



Janet Mackenzie <janet@sustainablefurnishings.org>

SFC GREENflash E-Newsletter Vol. 75-Sept 2016

Sustainable Furnishings Council <admin@sustainablefurnishings.org>

Thu, Sep 1, 2016 at 6:44 PM

Reply-To: civimail+r.2896.3598085.ab205eedbe8ab73b@sustainablefurnishings.org

To: Janet MacKenzie <janet@sustainablefurnishings.org>



Volume 75, September 1, 2016



SFC thanks our sponsors

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**YOU ARE
INVITED TO OUR
10th ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION**

Join us!

Celebrate our accomplishments and support our look to the future!

October 21, 6pm

The Lofts at Union Square, High Point, NC

EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENTS, STIRRING SPEECHES AND A GREAT PARTY

Thank you to our current sponsors:

Platinum Level:



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Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams HOME FURNISHINGS

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SFC Ten Years, Vol 1



SFC Ten Years, Vol 2

Program Highlights will include:

- DESIGNINGreen Leaders on hand: Thom Filicia, Mitchell Gold, Robin Wilson, Dann Foley, Angelo Surmelis, and others
- Special video message from Al Gore
- Results of Wood Scorecard Project with WWF
- Winners of **#GetYourGreenOn**

SFC EVENTS:

Sustainability Essentials



In September SFC recommends a webinar covering The Circular Economy, being hosted by Sustainable Brands on September 7 - see you there!

[Register Today>](#)

#Sustainable Saturdays

with
Habitat for Humanity ReStores®

**Give your used furniture a second life.
RECYCLE IT AT YOUR LOCAL Habitat ReStore®!
Help us keep 10 tons of furniture out of our landfills.**

Next #SS is September 10!

[Participate here >](#)



**Sustainable Furnishings Council is a proud Supporting Sponsor of
Prop. 65 Annual Conference, Thursday, September 15 and
Green Chemistry Annual Conference, Friday, September 16 in San Francisco.**

Learn about the challenges complying with Proposition 65, the new regulatory efforts by the State of California's Green Chemistry Initiative, the impact of EU REACH and Brexit on U.S. businesses, regulatory changes in China and understand how regional, national and international regulations affect the supply chain.

[Register Today>](#)



**SFC at What's New, What's Next in NYDC
September 22, 9am-8pm**

Visit SFC members

SFC Member Company	Showroom
	300
	401
	504
	506
	603
	609
	710

	814
	815

RSVP for your ticket!

SUSTYBIZ16	Looking Beyond the Elections 5th Annual Summit
Washington DC Sep 25-27	 AMERICAN SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS COUNCIL

Join us at SustyBiz16 in Washington DC, September 25-27.

What is ASBC's- Annual Summit is all about? Making sure that the voice and ideas of sustainable business are heard on Capitol Hill and in the Administration. SFC's Susan Inglis will be there - will you?

SustyBiz provides business leaders the opportunity to directly engage in the policy process, as important today as it has ever been.

[Learn more>](#)

	
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Preferred Fiber & Materials – Creating Material Growth

A Global Textile Sustainability Conference

October 3 – 6, 2016, Hamburg, Germany

Register Today for Early Bird Rates!

Premium Education Offered by SFC!



Become a GREEN Accredited Professional

Popular and comprehensive training program provides designers, retailers, manufacturers, reps, and others the knowledge and credentials to become experts in sustainability. This industry-first, 6-hour exam course covers **the issues** our industry impacts, the way **consumers are thinking** now, and many many **questions to ask/answers to look for**, as well as a **powerful sales training**. Approved by GBCI for 6 CE hours and registered with IDCEC for .6 HSW CEUs.

Only \$299! SFC members can enjoy a 25% discount!

See full course description here >

Take the full course [online](#) at your leisure.

Live Classes include!

New York Design Center - Nov 10, 2016, 9am - 5pm
Miromar Design Center - Jan 12, 2017, 9am - 5pm
Las Vegas Market- Jan 25, 2017, 9am - 5pm
Live Online - Each Friday, Jan 6 - Feb 10, 2017, noon ET

Register today to get the early bird special of 50% off!



EDUCATION PROVIDER



Contact us to schedule our customized training, live or by webinar.

What other Educational Offerings does SFC have scheduled?

Check out our Events Calendar for 2016!

Welcome New Members!



Innovative Delivery Systems, Inc: Founder and President Howard M. Dell built IDS on the firm belief that home delivery services should do more than transport furniture from point A to point B. Beyond delivery service, IDS serves as single, reliable and accountable source for complete warehousing, inventory and a wide range of value-added services — all backed by our unwavering commitment to customer service and satisfaction.



