

NEWS

qualified for inclusion in RobecoSAM's 2017 Sustainability Yearbook, achieving Bronze Class distinction for industry-leading economic, environmental, and social sustainability performance. The Yearbook is a listing of the world's most sustainable companies as determined by their score in the annual Corporate Sustainability Assessment. Selection criteria for inclusion in the Yearbook becomes more rigorous each year, and only the top 15 percent of companies within each industry are selected. This is Herman Miller's 13th consecutive appearance in the yearbook.

"Since our founding days, we have believed strongly that our primary purpose as a company is to positively impact humanity," said Michael Ramirez, Executive Vice President of People, Places, and Administration. "Whether we're being good stewards of the environment, giving back to the community, or fostering a culture where inclusiveness can thrive, we are persistent in our efforts to create a better world."

RobecoSAM's Corporate Sustainability Assessment measures financially material factors that impact a company's core business value drivers. Factors including a company's ability to innovate, attract and retain talent, and increase operational eco-efficiency are weighted heavily because of the impact on a company's competitive position and long-term financial performance. The Sustainability Yearbook is the world's most comprehensive publication on corporate

sustainability and has grown to become one of the leading reference guides for investors seeking out innovative approaches to integrating environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors into their portfolios.

Keilhauer Publishes First Annual CSR

► Company's Design is Sustainable by Nature.

With corporate values such as creativity, fun and integrity, Keilhauer was founded on the principle that great business is about more than dollars and cents. Rather, the company has always measured their success alongside environmental stewardship and the health and happiness of their neighboring communities. Known as the Triple Bottom Line, Keilhauer has dedicated so much to this practice that it has taken over their world — thus inspiring their sustainability program's name, Planet Keilhauer. To share the successes made to date, and to increase their accountability to the goals ahead, the company has published its first annual Corporate Sustainability Report (CSR).

"I believe that great design is sustainable by nature. Our approach has always been to examine the current state of affairs, to anticipate the problems ahead and then design into the foreseeable needs or gaps. There is a kind of futurism to it, and in the process of understanding what may be needed and why, we inevitably consider the environ-

mental and social impacts of our products." explains President, Mike Keilhauer. "What kind of day-to-day challenges will the end-user experience? What kind of skills is required to produce that product? What kind of materials do we need? Great products require these questions, and the answers always return our focus to sustainability."

Keilhauer's 2016 CSR provides an overview of the company's history in sustainable and ethical business practices. It also shares accomplishments from recent years and states targets for the year ahead as the company works toward achieving Closed-Loop Manufacturing.

"Sustainability is equally about integrity and transparency," says Amandine Johnson, Keilhauer's Sustainability Officer. "This report accomplishes both, while ensuring that we are held accountable to our goals. Most importantly, this is an opportunity to contribute to the larger dialogue about environmental stewardship in manufacturing. We believe that sustainability requires a global team effort, and are dedicated to doing our part."

Highlights of Keilhauer's 2016 Corporate Sustainability Report include:

- Awards and Certifications
 - Canada's Greenest Employer 2016 Award
 - Canada's Top Small-to-Medium Employer 2016 Award
 - Expansion of Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC) certified products
 - BIFMA level® 2 for all products

- SCS Indoor Air Quality Certification – Indoor Advantage Gold, for all seating and select tables

Reducing Environmental Impact

- Zero waste to landfill – 89 per cent diverted through recycling alone!

- Near zero water usage in production

- Offsetting 100 per cent of electricity use through purchasing renewable energy credits

- Nearly 10,000 boxes saved in 2016 alone

The report also provides a behind-the-curtain look into life at Keilhauer and various initiatives that mark the company as a highly sought after employer. All manufacturing and administration are housed in the company's two Toronto locations which provide ongoing learning, comprehensive benefits, health and wellness programs, company-wide profit sharing and a close-knit sense of community.

“We believe in respecting our employees and investing in their future. Because we hire and retain the most talented individuals out there, we're able to produce a better product and prevent delays in our delivery. Success would not be possible without them,” says Mike Keilhauer.

To reduce waste and material use, the Keilhauer 2016 Corporate Sustainability Report will be distributed online. Access is available at the company's website, Keilhauer.com.

New “EPA Recommended” Icon Announced By GSA

► **level Certified Furniture Products More Easily Found.**

BIFMA standards have received significant attention from government purchasers in recent weeks. As a result, a singularly focused website has been created for information about the government's recognition of the ANSI/BIFMA e3 Furniture Sustainability Standard and level® Certification Program.

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) added a new icon to their GSA Advantage! online shopping and ordering service last week and an “EPA Recommended” icon will now identify products that conform to standards, certifications, and ecolabels recommended by the Environmental Protection Agency in December.

For furniture, “BIFMA level” was recommended after a rigorous review in an EPA Guidelines Pilot Assessment and has the largest number of certified products in that category.

These recognitions distinguish the ANSI/BIFMA e3 Furniture Sustainability Standard standard for creating positive, measurable, and meaningful changes in the environmental performance of products. level is the largest certification program recommended for furniture with over 3,700 certified products. More information on the GSA announcement and EPA recommendations can be found at the following website: levelpreferred.org

Educational sessions on these developments and further details can be received by signing up on the Contact page of the website.

The new website was created for quick retrieval of information on the government's recommendation and use of BIFMA standards. The Federal Government is one of the largest purchasers of furniture and employs over 30,000 procurement professionals. The recommendation and new icon announcements are important developments for any manufacturer selling to the federal government and BIFMA believes that the recommended programs will be increasingly sought out by private sector purchasers as well.

It is a testament to the many years of hard work, collaboration with stakeholders outside of the industry, and the transparency of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) process that BIFMA standards are becoming preferred.

If government sales are important to your organization, consider joining BIFMA to fully benefit from our work in highlighting level certified products as preferred. 