

Giving back

DISCOVER OUR EFFORTS FOR NATURE & PEOPLE

ENVIRONMENTAL | SOCIAL | GOVERNANCE



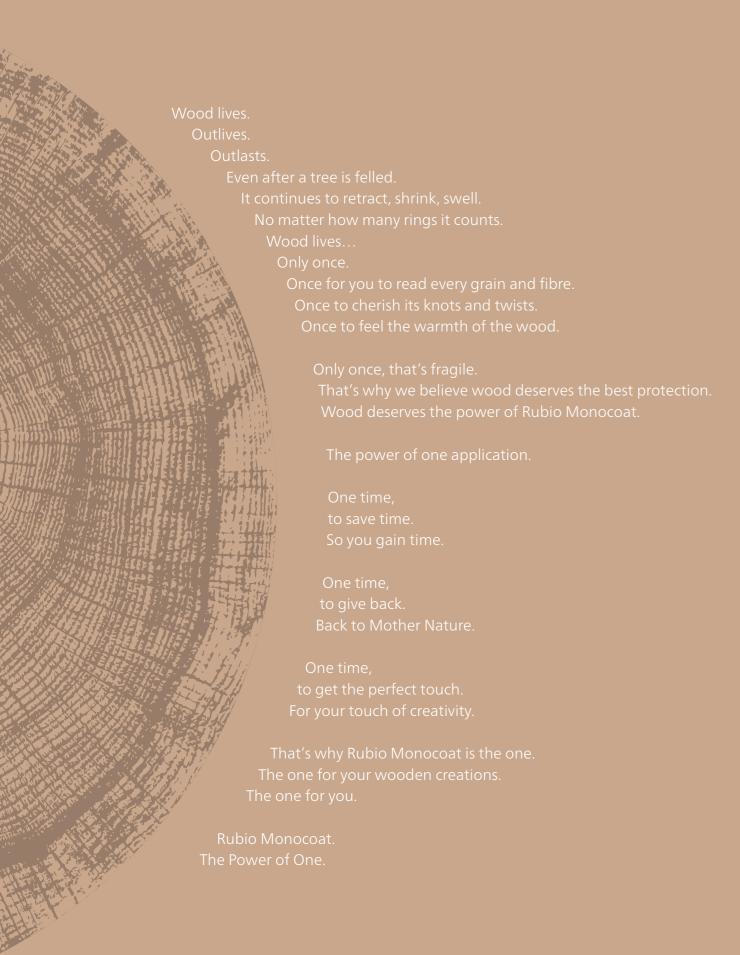
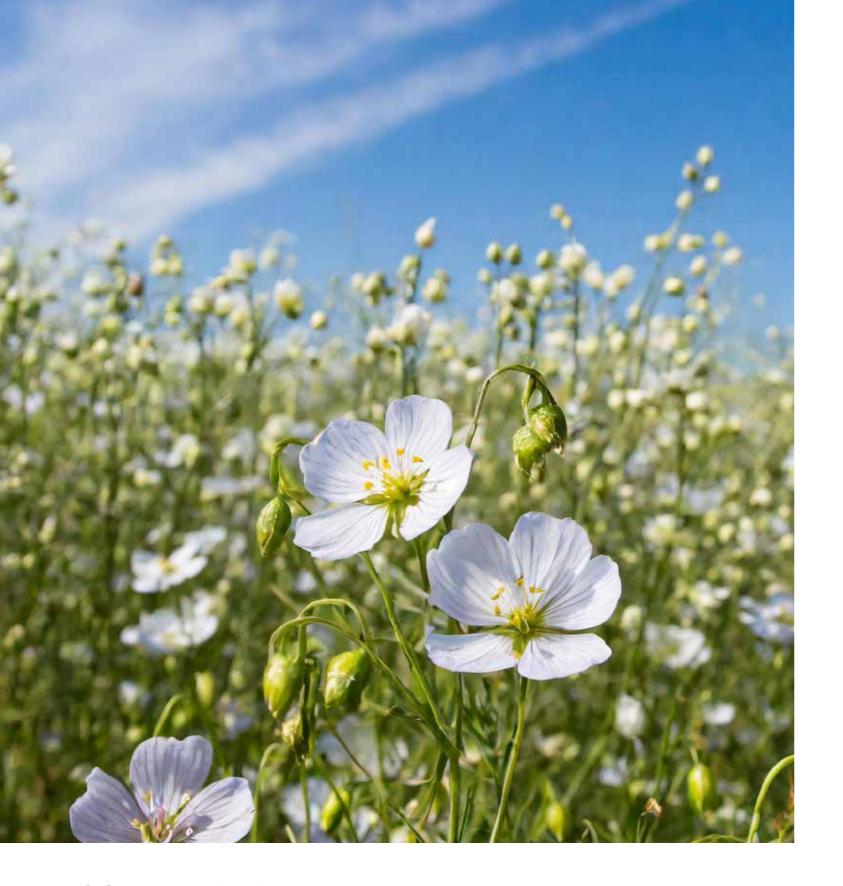