James + James LLC: Today, James+James is one of the fastest growing furniture companies in the country, with James+James products found in nearly every state from coast to coast. Job creation right here in the U.S. continues to remain a top priority. James+James now provides work to over 15 team members and growing. We still build by hand in Northwest Arkansas from real, solid wood and every James+James built item is branded with the James+James mark.



Skyline Furniture MFG: A family-owned and operated wholesale furniture company, based just outside of Chicago, and well known throughout the furniture industry for our fashion-forward design and handcrafted quality. Skyline's affordable, custom-made pieces can be found at top retailers online and across the country.



Valdeese Weavers is both a creative design studio and a state of the art manufacturer of jacquard textiles located in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. Residential furniture manufacturers and distributors, Contract OEM and distributors and specialty markets all rely on Valdeese Weavers for fashion forward and superior quality fabrics.

Click here to view all SFC Members on our website!

Join the growing list of member companies!



MEMBER NEWS



What do you and your suppliers know about where your wood comes from? What is your corporate wood sourcing policy? Did you know that SFC offers members a template for a wood sourcing policy? SFC is pleased to be working with WWF on a Wood Scorecard Project that will evaluate how well furniture companies are keeping up with the sustainability of their wood supply. Results will be announced!



Four Benefits to Springing into Action to #FollowTheFrog



Congrats Robin Wilson for your book, "CLEAN DESIGN: Wellness for your Lifestyle" winning "gold" under the category: Consumer Decision Making Information as awarded at the [23rd Annual National Health Information awards!](#)



A pollution Solution by Copeland Furniture in Bradford, Vermont.
VT State Representative Takes Extra Pride in Local Manufacturing Business. [Read more>](#)



Making Sustainability Claims to Positively Impact Your Business

Learn how your company can better promote its sustainability efforts. UL experts have authored "Neither Boastful nor Bashful: Making Effective Sustainability Claims", a white paper to help you navigate the complex subject of sustainability claims and how UL's Innovative Claims Program can help solve these challenges. [Download>](#)



THE INTERNATIONAL INTERIORS SHOW
16. – 22.01.2017

imm cologne provides a unique opportunity for SFC members to experience for themselves a comprehensive overview of the global supply chain. Over 1,200 exhibitors from 50 countries are expected to attend. For one week in January the whole city is inspired by the world of design.

[Contact us for more info>](#)



**Congrats to these SFC members for being named finalists
for the 2016 Pinnacle Awards**

**American Leather, BDI, Callagaris, Copeland Furniture, Creative
Elegance, Currey & Co, Nathan Anthony and Phillips Collection.**

[Click here to attend the awards ceremony>](#)

Industry & Environmental News

EPA Releases Finalized Formaldehyde Rule for Composite Wood Products [Read
More>](#)

EWG Lists the Top 10 Toxic Chemicals EPA Should Review Now

The nation's new chemical safety law promises to give the EPA expanded authority to regulate hazardous chemicals in consumer products. But of the tens of thousands of chemicals on the market, most of which were never tested for safety, which should the EPA tackle first? [Read more>](#)

FSC-certified products to be used at Olympics and Paralympics

The use of the products at the two events, which are taking place this month and next month respectively, has been enabled by a partnership with the Rio 2016 Committee to increase environmental awareness around the games, and ensure the responsible use of forest products. [Read More>](#)

**New study rates best and worst garden hoses: lead, phthalates & hazardous
flame retardants in garden hoses.**

Lead leaches into water from hoses, study finds, the market is shifting to safer materials and products. [Read More>](#)

'The Blob': How marine heatwaves are causing unprecedented climate chaos

Wide-scale disruption from warming oceans is increasing, but they could change our understanding of the climate. [Read more>](#)

Save the Animals, Save the Planet?

Emerging research shows species conservation has a positive impact on lowering carbon

dioxide levels in the atmosphere. [Read more>](#)

Seismic Testing Is Torturing Marine Life

Study after study proves that the deafening blasts caused by underwater oil and gas exploration are harming—and even killing—ocean species all over the world. [View a YouTube video>](#)

Rajshahi: the city that took on air pollution – and won

In Bangladesh, one of the world's most polluted cities has led the way globally in ridding itself of harmful PM10 particles. [Read More>](#)

As Peat Bogs Burn, a Climate Threat Rises

There are an estimated 1.6 million square miles of peatlands, or about 3 percent of the earth's land surface, mostly in northern latitudes in Canada, Alaska, Europe and Russia. [Read More>](#)



RECENT NEWS:

[As the Election Heats Up, Voters Could Propel Carbon Taxes](#), August 29, 2016

Zach Bernstein, ASBC's research and social media manager, wrote a column in TriplePundit about how voters in Washington state will decide whether their state becomes the first in the country to pass a carbon tax.

