



## | A LEGACY OF GREEN |

Techline USA recognizes that green has become the new standard with which consumers judge a company's sense of community, and therefore demand more of ourselves and our products. When architects specify Techline cabinets they help design buildings toward the goal of sustainability. Our efficient distribution system, our low emission materials, our resource management, and the ability to reuse and repurpose our products help us stand apart from other cabinet and furniture manufacturers.

## | MANUFACTURING |

Our passion to reduce energy usage and increase productivity have produced an energy savings of over 10% per year for the last four years. With the precision machinery used to manufacture our architectural casework and furniture, there is very little waste. 90% of the particle board shipped to Techline for manufacturing is converted into cabinetry and furniture. The remaining 10% is shredded and shipped to a manufacturer who uses it to build outside decking.

**Manufacturing Air Quality**-We meet all permit requirements for visible emissions from our manufacturing facility. Furthermore, we have reduced air emissions by 90%. Our cutting and machining operations are routed through a dust collection system that is greater than 99% efficient.

**Make-to-Order Versus Make-to-Stock**-Manufacturing only when a product is needed reduces material use and eliminates excess inventory that ties up natural resources and, if not sold, may end up being destroyed. Our streamlined process from design to completion allows on-time delivery without the overhead of warehousing and extensive material handling.

**Grounds**-Our facility is designed to protect our neighboring ecosystem. Runoff from our facility is collected in a holding pond, trapping contaminants and filtering them through the substrate of the soil before the water enters nearby streams or the ground water supply. In addition, native plants and landscape materials on the grounds absorb rainwater and filter CO<sub>2</sub> from the air.

**Transportation**-Particle board used in Techline cabinets and furniture is shipped via rail, currently the most efficient method available. Trains use one-seventh the energy of trucking.



## | PRODUCT DESIGN-REDEFINING SUSTAINABILITY |

After accounting for the manufacturing process, the length of service a product provides determines its ecologic footprint. A product in use in the field for many years eliminates the costs of energy and materials needed to manufacture and ship replacements. By building for quality, Techline ensures that our products will perform at a high level indefinitely. That is the very definition of sustainability.

### Designed to Last

- Techline products are so well designed and manufactured that we offer a 10-year warranty on our standard products.
- Because we know buildings change, we make each Techline cabinet as a completely finished unit so they can be reused, reconfigured and repurposed. This keeps Techline out of the landfills by extending the life cycle.
- Because we know that “how people work” will continue to evolve, we have designed our modular office and storage products to be as flexible as possible. Whether it is position, mobility or function, Techline meets the needs of a changing workplace.
- Techline products have earned a tax benefit status called cost segregation. Cost segregation means products designed to be flexible, like equipment, can be depreciated over a shorter time, resulting in a tax savings.



### People-Friendly Materials

- The core material in Techline products is made of 100% recycled post-industrial, pre-consumer waste from the manufacture of other products, preserving our forests.
- When architects or designers require LEED certification, we source appropriate materials to contribute to the LEED goals of the project.
- Techline’s ongoing effort to make products with longer life cycles is paramount. As an example, we edgeband all sides of shelves, all cabinet backs, and the exposed surfaces of all other panels and drawers.
- All carton and packaging material is made from recycled materials and is collected from job sites to the greatest extent possible.





## A LEGACY OF ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP THROUGH SUSTAINABILITY

Techline's commitment to the environment began with our founder, Marshall Erdman. A protégé of Frank Lloyd Wright, Erdman was a leader in sustainable design. In the 1950's, Erdman developed the first modular home called UFormIt—a pre cut, materials-saving way to build homes. He later expanded into the design build concept and successfully built a Wisconsin State Office Building that used one-third the energy of the buildings of its day. He then pioneered the idea of the new urbanism for residential development.

Then, concerned that too many cabinet makers were wasting raw materials in the manufacture of architectural casework, Erdman went about finding ways to reduce the amount of raw materials required. He discovered a manufacturing process in Germany that would allow precision in modular cabinets and furniture so that they could be assembled, disassembled and assembled, again. Techline Furniture was born.

In 2003, Marshall Erdman & Associates was sold to a private investment group. Now our own company, we are still influenced by the culture Mr. Erdman bestowed upon us. Marshall Erdman believed strongly in the mantra of the great Finnish Architect Eliel Saarinen: "Always design a thing by considering it in its next larger context. A chair in a room, a room in a house, a house in an environment, an environment in a city plan."

**TIMELESS DESIGN**—Too often furniture is tossed because it tried to emulate a period or a fad. Part of sustainability is to fashion a look for a product that makes it timeless. It requires a far smaller carbon footprint to exchange accessories than to reconfigure or refurnish a room. Timeless design means it's time to consider Techline—the last cabinets or furniture you may ever have to buy.



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