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We care about the environment.

From making sustainable and safe products to going net zero by 2030 (scope 1 & 2), we are striving to do right by nature. In our efforts for corporate social responsibility, we also want to give back to people. We value our employees highly and support a non-profit organisation in Peru.

Join us in our ecological journey.

RUBIO MONOCOAT IS **ECO**CONSCIOUS

At Rubio Monocoat, we take our sustainable entrepreneurship seriously. In developing our sustainable product range, the basis of our products is key.

OUR SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS

At Rubio Monocoat, we go for **sustainability in all its facets**, from durable raw material to recycled packaging. Since sustainable materials are not limited to the impact they have on the environment, our focus on sustainable entrepreneurship is based on:

- → Using renewable raw materials
- → Choosing sustainable bases which also lead to an extremely **low consumption** when applying our products
- → Constantly optimizing our **production processes**
- → Paying attention to the **impact and safety** of our products on both the **user** and the **environment**
- → Guaranteeing a long lifespan of our product
- → Complying with regulations on waste management, pollution and energy supply
- → . . .

A LOOK AT SOME OF OUR SUSTAINABLE BASES

Oil Plus 2C

Linseed oil: seed of flax, a plant that can be regenerated in a relatively short time and in considerable qualities. The molecular binding guarantees 0% VOC's.

DuroGrit

Wood oil based on and fortified by actual wood fibres. The water-soluble qualities ensure that DuroGrit doesn't contain any VOC's.

WoodCream

Wood protection cream that is based on wax. Thanks to this, WoodCream is also free of any VOC's.

SheenPlus

This optional after-treatment for an additional sheen is made from natural ingredients. The product does not contain any VOC's. It's solvent and water-free.

THE ROAD TO NET ZERO

On top of our ecological journey, we want to go **completely net zero** (scope 1 & 2) in the long run.

Going net zero is a very complex process, which we have started up in 2022 with the help of our external partner **CO₂ Logic**. This partner helps us through this journey and independent party **Vincotte** corroborates our efforts.

When aiming for net zero, there are **3 phases** that need to be completed:

- 1. Measuring phase: drawing up a profile of the efforts so far and the areas to improve
- 2. Action phase: improving where possible with the means and resources available
- **3. Compensation phase**: compensating everything which causes emissions and which cannot be improved

In 2022 we carried out the measuring phase, giving us insight in our ecological footprint and the five areas which we can improve. After addressing these in the action phase, we will compensate our remaining CO_2 emissions (for scope 1 & 2) by supporting environmental projects.

1 Mobility & Commuting



Since our production process itself does not require a lot of electricity, mobility is one of our biggest improvement areas. Essentially, this one is about checking everything related to travel, such as

- → Checking **travel methods** for CO₂ emissions and choosing the best option:
 - → Business trips
 - → Trips to fairs
- → How employees **commute**:
 - → By bike
 - → By car: diesel, fuel, electric, ...

