

Our Sustainability Credentials

The JPA Difference

We at JPA operate a system of continuous improvement and customer service across all areas of our business. We recognise that our work may have a direct or indirect effect on the local and/or regional environments in which we operate. We therefore strive to reduce any harm that this may cause on the environment.

We actively monitor our internal operations and the effect of our products and services on our clients, on society as a whole and on the wider environment. I hope that the information overleaf will be useful in outlining the steps that we are currently taking to address these issues:

The logo for JPA Furniture, featuring the letters 'JPA' in a stylized, serif font with a decorative flourish, and the word 'FURNITURE' in a smaller, sans-serif font below it.

Our Commitment:

ISO 14001:2004 - Environmental Management System:

JPA achieved and are registered to ISO 14001, certificate number EMS547673. ISO 14001 is an internationally recognised environmental management standard which defines a set of requirements for environmental management systems. The purpose of this standard is to help all kinds of organizations to protect the environment, to prevent pollution, and to improve their overall environmental performance.

To ensure sustainability through the supply chain, we insist that our key suppliers must have achieved ISO 14001 thereby demonstrating sound environmental policies. ISO 14001 registered companies have to clearly demonstrate that they have:

- Identified the relevant environmental legislation to their activity and log it
- Clearly identified their Impact on the environment
- Have an action plan with clearly identified targets for reducing their Impacts on the environment
- Be able to demonstrate continuous improvement

JPA are audited at regular intervals by a third party (BSI - British Standards Institution) where we have to demonstrate that we meet the standards required by these commitments.

FIRA Green Club:

JPA are a member of the Furniture Industry Research Association (FIRA) Green Club. This is the environmental legislative update service for the furniture and wider timber industry. The scheme helps us fulfil our requirements and keep abreast of environmental developments as required by ISO 14001 (Environmental Management System) and the Furniture Industry Sustainability Programme (FISP).

FIRA Club Green takes an integrated approach to the challenge of environmental improvement. It is a cost effective means of tracking and interpreting the latest legislation, sharing knowledge and developing industry wide solutions to facilitate legislative compliance.

ISO 9001: 2008 - Quality Management System:

JPA achieved and are registered to ISO 9001 – certificate number FM28443. ISO 9001 is an internationally recognised standard for quality management, ensuring that organisations have proven processes in place to meet customer requirements.

To ensure quality, reliability and service in our business, we insist that key suppliers must also have achieved ISO 9001 demonstrating sound management systems which will allow both business and environmental targets to flourish. ISO 9001 companies have to clearly demonstrate:

- A Robust Quality Management System
- Management Responsibility
- Resource Management
- Product Realization
- Measurement, analysis and improvement

JPA are audited at regular intervals by a third party (BSI - British Standards Institution) where we have to demonstrate that we meet the standards required by these commitments.

Resource Efficiency East:

JPA are currently working with Resource Efficiency East, funded by the East of England Development Agency to deliver a measurable improvement in environmental performance via focused and commercially orientated advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Resource efficiency
- Reduction in the use of water
- Reduction in the use of materials and energy

Zero Landfill:

JPA have identified several waste streams as a result of their business activities, with 90% of these currently being recycled. We are working towards 0% landfill in 2015. Currently all cardboard packaging, unwanted furniture, paper, toner, plastic, polystyrene, (recycled into polystyrene bricks), pallets, fluorescent tubes are recycled.

FISP Furniture Industry Sustainability Programme:

JPA became full members of the Furniture Industry Sustainability Programme (FISP) in 2008. FISP was launched in 2006 to support and improve the furniture industry's sustainability credentials and has rapidly become established as the trade's premier forum for all environmental and sustainable issues.

FISP was developed by the Furniture Industry Environment Committee, an organisation comprised of a range of furniture trade bodies. The aim of FISP is to provide encouragement, verification and external recognition to furniture manufacturers which make progress on the three areas of sustainability: environment, social and economic performance.

