

## **KEYSTONE ACOUSTICS environmental policy**

Keystone Acoustics has maintained a strong commitment to the environment for over forty years. Our dedication to the environment extends beyond the standards we set for our suppliers and the manufacturing processes we employ. Rather, we strive to incorporate environmental awareness into every aspect of the company. We believe that our environmental goals should be consistent with our market position as a leader of quality products and customer service. Our goal is to help conserve the environment for present and future generations.

### **Keystone Acoustics policies include**

- Air Emissions
- Energy consumption and management
- The use of renewable and recyclable resources as raw materials
- Avoidance of environmentally damaging raw materials
- Waste minimisation by recycling of process materials
- Pollution reduction
- Protection of the natural environment

### **Air Emissions**

Many of our resources made from wood and other natural products contain formaldehyde based additives. Formaldehyde is a colourless, strong smelling gas that occurs naturally in the environment, but has been classified by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) as a known carcinogen. As such, in high concentrations, hundreds of times greater than the levels emitted from plywood products, it contains cancer causing properties. Despite this we wish to ensure the safety of our staff. Therefore, when at all possible, we only use plywood and MDF with the lowest possible formaldehyde emissions (Emission Class EO and E1) combined with our rigorous safety standards.

### **Energy Consumption and Management**

In order to conserve energy, Keystone Acoustics uses power factor equipment to even out power consumption and to prevent surges. Skylights have also been added to our factory ceiling to reduce any reliance on electrical power. Similarly, all of the lights in the factory are long life light bulbs to reduce excess power consumption.

### **Renewable and Recyclable Resources as Raw Materials**

At Keystone Acoustics, we pride ourselves on our use of renewable and recyclable resources. Our Key-Board is made from 100% recycled paper and our timber, including our range of Plywood's, MDF and veneers, is sourced from companies using Good Environmental Choice Australia (GECA) certification. GECA's policies include that:

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- Wood and other natural materials from sources that are NOT certified under a recognized certification scheme (e.g. FSC or AFS) as being sustainable, shall not originate from illegal harvesting, genetically modified organisms, or uncertified high conservation value communities.
- Wood and natural materials used in furniture and fittings products may not be treated with fungicides and insecticides that are classified due to their hazardous nature by the ICAC as type 1a and Type 1b for storage and/or transportation.

Other suppliers of MDF, ply and veneers reconstituted or otherwise can produce a certificate to show that the materials are from a sustainable source.

### **Avoidance of Environmentally Damaging Raw Materials**

As part of this environmental policy, Keystone Acoustics will not conduct business with suppliers of timber, plasterboard or fibre cements who have to the best of our knowledge:

- Demonstrated that they are unwilling or unable to achieve environmental improvements
- Are participating in the illegal harvesting and/or trading of timber
- Are involved in any other form of corruption within the supply chain

All of our suppliers adhere to comprehensive environmental policies of their own which include, but are not limited to:

- Sourcing fibre for products from forests that are part of the international framework of certification schemes. This includes Forest Stewardship Council (FSC™), Australian Forestry Standard (AFS) and Programmed for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes (PEFC)
- Promoting renewable and sustainable forest growth
- Promoting local employment and poverty reduction
- Promoting the local environmental considerations of biodiversity, soil and water retention and air quality

### **Waste Minimisation by Recycling of Process Materials**

Inevitably, wood is wasted during the manufacturing process. To counter this issue, Keystone Acoustics takes advantage of this excess wood by using it to create their creative range of folk art and Christmas decorations. This is a clean and efficient method of virtually eliminating wood waste whilst at the same time providing a new and appealing array of products. Equally, all of our office supplies and paper are reused or recycled.

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### **Pollution Reduction**

At Keystone Acoustics we are constantly looking for ways to reduce our pollution levels. Some of our latest innovations include:

- Using modern dust extraction systems to reduce dust release into the atmosphere
- Working with suppliers to find more environmentally friendly paints
- The introduction of our new fleet of delivery trucks in 2008 which will all have new more environmentally friendly engines.

### **Protection of the Natural Environment**

For over ten years, Key Industries has been a loyal supporter of Landcare for over ten years. Landcare is a national network of thousands of locally-based community groups who care for our country. Through a unique partnership between communities, government and organisations, Landcare is involved in:

- Improving our farmlands
- Breathing new life into waterways
- Improving local coast and marine environments
- Restoring wildlife habitats
- Protecting our urban environment

For further information about Landcare, please visit them online at:

<http://www.landcareonline.com/>

### **Future Improvements**

At Keystone Acoustics, we are continually investigating and evaluating new methods to reduce our carbon emissions and improve our environmental performance. This is an ongoing process that we take very seriously and shall hopefully continue to refine in the coming years.