THE ROAD TO NET ZERO

In the first area, we are already compensating our air miles by paying a surplus to travel CO_2 neutral and checking alternatives by **public transportation** rather than flying or going by private car. The commuting process of our employees is also being addressed. With **regular home office**, we're saving unnecessary travel time. Moreover, we've started up **bike leasing** and our **vehicle fleet** is being transitioned to **electrical cars** with the lease of an additional 30 electrical company cars for our employees. Other options to limit emissions from commuting such as public transportation will be further explored in the future.



2 Infrastructure

Improving our infrastructure is also a way to improve on our emissions. For this purpose, we have bought and installed **418 solar panels** on the roof of our plant. Another topic we will focus on is reducing waste in general and recycling it in the best way possible.



3 Electricity

As mentioned above, our production process does not require that much electricity. This means that there are only a few smaller improvements we can make to save energy in this area, for instance using smart lights in the meeting rooms, installing an automatic signal after office hours to turn off the lights, computer screens, etc.

4 Materials

A lot also depends on the materials we use. As shown on page 5, the raw materials for our products are very sustainable. Of course, materials also applies to packaging, the distance of transporting the raw materials, the method of transport, ...



The **University of Hasselt** has investigated our existing packagings in terms of recyclability, stackability, origin and logistics, ... and found that they are already very ecological.

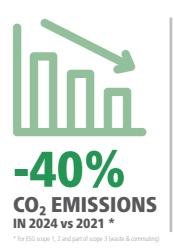
- → The majority of our packaging are **metal tins**. These are completely recyclable by melting them down and using them again.
- → Our **plastic packagings** are already recyclable and are currently being transitioned from PET (recyclable plastics) to rPET (recycled plastics). This latter is about 15 to 20% more expensive than PET, but we believe that this is a small price to pay for the environment. Our plastic spray bottles of 125 ml are already made from rPET and there are many more to follow.
- → All of our **padding paper** and **cardboard boxes** used for packaging are made from recycled materials.
- → Our general catalogues are **printed on 100% recycled paper**.
- → All of our **new packagings, products and tools** are strictly evaluated in terms of stackability, origin, CO₂ emissions, ... Our new spatula for example is made out of recycled cork plastics.

5 Raising awareness

It takes a lot to achieve net zero and a big factor in this is **motivating employees** to join in the effort as well. Getting them on board will help with reducing waste, recycling correctly, reducing emissions by carpooling, ... As they say: team work makes the dream work!

Our numbers speak for themselves

We are striving to become a CO₂ Neutral Silver Company by mid 2024. Our action plan includes controlling the heating during weekends and evenings with timers, checking the energy labels of all new machinery during purchase, adhering to our waste reduction plan with monthly updates and updating and phasing-out our list of hazardous products. Some of our other efforts are included in the infographic below. Let the numbers speak for themselves!



-8%
WASTE PER YEAR



THE RINGS OF OUR OIL PLUS 2C CANS ARE NOW FULLY RECYCLED FROM LOCAL POST-CONSUMER WASTE FROM BELGIUM AND CONTAIN ZERO ADDITIONAL DYES.





100%
RECYCLED PAPER

0%
VOC
IN OUR WOOD OILS

18

CHARGING SPOTS
FOR ELECTRICAL (COMPANY) CARS



IN THE WOOD
TREATMENT SECTOR
TO GET THE EUROFINS INDOOR AIR
COMFORT GOLD LABEL

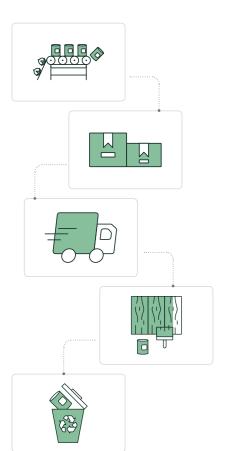
+28

FFICIAL CERTIFICATES GRANTED TO OUR PRODUCTS

SEE PAGES 12 & 13 FOR A FULL OVERVIEW

FUN FACT: THE INK THIS BROCHURE IS PRINTED WITH IS ALSO VOC FREE AND GREENGUARD GOLD CERITIFIED, JUST LIKE SOME OF OUR PRODUCTS!





