CI-GROUP®

Sustainability Policy

CI-Group is committed to providing superior innovative marketing and logistical solutions for our clients while continuously striving for greater efficiency, less waste, and reducing our environmental impact. From the materials we source and use, to printing and the environmental impact of fulfillment, we are determined to be a conscientious and responsible corporate citizen. We also look to partner with those who share our vision of a cleaner world for generations to come.

Company-Wide Recycling Initiative

CI-Group recycles all corrugated, paper, metal, wood pallets as well as select plastics. We have partnered with a recycling vendor who stages a recycling trailer on our premises at all times. This constitutes approximately 75% of all packaging that is received by CI-Group. In the last 12 months, we have recycled 126 tons of corrugated board, 14 tons of paper and 30 tons of wood pallets; for ecological savings of 116,000 gallons of oil, 1,180,000 gallons of water and 2890 trees.

Recycled Material Used for Packaging

Whenever possible, products are shipped in original manufacturer packaging which eliminates the need for any unnecessary waste or packing material. When repackaging is necessary, we use 85% post-consumer recycled material corrugated boxes or poly mailers which are 100% acid free and contain up to 30% post-consumer material. While we use as minimal packing material as possible, there are occasions where void fill is necessary. Our packing paper has a recycled content of 30%-50%. Our pillow packs are the most eco-friendly product in its category. It is shipped flat and inflated during packing to reduce transportation costs and carbon emissions and contains more than 30% post-consumer material and is fully recyclable. Tissue paper used for packing contains an average of 60%-70% post-consumer recycled materials.

Paperless Job Ticketing and Order Processing

In the last 3 years, we have implemented an automated warehouse management system (WMS). Our WMS has allowed us to eliminate the use of paper with regard to order fulfillment, job ticketing and fulfillment reporting to further reduce our energy consumption.

On-Site Printing Technology

All paper used for printing in our facilities is made from a minimum of 10% recycled content. The postcards and inserts are printed on paper that is also 100% chlorine free. Alternative paper can be special ordered which contains an average of 30% post-consumer recycled materials.

Postcards and inserts that are printed on our Kodak NexPress use a fraction of the set-up & jam waste of traditional offset presses. The NexPress has virtually no emissions, including volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and uses replaceable components which are 100% recyclable. All paper waste from printing, including set-up, overage and trim is recycled.

With CI-Group's migration of much of the manufacturing of custom full color corrugated boxes from litho presses to high resolution digital presses, material waste, emissions and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) have been greatly reduced. Digitally printed corrugated boxes also allow us the ability to resize boxes to better fit products, thereby reducing the need for unnecessary packing materials while reducing costs.

Custom full color boxes contain an average of 60% post-consumer recycled materials. Generic boxes contain an average of 80% post-consumer recycled materials.

Energy Efficient Lighting

We recently completed a company-wide migration to low-energy LED lighting. This conversion was a big investment but worth it. We will reduce our lighting energy consumption by 65%.

Lean Manufacturing and Sustainable Practices Partnerships

CI-Group seeks out partners who are committed to reducing energy consumption and climate impacts through lean manufacturing practices. To that end, our partners have made significant investments in onsite solar power and energy efficiencies. And those investments are showing real results. In fact, CI-Group suppliers have reduced energy requirements by 20% and reduced Scope 1 and Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions by 22%.

SFI Certified (Sustainable Forest Initiative) & FSC Certified (Forest Stewardship Council)

Corrugated is the most recycled and most easily recyclable packaging material on the market. The corrugated material used in manufacturing our boxes are supplied by CI-Group partners who are certified by The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC certification) and/or The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) 2015-2019 Standard. Fiber from properly managed forests is the primary raw material for corrugated packaging and is an infinitely renewable resource. We are committed to sourcing containerboard inputs from certified chain of custody, certified sourcing, and non-controversial sources. Our corrugated boxes contain an average of 60%-90% post-consumer recycled materials.

Localization

CI-Group is centrally located between New York and Philadelphia. At all times, we seek to partner with organizations who are geographically located in our area to minimize transportation carbon emissions.

Revision Log

Version	Approval Date	Editor	Approver	Description of Changes
1	1/1/2023	Wehman Hopke	N/A	Inclusion of Revision Log
1.1	5/13/2024	Wehman Hopke	Charles Ross	Annual Review
1.2	04/01/2025	Avadh Soni	Charles Ross	Annual Review
1.3	05/01/2026	Ayo Asonibare	Charles Ross	Annual Review