

# HOW OUR PRODUCTS COMPLETE THEIR LIFECYCLE THE RESPONSIBLE WAY

Precision products are designed to be durable, and function well beyond their warranty period. However, when a product has reached the end of its life, Precision takes every step to help ensure our products are recycled or re-used. We take the full life cycle of our products seriously and want to ensure their life is managed responsibly.

Our Product Stewardship program touches all areas of our business.

Key areas involved are:

- Local Community New Zealand Made
- Design
- Manufacturing Technologies
- Energy Efficiency
- Packaging
- Waste Management
- Recycle, Re-Use or Re-Sell

We have explained each of these areas in more detail, providing you with a comprehensive overview of our Product Stewardship program, which allows you to make informed purchasing decisions when selecting products for your staff and your workplace environment.

# LOCAL COMMUNITY NEW ZEALAND MADE:

We are very proud to supply New Zealand made products. We employ people from the local and surrounding community "so we work where we live" and this enables us to have a first hand appreciation of our impact on our staff, our families and the local environment.

Being New Zealand made enables us to understand our customers and their environment, so we are able to offer "local knowledge". This is especially important during design and development stages to ensure your products are fit for purpose.

By using local suppliers we also support other New Zealand manufacturers and are able to ensure they meet similar quality and environmental standards.

# **DESIGN**:

Design is a key area of our business that drives innovation in our products, which we actively seek to minimize the environmental impact of. Key considerations are:

- Material selection ensuring our material choice is responsible and environmentally preferred.
- Material Optimisation products that are designed to get the most out of material sizes, reducing waste and not over engineering products.
- Design for Disassembly this is essential for end of life. Unlike materials are not permanently bonded together to ensure ease of disassembly.
- Durability products are designed and tested to function well beyond their warranty.
- Continuous Improvement the core of our design team philosophy is to always improve our products for our customers and the environment.



#### MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGIES

Efficient manufacturing techniques are at the forefront of the minds of our preferred suppliers and include:

- Lean Manufacturing we use Lean Manufacturing principles to reduce costs, improve time to manufacture and improve quality.
- **Visuals System** KanBan principals use visual guides at key points in the factory, which provide further production efficiency.
- Just In Time (JIT) products are produced to order without the need for large amounts of stock of both raw materials and finished stock.
- **Technology** regular reviews of our plant and machinery help the business identify obsolete technologies with the aim of replacing with more efficient and flexible options.

#### ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Our energy consumption not only effects the environment, but also our bottom line.

- Audit we undertake intensive energy audits periodically of our manufacturing facility
- Management we have ongoing energy management efficiency initiatives and reports to help us monitor our performance on a regular basis.
- Action energy efficient light bulbs have been installed through out the whole business; equipment is shutdown when not in use; regular maintenance on building and plant to reduce lost energy etc.
- Recycling heat from our compressor is pumped into the factory as heating during the winter months.
- Education we educate our staff to insure they understand the impact of their decisions on our energy consumption.

# PACKAGING

Packaging helps ensure our products arrive to our customers in the same quality that they leave the factory. It is essential; however we work hard to minimize the impact of packaging. Two key factors are:

- Recycled content all card board used has a recycled content. We avoid using packing materials that are non-recyclable.
- Design packaging is designed to fit the product, reducing the amount of packing per product while ensuring safe delivery.

#### WASTE MINIMISATION:

How we manage our waste is essential, but reducing the amount we generate is equally important. Current initiatives include:

- Waste Audits annual external waste management audits.
- Recycling to Landfill our recycled % is increasing, which is also helping our bottom line waste costs.
- Material Optimisation the design of our products has a large impact of the amount of waste we generate; this is a core focus of our design team.
- Education we educate our customers and staff to insure they understand the impact of their decisions on our waste management.
- **Bi-Product Use** our steel is coated in oil to prevent rust through production. Before painting this oil is cleaned from the product and is then separated from the water and on-sold.



# **RECYCLE:**

We have sourced key recycling centres nationwide that are capable and qualified to recycle the different materials in our products. Listed below are the key materials used to manufacture our products:

METALS:	Mild Steel, Aluminum
PLASTICS:	PVC (Development programs are in place to minimize the use)
	ABS, Polycarbonate, HIPS
WOOD: *	MDF – E1 and E0, LPL – E1 and E0
FABRIC:*	Various (Wool, Polyester etc)

\* These materials are recyclable; however there is currently no nationwide capability of recycling them. New Zealand ingenuity is famous around the world and we pride ourselves on our problem solving capabilities. Every problem has a solution and we see a problem as an opportunity for improvement, hence we are currently working with our suppliers to identify ways of recycling their materials.

We help connect our customers with suitable recycling centres throughout New Zealand. These centres are well equipped to break our products down into separate materials and then recycle them. Contact <a href="http://www.simsmm.com/au/contact-us/">www.simsmm.com/au/contact-us/</a> for your recycling requirements.

Please check our website <u>www.precisionworkspace.co.nz</u> or call our Customer Services team on 0800 800 059.

# For every product that is recycled Precision will offer a credit\* towards your next purchase of a product from Precision, even if it is our competitors product.

\* Details on the recycle credit offer are available by contacting our sales team

# RE-USE or RE-SELL:

Precision is proud of the quality and durability of our products and know from experience that our products will continue to function outside of their warranty periods. We understand at times the products are no longer required for the purpose or user for which they were first purchased. When this occurs Precision will help our customers connect these products with new users.

For commercial products there is great potential for resale to other organisations. Precision has a relationship with Turners Auctions. Turners are experienced and regularly auction commercial products. You can contact Turners on <u>www.turnersauctions.co.nz</u>

Please check our website for more details or call our Customer Services team on 0800 800 059 for more details.

Through our Enviro-Mark program, product accreditation and our Product Stewardship scheme, we are actively participating in ensuring New Zealand stays green.