Our sustainable bases combined with our innovative technologies lead to an extremely low consumption per m² when applying our products. Thanks to our technology of **molecular binding** and our patented **FibreGrit Technology**, we don't need a mass production site.

A lower consumption also leads to **fewer packages** per project.

In the end we also have **less transport** and therefore less CO_2 emissions.

In practice, the vast majority of our products contain **0% VOC** and are very safe to use and equally **safe for the environment**.

Our story ends with easy recycled & recyclable packaging.

0% VOC: safe for user & environment

Ensuring the safety of our customers is of the utmost importance to us. We are committed to maintaining the highest safety standards and giving our customers peace of mind in a healthy and comfortable living environment. We prioritise the **well-being** of both the **professionals who apply our products** and the **residents who live in the interiors treated with our products** by:

- → Conducting meticulous R&D
 - → Creates high-quality, safe and eco-friendly products
 - → Results in products with minimal impact on indoor air quality
- → Rigorous **testing** to guarantee that our products are free from harmful chemicals and emissions
- → Ensuring that professionals can work with our products safely with detailed **application** instructions and guidelines



RUBIO MONOCOAT, THE FIRST 0% VOC OIL

We developed our first oil three years before the first VOC regulations. When it came to VOCs, we decided to **set the bar high**. We did not want to work with a 'low level of VOC emissions' and instead decided to opt for **0% VOC**.

Our Oil Plus 2C is based on the **revolutionary tech- nology of molecular binding**. This means that all dangerous materials can be excluded without having to lower our quality standards. We are proud that from the very beginning we have set emission standards stricter than those prescribed in the legislation dating back to 2010.

Last but not least, it's not just our oils that are safe. In the development of new products, we strive to include **zero hazardous raw materials**, ensuring safety for both the environment and our customers.

WHY ARE VOCS HAZARDOUS?

'Volatile Organic Compounds' (VOCs) is a generic term for the chemical substances that evaporate into the air after applying oil. Products that contain VOCs are regulated by legislative bodies because they release vapours that are hazardous to both man and the environment:

- > Excessive contact with VOCs can cause allergic reactions, breathing problems and eye problems.
- > Furthermore, they affect the ozone layer and increase the greenhouse effect.

In spite of these risks, manufacturers of the traditional wood finishing products often only reduce their content to the lowest possible quantity, rather than abandoning VOCs completely.

INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATES

GREENGUARD GOLD	PROVES	AWARDED TO	SPECIAL BECAUSE
GREENGUARD PRODUCT CREATERING FOR UNCONCENSURED SUICON/CREATERING SONS ULCON/CREATERING	 VOC free products Safety for the environment and human health Safety for schools and healthcare facilities 	• Oil Plus 2C	Only awarded to indoor products that comply with their high standards Scientifically proven to mee some of the world's most rigorous, third-party chemical emissions standards
EUROFINS INDOOR AIR COMFORT GOLD	PROVES	AWARDED TO	SPECIAL BECAUSE
OR AIR CONTES	Quality of product Contribution to a healthy environment Our resolve to continue to meet the expected strict standards regarding emission in the coming years	Oil Plus 2C Universal Maintenance Oil	We are the first in the wood treatment sector to receive the certificate Label unites the most relevant emission specification and requirements in Europa
FOOD CONTACT COMPLIANCE - EUROFINS	PROVES	AWARDED TO	SPECIAL BECAUSE
COMPLIANCE	Our product is in accordance with the underlying specification of European Framework Regulation 1935/2004 for Food Contact Materials	Oil Plus 2C Universal Maintenance Oil Universal Maintenance Oil Mix SheenPlus	Can be used on wood that comes into contact with food and is safe for household use (recommended increasingly for a lot of projects): Cutting boards Kitchen worktops Tabletops
EN 71-3 (EUROPEAN GUIDELINE)	PROVES	AWARDED TO	SPECIAL BECAUSE
BC	Positive evaluation of the migration of certain hazard- ous elements like barium, cadmium and mercury etc. in different types of toys	Oil Plus 2C Invisible Protector Universal Maintenance Oil Universal Maintenance Oil Mix DuroGrit SheenPlus	Our interior products comp ant with EN 71-3 are also To Safe, which means that the are safe for children.
FR-CERTIFICATE BFL-S1 – WARRINGTONFIREGENT	PROVES	AWARDED TO	SPECIAL BECAUSE
CERTIFICATE CERTI	Our product is in accordance with the standards EN 13501-1, EN ISO 11925-2 and EN ISO 9239-1	FR Oil System (FR Base + FR Oil 2C)	Highest classification ever achieved by an oil system Limits the development of smoke and contains no salts
B-EPD - ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION - FPS HEALTH	PROVES	AWARDED TO	SPECIAL BECAUSE
ECO	Positive evaluation of the environmental impact of our product from start to finish	• Oil Plus 2C	B-EPD document is valid in many countries, since only the environmental impact on transport needs to be recalculated to be applicab in other countries. The B-EPD is based on the LCA (Life Cycle Assessment by VITO.
A+ LABEL – FRENCH LEGISLATION	PROVES	AWARDED TO	SPECIAL BECAUSE
ÉMISSIONS DANS L'AIR INTÉRIEUR" A A B C	Positive evaluation of the number of VOCs in products	Oil Plus 2C Invisible Protector	Grade A+ indicates the lowest emission

INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATES

FLOOR SLIP RESISTANCE – DIN 51131 (DE)	PROVES	AWARDED TO	SPECIAL BECAUSE
TEST TEST	Positive evaluation of the German test method DIN 51131. This method uses a sliding test device which measures friction between test footwear and the surface.	Oil Plus 2C DuroGrit	Our product does not cause your floor to become slippery and is safe to use.
Ü LABEL – DIBT (OFFICIAL, INDEPENDENT GERMAN INSTITUTE)	PROVES	AWARDED TO	SPECIAL BECAUSE
Rubio Monocoat Muylie Facon by Emissions- geprüffet anach Dilbi- Grundsätzen 2-157-10-114 Geprüft vom Deutschen Institut für Bautechnik	Positive evaluation of the emissions released by indus- trial products used indoors	• Oil Plus 2C	Mandatory for each productused in German public spaces such as: doctor's practices hospitals offices shops
M1 (LOW EMISSIONS)	PROVES	AWARDED TO	SPECIAL BECAUSE
M1 POR CLASS FOR RELIGION CONTRACTOR PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF T	Positive evaluation for emission requirements for the materials used in ordinary work spaces and residences with respect to good indoor air quality	• Oil Plus 2C	Enhances the development and use of low-emitting building materials
EMICODE®-LABEL EC1 PLUS - GERMAN INDEPENDENT INSTITUTE GEV	PROVES	AWARDED TO	SPECIAL BECAUSE
EC 1 ^{Plus}	Positive evaluation of ran- dom sampling to test emis- sion properties of various construction materials	• Oil Plus 2C	Achieved the highest category: the EMICODE* label EC1 PLUS (2010) The materials to which this label is assigned meet the strictest environmental and health requirements
BYGGVARU DATABASE / BYGGVARUBEDÖMNINGENS - SWEDEN	PROVES	AWARDED TO	SPECIAL BECAUSE
	1110123	÷	
B	Oil Plus 2C Component A received 3 positive (green) evaluations	Oil Plus 2C (Component A)	This label confirms that Oil Plus 2C Component A is a sustainable building-related material based on the chemical content, environmental impact during the life cycle and, by extension, social impact at the supplier stage
RED LIST FREE - AUSTRALIA	Oil Plus 2C Component A received 3 positive (green)	Oil Plus 2C (Component A) AWARDED TO	Plus 2C Component A is a sustainable building-related material based on the chem- ical content, environmental impact during the life cycle and, by extension, social



ISO EN 9001:2008

Quality management certificate for research and production. This proves that we invest in high-quality production and constantly optimize our workflow



ISO EN 14001:2009

Environmental management certificate. This means that we implement sustainable and ecological logistics in our existing quality management system

INDOOR AIR QUALITY

🔅 eurofins

GOLD

Rubio Monocoat has attached great importance to emission standards from the very beginning. The fact that our oil contains 0% VOC has been rewarded with various international certificates over the years. From 2018 on, we have been taking this engagement to the next level by adding the Eurofins Indoor Air Comfort Gold label to our certificates. This label guarantees you, our customer, that our products will continue to meet the high standard you expect of them regarding emissions for years to come.

