



Sutherland: Building an Environment of Sustainability

As a leader in the communities where we do business, Sutherland is committed to being a good steward of resources—not just because our clients expect it, but because it’s the right thing to do. In 2008, Sutherland formally began a firmwide Sustainability Initiative to significantly reduce waste and promote conservation of energy and resources.

Sustainability Task Force and Ambassadors

Sutherland’s sustainability efforts are led by the firm’s Sustainability Partner Tom Warren and the multidisciplinary Sustainability Committee. The firm appointed Tom as Sustainability Partner to hold the firm accountable to its commitment—identifying and implementing sustainable practices across the firm and promoting how we can each do one thing differently. Their leadership efforts are supported by a larger Sustainability Task Force, whose 60-plus self-appointed members represent partners, associates, legal assistants, secretaries, and other staff from the facilities, support services, research services, accounting, and marketing departments.

Our efforts have evolved from ideas into action, the members of Sutherland’s Sustainability Task Force have also become “Sustainability Ambassadors”—each assigned to a department, practice group or floor of the building to serve as a resource to their peers and to promote sustainability activities within their group.

ABA-EPA Law Office Climate Challenge

Sutherland is a leader in the ABA-EPA Law Office Climate Challenge, a voluntary program that encourages law firms to improve energy efficiency, use renewable energy and reduce paper consumption.

Renewable Energy Certificates



ELEMENT MARKETS

Sutherland agreed to purchase renewable energy certificates (RECs) representing 100% of its estimated energy usage for 2010 and 2011 from Element Markets, LLC, a Houston-based greenhouse gas and renewable energy developer and supplier of environmental credits throughout North America, who was recently named the #1 Greenhouse Gas (GHG), REC, NO_x and SO₂ Credit Dealer in *Energy Risk* magazine’s 2009 rankings.



Sutherland has been recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a member of its “Green Power Partnership” for the firm’s efforts to reduce the risk of climate change through green-power purchasing.

Energy Efficiency

We have worked with building management in our respective facilities to adopt energy-efficient lighting and temperature settings. Within the office, we have reduced the number of printers, reduced time for printers and computers to switch to energy-saving “sleep” mode, and are in the process of implementing additional energy saving measures.

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Paper Standards

A typical office produces about 1.5 pounds of paper waste per employee each day. In response, Sutherland seeks to reduce paper waste by using electronic methods of communication and document distribution as much as possible.

Understanding that paper is still necessary for some of our business operations, however, the firm now uses paper with 30% post-consumer waste fiber throughout the firm, and also uses recycled paper for its letterhead. We have instituted a policy to print materials two-sided whenever possible.

As an example of our efforts, in 2008 the firm took a significant step toward paper reduction by implementing a new electronic holiday greeting sent to clients, peers and friends of the firm. As a result of this effort, the firm reduced its use of paper cards by 75%.

“Do One Thing Differently” Campaign



Sutherland’s “Do One Thing Differently” campaign challenges attorneys and staff in our offices to modify one aspect of their behavior

every two weeks in order to build a more sustainable culture, both within the firm and within their daily lives.

For example, the campaign encourages firm members to use a ceramic coffee mug instead of reaching for a disposable cup and turn off their office lights when they will be away from their desks.

Sustainability Minisite

Along with the Do One Thing Differently campaign, Sutherland has developed a minisite within its Intranet for firm members to read articles, share tips and monitor the firm’s journey toward sustainability.

Contact Us

For more information about Sutherland’s sustainability efforts, please contact Sutherland’s Sustainability Partner Tom Warren at 404.853.8548. You can also e-mail us at sustainable@sutherland.com or visit us online at www.sutherland.com/sustainability.

ABOUT SUTHERLAND Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP is a law firm with global reach known for solving challenging business problems and resolving sophisticated legal issues for many of the world’s largest companies. Founded in 1924, the firm handles matters throughout the United States and worldwide. Seven major practice areas—corporate, energy and environmental, financial services, intellectual property, litigation, real estate, and tax—provide the framework for an extensive range of focus areas, allowing Sutherland attorneys to serve a diverse client base that ranges from small and medium-sized start-up businesses to a significant number of Fortune 100 companies.