastic, old newspapers, which we will then recycle. This will help in reducing waste in the ecosystem.

Atum Life stores will have a paperless billing system. This technology will be energy efficient and contribute towards saving trees. Also, the use of our ATUM roofing systems in every Atum Life store will make the store self-sustainable and energy efficient.

Visaka Industries Limited

Ability Responsibility Sustainability



Product	Installed capacity	Production in metric tonnes					
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Asbestos cement sheets	802000 TPA	690416	706969	731436	11383	635899	713780
Synthetic blended yarn	2752 twin air jet spinning positions	9290	9985	10695	11383	1114	-
Reinforced Building boards (VNext Boards)	170000 TPA	99149	88845	98655	122632	124768	-
VPanels	19750 TPA	7592	5003	7129	6723	8517	-
Atum	30 MW PA	-	-	-	3512 KW	1680 KW	-

Table 8: Our production capacity at Visaka

#### 1.3 Product Sales

The company directly markets it to retailers, besides the tradition retailer' model. This direct acces gather better knowledge of the the company to have, over the y of 8500 external retailers for ma and has 27 depots and marketin owned by the company, across I

Atum roofing systems are also distributors as well as direct sale company's spinning division sell textile manufacturers, school un makers.

As another example of Visaka's prinitiatives, the company will estable store selling only sustainable prothet target of setting up 25 Atum and a total of 100 Atum Life store. This growth is planned to be a homeometry will own a few stores where the store of the sto



# Global retail sales presence

- 1. Germany
- 2. Iltaly
- 3. Turkey
- 4. Egypt
- 5. USA
- 6. UK
- 7. Taiwan
- 8. France
- 9. Russia
- 10. Lebanon
- 11. Mexico
- 12. Portugal
- 13. Poland
- 14. Hong Kong
- 15. Bosnia
- 16. South Africa
- 17. Sri Lanka
- 18. Nepal 19. Gulf countries

Product	Value					
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21		
AC roofing sheets	68,934.49	73,506.64	62,850.48	79,100.00		
VNext boards and panels	15,573.75	18,260.44	20,206.19	20,300.00		
VNext Atum	96.49	218.05	832.16	538.31		
Wonder Yarn	17,031.71	22,047.77	21,577.54	13500.00		
Others/ Internal Consumption	-404.23	-392.20	-427.92	871.15		
	1,01,232.21	1,13,640.70	1,05,038.45			

Table 9: Net sales product-wise (in Lacs INR)



68 Visaka Industries Limited

#### 2.1 Our social footprint

1.85 crores
on CSR in 2019-20.
Whereas, in 2020-21 the company allocated 1.2 % of the profit in 2020-21 towards CSR activities.

Visaka's emphasis on Social Responsibility stems from its corporate philosophy of giving back to the society and be a responsible corporate citizen. We intend to actively contribute to the social and economic development of the communities in which we operate. Our efforts are specially focused at areas with low human development index where lies immense opportunity to build a better, sustainable way of life for the weaker sections of the society.

#### Provision of water facilities in drought areas

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has declared district of Karimnagar and Adilabad as drought districts. The inhabitants of these districts travel miles to fetch drinking water every day. Water being a basic necessity, its absence worsened the already existing poor state of living conditions.

In these districts, Visaka initiated digging of 1075 water bore wells and irrigation tanks as part of its CSR project in the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Areas. The project aimed at providing easy availability of water for drinking as well as irrigation purposes. The project has provided access to safe drinking water and has beenfitted over 400 households in the two districts. Visaka Charitable Trust operates in Yeulumala Village, Ramachandrapuram Mandal, Medak District Andhra Pradesh, Chiruva Village, Moudha Talaq, Nagpur District, Maharashtra, Manikkanatham Village, Paramati-Velur Talaq, Namakkal District, Tamil Nadu and also in the backward Districts of Adilabad, Karimnagar and Ranga Reddy of Andhra Pradesh. Visaka is also making substantial investments in providing sanitation facilities, medical facilities, and enhancing the income standards by imparting vocational training.



#### In 2019-20, our CSR project and activity focused on six themes namely Water, Health, Sanitation, Education, Sports and Agriculture. The efforts were made either in the form of monetary contributions or support for development activities in the backward districts of Telangana state and in the vicinities of factories and offices of Visaka. The projects included:

Provision of drinking water

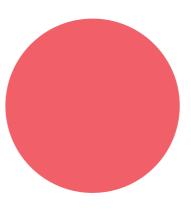
Supply of classroom furniture and payment of teacher salaries

Health Camps

Sports events

Construction of classrooms and toilets in schools and colleges

Construction of irrigation tanks



Beyond this, Visaka has donated solar carts with ATUM to various poor and needy people, which in addition to enabling them to earn their livelihood, also promotes environmental sustainability. It has also been helping the local people of nearby manufacturing units on need basis and facilitating local customs and festivals too.

Further, VNext's operations have been reported to have increased the groundwater level at their locations, thus benefiting the local communities with a positive impact through their rainwater harvesting techniques.

- Promote education, including special education and employment enhancing vocation skills especially among children, women, elderly and the differently abled and livelihood enhancement projects.
- Rural development projects
- Eradicating hunger; poverty and malnutrition, promoting preventive health care and sanitation and making available safe drinking water.

- Promote gender equality, empowering women, setting up homes and hostels for women and orphans; setting up old age homes, day care centers and such other facilities for senior citizens and measures reducing inequalities faced by socially and economically backward groups.
- Provide training to promote rural sports, nationally recognized sports, Paralympic sports and Olympic Sports
- Ensure environmental sustainability, ecological balance, protection of flora and fauna, animal welfare, agroforestry, conservation of natural resources and maintaining quality of soil. air and water

- Protect national heritage, art and culture including restoration of buildings and sites of historical importance and works of art; setting up public libraries; promotion and development of traditional arts and handicrafts.
- Measures for the benefit of armed forces veterans, war widows and their dependents
  - Contribution to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund or any other fund set up by the Central Government or the State Governments for socio-economic development and relief and funds for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes. the Scheduled Tribes. other backward classes, minorities and women:

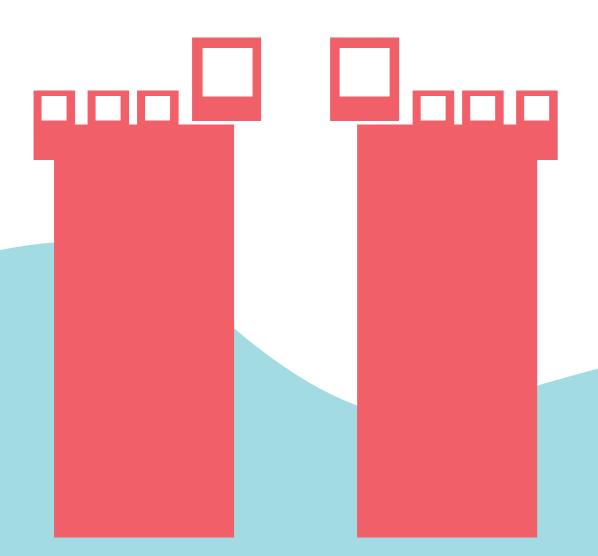
Contributions or funds provided to technology incubators located within academic institutions which are approved by the Central Government.

Slum area development

Such other areas as may be specified as CSR activities under Schedule VIL from time to time.

# Visaka's CSR focus areas

413-1



#### 2.2 Our material footprint

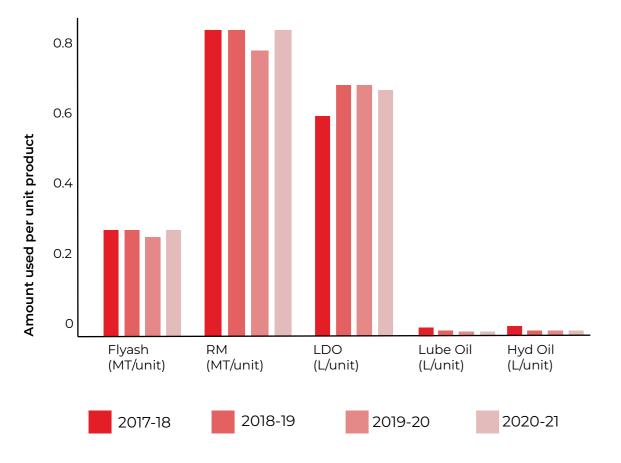
(SDG 6, 13,15) (301-1)

Visaka's business is pivoted in offering products that are environmentally responsible. Our efforts are focused on minimising the carbon footprint in our products' raw materials, manufacturing processes, and company operations. This year, we are launching our Atum Life stores, which will be India's first retail chain that sells only sustainable products. These stores will be paperless. Atum Life stores will thus join our product portfolio to also contribute to environmental protection by reduced CO2 emissions, avoiding deforestation, educating and encouraging customers to adopt a sustainable lifestyle.

This section explains the contribution to environmental protection by our various existing products.

Asbestos Cement Roofing material (AC Division) uses renewable materials like Flyash and non-renewable materials including RM, LDO, Lube Oil, and Hyd Oil in production and packaging. An analysis of the material used per unit product over the years in consideration reveals a marginal decline in the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 periods in comparison to the previous two years, signaling an increase in material usage efficiency.

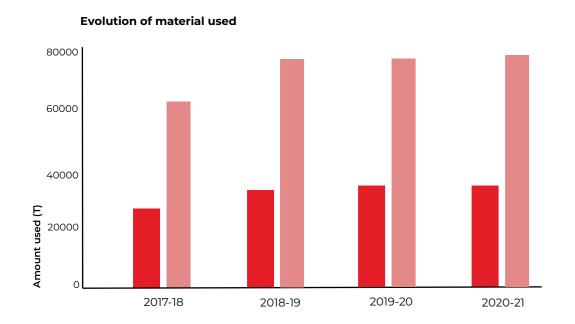
#### Evolution of material used per unit product over the last four years

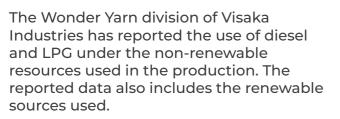


VNext division, similar to the AC division, uses a mix of renewable and non-renewable materials in its production process. The below graph shows the evolution of the amount of materials used over the last 4 years

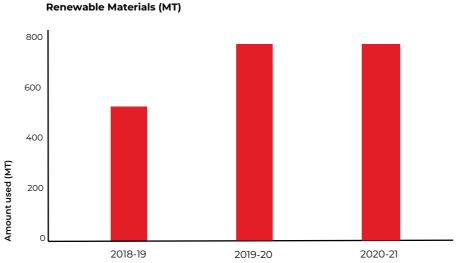
As demonstrated in the figure, an analysis of the material used per unit product for manufacturing our **Asbestos Cement roofs** over 2017 - 2021 reveals a **decline** in the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 periods in comparison to the previous two years. This signals an *increase* in our material usage efficiency.

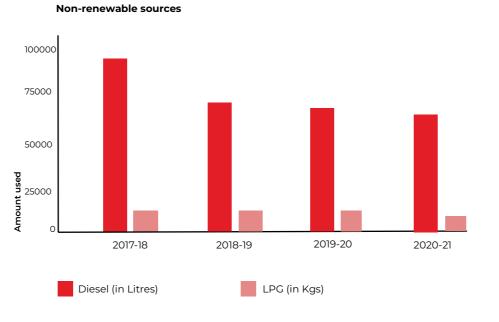
78 Visaka Industries Limited





Renewable MaterialsN





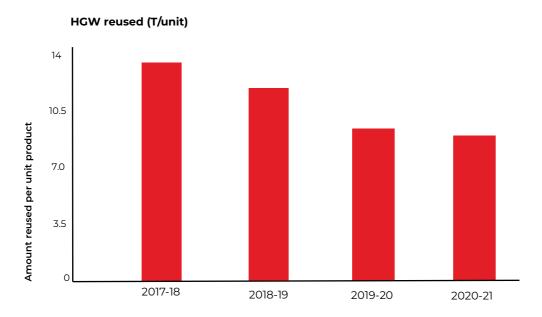
As indicated in the graphs, we are happy to report that the use of renewable materials in **Wonder Yarn has** increased yoy 2018 -2021, whereas the use of non renewable sources have decreased during the same period with the largest decrease during FY 2020-21.

80 Visaka Industries Limited

on-renewable Materials

#### 2.3 Reclaimed Products

The collection and repeated usage of glass textolite (HGW) help the AC division in reducing its material footprint and increasing resource efficiency. The AC division of Visaka Industries has reported the reclamation of Glass textolite (HGW) during the last 4 vears as indicated in the following graph. The megatonnes of HGW reclaimed per unit product has however shown a decline over the last 4 years.



The VNext division, on the other hand, has reported that the packaging materials like scrap wood and two-ply paper are recycled and reused. In addition to the recycling of the packaging material, used oil and cotton waste is reused as fuel in boilers for the generation of steam. However, the exact amount of recycled/reused materials hasn't been quantified yet. The Wonder Yarn division hasn't reported any collection, reusing, or recycling of products at the end of their life cycle.

82 Visaka Industries Limited

In our VNext division, we implement the principles of the **Circular economy**. Packaging materials like scrap wood and two-ply paper are recycled and reused. Used oil and cotton waste is also reused as fuel in boilers for the generation of steam.

#### 2.4 Water resource management

(303-1, 303-2, 303-3, 303-5)

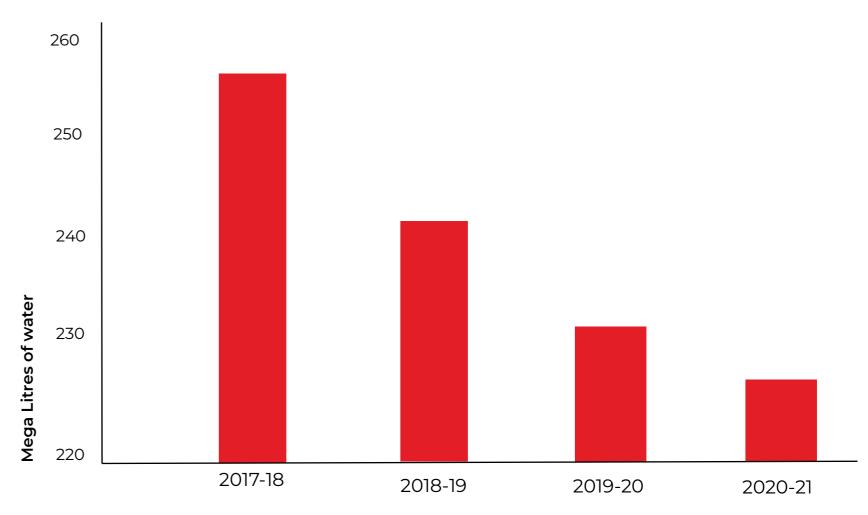
Before plant installation the zone is assessed, and the site is selected only in safe zones that are not waters stressed. We set our water conservation target as 20% less than the consent received, irrespective of productivity. Borewells/Groundwater is the primary source of water for all production activities. It is considered to be the single major source with no reported withdrawal from surface or seawater resources. Total rainfall has been collected through proper drainage system which in turn connected to rain water pits for recharging ground water. Execess water in the pits utilized for gardening and domestic usage purpose. There is zero discharge of water from our plants and offices.

