

Sit Green.



Our Partnership with Mother Earth.



MTS SynerGreen® philosophy is committed to “green” seating.

Our Philosophy

MTS Seating is sensitive to the impact of our manufacturing on the world around us. That's why we developed and adopted the SynerGreen® philosophy to make continuous environmental improvements in our processes and products, while practicing sound business principals that focus on satisfying customer needs. MTS employs aggressive recycling programs and pollution-prevention initiatives, and we partner with suppliers who share our vision for environmental responsibility. Our goal is to have a positive impact on our customers and our planet.

GreenGuard and Indoor Air Quality

We are proud to announce that MTS is the first and only hospitality seating manufacturer to earn the GreenGuard Indoor Air Quality Certification on our line of stacking, banquet and restaurant seating! Our products underwent rigorous testing to evaluate emissions and off-gassing, and have met the criteria defined by the GreenGuard Environmental Institute. As a result, many of our chairs now carry the GreenGuard seal and are marked as such in our new 2008 workbook and pricelist, and on our website.

Recycled and Recyclable

If LEED certification is your project goal, our GreenGuard Certification and the recycled content of our chairs may help contribute to credits. MTS makes every effort to incorporate recycled materials in the manufacturing of our seating products, and many of our chairs have a recycled content of 20% or higher. Exact data for each standard chair model is listed in our pricelist and on our website, and specific information for LEED calculations is available upon request. At the end of a chair's use, an average of 84% of the materials used in our products can be easily recycled, and that amount is even higher if more advanced recycling processes are used. From design to disposal, MTS is doing our part to ensure the sustainability of our resources and environment. 



SynerGreen®

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Product Content

Steel – The steel we purchase contains approximately 35% recycled material, 20% of which is post-consumer material.

Substrates – Particleboard and MDF for both chairs and tables is composed of 100% post-industrial recycled fiber, and has been evaluated and certified as such by Scientific Certification Systems (SCS). In addition, our MDF is certified as an Environmentally Preferable Product by the Composite Panel Association (CPA). Our primary plywood and hardboard supplier is certified as meeting the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard for procurement programs and our OSB supplier practices sustainable manufacturing operations such as reusing bark and wood rots as fuel for the plant's energy requirements.

Wood Veneer – Our veneer suppliers ensure proper sustained-yield harvesting is practiced, and procure all wood products through Forestry Best Management Practices established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Foam – MTS uses BioFlex Hybrid Foam for the padding in nearly all of our seat styles. BioFlex is made of approximately 20% soy-based polyols in place of the standard petroleum-based polyols in urethane foam, while providing the same comfort and durability as standard urethane.

Nylon/Butyrate/HDPE – Our suppliers of plastic components re-grinds all post-industrial scrap and defective components for reuse in first-run manufacturing.

Powder coating – The powder we use is free of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs), and nearly all excess powder is reclaimed and reused in the application process.

Stains/Finishes – Our water-based wood stains and clear coats, as well as our powder coat metal finishing, avoid the release of solvents into the environment.

Laminate Tabletops – We procure our laminates from Wilsonart, Nevamar, Pionite and Formica, each of which has established environmental programs (see their websites for more details). We use water-based glues on most of our laminate tabletops, and our particleboard substrates contain 100% recycled wood fiber and are certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

SierraSolid Tabletops – Our solid surface tabletops are easily repaired, thus yielding a longer life cycle of the product. Most color blends are made up of over 50% post-consumer recycled material, and the closed-mold casting process uses no formaldehyde and eliminates VOC emissions.

Butcher Block and Plank-style Tabletops – Our supplier harvests all the wood used in manufacturing from their privately-owned and sustainably-maintained forests. The glue is formaldehyde-free, and all scrap wood is re-used to heat their facilities.

Energy Conservation

MTS has partnered with NativeEnergy to offset all of our sales-related travel, and our conversion to T8 lighting systems in all of our facilities has been recognized by Impact Energy Management of Ann Arbor, MI. We are also excited to announce that we are now purchasing 10% of our power

from renewable resources through our local grid. Through these and other SynerGreen® efforts, we are committed to reducing our carbon footprint in every way possible.

Operations & Processes

- Our powder coating system utilizes cyclone-based reclaim technology to collect overspray and reuse excess powder. Since 2004 we have eliminated more than 600,000 pounds of waste with this system.
- Recycling programs are in place for scrap steel, aluminum, wood and corrugated materials. In each of the last five years, we have recycled more than 3 million pounds of scrap from our manufacturing facilities. We have also established recycling programs for paper and beverage containers in our corporate offices.
- All of our manufacturing facilities and offices utilize energy-efficient T8 fluorescent lighting. Since 2006, our collective energy-conservation efforts have saved us approximately 895,000 kilowatt hours, the equivalent of almost 445 metric tons of carbon dioxide!
- In September 2008 we began purchasing renewable energy. We currently use 10% renewable energy from wind and landfill gas power sources through Consumers Energy's Green Generation program.
- All sales-related travel is offset through NativeEnergy. Our purchase of offsets directly funds renewable energy projects such as methane gas power extracted from family-run dairy farms, and wind turbine farms located on Native American lands.

Recycling Guidelines

MTS Seating encourages its customers to continue the SynerGreen philosophy by donating or recycling their furniture at the end of its use. Our chairs can be disassembled and recycled through local processors, or given to charitable organizations for reuse. For more information, please visit our website at www.mtsseating.com.

Awards & Certifications

- GreenGuard® Indoor Air Quality Certification for Low-Emitting Products and GreenGuard Children & Schools Certification
- LEED Certification – MTS Seating is focused on educating our sales team, vendors and customers regarding LEED Certification. The recycled content in our chairs and tables, our recyclable packaging, and the GreenGuard Certification of our chairs may help contribute to various LEED credits, however MTS cannot guarantee that any of our products will contribute to a specific number of points under the LEED ratings systems. Please consult with a LEED Accredited Professional for detailed information regarding credits and rating systems.
- Environmental & Energy Conservation Award – Impact Energy Management, 2007 – In recognition of our environmental and civic leadership for investing in energy efficient technologies.

Having a positive impact on our customers and our planet is an essential vision shared by all MTS employees and encompasses every aspect of our business. Our partnership with Mother Earth is not just a fad; it's a commitment to our customers, to our environment, and to our future.



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