



Corporate commitment and executive support

Thirty seven years ago, the then President of Kimball International, Thomas L. Habig, expressed the company's commitment to the environment and sustainability in a communication to all employees. He shared that 'Many were aware of the problems of the environment, years before it became a popular crusade to the now conscious public...' He added, 'and it makes us proud that we were one of those recognized for improvement and took action. We plan to continue...'

Continuous improvement

Kimball Office has lived up to his expectation for continuous improvement and earned a reputation for operational excellence based on the practice of lean manufacturing. Lean manufacturing is based upon identifying and eliminating waste, conserving resources through recycling and reuse, reducing business costs and risk while improving environmental results. Resulting benefits to Kimball Office correlate directly to advantages enjoyed by our customers including exceeded expectations, reduced costs, improved process flow and reduced lead times, lower regulatory non-compliance risk, improved environmental quality and improved employee morale and commitment.

Corporate strategy for sustainability

Aligning with the aspirations of our customers, Kimball Office had developed a holistic strategic plan moving forward with enhanced speed. We are utilizing globally recognized standards while concurrently implementing innovative newly developed programs to enable maximum impact responding to customers' evolving expectations for green building strategies and sustainability.

We view our roadmap towards sustainability to be a three-prong strategy including:

People

Communicating our corporate vision for sustainability to stakeholders

- Orienting organizational culture and training
- Issuing annual corporate sustainability reports in alignment with the Global Reporting Initiative
- Taking a leadership position in industry-government partnerships to develop long-term comprehensive climate change strategies

Product

Implementing DfE, Design for the Environment Protocol, considering the environmental impact of product design into development and design processes

- Maintaining the highest level of product performance attributes including indoor air emissions for healthy workplaces certified to the GREENGUARD® Environmental Standards
- Working towards Forest Stewardship Council Certification on materials and chain-of-custody processes
- Pursuing the EPA Guidelines for Recycle Content

Process

Implementing Kimball Office's environmental management system designed to utilize the foundation of the established ISO 9001 Quality System for integration of ISO 14001, the standard primarily concerned with actions to minimize harmful affects on the environment caused by procurement, design, manufacturing and transportation activities, geared to continually improve our environmental performance.

- Partnering with vendors and our supply chain to identify mutual opportunities for improvement in sustainability practices including design, green product attributes, packaging and transportation

Aspirations and expectations for the future

Over these many years, Kimball Office has been pleased to witness the increased consciousness of the public and the priority that our customers have awarded to the critical issues of sustainability. We aspire to move forward in lockstep with them, working to develop products that enhance their workplaces with healthy aesthetically pleasing products that attract and retain top talent.

As our customers build green buildings in accordance with the USGBC LEED rating systems, we build green buildings for our employees and showroom visitors. We celebrate recognition for unique accomplishments such as our Recycling Center which accounts for diverting eleven million pounds of waste annually from landfills. We have learned about conserving gas during transportation based on an innovative truck idling program. We quietly celebrate these achievements but are far from being satisfied.

We plan to continue. We have set our target aspirations for the future and acknowledge a long-term quest for action and improvement.



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