Water harvesting methods are used to secure the supply of water during times of scarcity. This is further aided by an emphasis on minimizing water wastage across the entire value chain.

The AC division of Visaka Industries conducts an assessment of its environmental impact on water resources at plant sites, including a water footprint assessment at the SPB plant conducted in April 2018 and May 2018. On average, 65 Kilo liters of water is discharged per annum from plants and offices. The entire amount of discharged water is recycled and is reported not to have any effluents, thus not requiring any effluent treatment before discharge. On analysis over a period of time, as indicated in the graph below, it is observed that the total water consumption by the division has steadily decreased, which indicates an increase in its water usage efficiency.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Total ground water withdrawn & total water consumption across the company	0.110	0.134	0.134	0.132

#### **Water Consumption in Mega Litres**



Visaka Industries Limited

Ability Responsibility

Ability Responsibility

Total water consumption by the Asbestos Cement division has **Steadily decreased**, which indicates an increase in its water usage efficiency.

The asbestos cement division of Visaka Industries conducts an assessment of its environmental impact on water resources at plant sites, including a water footprint assessment at the SPB plant that was conducted in April 2018 and in May 2018. On average, 65 Kilo liters of water is discharged per annum from plants and offices. The entire amount of discharged water is recycled and is reported not to have any effluents, thus not requiring any effluent treatment before discharge.

# There is **Zero discharge of water**from our plants and offices.

In the last couple of years, similar to the AC division, the VNext division has also introduced the practice of assessing its environmental impacts on water resources at plant sites. However, the assessment of the water footprint is not a part of this assessment yet. To prevent an adverse effect on the waterstressed areas. VNext assesses the robustness of the zone, and only safe zones are selected before plant installation. Besides, the division targets to reduce their water usage by 20% of the permitted amount, irrespective of the productivity

An average of 0.133 ML of groundwater per annum is withdrawn by the division for operations. Through rainwater harvesting techniques, 20 KL of water is collected per annum in rainwater pits to recharge the groundwater, and the excess amount is used for gardening and domestic purposes. VNext also plans to engage with its suppliers in the future to reduce their waterrelated impacts and train them in improving their water management practices. The division has in place an LCA for its products.

Our Wonder Yarn division has set targets to reduce its water usage from 250 KL/day to 225KL/day in the 2021-2022 Fiscal year. The division has also set minimum standards for the quality of the effluent discharge.



#### Minimum standards for the quality of the effluent discharge at Wonder Yarn

Parameter	Standard
рН	Between 6.5 to 9
Total suspended solids	< 100 mg/l
BOD	<30 mg/l
COD	<50 mg/l
NH4 N	<5 mg/l
N total	<10 mg/l
Fecal Coliform MPM/100M	<100

The groundwater consumption for the production has hovered around 89 ML per annum for the period between 2017 to 2019 and then sees a steep decline to 72ML in the current FY.

Akin to VNext, rainwater harvesting is the predominant technique to replenish the water resources with 83 ML of rainwater being stored in the reservoirs in the last 2 years.

The wastewater discharge is reported to have decreased over the past fiscal year. The discharge amount in the current FY is reported to be 10.35 ML, down from the average of 14.5 ML over the past 3 years.

#### 2.5 GHG Emissions

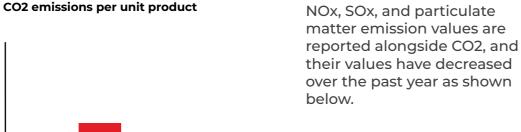
(305-1, 305-7)

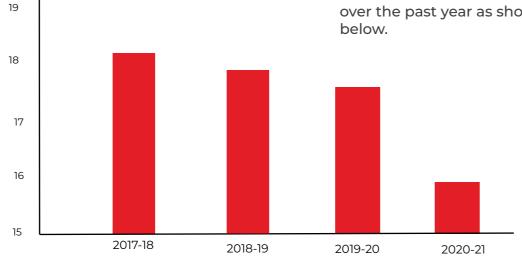
In the asbestos cement division of Visaka, NOx, SOx, and particulate matter emission values are reported which amount to 23 µg/m³ per annum, 25 µg/m³, and 61 µg/m³ per annum on an average respectively. The main source of emissions is DG Stack. The VNext division adheres to GHG Accounting Standards in reporting its direct emissions.

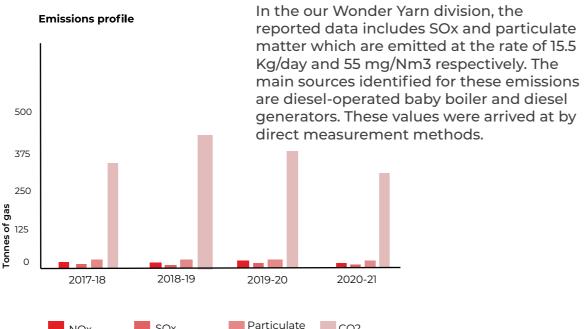
#### The major sources of emissions that have been identified are:

Consumption of fuel (coal and LPPG) Refilling of CO2 in fire extinguishers Air conditioning of the facilities

CO2 has been identified as the sole GHG constituting the entire emissions profile. The tCO2 per ton of production has shown a decline over the last 2 years in comparison to the previous two years.







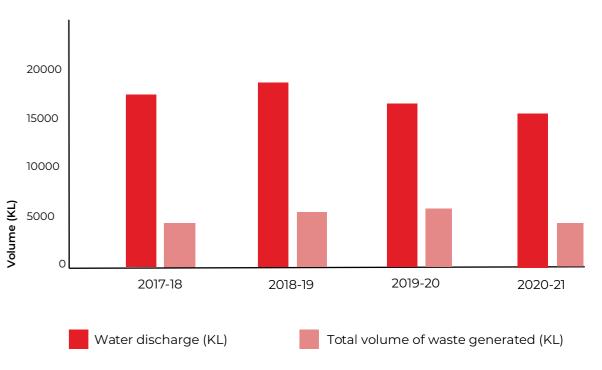
#### 2.6 Waste Management

#### (SDG12,13) (306-1, 306-2, 307-1)

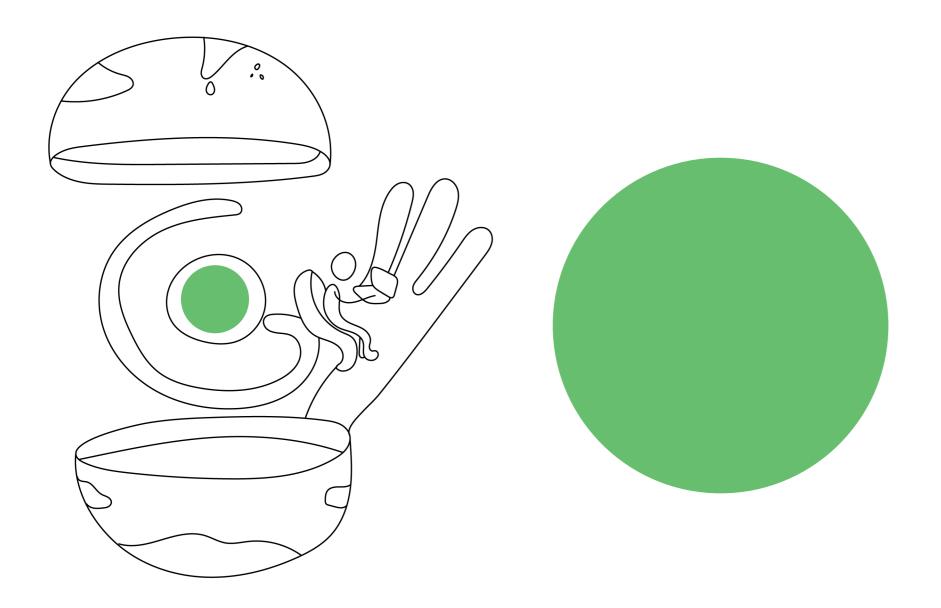
The process employed by Visaka Industries reuses the entire hazardous waste and therefore nullifies its environmental impact on the plant's surroundings. In the AC Division of the industry, glass textolite (HGW) is the major source of hazardous waste generated at the division's production facilities. The amount of hazardous waste has seen a steady decline over the last 4 years - from 7558 MT of HGW in 2017-2018 to 3079 MT in 2020-2021. The entire amount of HGW generated is recycled.

In the VNext Division of the industry, the wastewater from manufacturing units and offices discharged by the division is treated through STP and no hazardous waste is reported to be generated by production facilities. The entire volume of non-hazardous waste is reported to be reused

#### Volume of waste and water discharged



and recycled. As indicated in the graph below, the volume of wastewater discharged and non-hazardous waste has shown a decline in the past year. The Wonder Yarn division reports an average of 270L of spent oil wastage. Under the non-hazardous waste category, the amount of waste has decreased from a volume of 199 ML in 2017-2018 to 40 ML in FY 2020-21. The division also has a local facility store of 25 tonnes for non-hazardous waste. The division engages with an authorized reprocessor to dispose of waste.



# 2.7 Working with our supply chain to ensure greater environmental protection

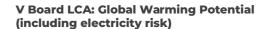
In our Asbestos Cement division, we have conducted due diligence to screen 4 suppliers who are compulsorily also required to follow Visaka's environmental policies and good practices. In the VNext division as well, environmental criteria is reported to be a part of the supplier due diligence process. The suppliers are mandated to follow Visaka's environmental policies on our premises.

#### **Life Cycle Assessment for VBoard**

#### (SDG7)

The Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) was performed after data collection from the Miryalaguda VBoard manufacturing plant. The LCA was run on the Open LCA software with the majority of the database from India and few unavailable data were taken from other countries showing similar properties and other conditions. The amount of 35% recycling content in the VBoard has also been taken into account in this analysis.

#### Table 10: GWP impact of VBoard manufacturing from cradle to gate (100% electricity from grid)



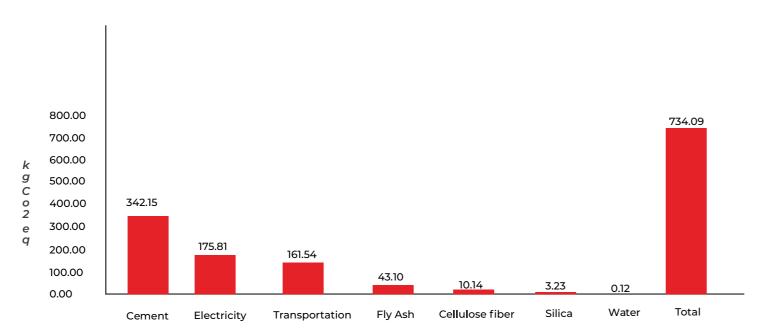
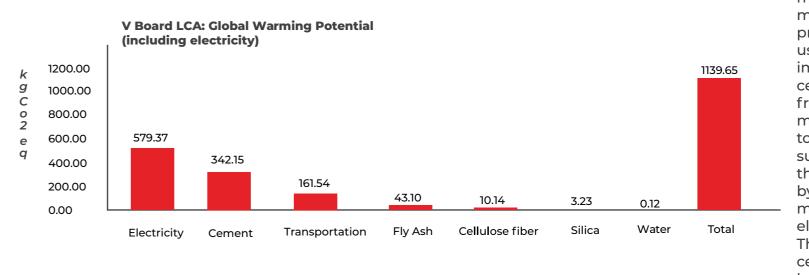


Table 11: GWP impact of VBoard manufacturing from cradle to gate (electricity from grid & solar)



**Different Processes** 

The GWP impact assessment (Table 2.) of VBoard manufacturing from raw material extraction till its final product manufacturing shows us that majority of the GWP impact contribution is from cement while second-most from electricity and third most from transportation. So to further make our product sustainable we need to lower the cement content followed by transportation distance and more use of solar energy than electricity from the grid. The other materials like ceramic, solar power had less than 0.1% impact so not included here in the results

**Different Processes** 



At Visaka, we leverage sustainability as a business opportunity such that responsibility towards the environment and people is an integral part of our revenue sources. Our products and processes are developed in ways that keep sustainability at the core of our business. We believe that such an approach makes our business and the ecosystem in which we operate more resilient.

This section of our report explains the specific aspects of Visaka's business that makes the company sustainable.

#### **3.1 Sustainability Pillars**

Our disciplined emphasis on innovation and science, consistent efforts to generate clean revenue from sustainable products and processes, and our long term trusted relationships with our employees, customers, retailers, are the main pillars upon which Visaka Industries Ltd is built.

#### Pillar 1: Innovation

#### (103)

Visaka Industries Ltd. believes that innovation is not only represented by new devices, ideas or methods, but also by the process of uncovering new ways to do things. It can also pertain to modifying business models and adapting to changes to achieve better products and services. Innovation is vital in the workplace because it gives Visaka an edge in penetrating markets faster and provides a better connection to developing markets to grab opportunities. Our steadfast focus on innovation helps us hold a leading position amongst competitors.

#### Pillar 2: People

#### (103) (102-8) (SDG 8,11)

Building long standing relationships of trust with our key stakeholders is Visaka's top priority. The section titled 'Agile and talented workforce' indicates the long tenures at the company enjoyed by employees. For example, employees who join at junior levels have moved up to Director level positions. For example, Mr JP Rathore joined at a junior rank 3 decades ago and as of 31 March 2021 serves as Whole-time Director at Visaka. We consider our suppliers to be our partners, and ensure that our suppliers also grow as Visaka's business grows. We have long standing partnerships with our 8500 dealers as on 31-03-2021 and all our clients. The communities around our location are important to Visaka and our employees directly engage with the local community members to assist them and provide them with amenities and support. Our section on 'social contributions' in this report provides more details on this. Further, the section titled 'Long term partnerships with stakeholders' gives more details on how we engage our stakeholders.