[ASBC Supports Sen. Gillibrand's Bill to Strengthen American Manufacturing](#), August 12, 2016

This week, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) announced the introduction of the "Made in America Manufacturing Communities Act" during a tour of ASBC member Manufacture New York's facility in Brooklyn. In an accompanying news release, ASBC CEO David Levine was quoted as saying, "Manufacturing is a key component to building a... [read more](#)

[3 Key Sustainable Business Policy Battles to Watch](#), July 27, 2016

Zach Bernstein, ASBC's research and social media manager, wrote a column in GreenBiz.com urging business leaders to support a carbon tax, proper GMO labeling and the Young Farmer Act.

[Are 'Clean Tax Cuts' The New Carbon Tax?](#), July 25, 2016

E&E news discusses the spirited debate at ASBC's policy forum during the RNC about the best way to cut emissions. Supporters of a carbon tax tangled with Rod Richardson, president of the Grace Richardson Fund, who says "clean tax cuts" would be easier to pass with Republican help.

[Not the Environment for Sustainable Strategies to Fight Climate Change](#), July 25, 2016

Cleveland.com discussed ASBC's policy Forum at Cleveland State University on July 20th on climate change, carbon dioxide reductions and corporate sustainability programs aimed at making business greener—all issues largely ignored by the Republican National Convention.

[Trammell S. Crow Wants Republicans to 'Wise Up' on Environment](#), July 25, 2016

An article in the Dallas Morning News discussed how Conservative Dallas philanthropist Trammell S. Crow, a panelist on ASBC's Policy Forum on Conservative Thought and Sustainability at the RNC, makes the business case for cleaner energy.



Green Tips for Small Businesses

Small businesses employ more than 52 percent of working Americans, according to the Small Business Administration, and comparable percentages in other developed countries. It follows that small businesses generate a substantial portion of the business world's environmentally harmful waste. To help small business owners and employees minimize their environmental impact, here are simple ways to more

sustainably market a small business.

- **Print all marketing materials on recycled paper.** Whether you're going to send out flyers, pamphlets or other marketing literature, make sure it's on recycled paper.
- **Hold your meetings remotely.** As you meet with your colleagues, including external vendors, try to hold as many meetings as possible over the Internet.
- **Send email instead of paper newsletters.** Not only will you save money by switching to an email marketing service, but you'll also do far less damage to the environment.
- **If you're going to use paper flyers, make sure you clearly indicate that they are recyclable.** Though it may be obvious to some, many people need that instantaneous reminder.
- **Buy marketing materials locally.** This will minimize the shipping costs both to your business and to the environment.
- **Sell online.** While that might sound obvious, many small businesses still don't sell their products online.
- **Buy promotional products that directly encourage green behavior.** Order branded reusable coffee mugs or branded reusable water bottles.
- **Explore using reusable envelopes and/or recycled post-consumer content envelopes** in your next direct mail campaign. The leading reusable envelope brand is EcoEnvelopes.com.
- **Use energy efficient transportation for marketing-related travel.** Traveling to trade shows? Use a car that gets great gas mileage.
- **Provide your customers with incentives to participate in green behavior.** Offer coupons if customers provide evidence of green actions.
- **Think about how you can encourage green behavior *within* your own business.** If you own a store, can you offer a discount to people who bring their own reusable shopping bags or a reusable coffee mug?
- **Use shredded scrap paper to ship promotional products.** When shipping breakable marketing materials (i.e. promotional mugs, etc.), use your scrap paper as packing materials.
- **Print in an environmentally friendly way.** Printing is terrible for the environment, but GreenerPrinter.com is a good place to start.
- **Don't rent mailing lists; allow your customers to opt in to your mailing list.** Allow them to specify that their preference is to only receive marketing materials online.
- **Offset the negative effects of travel with innovative carbon offsets.** Incorporate your contributions to organizations like TreesForTravel.info into your public-facing marketing efforts so you can build an eco-friendly reputation with your customers.

(Source: [GreenBiz](#))



Ready to take the next step in SFC Membership and be recognized as Exemplary?

Contact [Susan](#) to see how to qualify.

Click [here](#) to view the Exemplary Manufacture Requirements and [here](#) for the Exemplary Retailer Requirements.

We want you to get the recognition you deserve!



Join the SFC in our 10th Anniversary Year!

Show the world that your business has made a verifiable commitment to sustainability, AND help us further our mission of sustaining a healthy future inside & out.



If you no longer wish to receive mailings from the SFC, you can [unsubscribe](#) from this mailing or [opt out](#) of all future mailings.

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100 East King Street, Suite 1
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