



Sustainability Initiatives

Ripon Printers is committed to producing print materials that address the current needs of content providers and consumers without negatively impacting the ability of future generations to provide for themselves. We support a variety of programs that protect, preserve and enhance the environment. Emission control, source reduction and recycling are the main focal points of Ripon Printers' sustainability programs. The printing process itself does not directly affect water quality, though we remain sensitive to water and other issues involving the manufacturing of paper.

Green Tier Program

In 2008 the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources welcomed Ripon Printers into the Green Tier program as a Tier I participant. Green Tier supports environmentally innovative companies that go beyond minimum regulatory standards compliance. The program helps members achieve superior environmental performance while also improving their bottom lines.

Green Tier adapts to the needs of the company, community and environment through collaborative contracts, charters and environmental management systems. To be accepted, Ripon had to demonstrate a strong environmental compliance record as well as commit to implementing a formal Environmental Management System within one year. Ripon will also conduct and submit annual environmental audits and maintain an aggressive continuous improvement program.

Examples of the savings in energy alone Ripon Printers has made recently include:

- Completing an "Energy Savings Audit" through the "Save Energy Now" program to guide our efforts
- Upgrading plant lighting to save 1.0 million kilowatt hours of energy annually
- Installing a new variable speed compressor and air management system
- Developing a system to utilize heat recovered from the compressor room
- Utilizing economizers for the air conditioning and chilled water systems
- Replacing lower efficiency motors with higher energy efficient motors
- Installing a new high efficiency 180-ton chiller replacing less efficient chiller
- Utilizing chill water for cooling in place of compressor/refrigerant system increasing our efficiency
- Installing variable frequency drives on baling system fans
- Installing occupancy sensors in low traffic areas of the warehouse

Chain of Custody (CoC) Certifications

A CoC-certifying organization's label assures customers and printers that paper has been manufactured using pulp from forests that have been managed in a responsible manner and that the sources are verifiable. Ripon Printers has obtained the following CoC certifications:

- **Forest Stewardship Council™ (FSC®).** Products carrying the FSC label are independently certified to assure consumers that they come from forests that are managed to meet the social, economic and ecological needs of present and future generations.
- **Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI).** CoC certification from this organization demonstrates that products carrying the SFI label are made from responsibly managed forests – not from areas that were illegally harvested, major tropical wilderness areas or biodiversity hotspots.

Eco-Responsible Production

- Digital premedia workflow
- Online proofing
- Computer-to-plate system
- Non-alcohol fountain solutions
- Digital printing
- Digitally driven web-to-print fulfillment
- Soy-based inks
- Aqueous coatings
- Water-based inkjet fluids
- Energy-efficient lighting & central chiller
- Smoke-free campus
- Onsite environmental & safety officer
- Mail list hygiene services
- Co-mailing system
- Using zero VOC inks for all process colors in sheet press

Annual Recycling & Environmental Savings

- 8,507,460 pounds of paper
- 263,800 pounds of cardboard
- 40,840 pounds of plastic
- 99,337 pounds of aluminum
- 37,725 pounds of salvage scrap



- 1.5 million gallons of water from new plate processors
- 100,000 gallons of water from reverse osmosis water system
- 1.0 million kilowatt hours through three lighting upgrades
- 50% reduction in solid waste pickups through recyclable plastic straps
- 20% fewer volatile organic compounds (VOCs) through procedural changes
- Ongoing effort to find lower-VOC products
- Filtration system that doubles the life of plate chemistry
- Waste-to-energy program that incinerates previously land-filled items for energy recovery
- Heatset and coldset ink waste collected, reclaimed and reused in plant
- Copy paper printed one-side is reused for production skid flags
- Sponsor annual community-wide E-Waste collection event
- Specify returnable containers when applicable

For More Information

To learn more about Ripon Printers' Sustainability Initiative, please contact your representative or send an email request to sales@riponprinters.com.