Thanks to the highly qualified organisation of Eurofins, we are always aware of new rules and requirements regarding emissions in over 50 countries. This way, our products always comply with strict rules.

Eurofins Indoor Air Comfort Gold certification includes more than testing and screening for thousands of chemicals. It includes an internal quality program for processes to ensure that low-emitting products are continuously manufactured. This includes on-site audits, re-testing and certification – together ensuring an extremely high level of reliability in the statement of very low VOC emissions.

The Indoor Air Comfort Gold label complies with the CDPH Section 01350 and M1 odour and ammonia testing. Moreover, the label shows global compliance with the VOC norms of the following certificates:

AUSTRALIA

• GreenTag Australia

BELGIUM

• Belgian VOC Regulation

DENMARK

• Danish Indoor Climate Label (except for odour testing)

• FEMB standard for stustainable office furniture

FINLAND

FRANCE

• French A+

• ANSES FloorScore 'friendly' certification for flooring products

GERMANY

- AqBB/AGB
- GUT (except odour testing)
- Several Blue Angel criteria

GLOBAL

- LEED v4 Worldwide
- BREEAM Worldwide (Norway, UK)
- WELL (for the VOC part) WELL Building

ITALY

• Italian regulation on GPP+

SINGAPORE

• Singapore Green label

SWEDEN

• Byggvarubedömningen (BvB) section 6 Emissions to indoor environment

UK

• SKA Rating

- CDPH Section 01350
- GreenGuard compliance based on CDPH Section 01350 test results
- LEED outside North America

GREENGUARD GOLD

Our Oil Plus 2C has obtained the GREENGUARD GOLD certificate. This label shows that our product is safe for the environment and human health.

Products that have achieved GREENGUARD Certification are scientifically proven to meet some of the world's most rigorous, third party chemical emissions standards. This helps to reduce indoor air pollution and the risk of chemical exposure, while aiding in the creation of healthier indoor environments. Obtaining this certificate goes to show that we really have a top quality product here.



With the GOLD version, we not only confirm our EcoConscious story and VOC free oils once again, but we also prove that Oil Plus 2C can be safely used for schools and healthcare facilities



QUALITY THROUGH OUR OWN TEST ENVIRONMENT

To make sure that our products can meet the promises we make, we test them rigorously in our lab and Academy before they find their way to our customers. We initially test the different application methods, measure consumption and monitor application times.

In addition, various internal and external tests, such as the ones below, are frequently carried out to improve the quality of our products and to keep guaranteeing that we are still the reference when it comes to high-quality wood protection.



LIQUID DROP TEST

Regular drop tests are performed on our products. For this standard quality control, drops of liquids from different origins are posed on the treated wood: water, coffee, urine, wine, ... In this way the liquid resistance of surfaces treated with Rubio Monocoat oil are tested.



WEAR TEST

In our lab, we use the TABER device for comparative wear testing of our Rubio Monocoat oils. By means of wear wheels, samples treated with Rubio Monocoat are subjected to accelerated wear tests. A wear-index is assigned according to the number of rotations. The lower the index, the higher the wear resistance of the product.



QUV WEATHERING TEST

The QUV accelerated weathering tester reproduces the damage caused by sunlight, rain, and dew on wood (or other materials). In a few days or weeks, the QUV tester can reproduce the damage that occurs over months or years outdoors. This test offers our customers solid proof that our oils are sustainable on wood.





Rubio Monocoat 🎢 Aynimundo

One of our goals is to give back to society. That's why we chose to partner up with **Aynimundo**, a charity that we fully believe in and can support on the long term. This Peruvian organization supports local communities in Lima with a focus on **education and urban development**.



