

# SUSTAINABILITY:

## HOW TO MAKE YOUR COMPANY GREENER



Many companies turned their backs on “Going Green” years ago. It has been difficult to see the benefits past the perceived lack of cost efficiency. The approach to what seems to be qualitative adjustments like green initiatives, is, “if it isn’t broken, don’t fix it.” Advances in technology have changed the basis for thoughts and approaches like this. Here are some easy ways to adjust your operations to become more environmentally friendly and to reduce your company’s carbon footprint:

### THE FACILITY:



**LIGHTING** - LED bulbs consume less energy and have a longer lifespan. They’re also safer as they are cooler than incandescent lights, which reduces combustion risks. Adding motion sensors to keep the lights off until they’re needed saves even more energy.



**TEMPERATURE** – The exact amount of hot (or cold) air loss from a building does depend on your specific internal temperature. Try dropping the thermostat 1 or 2 degrees to see how that will directly affect your costs. But remember to check with your employees for their feedback and concerns. Did they notice the change?



**FANS** – Will help to circulate warm and cool air.



**PROMOTE RE-USABLE** – Have a water cooler and offer incentives for re-usable water bottles and/or coffee mugs. This will eliminate wasteful water bottles and Styrofoam cups.



**INSULATION** – “I’m not heating the whole neighborhood”... yes your mother/father were right. Proper insulation is key for preventing your company from letting that expensive hot and cool air out.



#### **REGULARLY MAINTAIN BUILDING AND WAREHOUSE EQUIPMENT** –

Make sure to regularly clean out heating/air conditioning units to help extend their life and keep them running properly. Keep equipment charged and replace parts as soon as an issue is noticed.



**RECYCLING** – Check with your local recycling companies to confirm products accepted and set up a program at your company. Also look for equipment you can bring into your facility to assist with your recycling, such as balers. If your company is an e-commerce retailer, use packaging products that are curbside recyclable when possible.

# IN AND OUTBOUND SHIPMENTS:

- **CRADLE-PACK INSTEAD OF PUTTING EACH ITEM IN AN INDIVIDUAL BOX WHENEVER POSSIBLE.**
- **RESEARCH DILIGENTLY AND DON'T FOCUS ON UPFRONT COSTS** – Items like high performance stretch film, high-tensile strength strapping, and high-quality tape may cost more up front, but we strongly recommend doing a cost-per-load analysis. PackSmart provides this service to our customers and often finds these products provide our customers with a substantial annual cost savings. This also means less waste due to less consumables being used.

- **USE BIODEGRADABLE OR RE-USABLE PRODUCTS** – From your inbound shipments, can you reuse the boxes and void fill? Keep this in mind when you choose your packaging products for your outbound shipments.

**Please visit**  
**[www.PackSmart.com](http://www.PackSmart.com)**  
for more information on how to  
drive sustainability and reduce  
your carbon footprint!



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