



# Solberg's Corporate Environmental Questionnaire

November 5, 2009

This is a brief overview of our sustainability initiatives and accomplishments. We embrace industrial growth and innovation while still advocating environmental responsibility.

“Every day we all do our part to lessen the environmental impact of our business. We actively seek ways to protect and preserve our environment” – one of our *Guiding Principles*

**1. Does someone in your company have particular responsibility for Environmental Issues?**

Yes, we have a Sustainability Manager whom deals directly with environmental compliance, documentation, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Existing Building Operation and Maintenance (LEED EB O&M), along with Worker health and safety.

**2. Do you have a company register of environmental aspects & impacts? Are you prepared to release a copy to us?**

We are partners with EPA Climate Leaders, which assesses and documents our carbon footprint and then we state goals for reduction. We already are in the process of writing and then implementing a comprehensive “Sustainability Action Plan.” We will be reporting our greenhouse gas emissions as a Low Emitter with completion in mid-2010.

**3. Do you have a company register of legal & other requirements?**

Yes, we have a system in place to maintain and expand applicable legal requirements. We strive to comply with as many requirements as possible. The Sustainability Manager examines heightened health and safety requirements.

**4. Do you purchase raw materials from an environmentally sustainable source?**

To the greatest extent of our control and business preferences, we attempt to buy from an environmentally sustainable source. We will be placing a Sustainable Purchasing Policy into effect within the next quarter. We are REACH and ROHS compliant. Finally, we will be purchasing Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) paper products and will be using those for the majority of our literature.

**5. Do you have a Waste Management procedure? If YES please provide a copy.**

Yes, we have a Waste Management procedure. It details our waste stream, while everything gets weighed to help us report the % of waste that goes to landfill in the future. This helps us control our production efficiency and smart use of resources. Currently we recycle 72% of our waste.

**6. Have you received environmental complaints about your operations?**

No, we have not. We strive to receive only compliments for something we hold close to our foundation.

**7. Are emissions to air, land & water caused during the manufacture of goods?**

Yes, we manufacture all filter elements here. This results in heating plastisol in an oven that does emit a small amount of Greenhouse Gases. We emit significantly below EPA compliance requirements.

**8. Have you had any environmental accidents & incidents reportable under RIDDOR (UK reporting)?**

We currently operate without any environmental accidents or incidents that are reportable under RIDDOR.

**9. Are you a member of an Industry Environmental Association, or similar business group tackling Environmental issues?**

Green-e Marketplace (we offset 100% of our electricity use with Certified Renewable Energy), EPA Green Power, Clean Air Counts (Chicago reporting group), Windy City CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility pilot group), EPA Climate Leaders, EPA Solar Initiative.

**10. Do you comply with any industry Codes of Practice which address Environmental Issues?**

We are pursuing LEED EB O&M by 2011. We are ISO9001 but this does not pertain exactly to Environmental Issues, although there are correlations in workplace environment and purchasing.

**11. Are you currently operating or planning to implement an Environmental Management System such as ISO 14001?**

We are incorporating ISO 14000 into our Sustainability Action Plan which will result in our Corporate Social Responsibility Report. We are undecided whether we will actually seek ISO 14001 certification. An Environmental Management System is also a byproduct of LEED EB O&M.

**12. Do you carry out Environmental reviews or auditing, or have you done so in the past?**

We conduct weekly Quality & Safety audits. The benefit of having a Sustainability Manager position is that we have a person whose sole job is to be checking on the overall functioning of the business from packaging to waste management to transportation.

**13. How do you ensure that the Environmental Activities you decide shall happen actually take place? Please attach any records and documents to show.**

Again, this is the job of the Sustainability Manager to implement. Our baseline is established. Timelines will validate successful implementation.



**14. Has an Environment Agency or any Local Authority taken any enforcement action against you in the last five years? Is there any Environmental Civil or Criminal action pending against you?**

We do not have any environmental or criminal actions against us.

**15. Do you use whole life costing to assess the projects and purchases that you are working on?**

Yes, of course, we have to weigh in the lifetime of any project implemented. It is known that initial cost of many projects especially newer technology ones, cost more. It is our job to assess the ROI, what amount of money we would potentially be saving from the newer technology and whether there are any payment plan options. We are retrofitting both of our home buildings with new lights and electronic ballasts. We are projected in saving 52% of our electricity used. Then one project can help finance another.

**16. Do you take steps to reduce the Environmental impact on transport associated with your business?**

Yes, we have 15 pairs, one triple and one quadruple carpooling rides. We have an elaborate Sustainable Traveling Guide to assist our Sales Team, especially within the United States.