At Visaka, we have identified our key stakeholders to be Employees | Shareholders | Customers | Suppliers | Distributors |
Communities | Government agencies | Banks | Media | Environment |

#### Pillar 3: Clean revenue

(302-1, 302-4) (103 - Environment)

At Visaka, our product portfolio consists of products with a lower environmental footprint than of their mainstream counterparts. Due to the global interest in sustainable products we have also started making yarn from recycled pet bottle fibres.

20769930 units in 2017-18 to 19712435 units in 202021. Indicating an increased level of energy efficiency in our operations at Visaka's Asbestos Cement roofing sheets, the energy consumed per upon production has decreased from 2

We have been able to conserve more energy for our VNext products, from 3793263 units in 2017-18 to 3883428 units in 2020-21. This has been possible mostly because of renewable energy sources progressing from 3793263 units in 2017-18 to 3883428 units in 2020-21. In 2020-21 we have installed energy meters and net metering to monitor and further reduce energy consumption.

We have made strides in this regard in Visaka's Asbestos Cement roofing sheets as well. We installed renewable energy capacity of 32KW in FY 2019-20. The renewable energy generation has steadily been increasing as well from 7448.4 units in 2019-20 to 13994 units in 2020-21. Non renewable sources of energy include diesel, which has decreased from 303476 MW in 2017-18 to 242932 in 2020-21. Total electricity consumed has decreased too from

to 19712435 units in 2017-18
to 19712435 units in 202021. Indicating an increased level of
energy efficiency in our operations
at Visaka's Asbestos Cement roofing
sheets, the energy consumed per unit
of production has decreased from 28
units to 27.5 units largely
due to the use of energy efficient
motors, controlling idle running using
interlocking systems, and LED lights.
We calculate energy reduction using
load calculation and estimations, load
sharing, and maintaining the power
factor, in Units/Hr & Units/MT.

We are waste conscious. For our VNext products, all the packaging material like scrap wood, two ply paper and used oil, used cotton waste are consumed as fuel in the boiler for generation of steam.

#### 403-2)

The safety of our employees at Visaka is of paramount importance. We have had no fatalities in FY 2020-21. The total number of near misses cases identified has steadily decreased from 162 in 2018-19 to 120 in FY 2020-21. The medical treatment injuries have steadily decreased as well from 58 in 2018-19 to 29 in FY 2020-21. We are happy to report that the man hours of our employee safety training increased from 2967 hours in 2018-19 to 3763 hours in 2020-21.

We care for equitable growth and do so both via our business and philanthropy. For example, 90% of our asbestos sheets, 30% of V-board products, and 20% of Atum solar roofing are sold in rural & semi urban parts of the country, thus enhancing the quality of life of rural communities.

	Rural	Semi- Urban	Urban
AC roofing sheets	65%	25%	10%
Wonder yarn	Industrial raw material		
VNext Boards & Panels	30% 70%		70%
VNext Atum		80%	20%

Table 12: Product distribution in rural & urban areas

Besides, the company founded the Visaka Foundation as the Visaka Charitable Trust in the year 2000, and has been supporting local communities around our plants. In FY 2020-21 we have spent

#### INR 3,66,89,095

on various CSR activities to improve the lives of 3145 individuals.

As of 31 March 2021, the company has no major litigations and operates in a fair and transparent manner. Our emphasis lies on taking decisions in an ethical and data driven manner.



#### Pillar 4: Science

(103 - Economic)

Being technologically advanced is important for Visaka, to align with its customers' fast changing needs and developing suitable products. The company's top management, technical leads, and marketing head are responsible for the scientific and technological advancements. They do so by engaging in research, international conferences, taking market feedback and visiting other technologically advanced plants elsewhere in the world.

Our plans for the near future are to build further on our present R&D set up to focus on more flexibility on alternatives to raw materials, and on the introduction of sustainable products and development of products suitable for different applications based on market feedback.

#### 3.2 Long term partnerships with stakeholders

(102-42, 102-43)

Our strength lies in the trust that millions and millions of customers have reposed in us. We will go to any extent to ensure we live by our promises and keep up this trust. While customer trust is our strength, what led to this trust is our highly quality products and committed on-time services. We have about 8500 dealers as on 31-03-2021 with whom we share long term and trusted relationships.

Visaka has an active Stakeholders Relationship Committee that meets meets to review and ensure that the company maintains positive relations with all its stakeholders.









#### 3.3 Materiality assessment and action

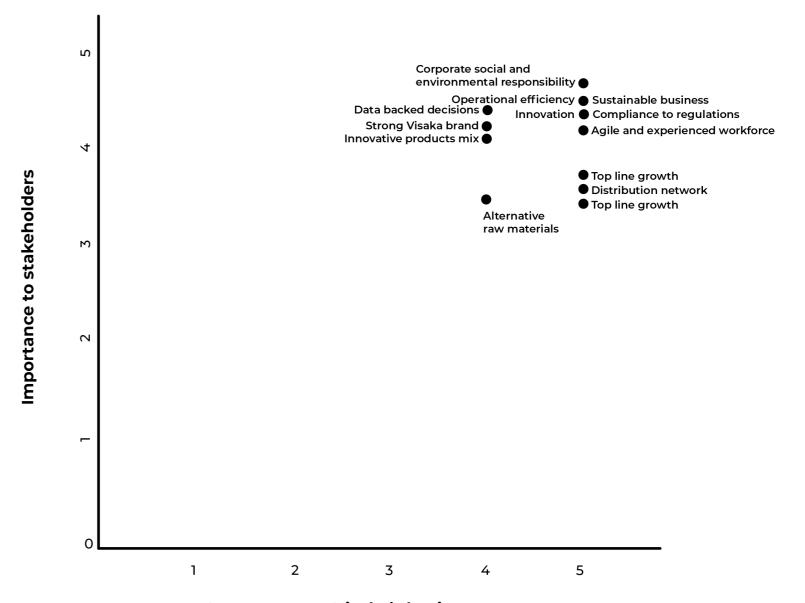
(102-44)

Our materiality assessment aligns our business focus to issues that meet stakeholder expectations as well as have significant impact on our business. Defining 'materiality' helps us to understand what is relevant to stakeholders over the short, medium and long term. Multiple interactions with all members of Visaka's senior management led to the finalisation of the 12 material aspects.

(GRI102-47)

The material aspects identified in this report have been reviewed in accordance with the GRI sectoral guidance, Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB) and other aspects identified by peer organisations (GRI102-44)

#### Materiality analysis



#### Importance to Visaka's business



We believe in innovation and always make efforts to increase the present basket of products and services, in line with the customer needs. Visaka also focuses on forward integration of its core products to align with new requirements that develop from time to time.

Examples of product innovations at Visaka include:

- Development of new designer variants in FCB production
- Introduction of more sustainable raw mixes in FCB and yarn production.
- Introduction of building integrated photovoltaic energy generating roofs.
- Introduction of alternative pulps to the imported one to improve supply chain management.

Visaka's R&D team, technical departments, and its top management are involved to nurture innovation at Visaka.

# SOMETHING immontions!

## 4.1 Using alternative raw materials for our products

(301-1) (SDG6)

At Visaka Industries Limited, we strike a balance between industrial activities and the environment in order to pursue sustainable solutions. To do so, it is required that the products that are being manufactured do not affect the natural settings as such.

We therefore emphasize upon using alternative raw materials for the company's products instead of the traditional approach of importing chemical-based materials. The company highlights its indigenous research and development capabilities that has successfully aided us to break the chain from using traditional materials. The switch to alternative raw materials has helped in being sustainable financially as well as environmentally and socially. The former is because costs were involved in the import of materials, which we now to a large extent avoid. Further the foreign exchange fluctuations and a general increase in the price of raw materials that posed a risk barrier and affected the overall production cost thus compromising on our margins, has been avoided.

Visaka is also expanding its manufacturing units in the near term. A new facility at Coimbatore would be operational in October 2021. The strategy for new Visaka establishments primarily depends on the availability of the raw material and the potential market areas within the vicinity of 300kms. The Company's Midnapore, Pune, and Paramathi units are strategically placed close to ports that reduce the inbound logistics costing and easy to procure raw materials. The company

agrees to annual contracts for executing smooth supply because in a few cases an erratic supply affects the production line.

The move to alternative raw materials is one that is the most calculated and researched initiative that the company took as a group. Over a decade, we have built our R&D, which has yielded a 32% jump for the use of indigenously developed raw materials. The current year has resulted in a 30:70 ratio mix of imported vs indigenous made raw materials. This has tremendously supported our costing in terms of the margins and the logistics.

Over the years, the business portfolio at Visaka has shifted to Non-asbestos from Asbestos, the revenues have increased about 14% last year, and this current year the revenues were 3% as year on year basis. The Asbestos segment is also being worked on for being more sustainable via experimentations of different ratios aiming to reduce the cost and improve quality efficiencies for substitutes of cement and fibres.

The practice of safer raw materials with fair forestry practices, and the use of no toxic ingredients is the concentration for all the products. As previously enlisted in this report, The VNext line of products is certified by international agencies and BIS certified by the Government of India, which guarantees the quality, safety, and reliability of products to the end customers. The certifications such as these gauge its value chain, from extraction to the recycling or disposal step.

In our product mix, we have established inhouse set ups and substituted the imported virgin pulp, a chemical-based material, with rice straw, which is abundantly available and easy to access. The company has liaised with Central Pulp & Paper Research Institute, for 'Evaluation of Pulp for Various Fibre, Physical and Strength Properties' in the past to evaluate the products. The fly ash and the fibre glass broken waste are being replaced with cement. Cement is a better binding agent for the VNext products, which reduces the dependency on fly ash as a raw material.

Visaka has also progressed considerably in the space of replacing the imported virgin pulp with Kraft pulp bags and Kraft liner pulp, which is generated from the packaging industries. Substantial research work is being done in the areas for testing and experimenting for different types of species pulps to limit the dependence on particular Kraft pulp made from popular species like spruce and pine.

The material that Visaka's novel and patented product ATUM uses is also GreenPro certified which makes the product more reliable, safer, and sustainable. Atum has secured technical certifications like the UL Certification as per the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) standards. It has also been certified by Campbell Corporation, to take a uniform load of 780 lbs per sqft, a snow load of 2200 lbs and the jointing mechanism is a patented leak-proof system as per the American Society for Testing and Material

(ASTM) standards. It is a roof solution, which is "Class A" fire-rated and designed to take wind speeds of over 150 km/h making it hurricane proof. Proofs of certifications and tests for Atum have been included earlier in this report. Visaka's Wonder Yarn has PET bottles as its raw material, which is also a significant step towards greater environmental sustainability. Because of Visaka's intervention of using them into our varn. this year 124,000,000 PET bottles were saved from going to our water bodies and landfill as waste. The spinning business is also implementing productbased innovations and R&D. Visaka makes efforts in making new products in the Wonder Yarn collection. Experimental trials are conducted for making different combinations of blends, counts. and fibres which brings in new blends & shades with fresh products. The speeds of the machine are also increased without any compromise on quality and few new products in the development phase are Slub yarn and Nep yarn. Efforts are being made with developing the units for making knot-free varn as well. These will be the first of its kind being made from PET bottles.

The company focuses on strong R&D contributions that will result in a greater shift towards alternative raw materials. In the near future, the ratio of raw materials that are being developed indigenously would increase thus contributing directly to our profitability and sustaining our volumes as well.

Because of Visaka's intervention of using PET bottles in our yarn, this year 124,000,000 PET bottles were saved from going to our water bodies and landfill as waste.







108 Visaka Industries Limited

#### 4.2 Innovative product mix

We believe in innovation and always make efforts to increase the present basket of products Visaka manufactures products that capitalize on the improvement in lifestyle standards and environmental ethics in India and abroad. The Company commenced its commercial operations in the year 1985 with manufacturing asbestos sheets, for which as of 31 March 2021 Visaka is the second largest player in the industry.

Visaka then diversified and implemented the air jet spinning technology for yarns in the year 1991. We also make sustainable yarns. Our suppliers use PET bottles to manufacture recycled polyester fibres, which are bought by Visaka's spinning division to spin it into yarns and sell it to our buyers. These suppliers also provide GRS and OEKO-TEX standard certificate which

is then provided to Visaka's clients.

The company has steadily grown – starting from a single product single location company to a multi product multi location company - leveraging sustainability as a business opportunity. In the year 2009, the company diversified into manufacturing V-Next fibre cement boards. In 2018, Visaka launched the solar roof system called Atum, which was at the time the first of its kind product in the country.

In January 2021, under the leadership of Mr. G. Vamsi Krishna, Visaka will launch Atum Life, a chain of stores that sell sustainable products.

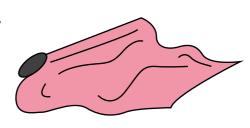
Visaka's product range In FY 2020-21, Asbestos cement boards contributed 69% of Visaka's revenues.

Our Non- asbestos products contributed with 31 % of the company's revenues. This includes our non-textile and non-roofing products i.e. VBoards, VPanels and VPlanks which contributed 18% of company revenues, our textiles division which contributed 12% of company revenue, and Atum contributing 0.5% of revenues.

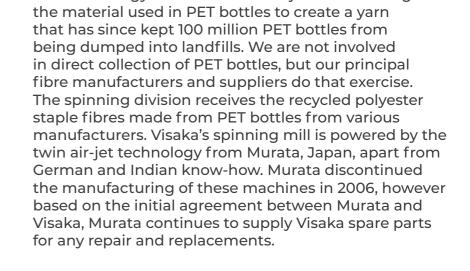
For the future, we are poised to progressively increase the proportion of non-textile non-roofing to 25% from 18%.

#### Innovative product mix- wonder yarn case study

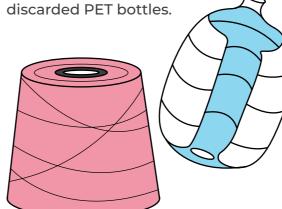
Visaka started with manufacturing cement roofs, sourcing and producing everything locally, yet it became sensitive to environmental concerns early on. In 1992, the company expanded into textiles.

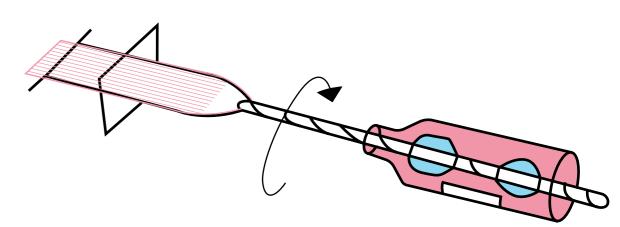


Visaka offers Mélange Yarns, High Twist Yarns, specialty yarns with different blends and developed the revolutionary sustainable yarn from

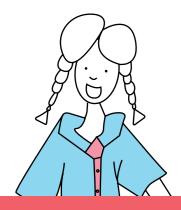


The technology of Murata twin air-jet devices integrates





What we do: Recycled fibres are bought by Visaka and made into yarns at the spinning division which are then sold to various brands and manufacturers of fabrics used for mainly home furnishings and school uniforms.



