



Environmental Statement

Zoom Seating is committed to designing and manufacturing products in a manner that protects our healthy work and world environments. We demonstrate our commitment by producing products that are environmentally friendly throughout their life cycles. This life cycle approach means we plan and monitor each product's environmental impact in all stages of its life - from design and materials sourcing, through manufacturing, delivery, use and disposal.

In May, 2005 Zoom obtained GREENGUARD INDOOR AIR QUALITY certification for all its products, with the exception of Flag and Cruiser. Administered by the Greenguard Environmental Institute, GREENGUARD certification follows rigorous, ongoing product testing to ensure that emission of harmful compounds into the interior environment is kept within prescribed standards. By selecting Zoom Seating's GREENGUARD certified products, our clients also win valuable points toward obtaining LEED certification for their office environment.

Materials Sourcing

Zoom Seating strives to use materials that are processed in an environmentally responsible manner, or consist of a high level of recycled material. For example, our textiles offering includes patterns from Maharam and Momentum Textiles that are woven with recycled fibers, produced through antimony- and metal-free, processes.

The interior shells of most of our seating are constructed from a renewable resourced wood. The wood for these shells is sourced from sustained-yield managed forests. This means the methods used to grow and harvest the wood ensure the long-term life of the forest and protect the biodiversity of the forests' ecosystems. In those seating lines where we do not use a wood shell, we utilize recyclable polypropylene materials.

Manufacturing

Furniture painting and finishing processes have traditionally produced hazardous chemical byproducts collectively called Volatile Organic Compounds or VOC's. Since their start, significant investments in new finishes and finish application technologies have reduced our VOC emissions 94%. We now use new, epoxy paints that are VOC-free and apply them electrostatically. With electrostatic application, the parts being painted are electrically charged, drawing the paint particles to the part rather than over spraying them into the air. These efforts have enabled us to limit our emissions to levels below, and in most cases far below, current strict federal and state regulations.

We have eliminated the use of materials containing Ozone Depleting Substances or ODS's. Typically, these include chlorofluorocarbons (CFC's) and hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFC's) traditionally used in foam production and glues. Because our products are produced in an ODS-free manner, mandatory U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ODS warning labels are not required on Zoom products. We have established programs to recycle manufacturing waste that in the past was sent to landfills. Examples of this include recycling foam scrap to make carpet pads, and recycling leather scraps to wallet and handbag manufacturers.

Delivery

We have implemented alternate packaging methods, such as blanket wrapping, to reduce use of corrugated packaging. Where possible, we attempt to combine shipments to minimize packaging and fuel costs. This may not always be possible, however, due to Zoom's commitment to ship all products in 100+ fabrics within 48 hours.

Product Use

Zoom Seating has worked to eliminate all formaldehyde-producing materials from our products. Formaldehyde is suspected to contribute to indoor air pollution. For example, new resins in the seat and back structure of our chairs emit no formaldehyde into the workplace. Our chair foam and fabric are also formaldehyde-free. Only products that have verifiable test data proving they meet the current U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration's strict limits on formaldehyde emission can be sold without formaldehyde warning labels. Zoom Seating products meet and usually far exceed these standards. No formaldehyde warning labels are required on our products.

Disposal

We have worked to design and manufacture products with life-long cycles to reduce total disposals. The simple fact is we build products with limited lifetime and ten-year warranties that are designed to last years beyond that.

This means our products limit the dispose and repurchase cycle that causes many environmental problems. The plastic resins used in our chairs are recyclable. They can be ground up and reused in various molded plastic components, carpet fibers or new seating components. We even imprint the recycling symbol and number on many of our plastic seating components to aid in the recycling process.

Product Literature

Our product literature is printed on recycled Mohawk 50/10 Ultra paper stock, which has been Green Seal Certified.

Move Ahead.