

A commitment
to achieving
industry-leading
standards and
responding
proactively to
environmental
global issues.



Green Initiative





Think Lean and Green

We Are an Environmentally Conscious Company

By Gregory Kenny

“Responsible business practices are key to a company’s success. It is important for us to recognize that every aspect of our business has an impact on the environment, and that it is our responsibility to mitigate that impact to the best of our ability.”



Our new Green Initiative symbol recognizes our role and responsibility in promoting sustainability. The symbol also reflects our commitment to achieving industry-leading standards and responding proactively to environmental global issues.

Around the globe, environmental issues continue to be in the spotlight. There has been a powerful shift towards environmental protection and sustainability in the 21st Century. Grass-roots movements and ensuing legislation are crossing borders, requiring U.S. companies who have broadened their global presence to develop strategies that enable economic gain and environmental protection to progress in tandem, providing the best outcomes for both the human and natural worlds.

More stringent environmental laws and habitat preservation activities are becoming the norm. You may be wondering what European environmental legislation like WEEE, RoHS, and REACH, U.S. state-by-state legislation and the “Call to Action” of the National Electrical Manufacturing Association (NEMA) mean for the cabling industry as a whole. Basically, these directives and the many other initiatives on the horizon are transforming environmental issues into distinct action plans that will drive companies to invest in new technologies and material science.

As a global leader in the wire and cable industry, we recognize our role and responsibility in promoting sustainability, and our corporate culture continues to give us a head start. One of our strongest business values is continuous improvement in all areas of our Company. Across our many businesses, the quest to introduce new and better products through continuous improvement in environmental designs reflects our commitment to achieving industry-leading standards and responding proactively to global issues.

As we continue to strengthen as a Lean, flexible and responsive global organization,

General Cable stands ready to embrace the future. In the 23 countries where we have manufacturing operations, all of our facilities have integrated environmental management into daily operational activities. Responsible business practices are key to a company’s success. It is important for us to recognize that every aspect of our business has an impact on the environment, and that it is our responsibility to mitigate that impact to the best of our ability.

What are we doing every day to be environmentally conscious?

Designing for the Environment.

General Cable is committed as a worldwide organization to reducing and, where possible, eliminating hazardous substances in our products. This proactive initiative reflects our stewardship to produce more environmentally sustainable products without compromising the high standards of safety and performance. Critical to this endeavor are our Technology Centers, structured to leverage material science opportunities driven by global priorities. It is through these centers that General Cable works to develop innovative products that ensure a minimal impact on the environment over the entire product life cycle. This includes ongoing initiatives to eliminate lead stabilizers in PVC sheaths, halogens and solvents. (See *Technology at Work* article on page 4.)

Optimizing our Operations.

At General Cable, preserving the environment, reducing energy consumption and the use of hazardous materials, and facilitating recycling are all considered, from the design of our products to the operations at our manufacturing sites. All of our plants have facility-specific waste reduction objectives, addressing areas

such as emissions, water usage, recycling, and waste and packaging reduction. Our culture has always been characterized by “Lean” thinking, and the elimination of waste is a priority throughout our Company. Our teams strive to deploy manufacturing processes that consume less energy and raw materials, while still maintaining the highest level of quality that satisfies our customers’ needs and delivers maximum value. (See *Lean Green Thinking in Operations* article on page 6.)

Achieving Continued Improvement.

All General Cable North American, European and Asia-Pacific manufacturing facilities have implemented environmental management systems. Our European and Asia-Pacific facilities have achieved ISO 14001 certification, with Spain being the first in 1997, just one year after the standard was published. Our North American facilities have fully implemented an ISO 14001-equivalent environmental management system. With performance metrics being critical to General Cable, strict oversight and measurement of all environmental management systems ensure that regulatory compliance is met or exceeded. Overseen by their facility “Environmental Champion,” manufacturing plants maintain all required environmental permits, plans and reporting as required by federal, country, state and local regulations. (See *ISO 14001: 2004 Certification* article on page 10.)

Meeting Customer Needs.

