



# Gunlocke and The Environment

*The Elements of Responsibility*



# The Gunlocke Company

## A GREEN-EARTH Citizen



Ancient man believed our world  
was built from four basic elements:

**Earth, Air, Water, and Fire.**

It's a belief that endured for millennia.  
And even though science's Table of Elements has grown,  
Gunlocke knows that some basics remain vital.

Basics like keeping the Earth's lands rich and fertile.  
Keeping Waters clean. Keeping Air pure.  
Using power, fuels, and "Fires" wisely.

A vibrant, healthy planet yields  
the very products Gunlocke sells.  
Caring for our environment is good business policy,  
basic human decency, core common sense.

We here present a glimpse of  
Gunlocke's environmental commitments —  
how we strive to ensure the sustainability of resources,  
and how we try to meet our most fundamental  
obligations to our planet.

In short: how we treat and use the elements:

**Earth, Air, Water, and Fire.**

## Gunlocke Environmental Commitment

<b>COMPLY:</b>	Meet or exceed all environmental statutes and regulations
<b>IMPLEMENT:</b>	Design work practices to enable continuous improvement
<b>DESIGN:</b>	Minimize environmental impact of facilities and processes
<b>COMMUNICATE:</b>	Assure environmental policy awareness of all members
<b>INFORM:</b>	Disseminate understandable and verifiable environmental data
<b>CONTRIBUTE:</b>	Actively participate in industry and government environmental research
<b>CONSERVE</b>	Use natural resources wisely and prudently
<b>ASSESS:</b>	Evaluate environment issues of major acquisitions and divestitures
<b>ASCERTAIN:</b>	Hold all members accountable for compliance
<b>INVESTIGATE:</b>	Consider full environmental impact of all materials and processes
<b>MAINTAIN:</b>	Oversee continuous implementation of these commitments



# Earth



## **The Earth itself is our role model.**

Almost everything our planet uses breaks down, decomposes, recomposes, and is used again. Recycling was first practiced by our planet. And we, as stewards of the environment, Sustain the planet by following its example.

One simple case in point:

A ton of recycled paper.

The U.S. EPA reports that one ton of recycled paper:

- Saves 4,102 kilowatt hours of energy
- Preserves 7,000 gallons of water
- Frees 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space
- Prevents 60 lbs. of air pollution

That's just one ton.

## **Gunlocke recycles over 25 tons yearly.**

And that's just paper, one of many materials Gunlocke recycles.

We know there's always more we can do.

We know the race is never finished.

And every year, we endeavor to do more than the last ...

## Gunlocke Recycling Statistics

Office Paper:	Over 25 tons per year
Scrap Metal:	Over 100 tons per year
Copper Wire:	Over 1,800 lbs. per year
Corrugated material:	Over 130 tons per year
Florescent bulbs:	100% recycled
Diverted from landfill:	10 million lbs. waste annually

## Gunlocke Continuous Improvement

Our culture of continuous improvement recognizes that the optimum manufacturing system will convert 100% of the materials purchased into customer goods.

We strive to identify and then eliminate the wastes that cause us to fall short of the optimum.

So far we've reduced our raw material inventory by 57%,  
and our work-in-process inventory is down 65%.

Together these improvements have yielded an 82% reduction in manufacturing scrap.



"I swear the earth shall surely be complete ...  
Work on, age after age; Nothing is to be lost."  
- Walt Whitman

# Air



## **Air can give life or, polluted, can suffocate.**

Unlike Earth and Water the pollutants  
of Air go mostly unseen.

Particulate.

Microscopic.

Out of sight — but at Gunlocke, never out of mind.

We pride ourselves in preserving wood's natural beauty  
by means of durable coatings ...

but we know some coatings can harm the Air.

Attack the ozone.

Exude carcinogens.

So we control those emissions,

keeping them in spec,

meeting, exceeding, standards.

And we've pledged to find new ways to emit less still.

And that's only fair.

Nature gives us the beauty of virgin wood.

For such a gift, we ought to return

the cleanest air we can.

