



Innovation and Environment

The Foundation of FP International

Environmental Stewardship

FP International has a long commitment to the environment. Environmental consciousness is not a new trend for FP International; it has been the mainstay of the company from its very conception. FP has been consistently ahead in innovation, creating ways to help reduce the environmental impact of our products, saving energy, recycling, and minimizing waste through reusing materials. FP International created the free-flowing, interior packaging material industry in the 1950's, where loosefill was born from recycling straw-ends which would have otherwise gone to waste. From engineering and manufacturing, to operations and sales, there is constant research and testing to combine environmentally safe material, with the most efficient and best performing protective packaging products.

After inventing polystyrene loosefill, FP International was the first company to design and build a system to recycle waste polystyrene foam packaging for use in manufacturing. FP now recycles over 10 million pounds of expanded polystyrene (EPS) packaging annually worldwide and was the first company to make loosefill from 100% recycled material. Our recycling efforts were so successful that FP International received national recognition in 1991 for its "significant contributions to environmental improvement through recycling" with the Administrator's Award of the US Environmental Protection Agency. The company has also received numerous state and local awards for environmental commitment and recycling programs.



Engineering Eco-friendly Solutions

With the introduction of the CELL-O[®] system, the first PMOS product line, “packaging manufactured on site” customers have the ability to make air cushions on site instead of shipping and storing bulky bundles of bubble wrapping material. This helped the environment by significantly reducing the number of road trips necessary to transport large bundles of bubble. One pallet of film is equivalent to a truckload of ½ inch bubble. The primary environmental benefit of air cushions is source reduction. Each cushion is less than one percent plastic and the other 99% is air. If not reused, the cushion can be deflated leaving over 99% less volume for disposal, making air cushion packaging the ultimate low-waste/source-reduced product.

Through our engineering leadership, FP was the first company to phase out use of CFC’s in its polystyrene loosefill and polyethylene foam manufacturing processes. With dedicated research and development we decreased the amount of plastic resin used to make our loosefill by 57%, thereby reducing the use of resources and energy to manufacture our products. In addition, our engineering group, by working with new resin blends, has been able to down-gauge our film thickness resulting in stronger, thinner air cushions that provide a 40% increase in cubic feet yield per roll of film.

Energy Savings

FP continues to look for ways to make operations more environmentally friendly. Since 1985, we have had energy reduction programs in our manufacturing plants developing ways to reduce our energy usage. This includes adjusting plant temperatures by zones, installing timers and motion sensors that turn lighting and equipment on and off, and utilizing energy efficient lighting and motors. We work cooperatively with local utilities during power shortages to lessen our energy use.



With our fleet of trucks we have switched to light weight cabs and trailers, speed governors, wind fairings, and idle shut-offs to improve fuel efficiencies.

In 1991, our new FP Headquarters also utilized timers and sensors, as well as skylights for natural lighting, and using drip irrigation to reduce water usage on native drought resistant plants to reduce our resource consumption.

Waste Management and Recycling

In manufacturing, FP looked at density reduction programs to limit material entering the waste. In all of our plants, since the mid-90's we have had comprehensive waste reduction/recycling programs. From a manufacturing standpoint, we use 99% of reclaimed material by reintroducing or recycling our manufacturing scrap and our own in-house waste. FP sells its scrap to 3rd party recyclers, when we are unable to find use for the scrap ourselves.

Sustainable Products

As we look into new packaging options we will evaluate the total lifecycle of the product from manufacturing until disposal. This takes into consideration the energy and water usage, the pollutants and waste, as well as CO₂ gas emissions. Given those considerations, the best thing is to reuse a product as many times as possible. If the product is not reused, then it is best to recycle the product after use so that it can be used to make something else. The amount of energy used to recycle is usually less than the original creation of the material.

In 2008 and 2009, FP International will introduce the Green Zone family of environmental products providing superior protective packaging, while being environmentally friendly. Our polystyrene loosefill, FLO-PAK is made from 100% recycled polystyrene material that is removed from the waste stream. Further our BIO8 loosefill is an industrial starch based product, which is 100%



biodegradable. Both FLO-PAK and BIO8 realizes the best points of the packaging evaluation process mentioned above. FLOPAK loosefill uses 66% less energy to produce, compared with paper, and will retain its protective properties allowing it to be reused indefinitely.

Another new Green Zone family member is our CELL-O air cushion containing recycled material. One of the many benefits of using our new Green Zone film is easy recycling and as a result source reduction, compared to PLA or starch air bags which cannot be readily recycled in volume and will contaminate the plastic recycling stream.

FP International continues to stand on our historical foundation of innovation and sustainability. We are committed to using environmentally safe material to make the most efficient and best performing protective packaging products on the market.