

## **Advanced Supply Chain Mapping: Building Transparency & Vendor Relationships**

*One of the most commonly cited obstacles in sustainability management is understanding the supply chain beyond your immediate vendors. For private and public sector alike, the challenge faced by organizations is to boost supplier engagement and bridge the gap between suppliers simply filling out disclosure forms and truly mapping environmental and social impact. We bring together demonstrations of mapping your multi-tier suppliers, strengthening visibility into procurement processes and building the kinds of relationships that generate impact.*

Presented by:

- Valerie Bone | Director of Corporate Responsibility, Pacific Market International Worldwide
- Sophia Cavalli | Supplier Diversity Officer, Multnomah CountyGreen Purchasing at Multnomah County

### **Key Takeaways:** (provided by Sophia Cavalli)

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Multnomah County is leading the way for sustainable purchasing and social equity efforts across services and goods.

Our policy enables departments to choose the sustainable and social equity criteria that best meets their needs, whether they are purchasing adult foster care, translation services, or a new bridge. And it ensures that both sustainability and social equity are incorporated into purchasing at every level of the County.

### **Greening Services**

Our vendors are an integral part of the societies and communities in which they operate. Their influence extends to the employees they depend upon, the environment from which they draw their resources and the marketplace in which they participate. Multnomah County seeks to conduct business with vendors who demonstrate responsible business practices through sustainability and social equity innovations.

There are two ways we address sustainability when purchasing services:

1. How does the vendor incorporate sustainability into everyday business practices?
2. How will the vendor address sustainability in fulfilling the delivery of service?

Sample evaluation questions include:

1. Describe how your organization will provide the services identified in a sustainable manner. What measures will you take to minimize impacts to the environment in the delivery of services? Provide details of metrics, efforts, practices, and/or processes.
2. What sustainability innovations does your organization have to offer in the delivery of this service?
3. Describe your organization's sustainable business practices, which could include, but is not limited to a formal sustainability program or recycling and energy conservation plans. Provide details of metrics, specific examples, and include copies of reports, or plans.

### **Health Product Declaration (HPD)**

The Health Product Declaration (HPD) is an open standard designed to enable the transparent disclosure of chemical ingredients and associated health information for building products. It was created by a voluntary association of experts in the building industry. More than 30 engineers, architects, and contractors as well as Google participated in the development of the HPD. As part of the pilot, 30 manufacturers fully disclosed the content of 35 products. In November of 2012, the HPD was officially released.

The HPD is one tool for transparency and content disclosure and making more informed purchasing decisions. [www.hpd.org](http://www.hpd.org)

### **Healthy Purchasing Coalition**

Oregon Environmental Council is providing support and leadership to bring other regional governments together in a collaborative effort to address healthy purchasing decisions through a Healthy Purchasing Coalition.

The Healthy Purchasing Coalition is exploring an array of tools and methodologies for purchasing safer and less toxic goods while driving positive change in the marketplace. Through a formalized agreement, the Healthy Purchasing Coalition is focused in six areas that include:

1. Reviewing organizational policies
2. Identifying pilot projects, commodities, or contracts
3. Integrating into contracts (such as the elimination of certain chemicals such as formaldehyde or requiring HPDs for specific products)
4. Establishing market feedback loop
5. Setting goals and measure progress over time
6. Sharing with partner organizations

Early adapters of this agreement include: City of Portland, Port of Portland, City of Hillsboro, and Multnomah County. A copy of the Coalition agreement is located at: [www.oeconline.org](http://www.oeconline.org)

### **Lessons Learned:** (provided by Valerie Bone)

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1. Sustainability / CSR must be part of/align with core business strategy of a company to be successful
2. Social and environmental continuous improvements are equally important to sustainable business
3. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) drive progress – per the old phrase “what gets measured, gets improved”
4. Alignment and collaboration – up & down the supply chain are critical to success of a Sustainability program
5. Industry associations such as the Outdoor Industry Association provide learning and tools that support member’s success

For further information regarding PMI’s Corporate Social Responsibility program including Corporate Responsibility Reports:

<http://www.pmi-worldwide.com/who-we-are/social-responsibility>

For further information regarding supply chain strategies:

NBIS (Network for Business Innovation and Sustainability) at [www.nbis.org](http://www.nbis.org) is a local consulting resource