

# Working to protect the environment and preserve natural resources.

Since 1986, HCM has been manufacturing cable products at our Manchester, NH facility. And before the very first reel of cable rolled off the manufacturing floor, HCM's goal, like that of its parent company HITACHI, has always been to make not only the best products, but to contribute to society in a positive and meaningful way. Through charitable donations, community involvement and employee empowerment, HCM has taken steps to not only be a leader in its market, but to be an example of how a company can grow in harmony with its community and the environment. Although many of the products that HCM manufactures have changed over the years, our commitment to be a steward of the environment has not. http://www.hcm.hitachi.com/

### **Environmentally friendly products.**

Though HCM does not manufacture any hazardous products, recent discoveries regarding the breakdown of landfill waste has brought attention to a number of substances used in the manufacture of cable that, over time, can contaminate ground water. Other everyday electrical products, such as blenders, computers, hair dryers, etc. can also contribute to contaminating ground water when discarded in a landfill. So, in September of 2005, HCM adopted the RoHS guidelines in manufacturing all of its cable products. RoHS, short for Restriction of Hazardous Substances is a European environmental directive that was instituted in July of 2006. The directive, know technically as 2002/95/EC, restricts the use of certain substances including lead, mercury and cadmium. The restricted substances were found to be very harmful to the environment and would contaminate soil and groundwater when disposed of in a landfill. HCM took it upon itself to become compliant to the directive well in advance of the European deadline.

## Water is a precious resource.

HCM utilizes over 35,000 gallons of water a month in the cooling of products and equipment. Virtually all of that water is recycled. HCM utilizes a closed-loop system that feeds water to equipment. The equipment raises the water temperature. When the water leaves the manufacturing line, it is sent to a cooling tank located outside the facility. Once the water cools, it is drawn back into the system, filtered and re-used. Only water that is lost to evaporation is replaced with water from the local water supply.

### Cutting electrical use.

Regarding electrical use, HCM recently replaced over 300 light fixtures throughout our 300,000 square foot facility with high efficiency florescent lighting. By replacing all the light fixtures, HCM was able to reduce overall energy consumption by 11%. Also, the light bulbs in these new fixtures contain 75% less mercury than the previous bulbs, making them less harmful to the environment when they are disposed of. Many of these lights also operate on motion detection sensors. So, aisles in the warehouse are not lit unless someone enters an aisle and triggers a motion sensor. To add additional light, there are 90 skylights spread through the manufacturing and warehouse areas.



## Recycle, Recycle, Recycle...

HCM recycles 100% its cardboard waste and 100% of its white office paper waste. During an average month, HCM recycles nearly 14,000 pounds of cardboard and 2,000 pounds of white office paper. HCM will soon be recycling all paper that comes into the building include junk mail, catalogs, magazines, etc. HCM's goal is to limit the amount of material going to a landfill to as small an amount as possible.



Even hazardous chemical waste is recycled. Methyl Ethyl Ketone, used for color striping on a handful of products is recycled to be used a fuel. However, to reduce the amount of MEK used, HCM has been converting to water based inks. In the last year, HCM has reduced the amount of MEK used by 54% to approximately 62 pounds a month.

HCM also recycles all wood pallets (400 a month) and reels both plastic and wood. We also purchase products based upon the content of recycled material they contain. For example, our boxed cable products use a box that contains a minimum of 50% recycled cardboard. Our Category 6 ECO box (shown below) is made from 100% recycled cardboard <a href="Category 6 ECO">Category 6 ECO</a>





So, as you can see, HCM has been paying attention to how its facility and its employees impact the environment. And, as technology permits even greater reductions in waste and environmental impact, HCM will be there to ensure that we truly are a steward of the environment.