The world and our markets are changing. General Cable needs to be in the forefront of this change and be the first to offer our customers the environmentally friendly products they need. Our customers’ requirements must be defined and interpreted by our Sales Teams worldwide. We then need to work together, using all the ingenuity and creativity we have, to reach the goal of being the preeminent supplier of green cabling solutions in the industry.

Pursuing Industry Leadership.

General Cable actively participates in wire and cable industry associations, bringing

years of experience to the discussions focused on recent trends and legislative changes that impact product designs. Along with other prominent wire and cable manufacturers, we have formed partnerships with national and global organizations for the specific goal of evaluating the environmental impact of polymer systems and additives, such as the stabilizers and fire retardants found in wire and cable insulation and jacketing materials. Through committee participation in associations like NEMA, we’re working with other industry leaders who share our values and philosophies, such as taking a holistic approach to environmental issues. (See *NEMA’s Call to Action* article on page 11.)

Formalizing Management Practices.

For many years, General Cable has been committed to meeting or exceeding environmental and safety regulations worldwide. We continually strive to improve our safety and environmental management systems and to respect and protect the environments where we live and work, from the local neighborhood to the entire planet. The formalization of our Corporate Environmental, Health and Safety Policy confirms our commitment to sustainability as defined by our Company culture and values that guide us in making the right business decisions for the environment and future generations. (See *EH&S Policy* sidebar on this page.)

From reducing paper in the office to eliminating the use of hazardous substances in our manufacturing processes, we recognize that everybody at General Cable is doing their part to make a difference. We applaud and encourage the efforts of all our associates throughout our facilities, and we support the continued progress that makes us an environmentally conscious Company. ♻️



Gregory B. Kenny

Our Environmental, Health and Safety (EH&S) Policy

“The new EH&S policy follows the steps of the LeanSigma DMAIC process (Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve and Control). It is consistent with the requirements of ISO 14001, and it accurately reflects the actions we are taking to ensure that we are an environmentally responsible Company,” said Steve Messinger, Vice President, Risk Management.

General Cable is committed to producing and marketing products in an environmentally sound and responsible manner. We will manage our facilities, processes and materials in a way that meets or exceeds regulatory requirements and that minimizes risk to our associates, the public and communities where we operate.

We will work to continually strengthen our Environmental, Health and Safety performance by:

- Defining and developing a company culture where a concern for the environment, health and safety is established through example, involvement, recognition and training;
- Measuring EH&S performances against effective management systems, regulatory requirements and established annual goals and objectives;
- Analyzing the EH&S aspects of all new processes, materials and equipment;
- Improving our management systems in order to respond promptly to the findings of regularly scheduled internal and third-party EH&S audits;
- Controlling and reducing environmental impact through material selection and use, implementation of best management practices, process improvements and recycling.

Technology at Work

Reducing Hazardous Materials Through Innovation

“General Cable’s environmental strategy is evolving from a set of actions to deal with pressing environmental legislation to a proactive approach that fully leverages our technology, corporate philosophy and supply chain to drive the next level of environmental responsiveness,” said James Freestone, Vice President, Technology.

In recent years, environmental initiatives and legislation around the world have required companies like General Cable to reduce or eliminate hazardous substances in products. Important work was performed in General Cable’s Electronic, Datacom, and Industrial & Specialty teams to react to the European Reduction of Hazardous Substance (RoHS) directive. This initiative, which went into effect July 1, 2006, required the removal of lead and other environmentally onerous materials from cable located within movable electrical devices. With more than 3,500 products developed or modified to date, General Cable now offers a wide range of RoHS Compliant wire and cable products. As a result of this effort, approximately 750,000 pounds of lead will be removed each year.

Another RoHS initiative in its strictest form went into effect on March 1, 2007 in China, and similar legislation has been raised in several U.S. states, including California, Minnesota, Maine, Maryland, and New Jersey. The National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) is striving to harmonize these initiatives at the federal level, which would result in all states establishing consistent RoHS-like requirements. (See *NEMA’s Call to Action* article on page 11.) Other areas of the world, including Japan, Canada, and Australia, have enacted or proposed RoHS initiatives, demonstrating that the removal of hazardous substances is truly a global issue that requires full participation and support from General Cable.

