



## CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT

At C.H. Briggs our green efforts are deep-rooted and tightly woven into our culture. We've been thinking and behaving green for a long time – well before it was popular to do so. We recognize and embrace the need for a green approach, and we've been recognized locally and in our industry for being an environmental leader committed to creating and sustaining safe, healthy interior environments.

The C.H. Briggs green strategy is 3-pronged:

- **Lead, educate and serve as a resource for the marketplace**
- **Provide eco-friendly products and information**
- **Integrate sustainable practices into our business operations**

### Green Leadership & Core Values

Built on our legacy of social responsibility, community involvement, and environmental stewardship, green is one of the hallmarks of our corporate culture. C.H. Briggs is driven to continuously improve our operating efficiency, assimilate environmentally friendly processes into our business practices, and integrate eco-friendly products into our offering.

We demonstrate our commitment to the principles of sustainability by investing capital and resources to help educate our customers and co-workers about green, and we partner with suppliers who share this same commitment.

In addition to charitable donations, C.H. Briggs periodically supplies materials, samples, time and expertise in support of our clients' environmental projects and our communities' environmentally focused organizations.

Some specific corporate **initiatives** are outlined below.

- C.H. Briggs is FSC-certified, Chain of Custody # SCS-CoC-00992, and supplies FSC-certified and no-added urea formaldehyde (NAUF) board and panel products from 3 distribution centers (Reading, PA; Telford, PA; Savage, MD).
- Our Account Management Team includes 2 LEED-accredited professionals who provide counsel and assistance to our clients engaged in the design and implementation of LEED-certified construction projects
- C.H. Briggs team members play active leadership and committee roles in industry organizations committed to green initiatives, including local chapters of the USGBC such as the Green Building Association of Central Pennsylvania (GBACPA).
- The C.H. Briggs "Green Team", a cross-functional group of engaged co-workers, meets periodically to evaluate the progress of our green initiatives and to identify new ways to reduce our company's carbon footprint. This team is also responsible for sharing trends and best practices, and helping to identify new products and opportunities.
- We developed and launched the Briggs ECO mark, and specific green website content at [www.briggseco.com](http://www.briggseco.com) as well as [www.chbriggs.com](http://www.chbriggs.com)
- We publish a periodic e-newsletter, *GreenEdge*, that provides educational and insightful content for our clients and their constituents

## Green Product Offering

As the green building movement continues to gain momentum across the country, more and more consumers are requesting environmentally responsible products. In the commercial arena, architects and designers are specifying more green materials for their commercial building projects in order to meet criteria for the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED® program, the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings.

C.H. Briggs builds long-term relationships with our customers and our suppliers, and as such, we are looked to for counsel, expertise, solutions, and opportunities. We strive to partner with suppliers who not only offer green products, but who also eliminate waste from and incorporate recycled and/or renewable materials into their manufacturing processes.

Across each of our product categories – premium surfaces, board & panel products, and hardware & production supplies – we have a variety of green product offerings. From a LEED perspective, our product lines most often contribute to “Materials and Resources (MR)” and “Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ)” credits for Recycled Content, Regional Materials, Rapidly Renewable Materials, Certified Wood, Low-Emitting Materials (including low-VOC and GreenSeal adhesives and solvents), and Composite Wood & Agrifiber Products (including no-added urea formaldehyde wood and laminating adhesives). Additionally, because of the location of many of our vendor partners' manufacturing facilities, our products often also help qualify for the Regional credit.

C.H. Briggs has also taken a leadership position in educating our clients and offering products that meet the requirements of CARB (California Air Resources Board) and OTC (Ozone Transport Commission). Additionally many of our green products hold the GREENGUARD certification for indoor air quality.

## Green Business Practices

We recognize the responsibility of providing co-workers with a safe and healthy work environment, and each of our facilities operates with this as a top priority.

Embraced throughout our culture, multiple green programs are currently underway at C.H. Briggs:

- We have a recycling program responsible for over 21 tons of cardboard and paper and 180 tons of wood recycled per year. Metal banding, aluminum, Styrofoam, plastic, and even coffee grounds from our lunchroom are also recycled.
- We've conducted a delivery fleet optimization study to minimize fuel consumption and to reduce emissions. We've invested in and heavily leverage technology to route our deliveries most efficiently and reduce road miles
- We utilize 100% recycled packaging materials
- We have transitioned to using recycled and/or FSC-certified papers for our printed materials
- We leverage technology to reduce paper and mail volume internally and externally
- We utilize fluorescent lighting and energy efficient appliances to help reduce company-wide energy consumption
- We utilize green cleaning supplies, and post-consumer materials such as paper towels and bathroom tissue in our offices and distribution centers

In 2000, C.H. Briggs applied green building and integrated design in the construction of our Reading office building. The office expansion project added 18,000 square feet of office space to an existing distribution center.

Our green approach to the construction of the space included:

- Building within an urban industrial zone, rather than consuming suburban greenspace
- Utilization of sustainable building materials, including carpet tiles with recycled content
- An HVAC system with programmable thermostats to conserve energy
- Our perimeter glass walled offices have abundant daylight and feature low-emission glazed windows with sunshades. The windows are operable, creating natural ventilation.
- Installation of efficient lighting
- Use of low-VOC paint
- Drought tolerant landscaping

## Summary

Today, the concern for protecting our planet has extended far beyond individual households to our local, national, and global communities. While protecting the environment may seem to be an enormous responsibility, either for a large corporation or on an individual basis, at C.H. Briggs we're committed to leading the way and working together to make a difference.