

Operation: Zero Waste



Our Sustainability Vision

Haworth will be a sustainable corporation. We engage our employees in more sustainable practices; we initiate and use processes that are neutral or improve our environment; and we utilize our resources in ways that create adaptable and sustainable workplace solutions for our customers. We do all of this globally to protect and restore our environment, create economic value, and support and strengthen our communities.

Our Sustainability Objectives:

- Sustainable Product and Workplace Design.
- Energy Management.
- Green Transportation.
- **Zero Waste and Emissions.**
- Green Building and Sustainable Site Management.
- Social Responsibility.
- Stakeholder Engagement.

Zero Waste and Emissions

Eliminate waste and emissions associated with corporate operations and the production of products and services. This includes elimination of all greenhouse gases.

Meeting Our Zero Waste to Landfill Goal

We started with a lofty goal that reflects one of Haworth's chief values—"We value our world"—and by the time we eliminated the waste going into landfills and the emissions associated with our operations, Haworth members had collaborated to conquer a complicated, but necessary proposition, and taken another step toward guiding Haworth to the end goal of becoming a truly sustainable corporation.

Haworth achieved zero waste to landfill status for our global headquarters and manufacturing facilities in the United States in 2009. Our Shanghai, China and Pune, India facilities reached the zero waste goal in 2008.

Four years ago, our U.S. factories were generating 10 million pounds of landfill waste annually. The total dropped by half in 2007 and again in 2008. By the end of 2009, we achieved our zero landfill objective; and less than three percent of our unused materials were sent to waste-to-energy facilities.

We consider it a last resort to repurpose unused materials as fuel to be converted into energy for community use. The process of burning unused materials to generate steam or electricity is our most expensive and least preferred method of waste management. We are working toward the goal of zero waste to energy.



“Zero waste to landfill is a bold step globally toward protecting our environment, creating economic value, and supporting our communities.” — John Mooney, Haworth Chief Financial Officer and Executive Sustainability Sponsor

How Did We Lose It?

- Dumpster Dives: Before putting anything in a dumpster, we stopped to consider whether it belonged there and found more to recycle.
- More drops: By setting up more convenient recycling station locations within factory work centers and the “front office,” we gathered more recyclables than ever before.
- Talk About Trash: Meeting with our members to provide education and motivation to meet our goal.
- Team Competition: Friendly team competition among members, departments, and sectors turned the initiative into a contest.
- Product Focus: We found new recycling options for the waste generated from manufacturing our products and minimized waste scrap.
- Changing our Ways: We chose more sustainable solutions whenever possible, including reusable packaging, minimal materials, and recycled content.

What Makes Us Different?

These areas set Haworth apart from others in our industry and many in the large-scale manufacturing community:

- We send waste to incinerator facilities that meet or exceed all current regulations.
- We maintain a vertically integrated manufacturing process, rather than exporting the problem (waste) to local or international suppliers.
- We don't require suppliers to take back their materials unrelated to products, unless materials are part of the supplier's standard returnable packaging program.

These three differentiators contribute to making Haworth one of the most environmentally sensitive and careful global manufacturers.

One Fact — Since opening the Haworth Recycle Center in 1993, we have processed more than 460 million pounds of material.