

PRESS RELEASE: 2017 Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Award Winners Announced

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2017 LEADERSHIP AWARDS FOR SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING

Ten Organizations Recognized by Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council

DENVER CO – On Tuesday, May 9th, the Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council (SPLC) recognized ten organizations and one individual for their leadership in the sustainable purchasing movement, a growing trend in which organizations are using their purchasing power to advance the long term health and vitality of society, economies, and the planet.

The leadership award winners were selected by a prestigious panel of judges. Each employ a wide range of sustainable purchasing strategies and documented the resulting environmental, social, and/or economic benefits in a case study. The awards and awardees include:

Leadership Award for Overall Sustainable Purchasing Program:

The New York State Green Procurement and Agency Sustainability Program

SPLC's highest honor was presented to *The State of New York* for having put in place a comprehensive sustainable purchasing program that exemplifies the qualities defined in SPLC's *Principles for Leadership in Sustainable Purchasing*. The State established an ambitious interagency green procurement and sustainability program that has created dozens of "green" specifications that serve as a valuable resource for purchasers developing contracts. Through this program, the state has decreased solid waste by 50% since FY 2008-2009 levels, significantly reduced their copy paper purchasing, and virtually eliminated the use of bottled water, among other achievements.

Leadership Award for a Special Sustainable Purchasing Initiative:

Department of General Services, State of California

Presented to *The State of California Department of General Services* for carrying out a comprehensive spend analysis using a life cycle assessment (LCA) approach to estimate the environmental, social, and economic impacts of over \$97 billion in spend. The resulting analysis helps to prioritize a wide range of sustainable purchasing activities by the State, and helps to form a baseline to measure progress goals.

Market Transformation Leadership Award:

Shaw Industries Group, Inc. and the Center for Environmental Health

Presented to *Shaw Industries Group, Inc. and the Center for Environmental Health*.

Shaw's innovative work to create EcoWorx® - a commercial carpet tile product made largely from reclaimed materials with significantly reduced energy and water consumption, and recyclability. This required forging unique collaborations with supplier and customers, and clearly demonstrates it's contribution to the circular economy, having gained the Cradle to Cradle Certification™.

The Center for Environmental Health's multi-pronged approach is honored for taking hazardous chemicals out of furniture bought by purchasers, an initiative which has resulted in more than \$650 million spent on safer furniture thus far.

**Sustainable Purchasing Business Case Leadership Award:
Apex Clean Energy**

Presented to *Apex Clean Energy* for providing energy security to Fort Hood through a 65.8 MW hybrid renewable energy generation facility that is the Army's largest single renewable energy project to date. The project will save the Department of Defense about \$168 million over the course of 28 years.

**Leadership Award for Public Interest Advocacy:
Responsible Purchasing Network and the Urban Sustainability Directors Network**

Presented jointly to the *Responsible Purchasing Network and the Urban Sustainability Directors Network* for their collaboration on the Sustainable Procurement Playbook for Cities, a 200-page resource that is helping cities, counties, and other local governments develop and implement more effective sustainable purchasing programs.

**Leadership Award for Purchasing Innovation:
Pacific Gas and Electric Company**

Presented to *Pacific Gas and Electric Company* (PG&E) for their procurement of V-gard Green hard hats made from sugar cane. The hats help PG&E reduce its carbon footprint and increase productivity while meeting standard safety requirements.

**Leadership Award for Supplier Engagement:
University of Pennsylvania and Wash Cycle Laundry**

Presented to *the University of Pennsylvania and Wash Cycle Laundry* for their collaboration as a large university and a local SME to create local jobs, foster the growth of an innovative local business, and reduce the environmental impact of UPenn's laundry services.

**Supplier Leadership Award:
Shaw Industries Group, Inc.**

Shaw's innovative work to create EcoWorx® - a commercial carpet tile product made largely from reclaimed materials with significantly reduced energy and water consumption, and recyclability. This required forging unique collaborations with supplier and customers, and clearly demonstrates its contribution to the circular economy, having gained the Cradle to Cradle Certification™.

