

K.I.D furniture and components:

Environmental

Impact Statement



Environmentally considered practices and materials list

- Full disclosure of any given product origin of manufacture, transparency of costs and material use.
- Each product is considered for local manufacture as a primary option, with many being transitioned to overseas manufacture due to market costs expectation. This does not restrict the same item being locally manufactured, should client have that preference, as listed in our pricing options.
- 40 hectares of pine forest were planted in New Zealand by K.I.D director in 1993. Conservatively pine trees remove 10 tons of CO₂ per acre per year (ref. <https://cbmjournals.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13021-018-0110-8/figures/2>), meaning there are approx.40 tons of CO₂ removed from environment per year, in a bid to offset our shipping impact.
- Use of materials like plywood and timber – in leu of composites. Among other environmental benefits of this natural, plantation sourced material is CO₂ storage. It is absorbed at a faster rate during growth of the tree, while decomposition process has a much slower release of CO₂, making some of our items of furniture a type of CO₂ vault.
- Manufacture with post-consumer waste to increase waste material value and aid circularity.
- Manufacture with mild steel – a valuable and durable material, therefore ensuring it will be recycled or re-furbished.
- Novel products developed by us, where the use of materials makes a case for circularity, will not be patented or IP protected in effort to encourage market stake holders to follow suit.
- End of life and longevity of each product is factored in at every stage of design process. The outcome is easy to disassemble furniture pieces, to be readily recycled, reconfigured, or refurbished.
- While our showroom / studio is solar powered, we are committed to installing solar power panels to our warehouse and manufacturing facility in St. Peters within a year.
- All locally manufactured mild steel components are covered by take back policy when they have reached the end of the life.

To do list for next 3-5 years

- An amount of work is being completed to remove soft plastics from our packaging. We are looking to replace plastic protective sleeves for workstation base components with paper honeycomb wrap and transition to 'boomerang bags' for smaller made to order pieces of furniture. In the meantime, we are working to recycle these effectively here.
- As a long-term goal - we are looking to limit fabrics used in our upholstery, to locally manufactured ranges and those with no or low synthetic content.
- We have commenced research into a new board material, made entirely from hard to recycle soft plastics and plastic lined cardboard containers, to be used in substrate manufacturing and a variety of surface tops.
- We do not manufacture melamine, however, we do work with it and are looking into solutions to reduce its use. One option is to use melamine with recycled MDF content. While this product exists in Australia, a market share holder has secured exclusivity, making wide implementation of this environmentally beneficial technology and product impossible. Further challenge: cost of natural board materials, like plywood, limits increasing levels of its use.

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