



NEMSCHOFF
& the environment



Environmental Introduction

The healthcare market we serve is very demanding in terms of product integrity and complex problem solving. We are experienced in this market and know our customers need real time solutions that perform to the highest of standards. In the context of meeting those demands, Nemschoff is committed to impacting the environment as little as possible. We understand that new and better ways of doing things develop regularly, and are committed to continuous improvement in both our product design and in how we operate our business.

Environmental Goals

- Environmental sensitivity is part of the organizational DNA of Nemschoff
- Utilize scientific measurements to demonstrate real impacts of savings
- Be a leader, not just a participant, in sustainability
- Meet relevant and important third party certifications
- Significantly reduce environmental footprint

Three Areas of Environmental Focus: Materials, Operations and Performance

Materials: What We Know Today and What is Possible Tomorrow

Nemschoff develops and creates products using Real World R&D® while working to decrease environmental impacts everyday. As a company, we are very familiar with the pressures on natural resources. We decipher the issues of concern to form innovative solutions through material sourcing, purchasing, and strategic alliances, all to shrink our environmental footprint.

As leaders, we collaborate throughout our supply chain on the environmental impact and associated quality of each and every component we use. Collectively, we believe there are good opportunities to identify and develop material options appropriate for healthcare that have significantly less impact on the environment.

Operations: We Are All In This Together

We all live together, and what each of us does everyday for the environment makes a difference. At Nemschoff, we are all environmental stewards and actively engaged to reduce, reuse, and recycle. We do this through the simplest acts to the most complex processes. We commit to making products with minimal impact, in facilities that are environmentally considerate.

The Company expectations go well beyond compliance. We currently lead ISO 14001 certification processes at each Nemschoff manufacturing facility and will use the system, our knowledge, people, and resources to achieve continual improvement.

Success can be measured. We seek measurable reductions from environmental programs that will have a meaningful result. It is our experience that these results not only are in favor of the environment, but also position the company where we want to be as leaders. We expect environmental opportunities to have specific goals, objectives, assigned responsibilities, and milestones.

A Performance Promise: Product Durability and Environmental Protection

Nemschoff products excel within the healthcare environment. Through Real World R&D® testing and a wealth of experience, we know our furniture withstands continuous use. We carefully select components and thoroughly engineer products that are durable and have a potentially infinite lifespan. The challenge for product life cycle management is our direction and will extend our environmental commitment.

At Nemschoff, performance and success are embedded and time-tested elements of our corporate responsibility to do the right thing. There is no better application of this than when it applies to our air, water, and forests. We have always managed from a position that what is good for the environment is healthful to our employees, customers, communities, and the company. We accept the challenge to be a leader in sustainability and will use advanced design, customer partnerships, and strategic alliances to extend our environmental understanding.

What Is In Place and Where Are We Going?

The road to sustainability is filled with optimism and a challenge to change. We are called to action to proactively face these goals with confidence and innovation. Sustainability is not a program; it is a way of doing business and an integral part of our company culture.

Zero Landfill Waste

Not long ago, the only option for most solid waste was the landfill. Today, one company's waste is another company's treasure. We are a company on the path to sustainability and are striving to achieve zero waste to landfill. We've begun with efforts internally and collaborate with our supply chain to achieve this goal. We have already established the following programs:

- At Sheboygan Seating, nearly all scrap wood is converted to energy and our sawdust is utilized for animal bedding. The wood to energy program means that during the winter, the entire plant is heated with scrap wood. Natural gas is essentially a back up fuel.
- We are actively working on a fabric waste management program to eliminate this waste through fabric conversion to energy and recycling efforts.
- As a company, we recycle all of our incoming cardboard and will reduce incoming volumes further through supplier programs. All purchased materials will require biodegradable, returnable, or recycled packaging in the future.
- We distinguish ourselves from our competitors in product shipping. At Nemschoff, all furniture is shipped in reusable blankets to every customer unless otherwise requested. In doing so, we avoid the use of 305,000 pounds (152 tons) of cardboard annually.

Sustainable Forests

- The Company is committed to well-managed lumber sources and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification in 2009. By making this commitment, customers will be able to specifically order products with FSC certification and we will meet the rigorous chain of custody certification. All lumber utilized by Nemschoff is legally harvested and purchased from sustainable sources.

Nemschoff Environmental Leader Program

- Nemschoff is proud to generously support the volunteer and nonprofit organizations that enrich our community with art, conservation, literacy, and environmental education programs. This year, we will launch the Nemschoff Environmental Leader Program. The leader program supports selected organizations, schools, and institutions through financial, human, and materials support for work that will advance environmental conservation, protection, and educational programs.

Contributions to Clean Air

- We are a company proud of the wood finish applied to our products. Finishes, stains and the associated clean-up solvents traditionally contain volatile organic chemicals (VOC) that, when applied, a portion is emitted into the air. Some of these chemicals are identified as Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAP). In 2003, we began searching for less environmentally hazardous stains and finishes. As a result, Nemschoff has gone beyond federal and state regulatory and permit compliance requirements by reformulating low VOC and HAP finishing materials and cleanup solvents. Since 2002, we have reduced VOC emissions by 4 tons and HAP emissions by 3 tons.
- While we have made significant progress in reducing emissions, Nemschoff is committed to continually piloting new and emerging technologies. We seek only options that can withstand the harsh conditions that furniture must withstand in healthcare facilities.