**Individual Leadership Award:
Sanjay Kumar**

Presented to *Sanjay Kumar*, who currently serves as the Additional General Manager, Dedicated Freight Corridors Corporation of India limited (DFCCIL), Ministry of Railways, Government of India. Over a decade of tireless work at the national transport provider of India, Sanjay's vision, leadership, and dedicated effort have been fundamental to the growth of the sustainable purchasing movement within his 20 billion dollar national railway company. His work has reduced Indian Railway's carbon footprint by 1.5 million tons of CO₂eq and saved over \$9 million per year. Through active collaboration with international entities, Sanjay has become a recognized advocate for sustainable procurement on the global stage.

During the Awards Ceremony, the Council also honored many more organizations with Outstanding Case Study Awards. These awards recognize organizations for documenting their sustainable purchasing efforts in detailed case studies enable others to follow their lead. Winning case studies are published in SPLC's Case Study Library. (See list full list of Outstanding Case Study Award winners below.)

SPLC's Leadership Awards recognize organizations that have demonstrated or actively supported the kind of leadership envisioned in the SPLC's *Principles for Leadership in Sustainable Purchasing*. The Principles state that an organization demonstrates leadership in sustainable purchasing through:

- **Understanding.** Understanding the environmental, social, and economic impacts of its purchasing.
- **Commitment.** Taking responsibility for the environmental, social, and economic impacts of its purchasing by committing to an action plan.
- **Results.** Delivering on its commitment to improve the environmental, social, and economic impacts of its purchasing.
- **Innovation.** Actively promoting internal and external innovation that advances a positive future.
- **Transparency.** Soliciting and disclosing information that supports a marketplace of innovation.

“The winners of these Awards have each demonstrated their commitment to leadership in sustainable purchasing,” says SPLC Executive Director Jason Pearson. “Collectively, they focus the powerful purchasing influence of organizations — in public and private sectors alike — to advance a socially just, ecologically robust, and economically prosperous future. The winners of SPLC’s Leadership Awards exemplify, encourage, and support a constructive cycle of innovation that will define the global marketplace of tomorrow.”

About the Council:

Founded in 2013, the *Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council* convenes buyers, suppliers, and public interest advocates to develop programs that simplify and standardize sustainable purchasing efforts by large organizations. The Council has quickly attracted, from a wide variety of sectors and regions, more than 180 members with over \$200 billion in collective purchasing power. In 2015, SPLC released *Guidance for Leadership in Sustainable Purchasing v1.0*, which has been called the “most comprehensive literature to date” on sustainable purchasing. Hundreds of organizations are now using SPLC’s Guidance, resources, and online community of practice to create strategic sustainable purchasing programs, or enhance existing ones.

About the Awards: www.sustainablepurchasing.org/awards
 About the *Principles*: <http://www.sustainablepurchasing.org/principles>
 About the *Guidance*: <https://www.sustainablepurchasing.org/guidance>
 About SPLC’s members: <https://www.sustainablepurchasing.org/members>

Outstanding Case Awards

The following organizations received an Outstanding Case Study Award in recognition of their contribution of a valuable case study to the online library of case studies in SPLC’s online Community.

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Case Study Title</i>
Apex Clean Energy	Providing Energy Security to Fort Hood
Booz Allen Hamilton	Booz Allen Gets a Great Green Idea to Redirect Waste from Landfills
Caesars Entertainment	The Wine Keg Program at Caesars Entertainment
Center for Environmental Health	Kicking Toxic Chemicals Out of Office Furniture - Getting Rid of the "Hazardous Handful"