On the heels of the RoHS initiative is REACH—Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals. Published at the end of 2006 and entering into force on June 15, 2007, REACH will require manufacturers and importers to gather and report information on the properties of their substances and use that data to safely manage products. This initiative will ignite research and development activities on a global scale and likely result in the



James Freestone, Vice President, Technology

elimination of many currently available chemicals from the supply chain. These initiatives compel General Cable to further leverage our compound development and mixing activities across the Company to ultimately develop environmentally sound replacement materials that allow our products to continue meeting performance requirements.

“While key legislation started the ball rolling, General Cable has now taken a leadership role in the industry by proactively driving and advancing the development of environmentally sound products and processes,” continued James.

Through the “stage-gate” project management methodology, General Cable actively manages each key step that goes into manufacturing every product we make. This helps ensure that all products are designed to meet existing environmental requirements and provide long-term environmental sustainability, while still meeting performance requirements. From the modification of existing products to the development of new products, our R&D policy not only ensures that we meet

environmental initiatives but also paves the way for innovative breakthroughs in all of our material design labs.

One key example of our success is our Jackson, Tennessee facility's polyvinyl chloride (PVC) mixing unit, which has already removed 65% of its lead usage and is on a powerful trajectory to remove 100%. (See *Lean Green Thinking in Operations* article on page 6.)

Another important innovation is in the area of medium-voltage filled insulations. General Cable's Indianapolis Compounds' commercialized medium-voltage EPR insulation is used for key customers and applications, such as Con Edison's demanding applications in New York City. Many years of advanced material development had produced no successful means of producing these materials without lead stabilizers. Now, recent breakthroughs

at our Indianapolis Technology Center include a patented additive approach that allows the elimination of lead from all utility and industrial power medium-voltage products. (See *An Environmental Breakthrough* article below.)

General Cable is working to qualify a full line of reduced-wall power cables, which require less material and energy to manufacture. These reduced-insulation wall cables will offer customers many benefits, including more efficient management of space in underground ducts. These cables are fully tested in our Marshall, Texas Technology Center and offer our customers products with a smaller environmental footprint.

"One of the great aspects of General Cable's culture is our eagerness and ability to share resources within and across the various geographies and businesses where we operate," said James. "For example,

the low-smoke, zero-halogen (LSZH) products developed in our European facilities have now moved to the U.S., while the new medium-voltage insulation that began in North America will migrate to our international operations. This work has gained interest from our Spanish team, who plans to utilize the new technology with key Iberian customers. Sharing information and technology is a natural part of what we do every day, and it's what makes us a seamless, flexible organization able to drive environmentally sound technology on a global scale."

"The next challenging step in this journey is to leverage all of our technology, manufacturing and supply chain groups to work towards manufacturing products with the overall least possible environmental impact," concluded James. "We recognize that a life cycle design approach will be an important part of our journey forward." ♡

An Environmental Breakthrough

The very first medium- and high-voltage energy cables deployed in the late 19th century were insulated with paper saturated with hazardous chemicals and then sheathed in lead. Paper insulation technology was relied upon until the 1950s, when extruded materials were developed for medium-voltage power cables. Today, both tree-retardant cross-linked polyethylene (TR-XLPE) and filled insulations are used extensively to insulate medium-voltage power cables. In the most burdensome, heavily loaded, high-temperature circuits, General Cable recommends, and the market prefers, the use of filled insulations stabilized with lead.

"For the past 15 years, the cable industry has searched for a technology to allow the removal of hazardous lead from filled insulation medium-voltage energy cables, while maintaining superior thermal and electrical properties when compared to TR-XLPE," stated *Mark Easter*, Compounds Business Development Manager at the Indianapolis Technology Center. "Recently, we made a breakthrough in this area, and I'm proud to have been awarded a patent for General Cable."

Through extensive research and development programs, General Cable will be at the forefront



Mark Easter, Compounds Business Development Manager, stands in front of the Wall of Patents at the Indianapolis Technology Center.

in offering lead-free energy cable products. More than four years of comprehensive testing has proven that this new, environmentally sound technology offers better flexibility, low dielectric loss, and thermal stability to easily meet or exceed the performance of traditional insulations. Now being commercially introduced to the utility industry, this new

technology is also being shared globally to benefit the European market. Protected by U.S. Patent 6,825,253, as well as other pending U.S. and international patents, this significant development will eventually result in the removal of approximately 180,000 pounds of lead each year.

