

Position Statements regarding our Commitment to Environmental Responsibility / Sustainability

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GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Lake County Press maintains an extensive and comprehensive program to recycle our waste paper, corrugated cardboard, metal plates and un-used inks. This program is driven by two distinct but equally important motivations. First, we firmly believe as a company and corporate citizen of the community, we have a responsibility to be environmentally conscious and compliant.

We also firmly believe that combining this policy of recycling with good housekeeping habits throughout our entire facility enables us to maintain a clean internal environment within our plant as well, which we have found to be a boost to overall morale. Our employees appreciate and enjoy their clean workplace and are very proud of it.

MAKING A MARK

Lake County Press produces an average of 8,500 printed projects every year, nearly all of which use inks from our innovative in-house ink supplier. We were one of the first printers in the United State to use process color inks formulated without petroleum solvents. With few exceptions, over 80% of our inks are formulated using 100% vegetable oils; the remaining 20% are energy curable (UV) chemistry. This combination results in our being able to factually state that our printing inks, conventional and UV emit zero ("0") volatile organic compounds (VOC's) into the environment.

Further, our in-house ink lab employs a unique software application which has the ability to analyze the formulation of any color of ink in order to calculate the proportion of base colors that should be added to create an entirely different color to be utilized for a new project. As a result, we are able to utilize 100 percent of our ink overages by using this process.

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PRESS SOLVENT RECOVERY

As of mid 2008, Lake County Press operates a total of 53 press units, 48 of which are used for printing and the remaining 5 are coating towers. Approximately 60% of these printing units represent recently installed presses and therefore are already equipped from the manufacturer with the most up-to-date press solvent recovery systems. Prior to this, LCP had installed a comprehensive SRS 100 Solvent Recovery System from *Maratek Environmental*. This equipment and the system it operates under are designed to deal with yet another daily by-product of our printing process; used press solvent. This system was installed for the purpose of on-site recycling of our main blanket wash solvent from the balance of the presses we operate that are not already equipped with this feature.

At the time, Lake County Press produced an average waste volume of 275 gallons of these materials per week. All of this had to be removed by a licensed special waste hauling company so our annual waste hauling cost exceeded \$ 3,500. By installing and implementing this new system coupled with the installation of several new presses over the past two years, we have successfully reduced our purchases of virgin solvent considerably as well as decreasing our waste removal costs by nearly 95%. Our studies have indicated that the return on investment (ROI) of this equipment should prove to be less than 2½ years. We were proud to introduce this new equipment and technology to our company for it represents yet another indication of our company's commitment to taking whatever steps necessary to help preserve our environment for many generations to come.

RECYCLING / DESTRUCTION OF OBSOLETE MATERIALS

Our commitment to these principles is strong; in fact, in the year 2000 we invested over \$240,000 to install a fully automated waste reclamation and bailing system throughout the bindery and warehouse of our main facility. The system encompasses automatic retrieval, shredding and bailing of all the trimmed off waste from our bindery operations and also allows us to shred full size press sheets and/or finished printed materials down to small scraps of 100% recyclable paper waste. Currently, Lake County Press recycles an average of 220 tons of scrap paper per month along with approximately 9,000 pounds of corrugated cardboard.

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This system also enables LCP to offer its clients the added service of secure, on-site shredding and appropriate recycling methods for all waste materials such as out-of-date printed materials and make-ready sheets as well as documented destruction and disposal of sensitive materials according to our client's instructions and policies. Finally, as a further service to our community here in Northern Illinois, several times throughout the year we trim down unused and/or leftover odd lots of plain paper stock from our inventory and donate this to a variety of local schools.

In early 2008, Lake County Press was pleased to announce the institution of an expanded company-wide recycling program. This program includes the general office recycling their waste copy / printer paper but we also have included the entire operation, both plant and offices in the program to recycle soda cans, plastic bottles, paper goods and other applicable manufacturing consumables. We have partnered with *Waste Management's Recycle America* to evaluate plant-wide materials that we send to recycle facilities, keeping them out of our solid waste stream and reducing our impact in landfills. LCP and members of the Recycle America Team meet on a semi-annual basis to review the current program and evaluate other potential recyclable products.

WATER CONSERVATION

The principle of lithography requires the precise balance of two elements, ink and water. The ink transfers to the sheet while the water along with its chemistry continually returns to the printing plate throughout the process. LCP recognizes the importance of not wasting this precious resource and has built custom multi-station filter systems that are installed on all of our large format machines. These filter systems not only preserve the purity of the water used in our process but also reduced our replenishing schedules up to 65%, saving over 9000 gallons of water annually.

