



Environmental Policies & Practices

As the market leader in providing operating supplies and equipment to the lodging industry, Sysco Guest Supply is committed to utilizing the most environmentally positive practices, materials, and products in all of our business processes, including product design & development, manufacturing, sourcing and distribution.



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Design & Product Development

Beyond providing personal care amenities and room accessories that are recognized in the industry as being on the leading edge in style and quality, our designers, engineers, and formulating chemists continuously strive to develop products that minimize any negative impact on the environment.

This includes the reduction of raw materials used to package personal care amenity programs, the introduction of biodegradable plastic bottles and recyclable packaging materials. Vegetable based inks are used to eliminate the release of volatile organic compounds into the atmosphere. The use of toxic pigments, heavy metals, and chloride bleached papers are avoided. Plastic containers are designed with wall thicknesses that reduce the amount of material required in the molding process.

Aerobic and anaerobic biodegradability characteristics of raw materials are evaluated to ensure the lowest negative impact on soil and water quality. Liquid products such as shampoo and body lotion are formulated from natural ingredients that are free of harmful or toxic chemicals.

Our engineers and chemists work closely with the research and development departments at the leading manufacturers of raw materials and packaging components as they continuously strive to not only improve the performance of our products, but at the same time make them increasingly more environmentally sound.





Manufacturing

Guest Packaging, our manufacturing subsidiary, is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace, and to improving the environment in the communities where we operate.

In addition to using raw materials, product formulations and packaging that are developed to be environmentally friendly, our manufacturing processes and practices are designed to maximize source reduction, recycle and reutilize raw materials and to insure that there are no harmful emissions into the air, ground, or water. All pallets are made from sustainable woods and reutilized. All corrugate, paper and plastics are recycled.

Electrical consumption has been reduced through the use of highly efficient variable drive motors on our filling and compounding equipment. High efficiency fluorescent lighting with motion detectors has been installed throughout the facility.

Natural gas consumption has been reduced through the use of computer controlled air dampers for high efficiency combustion, and the processing flue gases are reused to heat the building.

Water use is minimized by the use of closed loop cooling systems, and by reusing tank and filling line rinse water in our boilers. In order to reduce and improve the quality of effluent, we purge all vessels and pipes in a manner that allows the residual liquid to be used in finished products rather than being sent to a treatment facility.



Contract Manufacturing of Textile Products

As the leading contract manufacturer and supplier of textile products to the hospitality industry, Sysco Guest Supply has long advocated and emphasized adherence to and leadership in environmental practices.

In manufacturing, all of our partners are required to meet international standards on environmental practices and be proactive in developing eco friendly processes.

Effluent treatment plants have been developed to control water pollution by reducing solid waste disposal. Water from these plants can be reused in the manufacturing process or for agricultural irrigation purposes. Bio-methanation is also used to extract energy from the effluent, reducing petrochemical consumption.

In-house power generating plants have been built to reduce dependence on outside electrical and petroleum based sources of power; to control the emission of greenhouse gases and to contribute to the renewable energy movement. A unique example is one mill that is powered by agro waste. Other manufacturers have taken leadership roles in green belt regeneration by planting tens of thousands of trees.

Many of our manufacturing partners are ISO certified, comply with AATCC and ASTM standards and use AZO free chemicals. Many are also certified by Oeko-Tex®, an international testing lab that certifies that the products are free of harmful chemicals. The majority of our shipping cartons and inner carton wraps are made from recycled and recyclable materials. In addition, we constantly review ways to reduce carton size while still providing protective packaging and economical delivery.

From a product standpoint, we are focused on engineering and supplying products that address sustainability and reduce our customers' energy needs.



One example is our Guest Ready™ product line which allows our customers to take the products directly from the shipping carton and place them in the guestroom without having to launder them. Eliminating the initial washing and drying reduces water and energy consumption and the amount of chemicals entering the waste stream.

We also offer a broad array of products that are made from recycled or regenerated polyester fibers. This use of recycled resins helps to minimize waste in landfills, while reducing the demand for new petroleum based raw materials.

Our linen and terry products are made principally from cotton, which is a renewable and sustainable raw material. Certified organic cotton is available by special order. The polyester in many of our products includes recycled content ranging from 25% to 100%. As new and innovative products are developed, you can rely on Sysco Guest Supply to be at the forefront.

**GUEST
READY**





Distribution

Throughout our network of fifteen distribution centers we continuously upgrade our practices, procedures, facilities, and equipment to reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions.

Reconfiguring our distribution centers has enabled us to utilize more energy efficient material handling equipment. It has also reduced the distance traveled in the picking process, thus decreasing the amount of energy and equipment used.

Configuring the distribution centers for maximum space utilization decreased our overall space requirements by 30%, which in turn reduced electrical and natural gas consumption by the same percentage. It has also allowed us to go from a two-shift operation to a single-shift operation in six distribution centers saving 12,480 hours of operating time and energy annually. We also consolidated one distribution center into two other existing centers without adding space or consuming additional energy at the existing facilities. Energy efficient T-5 and T-8 fluorescent lighting with motion detectors has been installed in all of our distribution centers.

On an ongoing basis our fleet is being upgraded with trucks that are more energy efficient. We are using Telenav® onboard computer systems that monitor real time engine and fuel usage by monitoring idle time, miles per gallon, and maintenance requirements. Real time GPS ensures driver compliance to assigned routes reducing unnecessary mileage. Additional consolidation of incoming and outbound freight has resulted in increased full-truckload shipments. One of our continuing goals is to reduce fuel consumption and miles driven while maintaining exceptional service to our customers.



Sourcing

Sysco Guest Supply proactively searches for manufacturers in all product categories that are concerned about the environment and that invest time, effort and capital to ensure that their practices, processes, raw materials and products are made with a view toward sustainability and to improving the environment.

Paper suppliers associated with Sysco Guest Supply have proven to be environmentally conscious with the recycled content of their products meeting or exceeding EPA guidelines, and promoting products that create source reduction by requiring fewer raw materials.

In some cases suppliers of plastic bags feature bags that require 25% less plastic than conventional bags, while utilizing 14% natural mineral additive. Hotel laundry bags are made from biodegradable resin that enables microorganisms to metabolize the structure of the film into inert humus, which is harmless to the environment. Recycled content and post-consumer recyclability are primary considerations in selecting plastic products.

Thin wall paper cups are being introduced as an alternative to conventional plastic cups. Double wall paper cups that are recyclable and made from recycled material are available as a substitute for conventional foam cups.

Sysco Guest Supply also sources from chemical suppliers that promote environmentally friendly solutions for cleaning applications. One featured supplier in this category has developed a product line that supports Presidential Executive Order 13101 "Environmentally Preferable", which means products or services that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing products or services that serve the same purpose. Another key source in chemicals complies with the GS33 Green Seal product requirement for lodging properties.

In addition, Sysco Guest Supply supports GS37 Green Seal Certification on industrial cleaners and GS40 Green Seal certification on floor finishes and strippers. These latter two certifications include strict criteria for chemistry, packaging, performance, toxicity, training and labeling.

The actions detailed above are just a few examples of our search for "green" solutions. Across a broad spectrum of product categories and literally thousands of products, Sysco Guest Supply will continue to source from manufacturers that share our continuing goal of not only protecting, but enhancing, the environment we all share.





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