# **BITS ON SUSTAINABILITY**

# The requirements to make printing sustainable

Printing is an industry using inks, thinner solvents, paper (which in turn requires the use of forest resources), energy and expertise. That is why we always promote these nine aspects when thinking about a printing process:

1

# Choose paper wisely.

Consider at the design stage the number of pages, copies, weight and sizes.

2

## Consider content.

Prefer FSC® labeled papers, and consider the requirements: appearance, touch feel, and life of the final product.

3

#### Get information about ink.

Printing inks should contain only vegetable oils and be free of mineral ones and dangerous substances.

4

#### Take de-inking into account.

If you use special colors, varnishes, and toners for digital printing, de-inking is a key requirement.

5

#### Make Special effects sustainable.

Encourage adhesives, films, special effects inks and paints that can be separated from paper and are free of dangerous substances; avoid lamination.

6

# Choose the kind of energy

The print factory should use only certified green electricity, generated – if possible on site – from non-fossil sources so as to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

7

# Eliminate chemicals.

The printing process should be free of PAHs\* and reduce printing washes that contain VOCs\*\*.

8

#### **Understanding labeling.**

FSC® considers the origin and responsible management of the forests where the pulp comes from.

9

#### **Check certification.**

Environmental management systems certified by ISO 14001 and EMAS.



<sup>\*</sup> Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons - \*\* Volatile Organic Compounds