Lean Green Thinking in Operations

Across the globe, wire and cable makers produced 13 million conductor tons of product in 2006, up 4.4% from 2005. We are a large industry with many end consumers, and the process of manufacturing wire and cable products is raw-material-intensive. We not only use copper, aluminum and compounds to make up the physical characteristics of our products; we also consume gas, electricity, water, wood and petroleum-based fuels in large quantities.

For example, General Cable uses polyethylene (PE) and polyvinyl chloride (PVC), which are produced from feedstock derived from oil and natural gas. We use copper and aluminum, which are natural elements and therefore have a finite supply. We receive raw material in a variety of packages, including cardboard boxes and wood pallets secured with shrink wrap and paper-based products. We use a variety of chemicals to clean and mark our cables, water to create steam for heating our factories and curing our products, and more water for cooling and electrical tests. We distribute our products on wood reels, in boxes, on pallets and send them via trucks that consume diesel fuels.

“We are a large consumer of resources,” said Mark Thackeray, Senior Vice President, North American Operations. “Consequently, as a recognized global leader in our industry, we must constantly strive to preserve our resources through elimination of waste. We must demonstrate good corporate citizenship via continuous improvement in all matters related to environment, health and safety.”

Gregory Kenny’s Perspective speaks to a world spotlight on environmental issues and recognizes the proliferation of new environmental regulations. (See *Think Lean and Green* on page 2.) He also discusses the alignment of our “Lean Thinking” culture and our mission to eliminate waste in everything we do each and every day. General Cable began its Lean journey in 1999 to address the many issues now being

raised with vigor throughout the industry today. (See *NEMA’s Call to Action* article on page 11.)

“In the spirit of continuous improvement, our journey is never finished. We can always discover ways to get better,” stated **Mark Thackeray**, Senior Vice President, North American Operations. “Yet we can also say with confidence that our journey is not just beginning in response to the recent ‘call for action’ under the mantra of ‘Green Thinking’ because we have been acting under the mantra of ‘Lean Thinking’ for years. Our common-sense approach to eliminating waste, reducing cost and improving the manufacturing process has always been a part of what we can now call ‘Lean Green Thinking.’”

In 2002, General Cable launched its “War on Waste,” which, in concert with Lean Thinking, was a focused effort to reduce waste by 50% over a three-year span. Some General Cable plants exceeded this target, and others got close. Overall, our Company made substantial improvements to eliminate non-value-added consumption of resources associated with making waste. For example, our Malvern, Texas plant

reduced their scrap generation by 1.8 million pounds over the last five years.

“Combining the Six Sigma toolset with Lean, General Cable then targeted process variation and sought to reduce the use of raw materials while maintaining specified construction parameters of our cables,” continued Mark. “These efforts resulted in a reduction of millions of pounds of



Mark Thackeray, Senior Vice President, North American Operations

raw materials over the past five years to make the very same products. While much of these materials represent non-harmful compounds, packaging and the like, we also reduced the amount of lead-based compounds, which are the focus of the RoHS legislation.”

Here are some highlights of North American Operations improvements as a result of Lean Green Thinking:

Recycling is defined as the act of extracting useful materials for purposes of putting or passing through a cycle again. Most General Cable facilities have formal recycling programs in place.

All of our metals are segregated and reclaimed, as are many of the compounds we use to produce our products. Investment in regrind equipment enables some of our plants to immediately reuse excess compound in the extruder.

We use approximately 75,000 reels annually shipping our products to customers. In 2006, we emphasized the use of refurbishing and recycling non-returnable wood reels, which resulted in more than 7,000 saved trees, 22,400 cubic yards of unused landfill space, and additional cost savings for General Cable.



General Cable's Lawrenceburg, Kentucky plant delivers interplant shipments of drawn copper on returnable stem containers.

