



## Sustainable Furnishings Council Membership Application

Use this application

- to join as a Qualifying Member, filling pages 1-4
- to be recognized as an Exemplary Member, fill pages 1-4 and then submit the Exemplary Membership Requirements, as a Manufacturer/Supplier or Retailer
- to participate as a Contributing Partner, filling page 1-2

### MEMBER BENEFITS

An improved global environment, better public health, and recognition for your leadership PLUS:

**Qualifying Members** receive:

- Use of SFC logo in your marketing and advertising
- Your logo on SFC home page and live link in searchable Member list
- Inclusion of your location on maps at major furniture markets, if applicable
- Inclusion of your logo in industry/consumer advertising, if applicable
- Monthly newsletter and submission of articles for inclusion
- Starter kit of showroom collateral, including window decals, table-talkers, brochures

**Exemplary Members** receive all of the above plus:

- Extra attention at the Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum level
- Participation in our product labeling program

**Contributing Partners** receive:

- Regular and customized educational opportunities, including staff training to facilitate Qualifying
- Networking opportunities at SFC meetings and industry events
- Monthly newsletter

Send this application with your dues to:

Sustainable Furnishings Council  
 100 East King Street, Suite 1  
 Edenton NC 27932

Company name:

Contact:

Address:

City, State/Country:

Zip:

Telephone

Fax

Email:

Website:

Applying for membership as:	
▪ Contributing Member	_____
▪ Qualifying Member	_____
▪ Exemplary Member	_____
<i>Please check one</i>	
Industry segment:	
Supplier, Manufacturer, Retailer, Designer, Other	
<b>Please Select Your Annual Dues Range</b>	
Annual Sales or Institutional Budget	Dues
Up to 500,000	\$275 _____
▪ 500,001-1 Million	\$825 _____
▪ \$1-5 Million	\$1,375 _____
▪ \$5-25 Million	\$1,650 _____
▪ \$25-50 Million	\$1,925 _____
▪ \$50- 150 Million	\$2,200 _____
▪ \$150 Million +1	\$3,300 _____
<i>Please check one</i>	



### **SFC Member Commitment Pledge**

*To be posted on SFC website and applicant website*

We agree with the Sustainable Furnishings Council’s beliefs and goals, and commit to supporting the organization in affecting positive change. We understand the importance of the triple bottom line profit assessment of PEOPLE-PLANET-PROFITS representing a healthy balance between social equity, environmental concerns and local economies.

We seek continual improvement in our products, practices and operations, and commit to the SFC’s Core Values as summarized:

1. We seek legally-logged wood from vendors who have a verifiable chain of custody
2. We reduce unsustainable raw resources and known toxic substances throughout our business
3. We recycle in our operations, purchase recycled content and create recyclable products
4. We reduce and reuse packing/packaging materials and reduce transportation needs
5. We learn about Life Cycle Analysis as the best measure of a product’s environmental impact
6. We educate our customers on sustainability and supply them with meaningful certifications
7. We partner with our employees in making choices for sustainability, including personal and company energy reductions, paying a Living Wage, and maintaining high safety standards
8. We contribute to the economic and environmental health of our local and global communities

This confirms our commitment to advancing sustainable practices in the home furnishings industry.

**SIGNED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Authorized Signatory

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## Best Practice Agreement for **Corporate Members**

*To be posted on SFC website and applicant website*

We align ourselves with the SFC by continually improving our products, practices and operations. The best practice criteria we are currently in compliance with and the improvements we are implementing this year are indicated here.

**Please check all that apply, indicating Yes, No, or N/A.**

1.  We make a conscious effort to manage our materials selection, seeking materials we are confident are sustainable, such as legally harvested forest products, responsible produced plantation products, and recycled content.
2.  We factor disassembly, recyclability and product reclamation into buying decisions.
3.  We offer a product reclamation/product reuse policy.
4.  We use recycled or recyclable packing/packaging materials, offer blanket-wrap transportation arrangements for customers and have a carton return/reuse policy.
5.  We ask for verifiable chain of custody documents (i.e. legal logging certifications) before buying products containing wood.
6.  We have decreased our use/acceptance of known toxic chemicals for treatments, binders and finishes, replacing compounds that compromise indoor air quality and are harmful to human health.
7.  We are asking our vendors for textiles that have a lower environmental impact, i.e organic cotton in place of conventionally-grown cotton, as well as seeking other eco-friendly textiles.
8.  We are moving forward on doing a Life Cycle Assessment and/or are applying for SMaRT certification.
9.  We extract, manufacture and distribute for consumer use within a 500 mile radius for at least a portion of our product line.
10.  We hold third party certifications for some of our products, or as a store, we promote and educate the consumer on the meaning of various third party certifications.
11.  We take responsibility for sharing our commitment to sustainability up and down our entire supply chain, rewarding our vendors with increased business for partnering with us on sustainability issues.
12.  We have a written Social Responsibility Code of Conduct that is a baseline for employee relations.
13.  We have written and distributed a Supplier Social Responsibility Code of Conduct for our vendors and conduct training at our partner facilities on the adoption of same.
14.  We and our partners meet or exceed all local health and safety codes and can document our health and safety working conditions in all our facilities/stores.

15.  We pay a living wage rather than minimum wage and extend that around the globe.
16.  We have participated in or sponsored in-store, community and/or regional educational events on sustainability and the environment.
17.  We investigate and mitigate any negative environmental impacts from our operations.
18.  We save paper and other office resources with a policy expressing an aversion to excess written documentation.
19.  We have had an energy specialist or utility company audit to measure our conventional energy usage and are on track to reduce it.
20.  We are replacing a portion of the energy we consume with certified renewable energy, either directly, via a program of our local utility, or via Green e-Power.
21.  We have replaced outdated and inefficient equipment, identified and changed wasteful resource procedures and implemented tighter operational controls.
22.  We have increased the use of day lighting and /or are upgrading to more energy efficient lighting system.
23.  We make only verifiable sustainability claims in adherence with FTC mandates against greenwash and in support of their Environmental Marketing Guides.
24.  We are committed to conducting training in-house and in the broader community about global climate change and our partnership with the SFC.

We are planning to take the following actions this year:

1. On reducing energy consumption:

2. On how we will manage our primary material or service to a more sustainable direction:

3. On education and promotion of the sustainability cause:

We will post our SFC Membership seal in our places of business, on our web sites, in our marketing materials and distribute it to our staff, vendors and customers.

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Company CEO or Authorized Officer (Name/Signature)                      Title of Authorized Signatory                      Date