These yarns are sold through either direct clients or through yarn distributors. Clients include British multinational retailer Marks & Spencer and Indian garments brands such as Raymond and Siyaram.

Around 30% of Visaka's textile products are exported to Europe and South America. Our fibre suppliers provide GRS and OEKO-TEX standard certificates which are then provided by us to our clients.

Visaka's yarns are OEKO-TEX certified since 2008, that is Oeko-Tex STANDARD 100 for Textiles as per Appendix4, product class I certified.

RAYMONDS SIYARAM MARKS & SPENGERS

#### 4.3 Operational efficiency

In our asbestos cement roofing sheets, there was no major change compared to previous year in the production cost per ton in absolute terms. Similarly, in our yarn business there has been no variation in cost per spindle shift. However, for our VNext products, in FY2020-21, the production cost per ton has decreased by about 3% compared to the previous year. When compared down the line for the past 3 years, VNext production cost has decreased by about 4%.

The desired levels of capacity utilization across our business divisions is above 90% capacity utilization, which is above the industry benchmark would is at approximately 85%.

Compared to the previous year, our sales growth is 11% in the asbestos cement roofing sheet category, due to enhanced government focus on rural economy, low inflation and good monsoons. This trend is expected to continue.



#### **5.1 Agile & experienced workforce**

The Company believes that the quality of employees is the key to its success. Our approach to employees and business partners is based on the human values of care, compassion and courtesy, which are also the Visaka values. Using a human capital lens has helped our employees to develop trust in Visaka and actively bring young innovations to fruition within their tenure. The focus has always been to enable employees to grow professionally with the company and nurture talent to develop future leaders from within.

Nearly 2000 employees and more than 3000 contract-based workers are part of the Visaka family. As a group, Visaka Human Resources Policy guides us to take a beyond compliance approach and strive for employee well-being, with a focus on employee benefits, professional training to unlock employee growth opportunities and retain talent. In this way the company is able to prepare its employees for leadership roles as seasoned professionals.

#### Number of permanent employees on the rolls of the company

As on 31.03.2020 **2035** 

As on 31.03.2019

#### **5.1.1 Diversity and inclusion**

Our manufacturing units are based in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities of India, and we prefer to employ local talent. Our Human resources policy encourages local employment. At the end of 2020, 32 out of 40 new employees at manufacturing locations were engaged from within the geographical state boundaries of our manufacturing units.

#### As per our policy:

We give preference to sons of soil and local youth in our recruitment process while we fill in the vacancies at the levels of shop floor operators and Jr. Management in our new manufacturing unit so as to promote employment facility and to lessen the unemployment problem in local area.

We also give preference in our recruitment process as a social obligation so as to uplift the living condition of social deprived people.

Visaka Industries Limited

Visaka Industries Limited

Ability Responsibility Sustainability

Age group	Number of employees
Age 20-30	389
Age 30-40	833
Age 40-50	490
Age above 50	176
Total	1888

Table 14: Employee diversity by age (401-1)

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Total Number of employees - last 3 years	2018	2035	1888
No. of Males - last 3 years	1988	2007	1858
No. of Females - last 3 years	30	28	30
No. of Employees < 30 years of age	541	495	389
No. of Employees 30-50 years of age	1281	1410	1323
No. of Employees > 50 years of age	196	130	176

Table 15: Full time employees



4% of our employees across the company are women. Even though this is in line with the industry average, we make efforts to include more women employees at Visaka.

#### A women friendly work cultutre at Visaka:

Our Human Resource policy has strict provisions to ensure that women feel secure at the workplace. Few of our practices are:

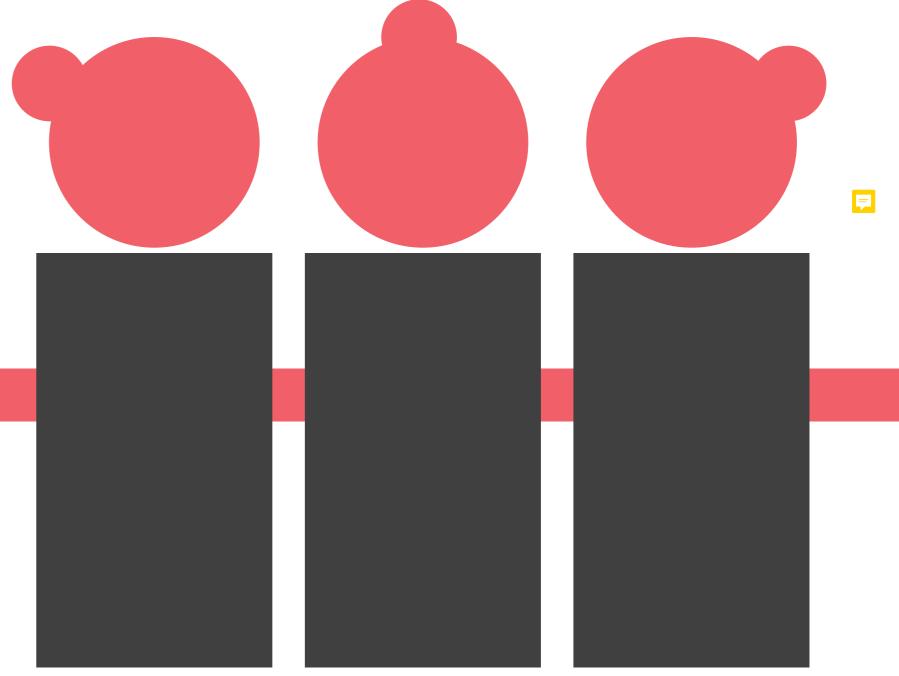
Clear HR communication at all operating units that women employees should not be asked to wait after office hours without a proper and justified reason.

In case of any complaint given by a woman employee immediate action should be taken against the person related to any kind of harassment to the women employees after thorough investigation/enquiry. All the details of the women employees complaining against any person would be kept confidential for her safety & esteem purposes.

Number of permanent women employees

**67** 





#### **5.12 Talent retention and growth**

We are proud that in 35 years of existence, the employees at Visaka have grown with the company, and that we have enabled our employees to learn and adapt new skills as we diversified into new areas of business. Our strong focus on employee retention helps Visaka and its employees transition together through changes. As of 2020, 72% of our employees have completed more than five years of service at Visaka.

Our approach to talent retention and growth in includes concrete opportunities for growth by extensive delegation and empowerment opportunities. An emphasis is made on personal and professional development through wide range of training programs for both technical skills to adapt to technological changes within the organization, and leadership skills to unlock employee growth potential in a holistic way. During the year, the Company organised training programmes in technical skills, behavioural skills, business excellence, general management, advanced management, leadership skills, customer orientation, safety, values and code of conduct. An average of 6 hours of training were provided per employee in FY2020.

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Total Number in FY21	136	141	232
No. of Employees Retired in FY21	1	6	-
No. of Males in FY21	130	132	223
No. of Females in FY21	7	9	8
No. of Employees < 30 years of age in FY21	54	55	75
No. of Employees 30-50 years of age in FY21	68	74	119
No. of Employees > 50 years of age in FY21	14	14	38

Table 16: Employee attrition rate

#### Our Human Resources policy provides that: (102-41)

We strive to avoid middle management recruitment from external source most of the time by giving higher preference to our exiting internal resources and by grooming them well in advance so as to enable them to take up higher responsibilities in future.

Create possibilities for employees to seek internal transfer from one working place to another, assigned or seconded from one department, location, branch to another from one company, subsidiary or associate company to another, existing now or in the future, in India or abroad.

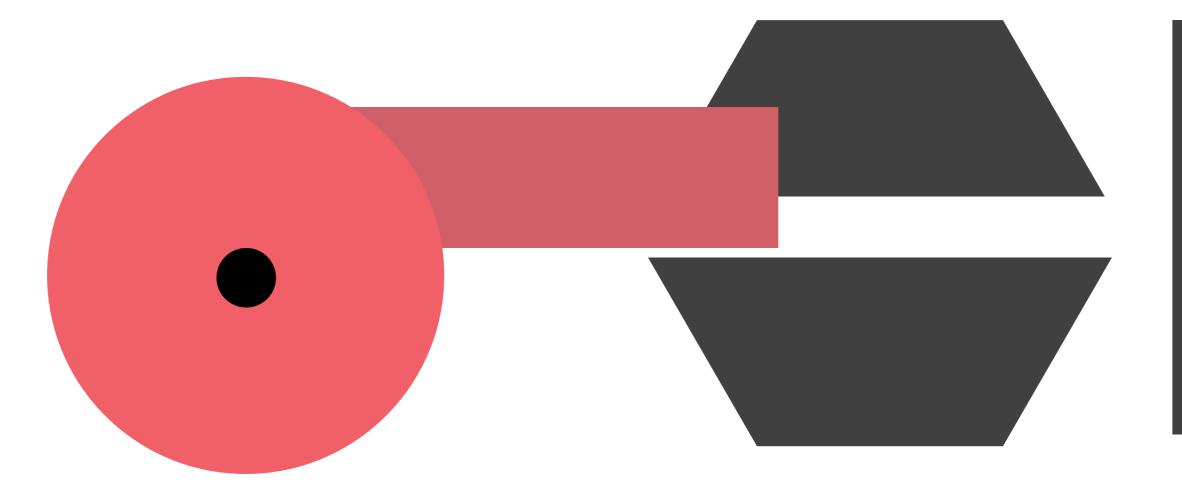
Annual appraisals are based on a fair and transparent criterion that is disclosed to all the employees, with targets decided in consultation with the employee, department head and the Human Resources department. The Company's remuneration policy is driven by the success and performance of the individual employees as well as his expertise in critical areas of operations of the Company. Since, 2010 Visaka has been using a digitized absence management system to enable employees to track and manage their leaves transparently.

#### Our Code of Conduct and Whistleblower Policy

The Code of Conduct as adopted by the Board of Directors is applicable to all directors, senior management and employees above officers' level. The prime purpose of the code is to create an environment wherein all the Board Members and Senior Management of the Company maintain ethical standards and to ensure compliance with the laid down ethical standards. The code is available on the Company's website at www.visaka.co.

Any actual or potential violation of the Code of Conduct would receive appropriate intervention by the Company. The Company has adopted a 'Whistle blower policy' to highlight any concerns and for a proper redressal of the same.

The whistle blower policy of Visaka allows the employee, contractor, vendor, or a person having interest in any transaction with the Company to make disclosure in good faith about any unethical or improper practices noticed by him/her in the Organization/workplace. The policy allows the complainant to directly contact the whole-time director or the audit committee with a provision to maintain anonymity about the confidentiality of the complaint and complainant. All complaints are investigated with oversight and supervision of the whole time director and the audit committee. The Audit Committee shall take appropriate action to address all reported concerns or complaints regarding corporate accounting practices, internal controls or auditing.



The policy also provides controls for protecting the complainant against retribution. Any other employee assisting in the said investigation shall also be protected to the same extent as the Whistleblower.

#### **5.13** Employee benefits

(401-2)

Employee benefits is one of the key focus areas of Visaka, and employees are extended to immediate family of employees where relevant. Few of these benefits are:

All employees are eligible for a Mediclaim policy of up to 2 lac PA-Floater policy.

Provision for vehicle loans at an interest lower than the market rate

Provision for personal loans to all employees at an interest rate lower than the market rate

Provision for gratuity beyond the national compliance requirement

Provision for provident fund above the national compliance requirement

In FY2019-2020 **1851** employees availed these services.

126 Visaka Industries Limited

#### **COVID 19 update**

The businesses faced unforeseen challenges due to COVID19, in particular, stoppage of operations for an uncertain period resulted in a large financial burden on the one hand and workforce idling on the other. In these times, the health of the employees and workers became a priority; and Visaka shifted its focus to protecting the well-being of employees and other stakeholders. In line with the state and central government guidelines a company wide work from home policy was implemented. Alongside, instructional sessions were conducted through online platforms to help employees navigate and adapt to the new work style, and generate awareness about the precautionary measures for good physical and mental health. Specific actions included:

More than 100 + Safety Protocol Points ensured at Units / Corporate (Insert: Picture of Format Sample provided by Visaka)

Work From Home Policy and Guidelines (WFH) issued for all employees

Provision of Special Leaves for COVID affected employees

Reduced expectation of performance from employees due to COVID Stress, and be supportive while maximizing productivity

Continue with benefits even while operations were shut for few days on account of LOCKDOWNS

As the lockdown is lifted and we resume our operations, the company implemented an operating plan to address COVID-19 and continues to promote personal hygiene and social distancing through comprehensive documentation, training and installations; it distributing hand wash, sanitisers and preventive gear to secure the workforce. The Company also conducted daily motivational video conferences to boost employee productivity and morale.

No delays or salary adjustments were made due to the impact of Covid19 on business performance.

#### 5.14 Adequately set up for safety at workplace

Through established mechanism at every subsidiary that are aligned to the corporate human resources policy Visaka provides information to Employees about workplace safety and health issues through regular internal communication. The objective of such communication is to imbibe a culture of workplace safety among employees. The company also observes world environment week, world energy conservation week, world safety week and brings awareness among the employees and other stakeholders.

#### In the reporting year we conducted following trainings

Category	Safety	Skill upgradation training
Permanent employees	67%	66%
Permanent women employees	100%	94%
Casual/Temporary/ Contractual Employees	78%	37%

Visaka Industries Limited

Visaka Industries Limited

Ability Responsibility Sustainability

The company practices safe operating procedures applicable for carrying out activities at various units. (403-1) (403-3)

As a Principle Employer, the Works Manager/HOD (Production)/Safety Officer is responsible and Principle contractors must partner with organizations for carrying out the safety activities. A written contractor safety policy at the company establishes guidelines to be followed for staff, permanent workmen and contractors working at various units. The rules establishes:

1. Provide a safe working

**2.** Govern facility relationships with outside contractors.

environment.

**3.** Ensure that contractor employees and our employees are trained to protect themselves from all potential and existing hazards.

The Safety policy establishes uniform requirements designed to ensure that contractor safety orientation, coordination, and safety administration practices are communicated to and understood by staff, permanent workmen and contract workmen.