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

Lake County Press partners with our local energy company by providing Renewable Energy Certificates (REC'S) to offset emissions associated with the production of any product. When requested to provide REC's we gladly perform a comprehensive energy analysis through all stages of production, calculating emissions from electricity use to carbon emissions from transit of the products. We purchase the REC's to cover the energy used to produce each job, the proceeds of which go toward renewable energy research (i.e. wind, hydro and bio-gas) nurturing the development of alternative power resources for the future.

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Green-e, the nation's leading independent certification and verification program for renewable energy products, certifies that all REC's purchased meet the strict environmental and consumer protection standards.

ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERS

Lake County Press partners with a broad range of organizations interested in promoting environmental stewardship. Not only do we benefit from sharing knowledge, information, and expertise, but also through third party certifications, consumers can compare claims from different manufacturers to be sure that these claims are consistent, accurately measured, and verified by outside, impartial organizations.

EPA Green Power Partnership: The Green Power Partnership is a voluntary program that encourages organizations to buy green power as a way to reduce the environmental impact associated with electricity use. The Partnership currently has hundreds of Partner organizations voluntarily purchasing billions of kilowatt-hours of green power (renewable energy sources) annually. Partners include a wide variety of leading organizations such as Fortune 500 companies, small and medium sized businesses, local, state and federal governments, and colleges and universities.

EPA Climate Leaders Partnership: Climate Leaders is an EPA industry-government partnership that provides guidance and recognition to companies developing long-term strategies for reducing their role in climate change. Partner companies commit to reducing their impact on the global environment by completing a corporate-wide inventory of their greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), setting long-term reduction goals, and annually reporting their progress to EPA.

Green-e: Green-e is the nation's leading independent consumer protection program for the sale of renewable energy and greenhouse gas reductions in the retail market. Green-e offers certification and verification of renewable energy and greenhouse gas mitigation products. It is a program of the Center for Resource Solutions.

Waste Managements Recycle America: Waste Management Recycle America (WMRA) is a long-term venture established by Waste Management 20 years ago. Since then they have handled over 55 million tons of recyclable commodities, by offering municipalities a cost-efficient, environmentally sound recycling program.

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Forest Stewardship Council: Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is a non-profit organization devoted to encouraging the responsible management of the world's forests. FSC set high standards that ensure forestry is practiced in an environmentally responsible, socially beneficial, and economically viable way. Lake County Press is proud to be FSC Certified since 2005.

Sustainable Forestry Initiative: The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) is a non-profit organization devoted to improving sustainable forest management in the US and Canada through the Sustainable Forestry Initiative program. Lake County Press received SFI Certification in 2008.

Programmé for the Endorsement of Forest Certification: The PEFC Council (Programmé for the Endorsement of Forest Certification) is a global organization that endorses national forest certification systems that meet rigorous requirements for sustainable forestry. The PEFC has endorsed the SFI chain of custody (CoC) standard making SFI, Inc. the PEFC US National Governing Body. Lake County Press received PEFC Certification in 2008.

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CONTINUOUS IMPROVMENTS:

Lake County Press continues to invest in the newest technology available in our industry, and with those investments, our commitment to sustainability increases as well. Our newest presses conserve both materials and energy. Innovations in design and efficiency with UV technology reduce energy usage up to 20% by closer placement of the UV lamps to the sheet. Wash-ups on our new UV presses are more efficient also, achieving better, cleaner results while reducing VOC emissions.

In 2008, a part of our continual effort to reduce emissions, Lake County Press joined the EPA Climate Leaders program, an initiative that requires participants to monitor and track their greenhouse gasses and develop a plan to reduce them over a five year period. Using the data obtained through this process, our EMS (Environmental Management System) meets annually to discuss, plan and implement measures that will meet our current needs helping to preserve the environment for future generations.

Lake County Press has pledged to:

- reduce our overall impact on the environment so as to enable our customers to do the same
- support responsible forestry and to participate in third-party certification programs
- initiate and maintain a facility-wide recycling program for all applicable materials
- conserve energy in all facets of our business
- conserve water in all facets of our business
- offset fossil fuel-generated electric power usage with REC's
- setting and maintaining emission reduction targets through third-party programs

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained herein is true and accurate at the time of printing.