

## VIA Environmental Protection Program

### **VIA's Environmental Mission:**

We at VIA strive to be more planet conscious with respect to how we work and deliver on our commitment to our customers, and ensure minimum manufacturing impact on our natural environment.

As a company we believe that it is our responsibility to implement programs and practices that support the protection of our environment. Our employees embrace the programs we have put in place and make sure that they are an intrinsic part of our day-to-day operations.



### **How do we do this?**

**Daily operations:** We at VIA have set an internal limit on kilowatt usage. A lower usage level has been achieved with conservation of machine motors from single-phase motors to multiple-phase motors, along with other conservation practices, such as installation of timers on heating systems. The VIA plant itself has multiple natural light enhancing opportunities, from front office wide pane windows, sky lights and 18 bay windows on the front of the building.

**Facility Planning:** With our very deliberate space efficiency with respect to storage of inventory, processing, and assembly, we minimize waste of resources for heating, lighting and air conditioning.

**Packaging:** Our commitment to improving our packaging methods is one very important way we can reduce our impact on the environment. We at VIA continue to use cardboard to ship all of our products. The cardboard used is made from 65% recycled materials – the highest percentage we can use and achieve the durability required for cartons. Cardboard is also used exclusively in our plants for materials handling purposes. VIA have dedicated personnel to bail and recycle reusable cardboard within the plant and have it sent to the regional recycle center. Last year alone we managed to divert over 105 tons of recyclable materials from land fills. This recycling effort lead to the recognition and award of outstanding achievement in recycling presented by TMS Recycling (a waste management company).

**Materials used:** State of the art technology ensures minimum waste of materials used in the upholstery process. All of our in-stock Maharam fabrics are 78% post-Industrial Recycled Polyester, 15% Polyester, 7% Nylon. The vast majority of our chair components are products of service and are fully recyclable as such.

**Foam:** All VIA foam meets and exceeds the most stringent environmental standards known in the world today – European DINN Standards. The foam that we use is molded to the exact shape required and therefore very little waste is generated from trimming excess. What little waste that there is generated through the manufacturing process and is recycled by our supplier as carpet underlay.

**Finishing and Chemical Materials used:** All adhesive material used by VIA is a water and saline based, fast drying solution and requires no heating equipment or energy for drying. It does not require any chlorinated solvents that would need special handling and/or storage. What little waste that is generated as the result of infrequent wood stain is sent directly to a waste management firm for processing. Internal solvent emissions are tested regularly for compliance with OSHA standards. VIA has had all of its facilities tested by independent auditor to verify the nonexistence on environmental toxins.



**Printed Materials:** Where possible we use recycled paper on our brochures and internal paperwork. All discarded paper used in the office and plant is recycled through a local recycling program. This program includes recycling of glass bottles, aluminum cans and newsprint.

**Product Durability:** Perhaps the best thing that VIA can do for the environment is to build products to last. VIA has always had a reputation for exceptionally made durable furniture, which goes back to the strength of our construction methods, and the durability of our raw materials, our unique finishing materials, and durability tested fabrics.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the VIA team and our suppliers for all of their continued support of our Environmental Protection Program.

We also recognize that this is a never-ending process and are committed to continually updating our policies and staying on our path to ensure a better environment for all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Joseph McGinley'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'W' and 'J'.

W. Joseph McGinley  
President - VIA Inc.