- 1. Opening of the new centre where Aynimundo helps disabled children and young people (April 5th, 2023).
- 2. Psychomotor activity for a child with reduced motor skills.
- A coach is helping a young boy with reading and comprehension exercises.

HUMANITARIAN ASPECT

Aynimundo helps children and young people with disabilities to integrate in society, including their families and wider social contexts. Children and youngsters with physical and/or non-physical disabilities, like autism or Down syndrome, are supported to develop their own unique talents. Aynimundo helps them by:

- → Breaking down social barriers
- → Letting them participate in school activities
- → Training teachers to look at them in a different way as unique and complete social beings
- → Getting them a job in a formal work environment with companies that have a genuine interest in economic inclusion
- → Training and assisting them to function optimally with their developed talents, just like all other employees
- → Making it possible to participate in economic life

In this way, **discrimination and social exclusion**, and therefore often poverty, are effectively tackled.













- The new building is protected with Rubio Monocoat exterior products. The plants and soil that were removed for the construction of the building were later placed on top and now form a green roof.
- The team of Aynimundo working directly with the children consists of occupational and physical therapists, psycho-pedagogist, psychologist, teachers and a social worker.
- 5. The wood inside the centre is protected with Oil Plus 2C, creating a healthy and safe indoor environment. This is not always easy in a country often hit by earthquakes and where unhealthy products are still used a lot.
- . The opening of the centre was a cheerful day, especially for the children and their families. Now over 180 kids enjoy therapy in the new building, under the guidance of expert Aynimundo staff.

ARCHITECTURAL ASPECT

Aynimundo also builds safe places for young children in the poorest neighbourhoods of southern Lima by introducing and implementing:

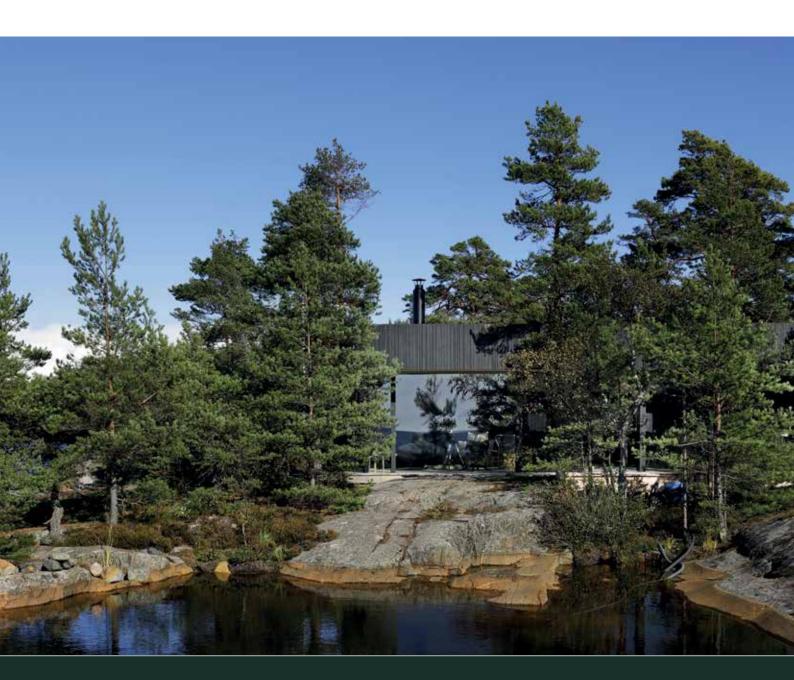
- Organic and ecological solutions
- → Non-toxic and reusable materials like Rubio Monocoat

By doing this, Aynimundo presents a logical answer to the many environmental problems there.

And especially Rubio Monocoat's lively and trendy colours are extra welcome for children - and adults - in a big city like Lima.



Welcome to the Rubio Monocoat Family
Over 82 countries, +80.000.000 m² treated wood per year



Rubio Monocoat Head Office

Roeselaarsestraat 535, 8870 Izegem (Belgium) Tel. +32 (0)51 30 80 54 • service@rubiomonocoat.com

www.rubiomonocoat.com

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