Our Lawrenceburg, Kentucky plant delivers interplant shipments of drawn copper using returnable containers, which also act as the visual signal or Kanban system to trigger replenishment. Our Altoona, Pennsylvania plant ships product to key customers in returnable totes. And recently, some of our electric utility customers have adopted a reless package program. (See *Reeling In* article on page 9.)

General Cable's three North American Distribution Centers recycle all shipping materials that formerly ended up as dunnage in the local landfill. Wood pallets, blocking and bracing, slip sheets and corner boards are saved for reshipment, while shrink-wrap material is collected for an off-site reclaim process. These distribution centers reduced operating costs while saving more than 3,500 trees and recycling 19,000 pounds of shrink wrap to help preserve the environment.

Other General Cable locations have embarked on broad-based recycling initiatives ranging from aluminum cans and reclamation of lube oils to computer components and scrap iron from demolition work. In fact, our Marshall, Texas plant reclaimed more than 40 tons of steel—a by-product of capital investment in equipment upgrades—in the past five years.

Conservation, or reducing consumption, is also at the forefront of our Company's Lean Thinking. By finding ways to eliminate

needs, we avoid consumption and reduce costs.

Most of our manufacturing facilities employ closed-loop water systems for filtering and reusing water in the extrusion process. Broad-based energy consumption, including improved lighting technology, upgrades to energy efficient motors and automated HVAC control systems projects, have reduced our Company's utility bills. Simply by upgrading light fixtures, our Franklin, Massachusetts facility saves 88,000 kilowatt hours (kwh) per year. Many General Cable plants have installed capacitor banks to store energy, stabilize the load factor and avoid peak demand rates. Our Willimantic, Connecticut plant alone saves 715,000 kwh per year—enough



A corrugated cardboard recycling plant. Since 2005, General Cable's North American headquarters and sales offices have reduced waste paper by 56%.

to power approximately 80 homes—which helps to reduce the power load on the region's strained electric utility grid. And, at Corporate Headquarters in Highland Heights, Kentucky, we have replaced the ballasts and more than 1,350 lamps to lower our energy costs and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 585,000 pounds annually.

In North America, we ship 250,000 orders annually, which equates to millions of gallons of diesel fuel to power the trucks. By employing freight consolidation techniques and calculations in our Transportation Management System (TMS), we combine enough freight to avoid six truckloads per day. (We ship approximately 100 truckloads each day.) Six truckloads equates to 200,000 gallons of fuel annually. Again, this is a win-win situation that drives down costs, eliminates customer frustration from multiple deliveries and reduces greenhouse gases caused by diesel emissions.

Our North American headquarters and sales offices have long participated in paper recycling efforts and recently elevated the use of electronic media and scanned documents in lieu of bulky paper. Since 2005, we have reduced our waste paper by 56% and continue to recycle what's left. And General Cable associates are

constantly looking for new and innovative ways to conserve our natural resources.

Eradication of harmful substances is another key area of General Cable's Lean Green effort. Our Operations Team, in strong partnership with our Technology, Business and Sales Team associates, has supported a number of initiatives to manufacture environmentally friendly wire and cable products and remove harmful substances from our products and processes.

Throughout the design process, our associates work hard to develop innovative and environmentally friendly products for customers. One example is our TransPowr® T-2 overhead conductor products produced in Marshall, Texas. Transpower T-2 has fewer "right-of-way" requirements, which reduces structural support for installation, and it resists harsh winter elements that can cause failure in traditional power cables.

