

# Environmental Statement

In 1969, when our corporate headquarters and manufacturing plant (85,000 sq.ft.) were constructed deep in a wooded area, great care was taken to protect the environment. We are nestled in the middle of nearly 75 acres and over the years have kept to a minimum our impact on the area around us.

We understand how fragile the environment is and realize what we produce will someday be returned to it after having served a useful life. This is why we have always paid attention to the materials and processes used to make our products and how those choices affect what happens to them long after they have left our plant.



- Our plant is on a low-erosion site, disturbing as little of the property as possible.
- Reforestation was instituted on the site after initial construction.
- We participate in various methods of waste recycling with the following materials:



Textiles: Leftover textiles/covering materials sold to companies who have multiple repurposing sources of their own.

Wood waste is used as pet & barn bedding, mulch.

Cardboard and pallets are recycled by local authorities and/or independent companies.

We are constantly evaluating methods to minimize our waste.

- We monitor lumber sourcing on all species we use, relative to conservation practices, pricing and availability. The largest percentage of lumber comes from indigenous, abundant North American Appalachian species which are generally not considered to be endangered.
- Our products are well constructed and may be re-upholstered.
- Foam: Our vendors state that no CFC's are created in manufacturing of foam.
- We use water-based adhesives in frame construction.
- Recycled paper is used in our price lists and other literature.
- Packaging materials: We utilize several sources for cardboard shipping containers. The average recycled content across most containers is over 40% and the box the finished box is 100% recyclable.

At some point our products will end their useful life. What happens to them is dependent on the owner at the time, but we try to make decisions easy by keeping the largest percentage of materials in minimal categories: Wood, metal, foam, plastic. Wood frames may of course be reused in a variety of ways. Foam can be recycled into carpet backing. Aluminum and steel components can be melted and made into a variety of products. Upholstery is a component not decided upon by us—selection and re-use will depend on user and the make-up of its materials.

**jack cartwright** 