

What are Better World Products?

If a product displays the Better World Products logo, its manufacturers have improved sustainability in at least one stage of its lifecycle and this improvement has been verified by an internationally recognised sustainability certification or energy efficiency standard.

Why buy Better World Products?

Both industry research and our conversations with customers show that businesses are committed to making more sustainable purchasing decisions but that they find this hard.

With Better World Products, our goal is to make it easier by providing access to products that you can be assured meet sustainability standards. We want to make it as straightforward as possible for you to make more sustainable choices – and to have confidence when doing so.



What criteria do Better World Products have to meet?

It's important to us that customers have trust in this range but for now at least, there is no clear global standard for sustainable products. There are, however, schemes that certify whether certain claims about sustainability are genuine.

So, for this initial launch phase of Better World Products, we've selected a set of 41 sustainability standards and energy efficiency standards and are highlighting products that have secured at least one of these awards.

We wanted to start with certifications that are recognised by external third parties so our customers can feel 100% confident and assured about the claims made.

A full list of the certifications, which includes FSC and

When does Better World Products finish?

There is no end date for Better World Products. We want RS to be a leader in offering our customers more sustainable product and service solutions. This is a key part of our 2030 ESG action plan, For A Better World.

This initial launch phase of Better World Products is just the beginning.



What's next for Better World Products?

Our ambition is to offer a diverse range of Better World Products that help our customers to make greener purchasing choices and support a more sustainable world.

These first Better World Products have improved sustainability in at least one area of the product lifecycle, but we want to go further. Our goal is to advance this model by highlighting products that have achieved a range of sustainability improvements across all stages of the product lifecycle. We will also be collaborating with our suppliers to offer even more solutions to our customers.



What else is RS doing to help customers be more sustainable?

As well as Better World Products, we are taking action to ensure that the products customers receive are getting to them in an ethical and sustainable way. For example, with packaging, we have switched to recycled content that can be easily recycled in kerbside collections.

We are also working hard to reduce distances within our logistics network so when a product is delivered to the customer, it has travelled less miles and thus generated less emissions in that stage of its lifecycle.

Beyond that, we're doing a lot of work with suppliers to ensure we have strong environmental and ethical standards in our supply chain. We risk screen all our suppliers and ask them to become EcoVadis rated so they have a framework for improving their ESG standards. With our RS Pro suppliers, we also ask them to join Sedex, the internationally recognised membership organisation that helps businesses to improve standards within their supply chains.