Criterion Industries Environmental Statement

2023

Our Commitment

As a leading supplier of innovative components for the office fit out industry Criterion Industries has a commitment to environmental responsibility that is promoted at every level of our business. In line with this commitment Criterion Industries will:

• Comply with all relevant environmental legislation, and other initiatives to which we subscribe.
• Incorporate environmental good practice into our core business plans and management processes.
• Minimise negative impacts we may have on the environment, and implement pollution prevention practices through the efficient use of resources, and the reduction of emissions and waste.
• Strive to continually improve of our environmental performance.
• Develop a framework for setting and reviewing our environmental objectives and targets.
• Ensure we work closely with our clients, suppliers, local communities and other interested parties.
• Make use of some of the most recyclable and environmentally sustainable products available.

Emissions And Waste Minimisation Process

EMISSIONS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT PROCESSES

A key commitment of Criterion Industries "Environmental Policy & Responsibility" statement is to "Minimise negative impacts we may have on the environment and implement pollution prevention practices through the efficient use of resources, and the reduction of emissions and waste". To that end we have identified the following elements and outline our processes to minimise them.

• Packaging Material (Timber): Timber that is acquired from packaging crates is reused for packaging new materials in preparation for delivery. The balance is recycled at waste disposal facility into woodchips & mulch etc.

• Packaging Material (Plastic Wrapping): Plastic wrapping is disposed of in a responsible manner by a reputable environmental waste expert.

• Powdercoating Chemicals: Our powder coating facility uses modern environmentally friendly chrome free technology. This enables superior quality pre-treatment without creating harmful heavy metal effluent. It includes a closed-circuit deionisation process that enables the recycling of Aluminium etch waste and eliminates the need for any effluent to be disposed of into drains etc. This process minimises water usage and significantly reduces impacts to the environment. We also pride ourselves in the ability to use TGIC free powders from accredited Australian manufacturers such as Interpon and Dulux.

• Dust from Joinery Dep't: Dust created by machining processes are collected into sealed bags and disposed of in a responsible manner by a reputable environmental waste expert.

• Aluminium Offcuts/waste: All aluminium offcuts and waste is fully recycled by a reputable recycling facility.

• Steel Waste: All steel waste is fully recycled by a reputable recycling facility.

• Vehicle Emissions: we run a very tight efficient scheduling program whereby we load as many deliveries as possible onto one vehicle hence minimising number of vehicles out on the road

• Electricity: Criterion Industries make use of electricity sourced from clean Solar Energy to reduce reliance on energy derived from fossil fuels.

SUSTAINABLE & RECYCLABLE RAW MATERIALS AND MANUFACTURING

Medium Density Fibreboard

The MDF products used in the construction of Criterion doors and MDF components are sourced from manufactures that operate fully certified Chain of Custody Manufacturing Systems (1) that meets the requirements of AS4707 Chain of Custody Forest Based Products. This standard is part of the Australian Forestry Certification Scheme (2) which is endorsed by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification in accordance with PEFC ST 2002:2013 Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products (as amended www.pefc.org). Along with this they are part of the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes PEFC (3) and comply with the Australian Forestry Standard (AFS) - AS 4708.

Aluminium

Our partition suites are predominantly comprised of aluminium which is 100% recyclable product. To further uphold our environmental responsibilities, we ensure all our standard extrusions are sourced from suppliers who maximise the use of recycled billet. All Criterion aluminium extrusions can be fully recycled or repurposed an infinite number of times. In addition, we strategically order our extrusions in lengths to minimise offcut waste.

Powder Coating

Our powder coat pre-treatment and conversion coating process use modern environmentally friendly chrome free technology. This enables superior quality pre-treatment without creating harmful heavy metal effluent. The plant also has a closed circuit deionised (DI) water treatment system to minimised water usage.

Solar Energy

Criterion Industries make use of electricity sourced from clean Solar Energy to reduce reliance on energy derived from fossil fuels.

(1) Chain of Custody (CoC) is the process of tracking wood and forest products originating in certified forests through all phases of ownership, transportation and manufacturing from defined forest acres to the final product and delivery to the end consumer.

(2) The Australian Forestry Standard (AFS) - AS 4708, is the leading management standard of the Australian Forest Certification Scheme (AFCS), which has over 7.8 million Certified hectares of native forests and plantations in Australia. The AFCS also includes a Chain of Custody Standard - AS 4707, to track forest and wood products through the supply chain.

