

Great Openings is committed to environmental diligence in all phases of its operations and activities.

As a global socially responsible corporate citizen, we pledge to our employees, customers and community that we will strive to protect our environment and natural resources related to all of our operations. To that end we shall:

- Comply with corporate, local, state and federal requirements as well as additional regulations.
- Minimize the environmental impact of our operations whenever feasible by promoting prevention of pollution, encouraging environmental resource conservation, and resource recycling.
- Maintain and initiate management programs that emphasize prevention, effective emergency preparedness, and response recovery plans.
- Integrate environmental, health and safety considerations into all key business decisions -including the design, production, distribution and support of our products and services.
- Correct any identified environmental problems and strives to continually improve in all areas of environmental management.
- Work with suppliers and customers to promote responsible use of our products.
- Encourage and educate our employees to take personal accountability for working toward protecting the environment and creating a safe and healthy workplace.

SPECIFIC GREEN INITIATIVES

Reduced Water Consumption

Over the past two years, we've made several process improvements in our paint department which have resulted in a 50% reduction in water usage. Great Openings has reduced water consumption from 24 million gallons/year to 12 million gallons. Our goal is to further reduce our consumption within the next year to 7 million gallons/year, a 70% reduction over three years.

Reduced Energy Consumption

Great Openings cares that our facilities are environmentally friendly. Timers and sensors are used on lights to conserve energy. Timers are also used on brake

presses to ensure they are not left running idle and wasting energy.

By improving routine maintenance procedures in the wash system of our paint line and experimenting with low temperature chemistry, and we have reduced our consumption of natural gas by 12-15%. Our goal is to achieve an additional 10% reduction in the coming year.



Recycled Waste

Great Openings recycles all machine oil, paint solvents, cardboard, light bulbs and batteries. All scrap steel is efficiently segregated by type and recycled. Our scrap powder paint is collected during painting operation and then shipped to a nearby recycler.

Powder Coating Technology

100% of all paint applied is via powder coat technology. Powder coat technology is utilized on all three paint systems currently in operation and across the entire breadth of our product line.

Elimination of Solvent Based Paints

Powder coatings emit zero or near zero volatile organic compounds (VOC) and produced less hazardous waste. These improvements have allowed us to opt out of the US EPA Title 5 Program for excessive air emissions.

Toxicity Standards

Our purchasing department works closely with suppliers on specific ways to improve product performance. Products purchased meet tough indoor air quality standards. Our products are SCS certi-

fied, Indoor Advantage™ Gold. In order for a product to qualify for the Indoor Advantage Gold certification, modeled concentrations for individual VOCs in classrooms and offices must not exceed one-half of the defined CREL threshold.

Health and Safety

Great Openings has a very active health and safety program with a working Safety Committee. Each year we invite the M-OSHA Consulting Education and Training reps in to inspect the plants for violations and suggest improvements to reach our goal of becoming a MVPP site.

Awards and Certifications

- GSA Evergreen Award
- SCS Indoor Advantage™ Gold
- Shingo Prize for Operational Excellence

As one component among a list of building materials, sustainable desking products by Great Openings contribute toward the design and certification of a LEED building. Meeting the minimum credit requirements often requires the LEED team to specify a multitude of environmentally responsible products, including, but not limited to, desking components.

Recycling Efforts in 2010 alone saved:

- 1,322 trees
- 544,215 gallons of water
- 257 cubic yards of landfill
- 4,665 lbs. of air pollution effluents
- 6,142 gallons of oil

Green Team

Great Openings has created a committee that encourages and looks for way to improve our recycling program. They look for additional items to recycle and for ways to conserve electricity, water, gas, and non-recyclable garbage. They conduct "waste-audits" to see what exactly is being tossed and any ways in which items can be reused. They are responsible for communicating the program to other employees.

Their mission statement is:

We are committed to preserving our environment and the ecology that it embodies by reducing our carbon footprint and striving to be a landfill free company. We will encourage our employees to be part of the team, incorporate ideas striving towards this goal and to set an example for other companies, neighbors and our families.