

Sustainability Purchasing Benefits at a Glance

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The following is an overview of the financial, management, environmental & socio-economic benefits of sustainability purchasing taken from the SPN's *Guide to the Business Case and Benefits of Sustainability Purchasing* (November 2006).

Financial Benefits

Reduces Costs

- Reduces material & utility costs
- Reduces waste disposal costs
- Reduces health & safety costs
- Reduces operating, maintenance & replacement costs
- Increases operational & economic efficiencies
- Reduces legal & insurance costs

Enhances Image & Brand

- Attracts customers & helps meet expectations for sustainable products
- Enhances license to operate with communities & governments

Eases Regulatory Burden

- Simplifies compliance with environmental, health & safety regulations
- Demonstrates due diligence
- Forestalls government regulation & oversight
- Eases environment, health & safety reporting requirements

Improves Access to Capital

Management Benefits

Demonstrates Alignment with Organizational Goals & Values

Reduces Business Risks

Improves Supply Chain Management & Product Innovation

- Helps suppliers better understand purchaser needs
- Promotes product innovation

- Enhances business opportunities

Manages Human Resources More Effectively

- Helps attract & retain talent
- Improves employee productivity

Environmental Benefits

Reduces & Prevents Waste

Reduces Resource Use

Reduces Pollution & Toxins

Reduces Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Maintains Biodiversity

Socio-Economic Benefits

Improves Wage Levels & Working Conditions & Advances Human Rights

Improves Employee Health and Safety

Develops Markets for Sustainable Products

- Stimulates demand for sustainable products & growth of sustainability sector
- Stimulates sustainable product development
- Enhances access to sustainable products by lowering costs

Promotes a Strong Local Economy & Reduces Local Taxes

Supports vulnerable groups, provides community services & reduces public expenditures

Promotes Economic Opportunity & Benefit-Sharing with Indigenous People

Improves Conditions in the Developing World