The following regular best practices for mastering contractor safety management are implemented at Visaka:

#### Ensure that safety and expectations are communicated through induction training.

Safety training is one of the most impactful tools companies have for sharing their safety culture throughout their workforce, including their contracted workers. It often includes the company's safety and emergency procedures, work permits, and site requirements. Requiring contractors to complete induction training provides assurance that they are prepared with the most effective, relevant training for the jobs they are hired to do. Use of badging or other technology-based tools to enable easy verification of training completion before a contractor goes to work is key to ensuring compliance.

Build safety requirements into contracts.

Contracts help to clearly establish our organization's expectations regarding its contractors' safety preparedness and performance. Legal contract compliance as per local regulatory requirements, along with company-specific health and safety requirements. This may include participation in the company's safety pregualification program administered through a third-party provider.

Establish and track contractor safety KPIs.

EHS leaders rely heavily on safety metrics to create awareness of safety adherence and motivate workers to improve their performance. Regularly scheduled meetings to discuss performance metrics, including any incidents that occurred along with their root causes and corrective actions, can help teams strategize for continued improvement.

#### Leverage audits and incorporate safety performance into post-project evaluations.

Periodic on-site inspections, jobsite walk-throughs and annual audits are effective ways being monitored contractor safety performance. The results of contractor safety audits and post-project evaluations are evaluated. Annual Reviews and submission of reports to Board of Members

### 5.15 Employee grievance mechanism (102-17)

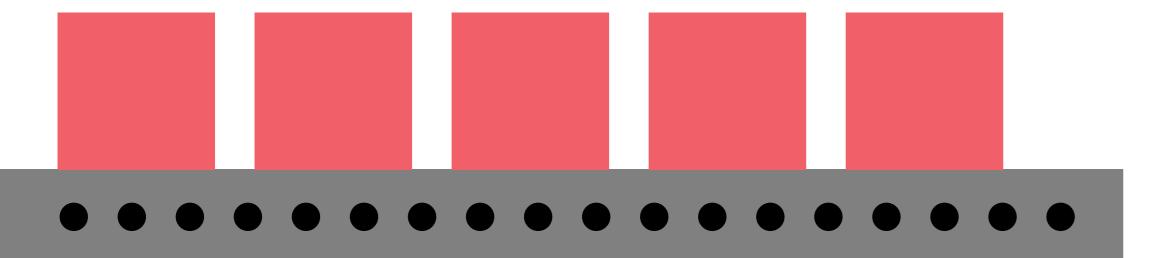
At Visaka, we invest in nurturing the relationships between the employees and their immediate managers. In our experience over the years the employees have raised their grievances to immediate superiors, and this has reinforced the working relationship.

We also understand that there still might be gaps in addressing the grievances to full extent, especially in cases where the grievances are concerned with immediate supervisors or managers or may need immediate attention such as violence or threats at the workplace. To be able to address such grievances our human resources policy encourages employees to raise formal grievances, ensuring confidentiality. The employee can directly access the Head of the concerned Department and the Human Resources department to lodge a formal complaint. The two work together to investigate and close the complaint in discussion with the employee. As a company, Visaka has a zero-tolerance policy for any type of discrimination in the workplace and anyone found to be engaging in any type of unlawful discrimination is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

At the factories there are recognized Worker Unions and 30% of our permanent employees are members of such association which excludes employees from manager and above levels.

In the FY2020-21, despite robust mechanisms set to capture grievances and wrong doings, we are happy to report that we did not receive any complaints.

Category	No. of complaints filed during the financial year	No. of complaints pending as on end of the financial year
Child labour/forced labour/involuntary labour	0	0
Sexual harassment	0	0
Discriminatory employment	-	-



#### **5.2 Robust supply chain**

(102-9) (SDG 7)

Visaka Industry Ltd. considers all its suppliers as its partners. Our suppliers for us are not mere vendors but they are our partners in our success and business development. We accord utmost priority in our supplier relationship and always maintain cordial relations with timely payment, transparency, win-win terms of negotiations and work together for any new challenges. We continuously discuss new technologies and products for business improvement with suppliers. We have maintained long term associations with almost all our key suppliers. We believe in our collective success and therefore prioritise our suppliers' growth along with Visaka Industries Ltd.'s growth and success.

We maintain relationships with distributors in the following ways:



Regular visits by field marketing staff.



Periodic visits by regional heads, departmental heads, Visaka's top management on occasions when they are visiting the town or region to understand their needs, market trends and to encourage them.



By conducting regional and national stockist conferences annually to acknowledge their contribution, recognise their achievements and loyalty, as well as share information about the company's growth, future plans, and develop a personal rapport.

#### Table Screening of suppliers using social criteria

Screening of suppliers using social criteria	Does your supplier due diligence/screening process include a social criteria?	Yes
	How many new suppliers were brought on board in 2020-21? How many new suppliers were screened using social criteria?	ERP Based on ERP data
	How many of these suppliers were identified as having significant actual and potential negative social impacts?	None
	What were these negative and positive social impacts?	None
	Were any supplier contracts terminated due to their negative social impacts? If yes, please provide information on the negative social impact.	No
Assessment of the health and safety impacts of product and service categories	What is the system in place for assessing the health and safety impacts of the products on consumers?	In case of incoming products we assess the manufacturing process and input materials used by supplier and also check whether they are environment friendly, Safe to handle and energy efficient and impact on our production and ease of operations
	For which products was this assessment done?	Regular compliance and part of SOP
	At what stage of the product life cycle are these assessments done?	Right from introduction stage to completion of product continuous monitoring is done.

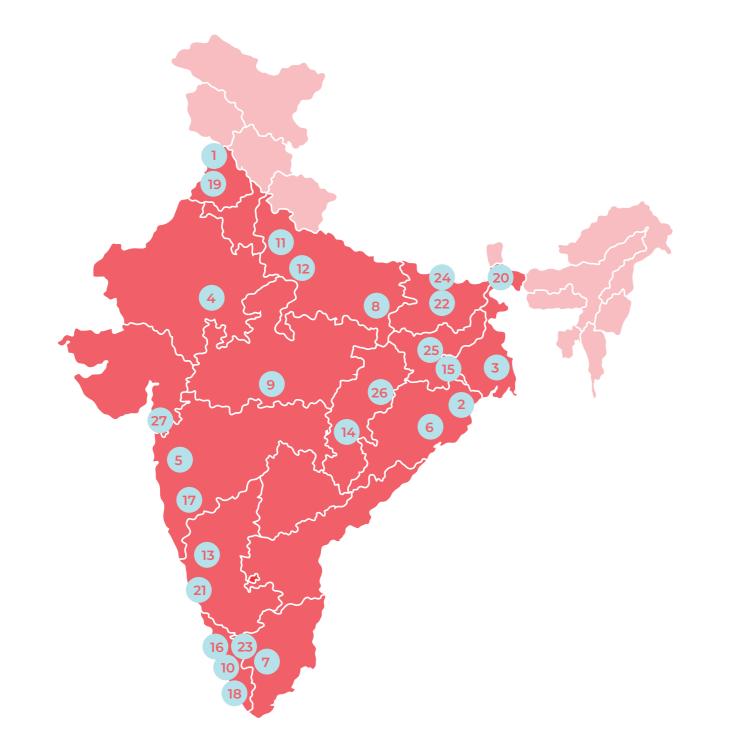
134 Visaka Industries Limited

Requirements for product and service information and labeling	Which of the following information is included in the product information label	Product composition, Storage rules, manufacturing and expiry, disposal methods, method of handling, MSDS, energy efficiency rating, batch and part no and manufactured place, input raw material etc.
	Sourcing of components	Yes
	Information on the environmental or social impact of any component of the product	Yes
	Safe use of the product	Yes
	Safe disposal method	Yes
	Do all product categories cover this information? If no, please state the number of product categories that provide this.	-

All Visaka products are sold via retailers as well as directly to customers. We have trusted partnerships with our 8500 dealers as on 31-03-2021 and all our clients. Swift delivery of our products is facilitated by Visaka's strong network of depots and marketing offices.

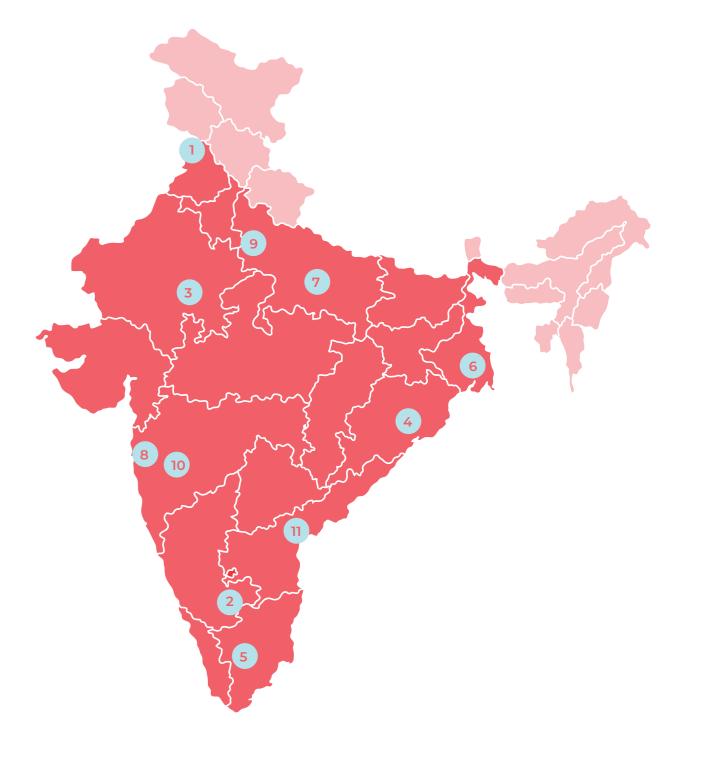
#### **Our depots**

- 1 Amritsar, Punjab
- 2 Balasore, Odisha
- **3** Baruipur, West Bengal
- 4 Bhilwara, Rajasthan
- 5 Bhiwandi, Maharashtra
- 6 Bhubaneshwar, Odisha
- 7 Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
- 8 Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh
- 9 Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh
- 10 Ernakulam, Kerala
- 11 Garhmukteswar, Uttar Pradesh
- 12 Hathras, Uttar Pradesh
- 13 Hubli, Karnataka
- 14 Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh
- 15 Jamshedpur, Jharkhand
- 16 Kannur, Kerala
- 17 Kolhapur, Maharashtra
- 18 Kollam, Kerala
- **19** Ludhiana, Punjab
- 20 Mainaguri, West Bengal
- 21 Mangalore, Karnataka
- 22 Muzaffarpur, Bihar
- 23 Palakkad, Kerala
- 24 Patna, Bihar
- 25 Ranchi, Jharkhand
- 26 Raigarh, Chhatisgarh
- 27 Valsad, Gujarat



#### Our marketing offices

- Amritsar, Punjab
- Bengaluru, Karnataka
- Bhilwara, Rajasthan
- Bhubaneshwar, Odisha
- Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
- Kolkata, West Bengal
- Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- 8 Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Noida, Uttar Pradesh
- D Pune, Maharashtra
- l Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh



136 Visaka Industries Limited

#### **5.3 Customer engagement**

We maintain relationships with customers and clients in the following ways:

- Regular visits to assess their requirements, update them on new developments, product, and applications.
- Visit their sites to offer installation support, orientation, training and understand their specific needs along with the technical team and bridge the gaps if any.
- Visit and interact with the clients' consultants, architects, project team, contractors to ensure that user experience is at the highest levels.
- Meet corporate clients and decision makers to offer an integrated solution for their projects with builders, industry, and institutions, and to get vital feedback on their experiences and expectations.

- Participate in exhibitions as well as private and governmental expos to meet potential and existing clients, consultants, suppliers to build business relationships.
- Give presentations and participate in webinars to meet with thought leaders, consultants, new technology developers.
- Engaging clients with e-mails that update them on new developments and product offerings from the company.

#### **5.4 Community**

(SDG 1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9,11,13)

Visaka's emphasis on social responsibility stems from its corporate philosophy of giving back to the society and be a responsible corporate citizen. We intend to actively contribute to the social and economic development of the communities in which we operate. Our efforts are specially focused at areas with low human development index where lies immense opportunity to build a better, sustainable way of life for the weaker sections of the society.

In 2000, Visaka Charitable Trust, a non-profit entity was founded as a non-profit entity, to support initiatives that benefit the society at large, even before the CSR regulations were promulgated. Corporate Social Responsibility projects are either taken up directly or indirectly through the trust, in collaboration with such other associations, or contributing to the eligible and recognised outside associations. A mix of multiple implementation vehicles are used to achieve annual CSR objectives.

#### 5.41 Organized action for CSR

The Corporate Social Responsibility Policy is administered by Visaka's CSR Committee in line with requirements of the Companies Act, 2013. The CSR committee comprises Directors namely Shri Gusti J. Noria (Chairman), Shri V.Pattabhi, Dr.G.Vivekanand, Smt. G. Saroja Vivekanand and Shri J.P.Rao as other members. The decisions of the committee are governed by the CSR policy of the company. In FY 2020-2021 the CSR Committee periodically met to review and ensure the implementation of the company's CSR activities.

Ability Responsibility Sustainability

#### **5.42 CSR Policy**

At Visaka, CSR is an integral part of Visaka' s culture imbibed by all employees of the company and its supply chain. As a responsible corporate entity of India, Visaka has already undertaken various activities and provided drinking water by digging bore wells, constructed irrigation tanks in remote villages, built classrooms and supplied furniture in schools and colleges, reimbursed salaries of teachers appointed on temporary basis and conducted health camps. As part of its vision, Visaka identifies the following activities to be undertaken as CSR activities under its CSR Policy either directly on its own or indirectly through its owned trusts or such other associations or contributing to the eligible and recognised outside associations or partly by one mode and partly by the other mode or any combination thereof.

In 2019-20, our CSR project and activity focused on six themes namely Water, Health, Sanitation, Education, Sports and Agriculture. The efforts were made either in the form of monetary contributions or supporting development activities in the backward districts of Telangana state and in the vicinity of factories and offices of Visaka. The projects included:

- 1. Provision of drinking water
- 2. Health Camps
- **3**. Construction of classrooms and toilets in schools and colleges
- **4.** Supply of classroom furniture and payment of teacher salaries
- **5.** Sports events
- **6**. Construction of irrigation tanks

Beyond this, Visaka has donated solar carts with ATUM to various poor and needy people, which in addition to enabling them to earn their livelihood, also promotes environmental sustainability. It has also been helping the local people of nearby manufacturing units on need basis and facilitating local customs and festivals too.