(3) The Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC) was launched in 1999. PEFC is a framework for the mutual recognition of credible national or regional forest Certification schemes which have been developed to meet internationally recognised requirements for sustainable forest management. Over 209 million hectares of forests are currently Certified under the PEFC - which is the world's largest forest Certification scheme.

BASE MATERIAL ASSESSMENT

In line with our "Environmental Policy & Responsibility" statement and commitment, Criterion Industries continues to work closely with its key supplier network to ensure that we use the most recyclable and environmentally sustainable products available.

We have identified our core range of base materials and list their relevant environmental status:

Base Material	Product Group	Recyclable/Reusable	Recycled Content	Sustainable Materials Used	Supplier Environmental Management System	Waste Recyclable or Disposable
Aluminium	Partition Suites	✔	Up to 30%	✔	✔	✔
	Doors	✔	Up to 30%	✔	✔	✔
	Skirtings	✔	Up to 30%	✔	✔	✔
	Sliding Tracks	✔	Up to 30%	✔	✔	✔
	Geometrics	✔	Up to 30%	✔	✔	✔
Medium Density Fibre Board (MDF)	Doors	✔	0	✔	✔	✔
	Stop Ends	✔	0	✔	✔	✔
	Panels	✔	0	✔	✔	✔
Steel	Studs	✔	30%	✔	✔	✔
	Floor Track	✔	30%	✔	✔	✔
	Plaster Accessories	✔	30%	✔	✔	✔
Plasterboard	Plasterboard Sheets	✔	0	✔	✔	✔
	Platerboard Compounds	X	0	✔	✔	✔
Powdercoat	Aluminium Suites	✔	0	✔	✔	✔
	Doors	✔	0	✔	✔	✔
	Skirtings	✔	0	✔	✔	✔
	Geometrics	✔	0	✔	✔	✔
Adhesives	Skirting Adhesive	X	0	✔/X	✔/X	X
	Timber Fabrication	X	0	✔/X	✔/X	X

Aluminium:
Aluminium along with steel, boasts one of the highest recycling rates of any material. Recycled aluminium falls into two broad categories:

1. New Scrap
2. Old Scrap

New scrap is remelted and due to its high value, enjoys almost 100% recyclable rate. Old scrap is remelted by secondary refiners into silicon-based alloys and is used predominantly for aluminium castings.

Recycling of aluminium requires only 5% of initial energy consumed to create it. Recycling one tonne of aluminium saves 5 tonnes of bauxite and 15000KW hours of electricity. This makes the process very environmentally friendly and economical.

Medium Density Fibre Board (MDF):
MDF is produced from managed plantation Radiata Pine forests that reach maturity in approx. 30 years. MDF is viewed favourably as substitutes for tropical hardwoods that take close to 200 years to reach maturity.

Premium E0 Panels are manufactured using modified urea/formaldehyde glues to reduce formaldehyde emissions to less than 0.5 mg/L, similar to formaldehyde levels found in natural wood products.

Almost 75% of MDF manufacturing energy requirements are produced on site. This is by burning wood residues – a form of biofuel, which is considered greenhouse neutral under Kyoto protocol, given that growing trees absorb C2 and become part of a virtuous cycle.

Steel:
Steel along with aluminium is one of the most recyclable materials in the world. It is to be of note that one of Australia's most reputable steel producers has consistently recycled an equivalent of 30% of their annual raw steel production output.

Plasterboard:
The core product used to manufacture Plasterboard is gypsum. The outer paper lining is made from recycled newspapers and cartons along with a combination of benign additives such as starch and detergent. Energy used to manufacture plaster products is one of the lowest of any building material and emissions are limited to natural gas consumption and water vapour.
Up to 95% of manufacturing waste is either returned into the production process or converted to by-products such as soil conditioners for the agricultural industry.

Powdercoat:
Powdercoat is a highly versatile surface treatment that provides many sustainable benefits.

• Reduced waste generation: Waste from overspray can be reclaimed and recycled.
• Reduced Energy Consumption: Powdercoat is now manufactured using low temperature or dry curing technologies.
• Environmentally friendly: No volatile organic compounds (VOC) or heavy metals are used.
• GBCA: Powder can earn valuable "Green Star" points given that the product does not contain any organic solvents and emits zero "VOC's".

Environmental & Sustainability Statement 2023

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