

DAUPHIN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY



Since the early 1990s, the Dauphin group has embarked on a program of environmental management, culminating in 1996 in the publication of a mission statement on environmental issues. This statement was intended to guide both product development and actual manufacturing practices at Dauphin locations around the world. These activities reflect the personal ethos of the founding family and company stakeholders. They welcomed the requirements of European Union regulations on the Recycling of Materials and Products, which makes European manufacturers responsible for the waste they produce. This same environmentally friendly attitude is embraced by the United States of America and Dauphin finds itself well positioned and able to comply with the standards being established in the United States.

DAUPHIN ENVIRONMENTAL MISSION

Our mission is to design and manufacture furniture which is visually appealing, affordable, well-engineered and environmentally responsible. By doing so, we reduce the use of fresh raw materials, energy usage and greenhouse gas to help preserve the natural environment.

DAUPHIN ENVIRONMENTAL VISION

It is our vision to continue to manufacture all of our products in a sound environmentally-friendly manner and to ensure that our company continuously improves and develops both healthy and safe environmental procedures. We also strive to educate our employees and our customers on the importance of our environment and how, together, we can make a difference by protecting it.

Dauphin has been aiming above and beyond the environmental standards for years. In November 2002, our Green efforts resulted in ISO-14001 certification and we continue to advance our environmental efforts daily as we continue our journey for a responsible and environmentally-aware lifestyle.





STRATEGY AND ACTIONS

Beginning with design measures and materials, Dauphin constructs the entire production process in an environmentally-friendly way. Most of our seating products are upholstered using drawstring technology which eliminates the need for glue, however, when glue needs to be used, it is water-based without solvents. We also avoid using any parts that are produced with high levels of energy or contain harmful substances. Above all, we reduce the number of parts to a minimum and therefore make the chairs easy to disassemble and recycle.

To improve our environment, Dauphin participates in effecting change by working toward BIFMA certification for all products. There is a voluntary standard that provides measurable market-based definitions of progressively more sustainable furniture by establishing performance criteria that address environmental and social aspects throughout the supply chain. Currently we are working towards conformance of that standard.

*There are more than 1,000 animal species endangered worldwide. In the United States, 735 species of plants and 496 species of animals are listed as threatened or endangered.¹

In an effort to preserve natural resources and ecosystems, Dauphin utilizes waste reduction technology in our facilities worldwide. Waste reduction is the practice of using less material and energy to minimize waste generation by preventing materials from ending up as waste prior to the recycling stage. This includes reusing products such as plastic and glass containers, and using durable parts to construct our products.²

¹ National Wildlife Federation (1997)

² National Recycling Coalition (1999)

FACILITIES

In each of our facilities, new products are developed around environmental compatibility and sustainability and we choose suppliers who share in our goals for the environment. Environmental awareness and responsible actions are promoted amongst all staff as is health protection and occupational safety. Our environmental policy and the environmental-management system are continuously monitored to ensure that we comply with the regulations. By eliminating hazardous waste generation and environmentally harmful air and water emissions from our facilities, we continue to do our part for the environment and for future generations.

In 2005 and 2006, state grants for energy efficient lighting projects were received by Dauphin to replace fixtures throughout our facility including the office, production, shipping and warehouse areas.

Rising sea levels, loss of habitat and record temperatures all indicate that human activity is affecting the planet in a negative way, and that change is necessary. These findings encourage everyone to examine how they treat the environment and how we can work together to preserve what we have left. Dauphin continues to develop their environmental efforts as new information and technology becomes available.



Dauphin World Wide Headquarters, Offenhausen, Germany

WHAT WE RECYCLE

Since Dauphin's commitment to recycling in 1997, we've realized a dramatic decrease in total trash and waste cost. We also sort, bundle, compact and recycle all fabric scraps, paper, plastic and cardboard. This has reduced the amount of unsorted trash per chair unit produced by almost 70%.

ESTIMATED ANNUAL RECYCLING RESULTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Fabric	6 tons
Wood	160 cubic yards
Metal	80 cubic yards

PAPER - 20 TONS - resulting in a saving of:

- 340 trees (35' tall)
- 64 cubic yards of landfill space - That's more than 5 school buses!
- 1680 gallons of oil saved⁶

PLASTIC - 25 TONS - resulting in a saving of:

- 144,350 KWH of energy - That's enough to power 40 washing machines for an entire year!
- 750 cubic yards of landfill space⁴ - That's more than six football fields!
- 17125 gallons of oil saved⁵

*Plastics require 100 to 400 years to break down in a landfill but producing new plastic from recycled material uses only two-thirds of the energy required to manufacture it from raw materials.⁷

³ www.bcua.org

⁴ www.bcua.org

⁵ Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

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⁷ http://www.headwatersrecycle.com

CARDBOARD - 230 TONS resulting in a saving of:

- 3,910 trees (35 feet tall)³
- More than 2070 cubic yards of landfill space - That's more than 17 football fields!
- 5449 gallons of gasoline - Enough to run a 4-door sedan for 13 years!

