



Committing to Sustainability: A Consultant's View

Diana C. Mendes, AICP
Senior Vice President

AECOM

How can we contribute to a sustainable future?

**Meets the needs of the present
without compromising the
ability of future generations
to meet their own needs**

— U.N. World Conference on Economic Development

WE NEED TO OPERATE FROM 2 PLATFORMS

Within Our Organization

- » Corporate investment
- » Responsible leadership and management
- » Employee engagement



Through Our Clients

- » Enable informed decision-making
- » Provide expertise
- » Integrated services – one stop solutions

CONTINUOUS CULTURAL IMPROVEMENT

Corporate Commitment

- » CEO message
- » ISO 14001 Certification
- » Employee empowerment
- » Office of Corp. Sustainability

Employee Awareness and Training

- » Training/study groups
- » Bonus for LEED accreditation
- » 14001 Audits
- » Employee “Green Teams”
- » “Green” Contests

Supporting Client Opportunities

- » Accessible service offerings
- » Framing choices and options
- » Measuring and communicating benefits



A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Global Warming, Global Change

It's April and during this month in which we celebrate Earth Day it seems particularly appropriate to consider the impact of energy conservation and sustainability within our business as well as within our own daily lives.

Over the past few years, global warming and sustainability have become highly-charged topics of discussion.

And with good reason, for although some global warming can be attributed to natural causes, it's primarily our actions—particularly the use and resulting emissions from fossil fuels—that have contributed to a rapidly-warming world.

According to a United Nations study, greenhouse gas emissions have increased 70 percent between 1970 and 2004.

As a result of this increase, the twentieth century's last two decades were the hottest in 400 years.

These rising temperatures have wrought significant changes, with rapidly disappearing Arctic ice, melting glaciers and an upsurge in extreme weather events such as tropical storms and wildfires. Clearly, our society needs to change direction and consider the many ways to efficiently and effectively use its resources while giving serious thought to conservation and environmental impacts.

I'm exceedingly proud of our efforts on behalf of our clients. And I'm also proud and excited by the dedication to sustainability and conservation within our offices—in particular at DMJM Harris's New York headquarters. Just this month, the staff at 605 Third Avenue earned ISO 14001 certification—an accreditation given to businesses that measure and successfully reduce the impacts of their actions on the environment.

During the year-long accreditation effort, the 605 staff learned how little changes such as recycling, turning off unused computers and copiers and switching from disposable cups to mugs could come up big in terms of preserving the environment. I find it's just as easy to drink tap water as it is to drink bottled. This accreditation is the first major step in our goal to attain ISO certification in ATG's offices nationwide—and the first step in a transformation that will reshape the way we think about and use our resources.

Maybe in the years to come we will look back at this year as a turning-point, a time when we took responsibility for our actions and rededicated ourselves to preserving our earth. That, I think, would truly be a day we in which we will celebrate the earth.



PLAN IT GREEN TEAMS

POLICY: Defined as those ideas that would require management decisions

- » Purchasing
- » Recycled products
- » Electronic filing
- » IT



PROGRAM: Defined as those ideas that would be encouraged, but done on a voluntary basis

- » In-house recycling
- » Electricity usage
- » Reusable kitchen supplies
- » IT



CONTINUOUS CULTURAL IMPROVEMENT

Corporate Commitment

- » CEO message
- » ISO 14001 Certification
- » Employee empowerment
- » Office of Corp. Sustainability

Employee Awareness and Training

- » Training/study groups
- » Bonus for LEED accreditation
- » 14001 Audits
- » Employee “Green Teams”
- » “Green” Contests

Supporting Client Opportunities

- » Accessible service offerings
- » Framing choices and options
- » Measuring and communicating benefits



Sustainability



TECHNOLOGY AND "PRODUCT" DESIGN

AECOM



PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND VALUE-ADDED SOLUTIONS



Our journey has just started...

**“Never underestimate the power of a few
committed people to change the world.
Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”**

– Margaret Mead