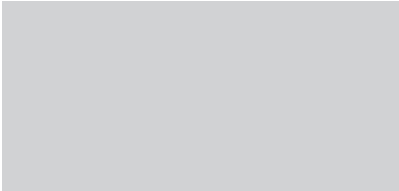




As of May 2010, AIS is proud to announce we have achieved CarbonNeutral® certification. In doing so, we have strengthened our sustainability commitment by neutralizing unavoidable greenhouse gases produced in the manufacturing process at our Hudson, MA facilities.





First Systems Furniture Manufacturer to Achieve CarbonNeutral Certification

CARBONNEUTRAL® OVERVIEW

OUR JOURNEY

To achieve CarbonNeutral® status, we are working with The CarbonNeutral Company, one of the world's leading providers of carbon reduction solutions. The CarbonNeutral Company completed a program set out by The CarbonNeutral Protocol, the global standard for organizations to measure and reduce their carbon emissions to net zero. The program involved an independent assessment of the CO2 emissions produced from the manufacturing of our workstations in the Hudson, MA facilities. With this data, we were able to counter balance our emissions through carbon offsetting. This means that for every one tonne of CO2 that we produce, we pay to enable an equivalent amount of CO2 to be saved by an offset project somewhere else in the world. Without carbon financing, these projects would not be viable. Carbon financing also delivers added benefits at the project site, such as employment.

WHAT IS CARBON OFFSETTING?

A carbon offset represents the reduction of one metric ton (2,205 lbs) of carbon dioxide emissions (CO2e), the principal cause of global warming. Although complex in practice, carbon offsets are fairly simple in theory. If you develop a project that reduces carbon dioxide emissions, every ton of emissions reduced results in the creation of one carbon offset. Project developers can then sell these offsets to finance their projects.

There are a variety of carbon reduction project types that produce carbon offsets. These projects reduce, remove or avoid greenhouse gas emissions. For example, a wind farm generates clean energy, which reduces carbon emissions from coal-burning power plants. In order to finance its operations, a wind farm can sell these reductions in the form of carbon offsets.

AIS has selected three offsetting projects:

- Conservation-based forest management project in the Big River/Salmon Creek Forests in Northern California verified and certified to the Climate Action Reserve.
- Wind power from the Damao Wind Power Project in Inner Mongolia, verified and certified to the Gold Standard.
- Coal mine methane capture project in Tieling China, verified and certified to the Voluntary Carbon Standard.

MAKING A COMMITMENT

As a part of the AIS Lean manufacturing philosophy, we have analyzed our manufacturing streams thoroughly and cut waste from every possible avoidable angle. Although we were able to reduce our electricity and gas usage substantially and reduce our carbon footprint, we felt this wasn't enough. We decided to think outside of the manufacturing walls and investigate ways to offset our carbon footprint by investing in alternative energy solutions and emerging green technologies. We believed this would provide benefits not only to AIS and our customers, but the industry as a whole by taking a leading step in the right direction. Visit the AIS website to learn more, and to calculate your carbon footprint.

"I firmly believe we all have to take responsibility for our CO2 footprint. The effects our future generations will endure due to social irresponsibility is avoidable. If we all join forces and take action, we can make a positive impact. By measuring and reducing our carbon emissions to net zero through carbon offsetting, we are enabling innovative, clean and renewable energy technologies to develop." - Rob Lazarus, EVP Sales & Marketing



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