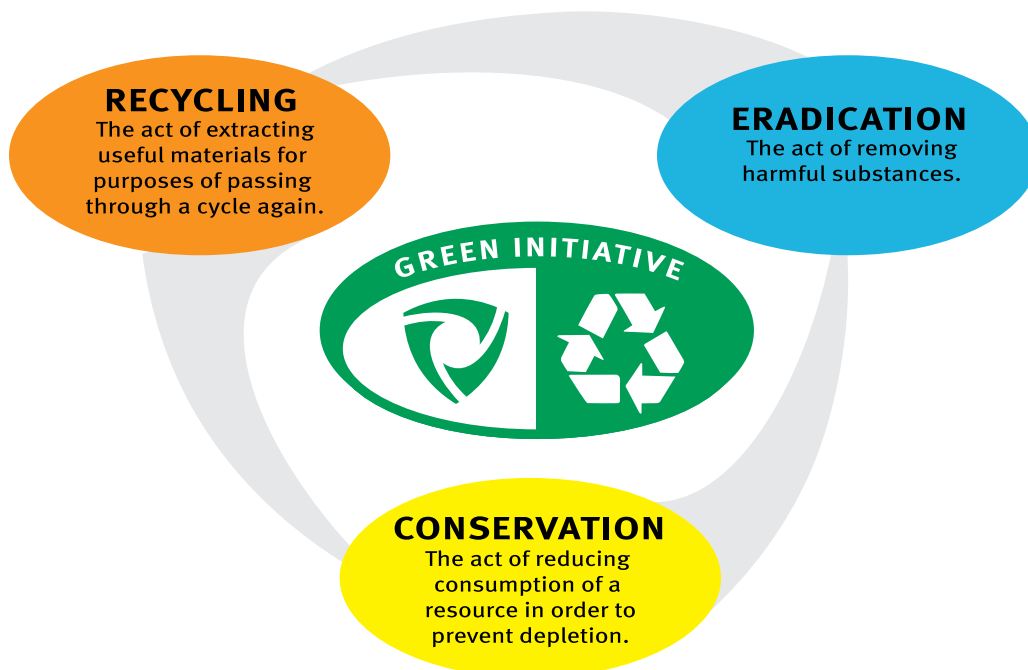
General Cable has also reduced the use of methyl ethyl ketone (MEK), which was once a primary chemical used in printing legends on cable jackets. We now employ water-based inks throughout our manufacturing facilities. This and other emission reduction efforts have allowed us to downgrade our Jackson, Tennessee and Marion, Indiana plants from a major source of Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) emissions to minor status. Jackson continues to drive hazardous waste reductions, achieving a 20% reduction over the past two years.

Many of our Company's insulating and jacketing processes now use foaming technology to produce reduced-wall power cables that provide the electrical properties required of the cable through more efficient insulating and jacketing processes. This reduces the materials consumed while improving the electrical properties of the finished cable. Our Lincoln, Rhode Island

plant recently installed an ozone treatment system to improve the quality of their water used for processing, which reduces the handling and disposal of over 25 drums of waste annually.

"I hope that you recognize how engaged and supportive the Operations Team is in our quest to be an environmentally conscious company," concluded Mark. "The other key message is that this is not something new. Regulations will change, and the meaning of 'good corporate citizenship' will continue to be redefined by the public. Yet our continued vision of an Operator Led Process Control (OLPC) culture that seeks out and eliminates waste in our work is very much in alignment with our 'Lean Green Thinking.' Our associates working in 18 manufacturing facilities and three regional distribution centers across North America can be proud of their collective accomplishments." ♻️

General Cable's Green Initiative



Reeling In Recycling and Reeless Packaging

General Cable's wood reel recycling program and the introduction of our new reeless packaging is a great example of how General Cable has responded to the growing concerns of disposal and landfill costs and our commitment to the environment.



General Cable reclaims wood reels from its customers through its wood reel recycling program, which reduces disposal fees, promotes cable yard cleanliness and helps protect the environment. The collected wood reels are repaired to “new” wood reel specifications under strict quality standards, which allows a single reel to be used five more times over a five-year life span. This environmentally conscious program requires the collaboration of both General Cable's wood reel suppliers and our Electric Utility customers. Together, we are now able to report “tree saver” and cost avoidance data, which has been critical in measuring the program's success.

“Last year was a record year for wood reel recycling at General Cable. Over 22,000 wood reels were recycled for internal use, resulting in 7,300 saved trees, 22,400 cubic yards of unused landfill space, and additional cost savings for our Company,” said **John Guerrerri**, Product Manager, Low-Voltage & Bare Utility Cable. “The landfill savings alone avoided \$870,000 in disposal costs for our customers.”

Associates from Malvern, Arkansas; Marshall, Texas; DuQuoin, Illinois; Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada; Lawrenceburg, Kentucky; Marion, Indiana; Willimantic, Connecticut; Lincoln, Rhode Island; Highland Heights, Kentucky; and Suffern, New York met quarterly in 2006 to review new opportunities, develop strategies and outline actions to further close the gap between the number of reels shipped to customers and the number of reels

reclaimed by our plants. Since the program's inception, the Energy Team's usage of recycled wood reels has increased by more than 40%, and the Industrial & Specialty Team's usage increased more than 74%.