## Gunlocke Air Emissions Facts

**Gunlocke coatings meet or exceed all federal and state standards.  
We have eliminated ozone-depleting chemicals from our plant processes.**

## Gunlocke Continuous Improvement

**Continuous improvement applies to all areas of product design, manufacturing, and use. We understand that concern for the environment does not end or begin at our doors. Implementation of UV flat-line finishing systems has reduced emissions by 30%, improved durability, and reduced indoor air emissions. Investments in dust-collection equipment have improved air quality for our members, lowered particulate emissions to the atmosphere, and improved finish quality. Chemical stripping has been eliminated, ending member exposure to hazardous chemicals.**



*"All have a mystic sympathy ... air maintains the earth,  
and is the medium of the life and sense of things."*

*- Edward Bulwer-Lytton*

# Water



Three-quarters of the earth's surface.

Nine-tenths of the human body.

Oceans, lakes, rivers, ground springs, airborne moisture —

**Water touches all parts of life.**

Gunlocke endeavors to conserve, protect literal water.

But we also look at the broader picture, the metaphor...

the whole flow of our products' environmental

impact, from beginning to end.

***Upstream*** are our vendors, whose environmental effectiveness we appraise.

***In-stream*** are our members, ourselves, giving environmental concerns priority in our process.

***Downstream*** are our customers, who esteem the environment as we do, recycling, reusing, refurbishing.

Water as reality. Water as symbol.

Sustaining the planet is a big job,

And we try to do our part

By looking at the big picture.

## Gunlocke Product / Process Flow

### Upstream Green:

- We use only wood providers with forest sustainability management practices
  - 20% of our standard fabrics are made from recycled material
    - 100% of the upholstery foam used is recyclable
  - 30 % of metals come from recycled/reused material
  - We use reconstituted veneers, thus lowering our consumption of natural resources

### In-stream Green:

- 90% of all Gunlocke manufacturing waste reclaimed and re-used in-house
  - Utilize water-based dyes for all fabrics and practice water-based tanning of leather products
- Recent 10% reduction in plant process water demand

### Downstream Green:

- Gunlocke products will be shipped with "Green Guides," detailing materials used and options for recycling, reuse, refurbishing, or disposal
  - About 95% of every Gunlocke product is recyclable or reusable



"From water first was all created, and water is the all-sustaining! Ocean, continue forever thy reigning."

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

# Fire



We sometimes deem Fire an element of destruction.

But to the earliest members of our race,

Fire was as much a sustainer of life

As Water, Air, and Earth.

Of all the elements, it frightens us most ...

yet strangely, it is the one we best control.

When Fire burned with too much smog and pollution,

humanity tamed it and learned "clean burning."

When we needed the very power of electrons,  
we harnessed their Fire and learned to manage energy.

Using power means consuming resources,  
and Gunlocke strives to consume responsibly.

We constantly improve our facilities  
to reduce consumption, slow our usage,  
wield Fire with the knowledge that  
resources are not infinite.

We reuse. We renew.

And though we cannot claim perfection,  
we can lay claim to progress.

By proceeding with prudence, we sustain our resources,

**So that our Fires will never fade.**

## Gunlocke Fuel and Facility Conservation

100% of wood waste is used as fuel for plant process heat

All manufacturing areas have been refitted with high efficiency lighting fixtures

Heat pump system for office renovations cut electric consumption 20%

All HVAC heating systems use clean burning natural gas

All hazardous materials waste transported offsite is used as substitute fuel

## Gunlocke Continuous Improvement

Continuous improvement means we: *“Seek constant improvement by the sharing of knowledge. Encourage direct and open communication between colleagues, patrons, manufactures, and users to link long-term sustainable considerations with ethical responsibility and to reestablish the integral relationship between natural processes and human activity.”*

– Wm. McDonough & Michael Braungart, *The Hanover Principals, Principal #9.*



*“You cannot put a Fire out A Thing that can ignite  
Can go, itself, without a Fan Upon the slowest night.”*

*- Emily Dickinson*



  
Gunlocke

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