



The Green Initiative

Environmental Statement

We are constantly working to narrow our carbon footprint, and to keep our planet healthy and green. We recognize our role and responsibility in protecting the environment and preserving our natural resources. We know that even small efforts can make a big difference in the struggle for a healthy planet, as we strive for continued environmental sustainability; we urge our employees, customers, and business partners to join our efforts.

What We Are Doing

Reducing Energy through Focus on Transportation- We have demonstrated our commitment to the U.S. EPA's Smartway Transport Partnership by purchasing 29 tractors and 30 trailers that are Smartway compliant. These trailers are the cleanest, most fuel-efficient trailers in today's market. They provide better fuel economy and a cleaner ride by creating savings of 5.6% in fuel consumption.

Reducing Waste through Paperless Billing- We offer many paperless billing options to our customers. At present, over 29% of our customers have adopted paperless invoicing (an increase from 20% at the end of 2009). Furthermore, 74% of all our billed packages are set to the E-billing option, which equates to over 6.6 tons of annual CO2 savings.

Reducing Waste by Conserving Paper in the Workplace- The average U.S. worker uses about 10,000 sheets of copy paper each year. We are determined to minimize that statistic through an increased reliance on scanning and electronic distribution of internal documents, and a company-wide switch to double-sided printing. We also purchase 100% PCW recycled chlorine free paper. From Q1 2012-Q4 2012, we purchased over 12 tons on 100% post-consumer recycled content.

Technology and IT Infrastructure Focus on Reducing Energy- Our primary IT infrastructure is co-located in a Bay Area Green Business Program certified Data center. Thin Clients and Remote Terminal Desktops are deployed across our facilities, which equates to over 50% lower power consumption than an average PC. All procured IT equipment is Energy Star Rated. Additionally, our enterprise and mobile software systems are designed and constantly updated with various automated workflow integrations to establish a paperless data storage and retrieval process.

Reducing energy in Our Distribution Centers- We use electric and/or EPA certified forklifts for our warehouse facilities. Reusable bins are replacing one-time use shrink wrap. What shrink wrap is used, is bailed and recycled.

Reusing and Recycling- We launched a recycling program company wide in 2009. The program began with paper, cans and bottle recycling. Now recycling efforts and plans extend to printer toner cartridges, fluorescent lights, batteries, plastic, etc. We also properly dispose of electronic waste in accordance with California's Electronic Waste Recycling Act and extend participation to the personal e-cycling purposes of our employees. We also publish a Quarterly Green Newsletter-urging our employees to recycle and conserve energy, both on the job and at home.

For inquiries email recycle@gso.com