General Cable's reeless packaging, which was first introduced in 1999, is another way in which we have successfully avoided disposal costs while saving trees and landfill space. Reeless packaging is accomplished by supplying wire and cable without the wooden reel. Instead, products are supplied in a plastic-wrapped coil with exact dimensions that allows customers to efficiently “pay off” the cable using molded plastic or tubular steel reels, reels on a turntable, or a turntable in conjunction with a dome. Last year, more than 4,400 reeless packaging shipments were made. The reeless package program not only avoids disposal costs and saves trees but also reduces storage space, since the coils are smaller than traditional reels.

“In addition to the wood reel recycling and reeless package program, General Cable strives for continuous improvement by exploring additional environmental packaging programs,” said **Brian Schulties**, Vice President, Sourcing. “For example, we are now considering polyfiber reels made from 100% recyclable material, which save trees, offer longer usage and can be recycled and reused.”

“All of these packaging programs promote environmental goodwill, maintaining our commitment to the local, national and global

communities where General Cable operates,” concluded Brian. “We recognize that outstanding educational efforts have been instrumental in fostering an understanding of these programs and in changing attitudes at every level. Every associate's participation is helping to make a difference, and we applaud the continuing efforts.”



John Guerrerri, Product Manager, Low-Voltage & Bare Utility Cable



Brian Schulties, Vice President, Sourcing

ISO 14001: 2004 Certification

The International Standards Organization (ISO) 14000 environmental management standards exist to help organizations minimize how their operations negatively affect the environment, comply with regulations and continually improve their environmental programs. The cornerstone of the 14000 standards is the ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems standard, which was published in 1996 and outlines the specific framework of an environmental management system.



Mike Sharkey, General Cable's Director of Environmental Health & Safety Services

“Under ISO 14001, an organization must have a publicly available environment policy, which is endorsed by senior management and defines a commitment to environmental regulatory compliance and continuous environmental improvement,” said *Mike Sharkey, General Cable's Director of Environmental Health & Safety Services*. **“This policy provides the foundation for an organization's environmental management system, which includes a review of all relevant environmental impacts that could arise from an organization's specific activities, followed by achievable and measurable objectives and targets.”**

The ISO 14001 standard requires periodic reviews of the environmental management system to assure continuous improvement. This is achieved through audits, reviews of established procedures, regulatory compliance assessments and tracking of objectives and targets. Following audits and reviews, environmental impacts are re-assessed and re-defined, and objectives and targets are re-established to ensure continuous environmental improvement. To achieve ISO re-certification, measurable progress must have been made.

“In keeping with our corporate commitment to respecting the environment, General Cable subscribes to ISO 14001 on a global scale and actively participates in all aspects of its environmentally sound practices,” added *Pilar Delgado, Environmental & Safety Manager, General Cable Spain*. **“In 1997, General Cable registered environmental management systems for**

Spain's Abrera, Montcada and Manlleu production plants to achieve ISO 14001 certification, becoming the first cable manufacturer to obtain certification in that country—just one year after publication of the standard. In 2000, the Morelena plant in Portugal achieved ISO 14001 certification. In 2003, General Cable's New Zealand plant followed suit, and the Montereau plant in France achieved certification in 2005.”

“In addition to achieving ISO 14001 certification in our European and Asia Pacific facilities, all General Cable facilities worldwide adhere to ISO 14001 standards with ISO 14001-equivalent environmental management systems,” concluded Mike. **“This global commitment to continued environmental improvement further demonstrates that General Cable is a good corporate citizen—worldwide.”** ♻️

The environmental management systems implemented at General Cable incorporate several objectives and goals, including:

- **Identifying and minimizing all potential environmental risks**
- **Reducing waste through waste management programs**
- **Disposing of waste in an environmentally and economically friendly manner**
- **Preventing pollution through reduction of landfill and emissions to air, land and water**
- **Eliminating hazardous materials such as lead in all PE and PVC formulations**
- **Establishing efficient use of energy**
- **Verifying legislation and regulatory compliances**
- **Eliminating unnecessary packaging and ensuring that remaining packaging is environmentally friendly**