Due to concern for the environment, Dauphin took a greener approach and designed recycling programs for each of our product categories. We are proud to share our successful programs for recycling seating, upholstery, and tables.

SEATING

All seat mechanisms are steel, aluminum or plastic composite, which contain a high content of recyclable material. Changeable upholstery and cushions are used in order to increase the life cycle of the product and all of our products come with a lifetime warranty. Once the chairs are no longer needed, we can take the chairs back and recycle their parts.

WOOD TABLES

All of our wood tables are made with a durable finish that ensures lasting quality and style. Its waste is sent to a waste management firm for reprocessing and internal solvent emissions are tested regularly for compliance with the Ministry of the Environment standards. Solid woods and veneers are sourced from suppliers who are compliant with the Forestry Stewardship Council's standards and policies wherever possible.

LAMINATE TABLES

All of our laminate tables are made to the highest construction standards with durable connectors and components. We developed a hot melt lamination process for wood sheets, which resulted in the elimination of 98% of Volatile Organic Compound (VOCs) emissions from the manufacturing process. Sheet wood product classes and all carton and cardboard materials are made from 100% recycled material content.

*Today, tropical forests supply about 30% of the world's log exports, 12% of sawn wood exports, and 60% of plywood and veneer exports. ⁸

In an effort to conserve the existing forests, we see that our hardwood Lumbers and Veneers for our wood tables are taken from areas maintaining the practice of sustained forest management wherever possible. The practice of harvesting sustainably grown timber has increased the size of hardwood forests, with more trees being planted each year.

⁸ Worldwatch Institute

PACKAGING

To reduce individual cartons, Dauphin offers bulk packaging for large orders. In addition, we sort returned product for recycling and proper disposal.

SUSTAINABLE LOGISTICS AND DELIVERY

In an effort to conserve natural resources and cut costs, Dauphin uses independent truckers to consolidate shipments. Dauphin also makes their own cartons, which reduces waste as the packaging can be conformed to the size of the product.

TAKE BACK PROGRAM

Dauphin accepts their chairs at the end of product life for proper recycling. Dauphin can recycle almost 100% of most their chairs. Chairs to be returned to Dauphin by customer.



INDOOR AIR QUALITY

Dauphin's production process and product components are low-emitting and meet current indoor air quality standards for VOC's, formaldehyde and total VOC's.

AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE (ANSI)

Dauphin products comply with ANSI standards and received the ISO 14001 certification in 2001. Similar to the Quality Management System (QMS) implemented for ISO 9001, the ISO14001 requires implementation of an Environmental Management System (EMS) in accordance with defined internationally recognized standards.

LANDESGEWERBEANSTALT GEPRÜFTE SICHERHEIT (LGA GS)

The Germany-based LGA group practices continuous quality assurance for greater customer satisfaction; this is documented by a certified management system.

BIFMA AND BIFMA SAS

As a member of BIFMA, Dauphin regulates its products for Scope, Definitions, General Sections and Durability. We are committed to meeting BIFMA Sustainability Assessment Standards (SAS) for business and institutional furniture which includes criteria for evaluating the impact of human and ecosystem health, energy, natural resources and corporate social responsibility.

LEED CREDIT QUALIFICATIONS

Dauphin products may qualify for LEED credits due to the packaging, use of regional materials, rapidly renewable materials and low-emitting materials.

FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL (FSC)

Forest Stewardship Council encourages the responsible management of the world's forests and sets high standards that ensure forestry is practiced in an environmentally responsible, socially beneficial, and economically viable way. In an effort to conserve forests, solid woods and veneers are sourced from suppliers who are compliant with the Forestry Stewardship Council's standards and policies whenever possible.

We at Dauphin are proud of our environmental accomplishments and understand it's an ongoing journey to be ecologically responsible. We are excited to continue our worldwide research and invite you to join us in our commitment to preserve our environment, striving to make big changes while leaving a small footprint.



There were once several million green sea turtles worldwide. Today, fewer than 200,000 nesting females are thought to remain. In Hawaii, scientists currently estimate that only 100 to 350 females nest each year, predominantly at French Frigate Shoals in the Northwest Hawaiian chain.

⁹ www.earthtrust.org/wlcurric/turtles.html

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