#### Visaka identifies the following activities to be undertaken as CSR activities under its CSR Policy:

- 1. Promote education, including special education and employment enhancing vocation skills especially among children, women, elderly and the differently abled and livelihood enhancement projects.
- 2. Rural development projects
- 3. Eradicating hunger; poverty and malnutrition, promoting preventive health care and sanitation and making available safe drinking water.
- 4. Promote gender equality, empowering women, setting up homes and hostels for women and orphans; setting up old age homes, day care centers and such other facilities for senior citizens and measures reducing inequalities faced by socially and economically backward groups.
- 5. Provide Training to promote rural sports, nationally recognized sports, Paralympic sports and Olympic Sports
- 6. Ensure environmental sustainability, ecological balance, protection of flora and fauna, animal welfare, agroforestry, conservation of natural resources and maintaining quality of soil, air and water
- 7. Protect national heritage, art and culture including restoration of buildings and sites of historical importance and works of art; setting up public libraries; promotion and development of traditional arts and handicrafts.
- 8. Measures for the benefit of armed forces veterans, war widows and their dependents
- 9. Contribution to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund or any other fund set up by the Central Government or the State Governments for socio-economic development and relief and funds for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, other backward classes, minorities and women;
- 10. Contributions or funds provided to technology incubators located within academic institutions which are approved by the Central Government;
- 11. Slum area development
- 12. Such other areas, as may be specified as CSR activities under Schedule VII from time to time.

#### 5.43 Number of lives benefited for every activity in FY 2020-21.

CSR Activity	Number
Solar carts provided to street vendors (to empower and ensure continued earning of livelihood during night times)	120 street vendor families
Provision of infrastructure- School/college (From 1st standard to PG), construction of required classrooms and laboratories for the additional courses and for purchasing the required lab equipment & furniture	3000 Students
Monthly salaries to teachers enabling continued education in backward districts of Telangana	25 Teachers
In addition, during lockdown period of Covid 19 pandemic we provided food, drinking water and other essentials to approximately:	5500 beneficiaries
Total	8645

#### 5.44 CSR spending for each activity in FY 2020-21

Sl. No.	CSR Activity	Amount In Rs.
1	Provision of drinking water, conducting health camps, eradication of poverty, food distribution	91,58,024.00
2	Building of classrooms, toilets, and provision of infrastructure in schools and colleges	2,13,26,151.00
3	Supply of classroom furniture and payment of teachers' salaries	32,39,300.00
4	Rural electrification through solar roofing promoting environmental sustainability	19,65,620.00
5	Contributions made to PM relief fund:	10,00,000.00
	Total	3,66,89,095.00

# 5.45 CSR team organisation

Visaka established the Visaka Charitable Trust in the year 2000, a non-profit entity, to support initiatives that benefit the society at large. The Trust had already undertaken various activities like provision of drinking water by digging borewells, construction of irrigation tanks in remote villages, building of Classrooms in Schools and Colleges, reimbursement of salaries of teachers and supply of classroom furniture and conducting health camps. Keeping in view the above, the Company leveraged the Trust to implement CSR activities as mandated under Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013. Visaka employees are entrusted to administer various CSR activities.

#### Visaka extended funds for Infrastructure development at Dr. BR Ambedkar Educational Trust

Since the past 40 years the Dr. BR Ambedkar Educational Trust is running on Charity and has been engaged in provision of education to the needy children. At present nearly 3000 students are enrolled for multiple courses.

As the trust planned to introduce additional courses and provide subsidized food Visaka was approached to contribute funds for enabling infrastructure development, which included construction of college buildings, classrooms, laboratories and canteen with food facilities for students.

Additionally, the contributions have also helped the institution in purchasing the lab equipment and furniture for meeting functional requirements for labs and canteen. The trust has also provisioned library needs and 60 computers with embedded software to be used by the students.

This way the contributions have allowed the institution to meet its objective of providing education to the needy people with improved infrastructure and facilities and has helped Visaka play its role as a responsible corporate citizen.

Constructed water tanks, check dams, borewells, bus shelters for the deserving and needy people in the rural backward areas of Telangana

Continued to sponsor notebooks, textbooks and school uniforms to boys and girls in a school near Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. The contributions are made on an ongoing basis every two years and are acknowledged (by the school) as helping students to stay motivated towards education.

Contributed to Ekal Abhiyan, a non-profit organization on a mission to bring basic education to every child across rural India. Visaka's contributions were utilized for health and hygiene, skill development and organic farming programs by the NGO.

Contributed to help Mr. Tukuram from Telangana to achieve his dream to summit Mount Everest, which he successfully did.



Visaka's revenue streams are sourced from products that are environmentally responsible and energy efficient. Further, we are compliant to the lands of the law. Not only does this protect us from any risks emerging from the ecosystem, it also makes us future ready to offer 'clean products' to customers who are increasingly now aware and desirous of purchasing products that are responsible to the planet and people.

# 6.1 Diversified portfolio of sustainable products

We have a clear target of growing our product portfolio with products with low environmental and social footprint. Visaka's V-next, Wonder yarn, Atum and Atum Life products are such examples, as indicated extensively in the section titled 'Visaka's contribution to people and the earth'.

In line with our goal of enlarging the portfolio of sustainable product offerings we will continue to innovate with new raw materials and increase the sustainability and efficiency of our production processes.

# **6.2 Compliance to regulations**

The AC division has reported no fines for non-compliance with the laws in 2020-21. They have conducted a due diligence process to screen 4 suppliers who are compulsorily required to follow Visaka's environmental policies.

The VNext division of the industry hasn't reported any fines or non-monetary sanctions for non-compliance with environmental laws or other laws in the period under consideration either. Environmental criteria are reported to be a part of the supplier due diligence process. The suppliers are mandated to follow Visaka's environmental policies in our premises. However, suppliers are not yet quantitatively assessed on their environmental impact by the division, and we plan to do so in the future.

The wonder yarn division does not have any fines or penalties against its name for non-compliance with the law during 2020-21 as well.

The company believes that human rights are inalienable and so far have received no human rights complaints from internal or external stakeholders. (102-17) We are also 100% compliant on paying minimum wages, and have consistently maintained standards of paying above minimum wages to employees.

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# **6.21 Corporate governance**

(102-18)

The Board of Directors at Visaka have met 8 times in FY 2020-21. Minutes of each board meeting were taken and recommendations of the Board were fulfilled.

Our company's Board of Directors consist of the following:

- O Dr G. Vivekanand, Vice Chairman, Visaka Industries Ltd.
- O Smt. G. Saroja Vivekanand, Managing Director, Visaka Industries Ltd.
- O Shri Gusti J. Noria, Managing Director, Normak Fashions Ltd.
- O Shri P. Srikar Reddy, Director Managing Director & CEO, Sonata Software Ltd.
- O Shri J.P. Rao, Whole-time Director, Visaka Industries Ltd.
- O Shri G. Vamsi Krishna, Joint Managing Director, Visaka Industries Ltd.
- O Shri G. Appnender Babu, Industrialist.
- O Smt. Vanitha Datla.



Besides this, to ensure a robust governance structure that can periodically review, assess, and take company decisions related to all our key stakeholders, Visaka Industries Ltd. has incorporated the following committees:

Audit Committee

Nomination & Remuneration Committee

Corporate Social Responsibility Committee

Stakeholders Relationship Committee

Directors of the Company constitute these committees as members or chairperson. While there is no active risk management committee yet, risks and all issues related to management of risks across the company are discussed at the company board level on a regular basis.

# The **Audit Committee** reviews reports presented by the internal auditors on a routine basis.

The committee makes note of the audit observations and takes corrective actions wherever necessary. It maintains constant dialogue with statutory and internal auditors to ensure that internal control systems are operating effectively.

#### The CSR Committee administers Corporate Social Responsibility Policy in line with requirements of the Companies Act, 2013.

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The **Nomination and Remuneration Committee (NRC)** oversees, inter-alia, matters relating to:

Identify persons who are qualified to become directors and persons who can be appointed in senior management in accordance with the criteria laid down, recommend to the Board their appointment and removal.

Formulate the criteria for determining qualifications, positive attributes and independence of a director.

Recommend to the Board a policy relating to the remuneration for the directors, key managerial personnel and other employees.

Carry out evaluation of every director's performance including that of Independent Directors and

Devise a policy to be followed for identification, appointment, remuneration and evaluation of performance of directors including Company's Board diversity etc., as approved by the Board.

•••••

The Stakeholders Relationship Committee, inter-alia, approves issuance of duplicate share certificates as well as oversees and reviews all matters connected with the securities transfer, transmission, nomination, dematerialization and rematerialisation including redressing grievances related thereto.

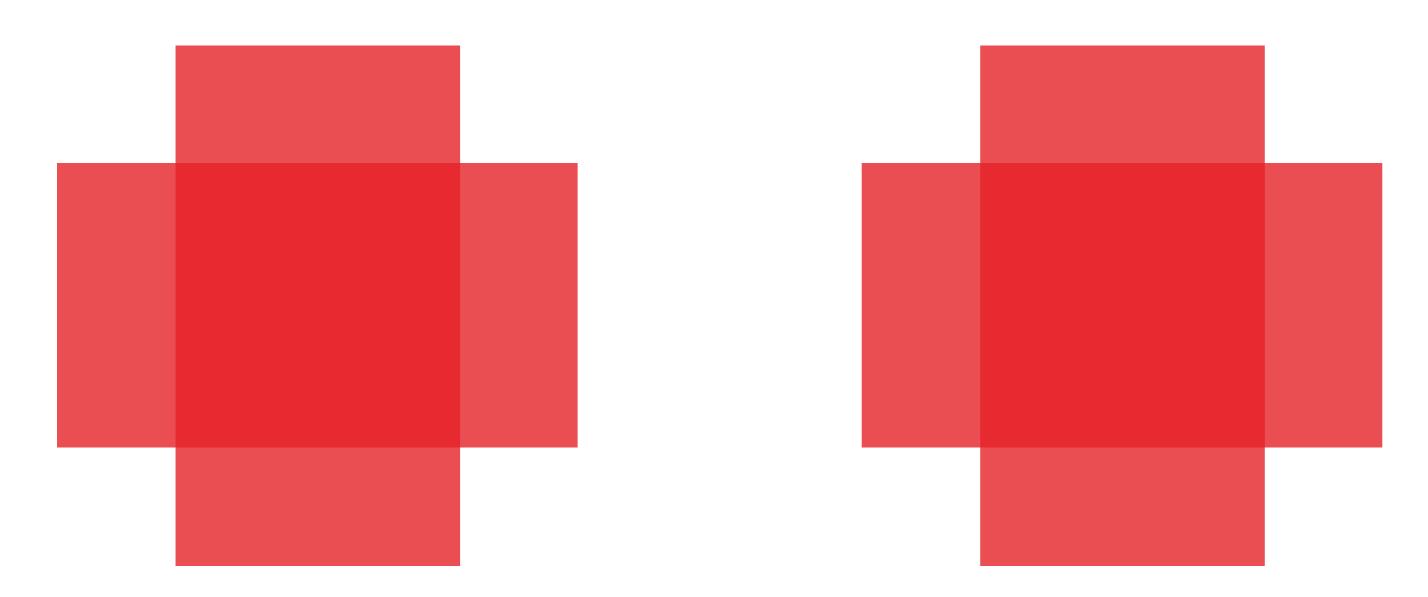
The Committee also considers redressing of shareholder's complaints relating to non-receipt of notices/annual reports and dividends etc.

Visaka Industries Ltd. has a robust Code of Conduct and Ethics in place for its employees. The Code of Conduct and Ethics is a guide to help the company's senior management team as well as all directors on the board to adhere to loyalty, honesty, integrity and avoidance of conflicts of interest at work.

The Code includes sections on applicability, honest and ethical conduct, legal compliance, corporate disclosures,

competition and fair dealing, duties of independent directors, guidance on conflicts of interest outside employment, Board memberships, Family members and close personal relationships, gifts, investments, diversion of business, and use of company's assets.

Visaka Industries Ltd. has appointed the company's Company Secretary Mr. I Srinivas as its Compliance Officer. Visaka's Compliance Officer interprets and deploys the requirements of the Code of Conduct and Ethics which is also reviewed annually by the company's Board of Directors to keep in pace with the regulatory environment. Amendments to this Code needs the approval of the Board of Directors of the company.



# **6.22** Grievance redressal policy

(102-17)

Visaka Industries Ltd. has a **Grievance Redressal Policy** to provide an effective mechanism for all employees on Visaka Industry Ltd's payroll to express their grievance individually related to their employment and to ensure that the grievances of employees are dealt with promptly and fairly.

'Grievance' is clearly defined by Visaka Industries Ltd's policy as any type of problem, concern or complaint related to employment or the work environment. A grievance may be an act, omission, situation or decision that the employee thinks to be unfair, discriminatory or unjustified. The policy includes the addressal of concerns related to integrity, work environment, job responsibilities, behaviour, and harassment of any kind, from all employees about any action that has been taken or an in-action in relation to them by the concerned immediate boss, other employees or from the management.

Mr Vamsi G. Krishna, Joint Managing Director of the Company constitutes the Grievance Redressal Committee, consisting of 4 members at corporate level out of which one will act as chairman of the committee.

The policy also enlists in detail specific grievance handling procedures:

Receive & acknowledge the grievance.
Focussed attention to grievances rather than turning away from it. Avoidance of an attitude of patronizing superiority.

Define the problem

Investigate

Get the facts

Analyse and decide

Follow up: Decision taken must be promptly communicated to the aggrieved employee. Whatever the decision, it should be followed up so as to know the reaction of the aggrieved employee to the decision in order to determine whether the issue has been closed or not.

Decision taken must be promptly communicated to the aggrieved employee. Whatever the decision, it should be followed up so as to know the reaction of the aggrieved employee to the decision in order to determine whether the issue has been closed or not.

The policy then provides a 3-tier system for grievance redressal which are as follows:

Redressal by the immediate manager of the employee

Grievance Redressal Committee: If the concerned employee is aggrieved with the decision of his immediate manager or head of department, he shall approach the Grievance Redressal Committee to put-forth his/her grievance in writing within 7 days from the date of decision given by his/her immediate manager/head of department.

# 6.23 Vigil mechanism

#### (102-17)

Visaka has established a 'vigil mechanism' through which the company recognizes the value of loyalty, honesty, integrity and accountability in its conduct of affairs. It also defines a "whistleblower" to be an employee, contractor, vendor, or a person having interest in any transaction with the company who makes disclosure in good faith pursuant to this policy about any unethical or improper practices noticed by him in the Organization/workplace The policy is applicable to all employees and directors of the Company.

Disclosure made by whistleblower must be submitted through:

E-mail to whistleblower@visaka.in; or

Representation in writing in a sealed cover to Mr. G Vamsi Krishna, Whole-time Director.

