











Aware of the growing need to guard the planet, Vanguard Furniture is again taking a leading position in the industry in developing environmentally-conscious furnishings. Sustainability is more than a program; we see it as a way of life. Working in all areas of our enterprise, from our suppliers to our manufacturing processes, we emphasize reducing waste and using sustainable elements. We hope you will help us as we all do our part to guard the planet.

Corporate Initiatives

	<p>Sustainable Furniture Council</p> <p><i>A Non-profit industry association</i></p>	<p>Vanguard joined the SFC in 2007 to help us understand ways in which our manufacturing process can become more sustainable. Sustainable practices are those that balance environmental and social concerns as well as the usual economic concerns.</p>
	<p>Manufacturing by-product recycling</p> <p><i>Fabric Scraps</i></p> <p><i>Wood Waste</i></p> <p><i>Plastics</i></p>	<p>The bulk of the waste created during the manufacturing process is recycled by Vanguard. In 2006 alone, almost 15,000 pounds of plastic from containers and packaging was recycled, along with over 150,000 pounds of fabric. All fabric and wood waste is sent via partners to be recycled or re-manufactured for other uses, rather than being sent to landfills.</p>
<h3>Wood</h3>		
	<p>Sustainable Forestry</p>	<p>The majority of Vanguard casegoods have panels with cores that are sourced from certified well-managed facilities according to the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).</p>
	<p>Laminated Hardwood</p>	<p>Vanguard partners with a founding member of the SFC for laminated hardwood, which is used in frame construction with yields of approximately 85% from one 4'x6' sheet of plywood.</p>
	<p>Reclaimed Wood</p>	<p>In certain cases, Vanguard uses wood products from unusual sources, such as used car crates, to be re-manufactured into high quality furnishings.</p>
<h3>Cushioning</h3>		
	<p>Natural Fibers <i>Down & Feathers</i></p>	<p>The majority of Vanguard cushion options include a mix of duck feathers and down, which are all-natural byproducts.</p>
	<p>Soy-based cushions</p>	<p>Vanguard's manufacturing partners have developed new, soy-based cushioning that not only reduces energy and oil consumption, but also is renewable and domestically grown, and therefore more stable.</p>
	<p>Springs</p>	<p>Vanguard coils contain more than 80% scrap or recycled material. The manufacturing process uses no chemicals or hazardous materials, and all finished springs are shipped in recycled-paper cartons.</p>
<h3>Textiles</h3>		
	<p>Natural / Organic Fibers</p>	<p>Many Vanguard fabrics are made of 100% natural fibers such as cotton and wool.</p>
	<p>Recycled Fibers <i>Recycled Polyester Fibers</i> <i>Salvaged Truck Tarp</i></p>	<p>Vanguard is working with vendors to offer fabrics that are created with recycled materials. Fabrics can have recycled polyester components, can be made with 100% post-industrial recycled polyester fibers, or can even be salvaged fabrics from other sources, such as a truck tarp.</p>