

ECS – Our Social Responsibility

At Electronic Commerce Solutions (ECS) International B.V. (ECS BV), we believe that each one of us has to take responsibility for what happens to our environment and community. As such, we try very hard to make decisions that are good for everyone and not just the company. As part of our commitment to being socially responsible, we have created a Sustainability Policy which outlines some of this we will endeavour to do on a daily basis. Everything ECS BV does has an impact on the planet, on communities, on individuals, and on the local and global economy. As a good corporate citizen, we can provide a vibrant and healthy future for our customers, our business, and generations to come. Our Sustainability Policy provides ECS BV with the direction and the framework to help create a better world and a healthy planet.

What We Believe

We believe a sustainable world reflects these four interdependent principles:

- The planet has a limited carrying capacity and we are all dependent on a healthy, functioning biosphere.
- Individuals can best meet their needs in caring and vibrant communities.
- A just economy is dependent on an equitable society and a healthy planet.
- 80% of businesses world-wide are small businesses. These businesses have a direct economic impact on their communities.

We believe that ECS BV has a responsibility to make the world a more sustainable place. We've defined our role as:

- Encouraging and supporting our employees and customers to enjoy self-propelled wilderness recreation, lead healthy, active lives and be stewards of the natural environment.
- Improving the social and environmental impacts of our products, services and business operations.
- Providing leadership in the community and working with others to pursue collective social and environmental goals.
- Empowering our employees and customers to be active participants in organisations that promote sustainability, especially as it relates to travel.

What We Are Doing

As a software developer, sales and implementation services company, our commercial success is dependent on achieving positive social and economic outcomes for ourselves and our customers. With this in mind, we have developed a sustainability strategy to guide and continually improve our efforts in the areas of business operations, product sustainability, sustainable consumption, and our role in the community. We've made commitments in each of the following areas:

Business Operations Sustainability:

- We will demonstrate sustainable business practices and lead by example, in particular with respect to energy, water, and material use.
- We will provide a safe and respectful workplace where our employees are highly valued, treated fairly and encouraged to make a difference.

- We will source local suppliers and endeavour to purchase supplies that require the least amount of transport.

Product Sustainability:

- We will pursue design and product innovations to minimize or eliminate negative impacts and enhance positive impacts of our products.
- We will design our products to promote innovation for small business and encourage the creation of ecologically sensitive products.
- We will hire locally whenever possible and encourage an environment of learning, growth, and personal development through collaboration.

Sustainable Consumption:

- We will promote conscious consumption by educating our employees and customers to make well-informed decisions and we will provide them with products and services that contribute to a higher quality of life, and a healthier society and environment.
- We will provide our employees and customers with alternatives to the consumption of disposable products.
- Stationery and Printed Materials (includes the stationery we use within our premises, and also the paper used in our clients' publications).
 - o All copier paper, including coloured reams for specific purposes, now comprises at least 80% recycled material and much is 100% recycled
 - o All office pads (flipcharts, bound pads, shorthand notebooks etc), as well as 30% of envelopes, are now made from recycled paper
 - o Filing and storage products made from recycled paper include hanging files, lever arch files, box files, document wallets and square cut folders
 - o remanufactured toners are currently being trialled
 - o Double-sided printing is encouraged throughout the office
 - o Fax and printer toners/cartridges are donated to a 'green' recycling organization and are collected on a regular basis.
 - o ECS BV now produces publication/application forms in standard sizes and shapes. This reduces wastage and also provides cost saving benefits. In exceptional circumstances where there is a creative reason and the impact of the end result will be positive, we will produce bespoke shapes or sizes.
- Waste Minimisation and recycling. Bin points have been set up around the office with fact sheets at each



bin point as well as other communication and training to make everyone aware of the changes. Waste Minimisation and recycling

- Office Energy Use. A main thrust of our work is to influence behaviours to ensure that unused equipment is fully switched off. "SWITCH OFF" labels were applied to the electrical appliances (monitors, computers, printers and photocopiers). We are currently investigating technological solutions to minimise power consumption out of hours on IT equipment.
- Terms of procurement. ECS has introduced a policy of purchasing the most efficient equipment. All new computer monitors have been flat screen for some time - these use less energy than the older, large, square box monitors.
- Travel Policy
 - o Internal travel policy and procedures have been updated to state how staff should be travelling to ensure that emissions are minimised. All staff has been notified of these changes and, where possible, public transport is used.
 - o Both video conferencing / Web Conferencing and telephone conferencing are strongly encouraged as a means of minimising the consumption of fossil fuels as well as reducing traffic congestion and the resultant levels of carbon emissions.
 - o ECS BV has a policy for promoting the use of full electric cars or hybrid cars for their employees.

ECS BV in the Community:

- We will actively participate in organizations that promote local economic development and sustainability.

- We will be an advocate in the community for issues that align with our beliefs and strategic priorities.
- We will nurture meaningful partnerships with non-profit and community-based organizations to protect and enhance the places where we work, live and play.

How We are Doing It

Process and Implementation

The following criteria will guide our business decisions and strategies. Using the precautionary principle, we will focus on issues:

- Which relate to our business, our core purpose, and our employees and customers needs.
- Which have the biggest impact on natural, social, and economic systems.
- Where ECS BV has influence or control over the impact.
- Where solutions are technically and economically viable.
- Where there are opportunities to collaborate with other organizations.

Accountability and Reporting

We will be held accountable for our actions by adhering to the following governing principles:

- We will provide staff and partners with the support and resources to follow through on our commitments.
- We will measure and monitor our progress toward meeting our commitments.
- We will engage our staff, customers, vendors, and community stakeholders in meaningful dialogue to continually improve our efforts and our relationships.
- Our Directors will review our Sustainability Policy every 3 years.

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January 2015