Companies can become certified to FISP when they can demonstrate to a third party auditor that they meet the standards required by these commitments.

Members must show evidence of compliance of:

- Documentation and implementation of an environmental policy statement
- Legal compliance with Environmental and Health & Safety Legislation

Criteria covered include both Environmental and Social & Economic issues:

- Environmental management systems
- Waste management
- Energy management
- Packaging
- Transport
- Procurement policies
- Sustainable timber purchasing
- Emissions
- End of life
- Nuisance issues
- Community relation and charity work
- Education and training
- Employment
- Ethical issues
- Competitiveness

Carbon Footprint:

Direct energy use is perhaps the most obvious contribution to our carbon footprint. When fossil fuels are burnt the carbon which has been locked away for millions of years is released. It is the rapid increase in our fossil fuel use that has caused global warming.

Burning fuel in all forms of transport produces carbon dioxide, other greenhouse gasses as well as other forms of pollution. Ultimately it is not the type of car we drive that contributes to climate change but the amount and type of fuel we burn.

We calculate our carbon footprint based on building, flights, car & van, bus and rail fuel consumption. In 2009 our business activity generated three carbon tonnes per employee which we will seek to reduce in 2010 to demonstrate continual improvement of our environmental performance.

We are currently investigating the FIRA Furniture Footprinter Verification Scheme which will allow the carbon footprint to be calculated for individual items of furniture.

FSC Certification:

All board supplied to JPA is covered under the Forestry Stewardship Commission (FSC) Scheme:

FSC guarantees that the trees that are harvested are replaced or allowed to regenerate naturally. Parts of the forest are protected entirely, in order to protect rare animals and plants.

FSC protects the rights of indigenous people to use the forest. If they have sacred sites in the forest these are exempt from felling.

The forest owner must use local workers to run the forest, and provide training, safety equipment and a decent salary.

The forest owner is often obliged to support the community in other ways, such as through the development of schools.

FSC is a market-based initiative which also ensures better conditions for the forest and the people whose livelihoods depend on it.

FSC gives an assurance that future generations will be able to enjoy the benefits of the forest.

All the wood is tracked from the forest to the store. Every link between the forest and the consumer is certified to make it clearly identifiable which wood is FSC certified and which is not.

FSC is the only wood certification scheme endorsed by the major environmental charities, including WWF, Greenpeace and The Woodland Trust.

The FSC label is not only available on wood for furniture, it can also be found on floors, decking, paper, printed matter, charcoal, kitchen utensils, even venison.

Our Services:

Sustainable Products:

Most of our furniture is now 100% recyclable and we are also managing to increase the volume of recycled content in our products.

Furniture Recycling:

We operate a certificated furniture recycling service where products are dismantled with components separated into relevant waste streams. We also operate a re-use community scheme whereby furniture that is fit for task is passed on to community schemes and local charities.

Furniture Refurbishment:

JPA operate an extensive furniture refurbishment scheme including services such as seating reupholstery and re-foaming; replacement seat and back pads; replacement tops for desks; spare locks and key for cupboards – all of which will encourage re-use and extend product life at a fraction of the cost of new, and without having to deplete further earth resources.

Furniture Re-Configuration / Space Strategy:

As part of our service to help clients make the best of existing furniture, we also undertake office furniture re-configurations, helping to make the best of space by re-arranging existing desks and specifying new only when required. Many of our ranges have components that can be easily reconfigured for maximum planning flexibility and in many instances, components are re-used with only a few 'top up' items required.

Chair Training:

It is our experience that many users request a new chair when the existing is found to be uncomfortable. However, it is often the case that the user has simply forgotten how to adjust their chair and a new chair is not required. JPA offer free chair training to clients which has health and safety benefits as well as often prolonging the life of the chair which more often than not is still in good condition.



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ISO 14001
EMS 547673



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FM 28443