All disclosures are promptly investigated and appropriate corrective action is taken if warranted by the investigation under the supervision of Mr. G Vamsi Krishna. No unfair treatment will be meted out to a Whistle Blower by virtue of his/her having reported under this Policy. The Company, as a policy, condemns any kind of discrimination, harassment, victimization or any other unfair employment practice being adopted against Whistle Blowers. Complete protection will, therefore, be given to Whistle Blowers against any unfair practice like retaliation, threat or intimidation or termination/suspension of service, disciplinary action, transfer, demotion, refusal of promotion, or the like including any direct or indirect use of authority to obstruct the Whistle Blower's right to continue to perform his duties/functions including making further disclosure. The Company treats all disclosures made by employees under this Policy as confidential and privileged to the fullest extent permitted by law.

# **6.3 Building brand Visaka**

(SDG 7,11,12,13)

Visaka's values are deeply entrenched in its work culture, relationships towards our stakeholders, and our products. These values are: Initiative, responsibility, accountability, care, compassion, courtesy, Ethical functioning, fairness, transparency, trust, good faith and integrity. We practice discipline in everything that we do and in doing so, we ensure that we reflect our values of passion. innovation, and transparency in the products we make, and how we manage our relationships with the stakeholders. Our stakeholders resonate with Visaka as a brand that is trusted for Quality. In our journey of 35 years we always strived to solve problems by quality-oriented diversification of products, pioneering market innovations and enabling our employees and business partners to become a part of the changing internal and external business environment. The hands-on expertise of Visaka management about the industry that we operate in is another vital source of our success.

Our vision of being a credible, passionate, and innovative solution providing company is communicated extensively

to our employees. Each department is sensitised on the corporate vision and strives to make this vision come true. It guides us and keeps the team motivated to innovate and introduce new products like VNext fibre cement boards, ATUM integrated solar roof, sustainable yarn made by recycling PET bottles.



# 6.31 Discipline for building trustful relationships

Visaka as a brand is purely built on TRUST Be it employees, dealers, institutions, investors, or the end customers. We at Visaka ensure to keep our promise to deliver the best quality product, committed on-time service, and the best Visaka experience.

The Company has a footprint in 28 states and Union territories of India. Its manufacturing units are supported by 13 marketing offices and 12 manufacturing locations, which along with logistics for the transfer of raw materials and finished products form the manufacturing capital of Visaka. The company encourages a culture of listening carefully to the needs and suggestions of its distribution network of more than 8000 dealers across rural, urban and suburban markets that bring efficiency in distribution. As Visaka markets products directly to retailers as opposed to pursuing the conventional distributor-retailer approach, it is advantaged with a superior understanding of the marketplace realities.

Disciplined actions over the years has made us a supplier of choice and Visaka is welcomed by new distributers and customers in new markets. A combination of superior quality powered by innovation,

transparency for building a trustful relationship helps Visaka to continuously grow its network of distributors and customers despite occasional operational challenges such as shortages, or willingness to pay a higher price for the product.

Existing partners also refer us to newer distributors, Clients, and projects because of the values we maintain consistently.

We also focus on reaching out to a diverse set of customers to expand our revenue opportunity. Recently Visaka also started to focus on global opportunities that widened its international footprint. Our VNext products were exported to the Middle East, Africa, South-East Asian countries and US. The fact that we could market our products internationally enhanced our confidence. Visaka, through Visaka Charitable Trust enhances its relationships with the communities as a responsible corporate citizen. While the social responsibility wing of the company is philanthropydriven, our strong focus is also on employing locally and building local

Our corporate philosophy and business interactions made us retain all our customers since its inception, signifying

a testimonial of our commitment to all stakeholders. Corporate governance and professional management of company affairs have kept Visaka on a steady path to growth, and consistent dividend payouts to shareholders have been wellappreciated over the years. Facilitated personal and professional development, strengthening people retention and superior use of knowledge also plays a key role in presenting Visaka to the external stakeholders and we take deliberate efforts to nurture these strengths. Our approach to employees is explained under the 'Agile and Experienced Workforce' section of this report.

# 6.32 Discipline for Quality Excellence

We adhere to stringent quality checks to ensure the highest product quality and customer trust. Equally, we are flexible to change, and our versatile product range provide solutions for multiple customer needs. As part of its product development approach the company is focused on manufacturing best-in-class, eco-friendly products to address market opportunities. This approach has helped us graduate from the commodity end of the business to the more customised boutique end of the business, insulating the business from weaker realisations. Timely business extensions, forecasting future growth, and right entry helps us achieve segment leadership for all our products. This result of practicing the discipline of quality is that:

#### Visaka Performance

Visaka has progressed to become one of the leading building construction material providers in the country. The Company is the second largest manufacturer of cement asbestos sheets in the country and accounts for 18% of the sectoral capacity.

We retained our position as the largest producer of fibre cement boards and panels generating a positive brand recall.

#### **VNext Performance**

VNext retained its position as the largest manufacturer of this industry with the largest market share in the country. The cumulative capacity of the Company stands at 1,70,000 metric tonnes per annum of VNext Boards, one of the largest in the industry.

VNext Panel is manufactured with technical inputs from Australia and accepted by builders and practicing professionals in India and overseas. It comes with perks that include energy efficiency from its excellent thermal and acoustic properties.

#### **Wonder Yarn Performance**

Visaka's Wonder yarn retained its largest production and market share of the MTS airjet spinning technology. In a sluggish economy for the textile industry, we produced at peak capacity, sold our highest volumes and generated attractive margins.

The company's quality emphasis is validated through prominent downstream brands like Donear, Siyaram Silks, Raymonds, GBTL, RSWM, BSL Suitings, Arvind Mills among others.

#### **Certified for Quality**

Visaka is the only company to be certified Green Products among fibre cement boards.

VNext Board, VNext Designer, VNext Plank and VNext Premium and VNext Panel by CII-IGBC.

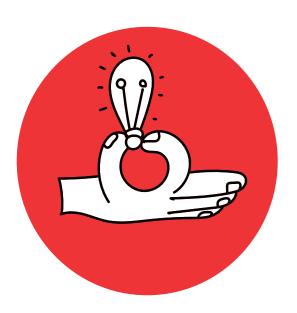
The Company's products have been certified as fire-proof, water-proof, termite resistant and UV-resistant by TUV Singapore

We received the prestigious UL certification for ATUM that empowered us to sell in America and Europe

The Company's products are certified with accreditations like BIS, ensuring a stringent compliance with various sectoral norms

ISO 14000:2004, OHSAS 18000:1999 for manufacture and supply of Fibre Sheet and Accessories

ISO 9001:2008 Manufacture and supply of cement fiber sheets and sandwich panels



# **6.33 Discipline for Innovation**

It's a constant endeavour for us at Visaka to keep innovating passionately through technology and value-additions, and being a credible solution providing partner to all our stakeholders. We innovate to introduce new products to our customers, and also to adapt quickly to the changing needs and customer attitudes. For example, capitalizing on India's lifestyle and aspirations driven growth we invested in technologies and introduced products like ATUM. ATUM, is a new age, eco-friendly roofing product that provide an integrated solar roof as an alternative to the conventional retrofit solar systems is the first of its kind in the world, making waves in areas like affordable housing, net zero industries and businesses. ATUM is low on space and high on productivity.

Innovation at Visaka is a culture. and our teams also innovate to provide value-additions to existing products through investments in superior manufacturing technologies. Recently, it introduced the path breaking VNext Infill (Load bearing dry wall) technology that facilitates superior and accelerated construction. This lightweight concrete (cement, sand, expanded polystyrene and a proprietary additive) is mixed with water and poured between a structure made with VNext Frames, TMT rods and VNext Boards as facing sheets. Similarly, the Wonder Yarn was expanded to manufacture a gamut of specialised products (mélange, hightwist, and specialty yarns) in different blends. These value-added yarns are utilised by quality-conscious fabric manufacturers, resulting in realisations that are among the highest in the country's yarn sector

#### Innovating for an environmentally better future

We are committed to leaving the world a better place that we found it. This though manifests into our products and we promote it to our customers to instil a sense of responsible consumption in the consumers. All our product innovation stems from our belief in being a company that offers truly sustainable products.

Visaka has seamlessly integrated modern technology with green buildings products like the VNext - an eco-friendly substitute to conventional materials like plywood, gypsum boards and traditional brick wall construction. VNext products are manufactured using cellulose fiber and are Green Pro. Through this initiative, we have created an impact of saving over 5,00,000 trees and 90,000 tons of CO2 emissions from deforestation so far.

Wonder Yarn - With its innovative technology we have developed manufacturing capabilities to make sustainable yarn from PET bottles, impacting about 95 million PET bottles from piling up in dump yards and our oceans.

The company's non-asbestos business is expected to account for approximately 50% of the business over the next three years from around 40% today.

#### 6.34 The Future We Want

Going forward, we are determined to strengthen our brand equity, enhance overall brand value, by institutionalizing our stakeholder trust and emerge as market leaders of sustainable products in the global and Indian market. With continued focus on our fibre cement boards and solar roof systems, we strive for sustainable products to contribute over 70% of the total revenue. Simultaneously, we would be offering more sustainable and profitable products and valueadditions to our ever-expanding base of customers and distributors. We are also confident of expanding our wings globally and become one of the prominent players in the building materials industry, worldwide.

To overcome the challenge of consumer awareness about the sustainable products in the domestic market, Visaka would focus on preparing the market by educating the customers about the value of our sustainable offerings. In this challenge, also lies the opportunity to use Covid19 as a stimulus to take the message of living in tandem with nature to the end consumer.

On this journey, Visaka will continue to be guided by our values and disciplined actions representing our values. Very fundamental to this achievement is Visaka's seasoned team who are extremely committed and passionate about the work they do, and their retention and growth is vital for our sustainability. All this combined with our technical expertise, innovative solutions, strong domain expertise, branding, business models including sustainability, and having strong alternatives to non-sustainable products like plywood will lead us to realise the future we want.

# 6.4 Top line growth

#### (SDG 7,11,12,13) (201-1)

A strong commitment to providing the highest quality and innovative solutions to our customers has been our prime motto. We do so with in-house innovations and R&D. With our disciplined moves, we have built a strong balance sheet focusing on being sustainable as well.

Our sustainable varn business has received a pull from the market equivalen to almost 10% of total offtake. We had a sluggish two quarters of 2020-2021 because the prominent weaving markets in Mumbai and Bhilwara were shut, but the growth was gained back when the operations resumed back to normalcy. Exports in the business also improved and with its niche quality and specialty. The business is expected back to normalcy and contribute like each year.

Our product, VNext retains the largest market share among the competitors' pool. The innovative technology of MTS air-jet spinning has helped us to be the market leader in the yarn business with highly impactful work by making sustainable yarn from PET bottles. We as a

company thrive for a renewable, greener, and sustainable tomorrow with our flagship and one-of-its-kind product range of integrated solar roofs, ATUM. ATUM is one of the first indigenous products, made with a modern and futuristic vision that will change the face of integrated roofing solutions in the coming years.

Visaka is proud to reveal that in these unprecedented times of the pandemic the revenues have started to bounce back and managed to cover up the revenue losses that were observed due to the nationwide lockdown. The turnover for the plant at Udumalpet near Coimbatore building product segment of cement fibre sheets for the reporting year 2020-21 is 26 % higher in comparison to the previous year even though the June 2020 quarter revenue was lost due to the pandemic.

IIn times of economic slowdown, because of enhanced capacity utilization, the losses were repaired and business was running smoothly. We recorded an increase of 24% in capacity utilization in our VNext products, fibre cement boards, and panels for the current year 2020 – 2021.

All the existing three VNext boards manufacturing units and our plants making V-Panels had a capacity utilization of 71% in 2020-21. We have clocked 3% sales growth and 18% contribution to total sales in FY 2021.

Visaka takes pride in disclosing to the stakeholders that the top line contributions would be more significant and would increase shortly, as we are establishing new manufacturing facilities for our VNext brands towards the Eastern belt of the country. A new VNext Board in Tamil Nadu state will be operational starting October 2021, which will be followed by manufacturing Panel units at the same premises. Almost Rs 47 Crores invested as financial and natural capital towards VNext brands in the current year 2020-21 towards existing units as well as for the proposed new unit at Coimbatore.

The company has contributed to 11% growth in rural markets in the previous year. VIL boasts of its strong network of dealers and facilitators pan India which makes our rural presence strong.

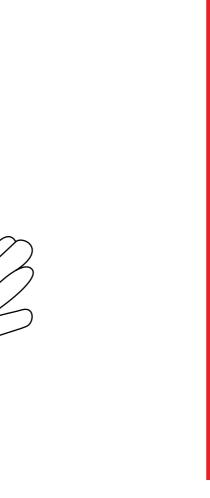
**Ability Responsibility Sustainability** Visaka Industries Limited

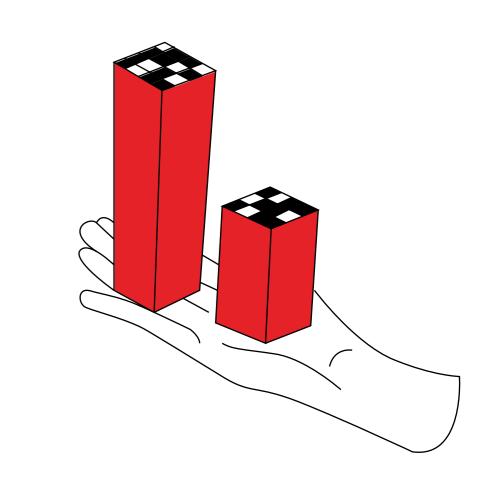
In the financial year 2020 – 2021, the company has reported that the asbestos business grew 26% with good demand from rural markets because of reverse rural migration, on a year on year basis. Our growth in rural markets has grown because the set of products that the company offers has a wide application base in the construction sector. With sustained rural growth and rural incomes growing in the long term, we are expecting increased consumption of building material as well.

The company is gearing up to include the patent-protected product, ATUM in the top line fleet of products in the near term. This novel technology has accorded a patent grant in India, the United States of America, and South Africa, which gives an edge over the existing assembled solar-rooftop systems. This patent grant is one of the first in the whole business segment across the globe. The product is strategically placed hand in hand with the already successful VNext market geographies. The ATUM is a differentiated product in itself especially for the target audience where the areas are difficult to service or suffer high fluctuation in conventional electrification setups. Atum directly addresses these needs and proves to be the right fit in the required category.

