

## Sustainability for Manufacturers Driving Profitability and Growth

Many individuals and enterprises see sustainability as ancillary responsibility, something important but not directly related to the success of their business.

They see it as something that primarily benefits the environment and communities surrounding their operation but not themselves.

While sustainability is rooted with conscientious regard for our environment and social institutions, the sustainable business itself should be considered a direct benefactors, as sustainability is an effective strategy for facilitating a company's profitability and growth.



## The Framework of Sustainability

Within the three spheres of sustainability; economics, society, and environment; there are multiple opportunities for businesses to participate in the health and proliferation of productive and sustainable domains. Implementing environmental and social initiatives, along with posturing economic processes for sustainability, can result in cost benefits and increased profitability, which provides your enterprise with greater opportunity for development and establishes a positive brand image.



In the global marketplace, there is an emphatic awareness of the impossibility in trying to separate economic development from social and environmental issues.



### Resource management

Fundamentally, sustainable business effects a healthier environment by eliminated wasted resources, which in turn mitigates the impact of our commercial systems on our surroundings. The most basic way in which the pursuit of sustainability impacts profitability is more efficient management of resources. By optimizing the utility of energy and material resources, companies are not only benefitting the environment but also eliminating costly waste within their operation. The current industry standards for manufacturing, engineering, supply chain, and third party logistics offer a varied wheelhouse of solutions. Simply beginning by inviting optimization experts and process analytics to scrutinize an operation can yield a significant reduction of wasted resource investments. Consider identifying and refining the area of shipping costs, many companies lose profitability by investing poorly in packaging materials or extraneous or redundant transportation.

Both instances draw resources directly from environmental sources such as fossil fuels and paper products. Optimization in this area not only diminishes a company's footprint on the environment but it also mitigates expenses and inefficient resource allocation. Simply put, as resources become more limited and costly, the company that uses them most efficiently will have a significant advantage.

Recycling packaging reduces shipping materials purchased & promotes an Eco-Friendly organization.

Miniaturizing a product footprint saves on both material and shipping costs.



# Manufacturers should support the following principles for sustainable manufacturing:



- Demonstrate that sound economic, social and environmental performance is an element of sustainable companies
- Encourage research, development and deployment of innovative, cost-effective technologies and operational improvements that will enhance sustainable manufacturing activities
- Minimize natural resource impacts by increasing efficiencies and conservation to optimize raw material input and to reduce waste output
- Continue to improve the environmental, health and safety profile of manufacturing and its workforce by improving performance processes and products

- Recognize action taken by companies who are leaders in implementing voluntary sustainability practices and procedures
- Manage land, use and natural resources to provide economic benefit while protecting biodiversity
- Collaborate and interacting with supply chain members to responsibly manage total environmental impacts
- Build sustainable practices to support, attract, develop and retain a highly skilled, diverse workforce.

### **Facilitating Social Positives**

A successful enterprise knows that much of its continued achievement relies on the contentment of its workforce and its customers. That is to say, happy professionals and highly-satisfied customers contribute greatly to a company's progression and profitability. One major way to assure that individuals are healthy and happy is to promote a positive social environment through socially responsible sustainability tenets. An enterprise is, in essence, a corporate citizen within the community where it operates. Like a private citizen, it is in the enterprise's best interest to help make both physically and mentally healthy lifestyles more easily attainable.

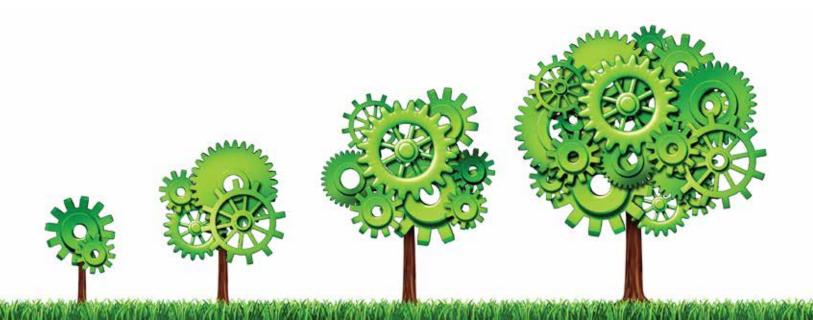
By participating in education initiatives that broaden access to knowledge and information for the up-and-coming generations, a company ensures that its community will benefit from a high volume of educated and skilled individuals for years to come, which in turn increases the likelihood of healthy economic activity for the community, businesses, and their shared commercial infrastructure. Acts as simple as interacting with and donating to educational institutions can make a significant difference in this regard, or consider programs such as internships and extended work-study to promote

intergenerational equity.
It is essential for social prosperity that a community has a healthy and active economy; as a responsible corporate citizen, a sustainable enterprise must participate in local commerce, which will answer back in the form of increased business opportunity. This approach is accomplished as simply as using local businesses to fulfill your enterprise's necessities; cultivate mutually beneficial partnerships with neighboring businesses to strengthen resource potential within local markets.



### **Sustainable Economic Solutions**

In the economic sphere, the fundamental ways in which a manufacturer generates revenue can parallel the sustainability ideology. In the same way consumers are encouraged to recycle their waste, manufacturers are in an ideal position to implement similar practices within the parts and materials marketplace. Varied manufacturing capability can utilize rebuild, refurbishment, and remanufacturing solutions to eliminate the waste created by obsolete or inoperative parts. Instead of allocating extensive resources to creating new components, the obsolete or ineffective materials can be reprocessed into working condition by using one of the aforementioned manufacturing methods. These options yield valuable, useable parts at only a fraction of the resource cost of making new inventory, and they prevent waste and unnecessary resource drain. A sustainable manufacturing solution prevents the negative impacts of stagnant inventory, resource exhaustion, waste generation, and reduced revenue flow.



#### **About DEX**

As a responsible corporate citizen, DEX prides itself on the success of our sustainable practices. Not only does DEX offer manufacturing solutions in the form of repair, refurbishment, rebuilding, and remanufacturing that help our clients reduce waste and cost, we also offer our clients other solutions such as the DEX Single Point of Return or SPOR. SPOR locations provide a centralized point of return and warehousing for all product, thus minimizing a corporation's carbon footprint and possibly reducing on hand inventory. Technical services can also be integrated as the form of a DEXPod™, a self-contained operational unit that functions within a customer's location, further increasing a company's sustainability factor and decreasing costs.

For DEX, sustainability is not just about contributing positively as an individual enterprise but creating a system in

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Contact us (888) 678-9201 or visit us on the web at www.dex.com to learn more about DEX.

