



## ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

We all have a responsibility to the environment and to future generations when it comes to improving our environmental standards. Throughout our existence, The Worden Company has worked closely with clients, architects and designers, suppliers and employees to ensure that our products will be a source of pride for all involved. Now, more than ever, this pride extends to the environmental standards to which we hold ourselves accountable.

### Design, Construction and Materials

The demands of a library facility require furniture that is heavy duty, flexible, and easy to maintain. With the expected 30-50 year lifecycle of many library facilities, it is essential that the furniture meet stringent durability and strength expectations, thus extending the life of the product and reducing landfill waste. The Worden Company utilizes long-tested joinery and construction methods to ensure every piece we create is as enduring as it is appealing.

Several components of Worden's product lines contain post-industrial and post-consumer recycled materials, including:

- Wheatboard (when requested)
- Steel
- Particleboard
- Fabrics

Woods used by Worden include Red Oak, Cherry and Hard Maple, grown in forests managed for sustainable yields.

### Suppliers

From wood suppliers to fabric vendors to metal finishers, Worden believes it is imperative that we partner with companies that believe in and support our environmental efforts. Our particleboard supplier is Green Cross Certified for 100% recycled and recovered wood fiber. We purchase lumber from a company that meets Sustainable Forestry Initiative standards, with the objectives of perpetual growing and harvesting of trees while protecting wildlife, plants, soil, water and air quality. Our fabric vendors excel in their efforts to produce products that utilize recycled material and more environmentally friendly methods of production.



## Manufacturing

By employing “Just in Time” manufacturing processes, Worden ensures that large inventories of unnecessary supplies and products are not created, thus reducing waste of both material and production. We optimize every order to obtain the highest yield from our materials, resulting in less scrap and waste. We continually monitor all scrap and rework to create more effective manners in which to produce our products.

Worden strives to maintain a positive impact on hazardous emissions by employing such methods as efficient dust collection and filtration, finish filtration and solvent recycling, and water based glues; all resulting in reduced volatile organic compound (VOC) and hazardous air pollutant (HAP) emissions. Worden’s VOC and HAP emissions fall well below the federal standards. We are proud to regularly submit to OSHA and EPA inspections and reporting requirements.

## Packaging and Transportation

The preferred methods of packing at The Worden Company are blanket wrapping, palletizing and shrink wrapping – thus eliminating the need for space (and landfill) consuming packaging. Worden reuses wood pallets and blankets whenever possible. Our traffic scheduler and dock personnel cooperate to utilize the maximum amount of truck space available. By reducing the number of trucks on the road, Worden utilizes less fuel and reduces equipment wear and tear.

Utilizing our own fleet of trucks, Worden’s main method of shipping is direct to the customer; thus reducing the middleman, alleviating the need for a number of different trucks hauling the same products, and reducing fuel usage and emissions. Whenever possible, Worden consolidates multiple orders into single trucks going to similar destinations. Because we maintain our own fleet, Worden is also able to procure backhauls for the return trip, eliminating the wasted fuel and emissions incurred in an empty returning truck.

## Stewardship

Recycling is embraced throughout the organization, from plant solvents and scrap; to bottles, cans and paper in the office.

The Worden Company believes that implementing these practices results in a cleaner, safer work environment for our employees, and ensures the continued stability and availability of natural resources for generations to come.