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Case Study Title</i>
China Environmental United Certification Center	China Government's Procurement of Environmental Labeled Products
Citi	Citi's Supply Chain Sustainability Program
City of San Francisco, California	Charging Ahead: How To Find Powerful Rechargeable Batteries That Go On...And On
City of Santa Monica, California	Meatless in March
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Operational Services Division	The Healthy Furniture Contract
Compliance Hub	Compliance Support and Supplier Engagement
Digital Realty Trust	Responsiveness: How One Buyer is Using Renewable Energy to Meet Multiple Objectives
EarthCheck	Sustainable Supply Chain Tool: Partnership with Banyan Resorts
Ecomedes	Leveraging Data to Simplify and Streamline Sustainable Procurement
Electric Utility Industry Sustainable Supply Chain Alliance (EUISSCA)	A Leader in Driving Towards a Robust and Sustainable Electric Utility Industry Supply Chain
FedEx	Developing a Closed Loop Recycling System for Plastic Sort Bags
	Diesel Exhaust Fluid Waste Reduction
	Leveraging a Shared Services Model to Impact Sustainability
	The Baddour Center
Hilton	Organic Waste Diversion
	Sustainable Landscaping Solution
HP	Bringing Sustainability Full Circle: HP's Circular Economy Journey
Indian Railways	Increasing Participation of Micro & Small Enterprises in Public Procurement
King County, Washington	King County's Long-Term Renewable Electricity Purchase
King County, Washington	Solar Security Lighting for Metro Bus Shelters
Lockheed Martin	Small Business Strong
MindClick	Improving EPP Information to Enable Better Purchasing

	in Healthcare
Multnomah County, Oregon	Enterprise Resource Planning System RFP Project Management
Office Depot	Integrating Sustainability into the Business System: Creation of Internal 'Change Agents'
Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E)	PG&E's Supply Chain Responsibility Program
	Street Light Replacement
	V-gard GREEN Hard Hat
Railsponsible	The Railway Industry's Sustainable Procurement Initiative
Responsible Purchasing Network and USDN	Creation of a Sustainable Procurement Playbook for Cities
Shaw Industries Group	What if Carpet Never Had to be Sent to the Landfill?
State of California, Department of General Services	Spend Analysis Pilot Project California's State Spend for Fiscal Years 2012-2015
State of Minnesota, Office of State Procurement	Combined Approaches for Increasing Diversity & Inclusion
State of New York, Office of General Services	The New York State Green Procurement and Agency Sustainability Program
Stockholm County Council	Leading Human Rights Due Diligence in Global Supply Chains Through Public Procurement
Swedish County Councils	Surgical Glove Manufacturing in Malaysia
TCO Development	Measuring Social Responsibility Improvements in IT Product Manufacturing, 2016
University of California, Office of the President	Procurement and Sustainability Partnership: Energy-Efficient Research Freezers
University of Pennsylvania & Wash Cycle Laundry	Anchor Institutions and Small Businesses Implementing Sustainable Solutions
VF Corporation	VF Paper Program

Individual Awards Nominees

The following individuals were nominated for the Individual Leadership Award.

<i>Individuals</i>	<i>Organization</i>
Alicia Culver	Responsible Purchasing Network
Kevin Funk	General Services Administration
Kristy Garcia	City of Mesa, Arizona
David Green	BASF Construction Chemicals
Johanna Kertesz	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Sanjay Kumar	Ministry of Railways, Government of India
Will Smelko	Ora Organic
Julia Wolfe	Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Melissa Yusilon	City of Los Angeles

Judges for the 2017 Awards

Thank you to the following individuals who judged the 2017 awards. When case studies were submitted by judges' own organizations, the judge did not review any cases in that category.

<i>Juror Name</i>	<i>Title and Organization</i>
Dana Arnold	Chief, Sustainability Branch, General Services Administration
Lisa Colicchio	Director Corporate Responsibility, CBRE
Cynthia Cummis	Director Private Sector Climate Mitigation, World Resources Institute
Christopher Davis	Sustainability Consultant Global Energy & Sustainability, CBRE
Whit Faulconer	Independent
Stacey Foreman	Sustainable Procurement Coordinator, City of Portland Oregon
Betsy Hayes	Chief Procurement Officer, Minnesota Department of Administration, Office of State Procurement
Judy Pines	Director Sustainability & Responsible Sourcing, Hilton
Tiffany Rodriguez	Expert Supply Chain Responsibility Program Consultant, PG&E
George Schutter	Chief Procurement Officer, District of Columbia
Matthew Swibel	Director Enterprise Risk and Sustainability, Lockheed Martin
Justin Troy	Sourcing Manager - Supplier Relationship Management, FedEx Services