NEMA's Call To Action

General Cable's Continued Leadership Role



Sparked by the European Union's (EU's) RoHS requirements that took effect July 1, 2006, several states, led by California, are moving rapidly and independently on adopting legislation restricting hazardous substances in electrical products. In March 2006, interested National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) member companies, including General Cable, met to discuss the evolving legislation. The assembled group concluded that NEMA should be proactive and strive to persuade all states to establish consistent product design requirements.

During the kickoff meeting, a "Call to Action Steering Committee" was created. **Richard Barker**, General Cable's Vice President of Technology Standards and Marketing, was nominated to represent wire and cable manufacturers on the committee. Over the next several months, this committee developed a statement of guiding principles and a two-phase initiative to reduce the amounts of lead, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, mercury and two flame-retardants (PBBs and PBDEs) in electrical products.



Richard Barker, General Cable's Vice President of Technology Standards and Marketing

Phase One of the NEMA initiative requires products within the scope of EU regulatory thresholds for six priority substances with a goal to achieve or exceed those thresholds in all markets by July 2010. Manufacturers like General Cable who sell in European markets have already met these thresholds. Phase Two of the initiative essentially extends the scope of NEMA's hazardous substance reduction policy to all NEMA-covered products by July 1, 2014.

"General Cable's research and development capabilities enable our Company to take a leadership role in driving and advancing environmentally sound wire and cable products," said Richard. "As a key member of the Call to Action Steering Committee, we will provide maximum support for the wire and cable product section within NEMA."

This includes an ongoing commitment to reduce hazardous materials, provide guidance in determining exemptions, determine other environmental-protection measures when complete elimination is not possible and support lawmakers and legislation to harmonize rules across North America and around the world. General Cable will work to ensure that the advancement of this initiative is done on the basis of safety concerns, performance factors, availability of substitutes and economic considerations.

In addition to General Cable's involvement with NEMA's Call to Action Committee, our Company has been represented on NEMA Wire and Cable Division's Environmental, Health & Safety (EH&S) Committee for many years. **Mike Sharkey**, Director of Environmental Health & Safety Services, currently serves as the Vice Chairman of the EH&S committee, and for 2008 and 2009, he will take on the role of Chairman.

The EH&S committee provides leadership in identifying potential national and international regulations that will have safety and environmental regulatory

impact on cable manufacturers. By identifying these issues early on, the committee can take action to influence change that results in a positive outcome for both wire and cable manufacturers and the environment. For example, General Cable, along with other committee members, recently worked with the EPA to clarify extrusion operations and exclude the extrusion of polymers onto cable under EPA emission standards for surface coating. Current topics being monitored by General Cable and the committee include potential carbon emission regulation, individual state environmental regulation and worldwide restrictions on specific chemicals.

"Because General Cable has the know-how and research and development capabilities to monitor, support and respond to environmental initiatives, we will continue to be at the forefront of environmentally responsible companies working proactively within NEMA," said Mike. "On many fronts, we are helping to promote sensible state, national and international policies and legislation in harmony with our commitment to manufacture environmentally neutral products."

Editor's Note: At press time, we were advised that Richard Barker has been elected Vice Chairman of the industry-wide "Call to Action" steering committee and nominated for membership on the newly forming legislative committee to oversee the writing of the proposed NEMA-sponsored law. ♡



For Green Initiative Updates and RoHS Compliant Products,
Visit General Cable's Environmental Web Site at:
www.generalcable/Company/Environmental



Mixed Sources

Product group from well-managed
forests and other controlled sources

Cert no. SW-COC-000897

www.fsc.org

© 1996 Forest Stewardship Council



4 Tesseneer Drive, Highland Heights, KY 41076
www.generalcable.com

GENERAL CABLE is a registered trademark
of General Cable Technologies Corporation.

©2008. General Cable Technologies Corporation.
Highland Heights, KY 41076
All rights reserved

Form No. COR-0021-R0908
35904