The growing sensitization towards the use of cleaner energy solutions along with enhanced environmental awareness and the uniqueness of the product ATUM has therefore given the company a boost of confidence for the commercial, household, rural and industrial customers. Besides, our factory output can be doubled with a nominal investment, thus strengthening the profitability. Doing so will further strengthen the revenues for this segment of integrated roofing.

The revenues from ATUM have contributed to 0.5% of the company's revenue in 2020-21. The business is exploring exports to Nepal, Sri Lanka, South Africa, and the Middle East, which will add to the growth. Visaka has collaborated with the Chief Economic Development Officer, Sharjah, and successfully installed one of the first international projects for ATUM. In FY 2020-21, Visaka has generated revenue from overseas deployment projects and has built for UN-Habitat at Nairobi. Kenya as well. Visaka is going to focus on awareness initiatives and extensive marketing campaigns to demonstrate and mainstream its products in the market.







At Visaka, the focus is on keeping up with new technologies for increased sustainability of our product offerings to clients. We do so primarily through a rigorous R&D across all our operations, a data driven approach to decision making, and developing a scientific mindset amongst employees.

# 7.1 Research & development

Research and Development (R&D) is embedded within Visaka's operations. Our search for alternative raw materials, innovations, and quest for diversifying our product rage of sustainable offerings are powered by in-house R&D. Further, Visaka's R&D teams ensured that our quality and innovation emphasis did not slacken even during the pandemic.

In the building products business, Visaka imports fiber from Russia, Kazakhstan, and Brazil as there is no similarly effective quality of asbestos fibre found in India for manufacturing of asbestos cement corrugated products. Asbestos Fibre is a natural fibre obtained from mines but in India there are no such mines. With R&D and frequent trials we are able to substitute to about 14% the asbestos fibre by different synthetic fibers like recron, cotton rag pulp and natural fibres like Wollastonite.

We are also conducting trials for further replacement of the asbestos fibre by materials such as special recron, PVA, Grasim fibre. The trial was also successfully carried out for full replacement of asbestos fibre by PVA to produce non-Asbestos corrugated sheets.

Further, in order to develop effective more sustainable replacements of asbestos, we have conducted trials using rice husk and coconut coir.

# 7.2 Building a scientific mindset within Visaka

We at Visaka are leveraging sustainability as a business opportunity and to do so we keep up to date with the most advanced technologies. We prioritise learning and re-inventing ourselves to keep up with our customers' increasing preferences for sustainable products. This means that instead of hiring new talent, we ourselves learn about the latest scientific advancements on sustainable products and train our teams with new skills to develop these sustainable products.

Therefore our company believes that the quality of employees is the key to its success. In view of this, it is committed to equip them with skills, enabling them to evolve with technological advancements. During the year, the Company organised training programmes in technical skills, behavioural skills, business excellence, general management, advanced management, leadership skills, customer orientation, safety, values and code of conduct.

Category	Skill Up Gradation Training
Permanent employees	66%
Permanent women employees	94%
Casual/ temporary/ contractual employees	37%

Our company has a risk management framework that enables a systematic approach to risk identification, leverage on any opportunities and provides strategies to manage, transfer, avoid or minimize the impact of the risks and helps to ensure sustainable business growth with stability of affairs and operations of the Company.

At Visaka we approach problems with curiosity and focus upon building sustainable products with a scientific approach.

With in depth technological focus the company has seamlessly integrated modern technology with green buildings products like the VNext - an eco-friendly substitute to conventional materials like plywood, gypsum boards and traditional brick wall construction. Through this initiative, we have created an impact of saving over 5,00,000 trees and 90,000 tons of CO2 emissions from deforestation so far.

Visaka's Wonder yarn retains its largest production and market share of the MTS air-jet spinning technology. With its innovative technology we have developed manufacturing capabilities to make sustainable yarn from PET bottles, impacting of about 95 million PET bottles from piling up in dump yards and our oceans.

With the passion for innovation, ATUM, an integrated solar roof as an alternative to the conventional retrofit solar systems is the first of its kind in the world, making waves in areas like affordable housing, net zero industries and businesses.

Visaka's Wonder yarn retains its largest production and market share of the MTS air-jet spinning technology. With its innovative technology, we have developed manufacturing capabilities to make sustainable yarn from PET bottles, impacting of about 95 million PET bottles from piling up in dump yards and our oceans.

#### **Assurance statement**

(GRI 102-56)

The Management and Board of Directors Visaka Industries Ltd. Visaka Tower, SP Road, Secundarabad Telangana - 500003 Sustain Labs Paris, M-611 Jal Vayu Towers Sector 56, Gurgaon, India - 122011

Sustain Labs Paris LLP (SLP) was engaged by Visaka Industries Limited (the 'Company') in relation to the company's Business Sustainability report 2020-21 covering the Company's sustainability performance during the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021. This assurance statement should not be taken as a basis for interpreting the Company's overall performance, except for the aspects mentioned in the scope below.

#### Scope of assurance and methodology

The scope of our work for this assurance was limited to review of information pertaining to the sustainability performance of the Company for the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021. We conducted review and verification of data collection using the following methodology:

- -Interviews with key stakeholders of the Company.
- -Review of consistency of data and information within the report.
- -Verifying evidence for claims and data streams made by the Company in the report
- -Review of the Company's plans, policies and practices, so as to be able to provide a fair and honest representation of the Company's activities.

#### The assurance scope excludes:

- -Data and information outside the defined reporting period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.
- -Review of the economic performance indicators included in the Report which, we have been informed by the Company, are derived from the Company's audited financial records.
- -The Company's statements that describe expression of opinion, belief, inference, aspiration, expectation, aim, or future intention.
- -Data, statements and claims that are already available in the public domain through the annual report or other sources.
- -Review of the Company's compliance with regulations, acts, guidelines with respect to various regulatory agencies and other legal matters.

#### Observations and opportunities for improvement

During the review process, we observed that:

The Company could further improve its sustainability performance by setting Science Based Targets across its operations and implement strategic plans to achieve the targets. Diversity at plants and in the higher management level can be improved. The Company's CSR activities may adopt specific strategies and measurement tools to maximise the impact for money spent.

#### Conclusion

On the basis of our procedures for this limited assurance, nothing has come to our attention that causes us not to believe that the Company has reported on material sustainability issues relevant to its business.

**Dr. Miniya Chatterji** CEO, Sustain Labs Paris

Dated: 26 April 2021 Place: Gurgaon, India.

**GRI Index** 

GRI	Title	Reference section	Pg. No.
Standar	ds		
Organisa	tional profile and strategy		
102-1	Name of the organization	About Visaka	11
102-2	Activities, brands, products and services	Visaka's products	28
102-3	Location of headquarters	About Visaka	11
102-4	Location of operations	About Visaka	5
102-5	Ownership and legal form	About Visaka	11
102-6	Markets served	Product sales	67
102-7	Scale of the organization	About Visaka	12
102-8	Information on employees and other workers	People	104
102-9	Supply chain	Robust supply chain	137
102-11	Precautionary approach	Corporate governance	152
102-12	External initiatives	External initiatives and associations	27
102-13	Membership of associations	External initiatives and associations	27
102-14	Statement from senior decision-maker	Message from the Managing Director, Message from the Joint Managing Director	8/9

Ability Responsibility Sustainability

GRI Standards	Title	Reference section	Pg. No.
Ethics and in	ntegrity		
102-16	Values, principles, norms of behaviour	Our values	22
102-17	Mechanisms for ethics	Employee grievance mechanism	135
Governance			
102-18	Governance structure	Corporate governance	144
Stakeholder	engagement		
102-40	List of stakeholder groups	Pillar 2: People	104
102-41	Collective bargaining agreements	Talent retention and growth	131
102-42	Identifying and selecting stakeholders	Long term partnerships with stakeholders	107
102-43	Approach to stakeholder engagemen	Long term partnerships with stakeholders	107
102-44	Key topics and concerns raised	Materiality assessment and action	109

GRI	Title	Reference section	Pg. No.
Standard	ds		
Reporting	practice		
102-45	Entities included in the consolidated financial statements	Visaka's Annual report for 2020-21 <u>https://www.visaka.co/</u> <u>investors</u>	6
102-46	Defining report content and topic boundaries	Report Boundary	4
102-47	List of material topics	Materiality assessment and action	109
102-48	Restatements of information	This is the first sustainability report published by Visaka Industries Limited.	-
102-49	Changes in reporting	This is the first sustainability report published by Visaka Industries Limited.	-
102-50	Reporting period	Reporting Period	4
102-51	Date of most recent report	Reporting Period	4
102-52	Reporting cycle	Reporting Period	4
102-53	Contact point for questions regarding the report	Suggestions and feedback	6
102-54	Claims of reporting in accordance with the GRI Standards	Reference Standards	6
102-55	GRI content Index		172
102-56	External assurance		170

GRI Standards	Title	Reference section	Pg. No.
Specific dis			
GRI 200 Eco	onomic Topics		
103	Management Approach	Pillar 1: Innovation Pillar 4: Science	6
GRI 201 Eco	nomic Performance		
201-1	Direct economic value generated and distributed	Top-line growth	157
GRI 300 Env	vironmental Topics		
103	Management Approach	Pillar 3: Clean revenue	105
GRI 301 Mat	erials		
301-1	Materials used by weight or volume	Our material footprint	82
301-3	Reclaimed products	Reclaimed products	86
GRI 302 Ene	ergy		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
302-1	Energy consumption within the organization	Pillar 3: Clean Revenue	105
302-3	Energy intensity		
302-4	Reduction of energy consumption	Pillar 3: Clean Revenue	105

GRI	Title	Reference section	Pg. No.
Standar	ds		
Specific o	disclosures		
GRI 303 V	Vater		
303-1	Interactions with water as a shared resource	Water resource management	88
303-3	Water withdrawal	Water resource management	88
303-4	Water discharge	Water resource management	88
303-5	Water consumption	Water resource management	88
GRI 305 E	missions		
305-1	Direct (Scope 1) GHG emissions	GHG Emissions	94
305-7	Nitrogen oxides (NOX), sulfur oxides (SOX), and other significant air emissions	GHG Emissions	94
<b>GRI 306 E</b>	iffluents and Waste		
306-1	Water discharge by quality and destination	Waste management	95
306-2	Waste by type and disposal method	Waste management	95
<b>GRI 307 E</b>	invironmental Compliance		
307-1	Non-compliance with environmental laws and regulations	Waste management	96

GRI	Title	Reference section	Pg. No.
Standard	ds		
Specific d	lisclosures		
GRI 400 S	ocial Topics		
103	Management Approach	Pillar 2: People	104
GRI 401 Er	mployment		
401-1	New employee hires and employee turnover	Diversity and inclusion	125
401-2	Benefits provided to full-time employees that are not provided to temporary or part-time employees	Employee Benefits	132
GRI 403 O	ccupational Health and Safety		
403-2	Hazard identification, risk assessment, and incident investigation	Pillar 3: Clean Revenue Adequately set up for safety at workplace	105
403-3	Occupational health services	Adequately set up for safety at workplace	136
GRI 404 T	raining and Education	••••••	
404-1	Average hours of training per year per employee	Talent retention and growth	130
GRI 413 Lo	ocal Communities		
413-1	Operations with local community engagement, impact assessments and development programs	Visaka's contribution to people and the earth	71
GRI 413 So	ocioeconomic Compliance		
419-1	Non-compliance with laws and regulations in the social and economic area	Visaka is compliant with laws and regulation in the social and economic areas that it operates	-

# **SDG Index**



Eradication of Poverty

Source: AR FY 20-21



Distribution of Food during Covid 19

Source : CSR Details



Provided turnkey solutions to the healthcare sector for accelerating the construction of testing and relief stations to fight COVID-19	Source : AR FY 20-21
Conducted health camps in schools	Source: AR FY 20-21



Teachers Salary	Source : CSR Details	



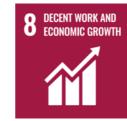
Distribution of Safe drinking Water during Covid 19	Source : CSR Details
Digging bore wells, constructed irrigation tanks in remotevillages	Source: CSR Details
Vnext Board helps save electricity and water as the product comprises dry wall construction.	Source: AR FY 20-21



Rural Electrification through Solar Roofing	
Switch from imported kerosene or biomass to clean, sustainable domestic cooking solutions	Source : AR FY 20-21
Vnext Board helps save electricity and water as the product comprises dry wall construction.	Source : AR FY 20-21



Installation of the energy efficient drives like Variable Frequency Drives (VFD) for optimum utilisation	Source : AR FY 20-21	
Convention light replaced with LED Lights	Source : AR FY 20-21	
ATUM, a newage, eco-friendly roofing product that provides an integrated solar energy generating system.	Source : AR FY 20-21	Overlap: SDG 13 (it helps in green house gass mitigation), SDG 11- helps develop smart cities
Company has been utilising the Solar Power generated from its 2.5 MW Captive Solar Plant setup at Miryalguda, Telangana with a capacity of 42 Lac units per annum	Source : AR FY 20-21	
The Solar Roofing Product helps to reduce carbon footprint by producing clean energy.	Source : AR FY 20-21	Overlap: SDG 13



Solar Cart to street vendors	Source : CSR Details
PM Relief Fund	Source : CSR Details
D. Ekal Abhiyan – Contributed for the holistic development of tribal & rural villages by inducting health &hygiene, organic farming, skill development	Source : CSR Details
ATUM to various poor and needy people, which in addition to enabling them to earn their livelihood	Source : AR FY 20-21



Constrction of Classrooms, Laboratories, Playground, Library at DR.BR Ambedkar Educational Trust	Source : CSR Details	Overlap: Education
Green building services using V-Next	Source : AR FY 20-21	



	The Solar Roofing Panels are Green Products and help to reduce	Source : AR FY 20-21
١	carbon footprint.	



Make sustainable yarn from PET bottles	Source : AR FY 20-21
Reuses of hazardous waste	Source : AR FY 20-21



The Solar Roofing Panels are Green Products and help to reduce carbon footprint.	Source : AR FY 20-21	
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With its innovative technology we have developed manufacturing	Source : AR FY 20-21	
capabilities to make sustainable yarn from PET bottles, impacting of		
about 95 million PET bottles from piling up in dump yards and our		
oceans		



The company has seamlessly integrated modern technology with green buildings products like the VNext - an eco-friendly substitute to conventional materials like plywood, gypsum boards and traditional brick wall construction. Through this initiative, we have created an impact of saving over 5,00,000 trees and 90,000 tons of CO2 emissions from deforestation so far.

Source: AR 20

verlap: SDG 13, SDG 17



184 Visaka Industries Limited