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NEWS ADVISORY:

## 2015 AWARDS FOR LEADERSHIP IN SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING ANNOUNCED

### Four Organizations Receive Highest Honors for Exemplary Leadership Twenty-two Organizations Receive Outstanding Case Study Awards

WASHINGTON DC – The Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council (SPLC) today announced the 2015 Awards for Leadership in Sustainable Purchasing. Recipients included a Federal agency, a county government, an office products supplier, and a consulting firm.

**US Department of Energy** received the Purchaser Leadership Award for an Overall Program—which is SPLC’s highest honor and recognizes a purchasing organization whose overall sustainable purchasing program exemplifies leadership—for its GreenBuy Award Program.

**County of Alameda** received the Purchaser Leadership Award for a Special Initiative—which recognizes a purchasing organization whose work with a specific purchasing category, issue, or supplier demonstrates exceptional leadership in improving the environmental, social, and economic performance of its supply chain—for implementing a strategic plan for copy paper.

Two organizations received the Supplier Leadership Award, which recognizes a supplier organization whose actions have enabled institutional purchasers to better understand and take responsibility for the consequences of their spending. **Office Depot** received the Award for advancing sustainability by engaging its customers. **Vital Metrics** received the Supplier Award for providing sustainability impact spend analysis services.

The Leadership Awards recognize organizations that have demonstrated or actively supported the kind of leadership envisioned in the SPLC’s *Principles for Leadership in Sustainable Purchasing*. The Principles state that an organization demonstrates leadership in sustainable purchasing through:

- **Understanding.** Understanding the environmental, social, and economic impacts of its purchasing.
- **Commitment.** Taking responsibility for the environmental, social, and economic impacts of its purchasing by committing to an action plan.
- **Results.** Delivering on its commitment to improve the environmental, social, and economic impacts of its purchasing.
- **Innovation.** Actively promoting internal and external innovation that advances a positive future.
- **Transparency.** Soliciting and disclosing information that supports a marketplace of innovation.

“The winners of these Awards have each demonstrated their commitment to leadership in sustainable purchasing,” says SPLC Executive Director Jason Pearson. “Collectively, they focus the powerful market influence of institutional purchasers—in public and private sectors alike—to advance a socially just, ecologically robust, economically prosperous future. The winners of SPLC’s Leadership Awards exemplify, encourage, and support a constructive cycle of innovation that will define the global marketplace of tomorrow.”

In addition to the four Leadership Awards, twenty-two organizations received Outstanding Case Study Awards for a total of thirty-three high quality case studies that document these organizations' diverse efforts to exercise and support leadership in sustainable purchasing. Recipients of the Outstanding Case Study Awards included: Aflac, Asia Pulp and Paper, Citi, City of Portland, County of Alameda, Dell, Domtar Corporation, Ecolab, Emory University, FedEx, Government of the District of Columbia, GreenCircle Certified, LLC, HDR, KEITI, King County, Lockheed Martin, Microsoft, Province of Nova Scotia, Sphere E, State of California Department of General Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and University of California San Diego.

The winning Case Study Awards will become part of SPLC's Case Studies Database, an online reference tool cross-linked with SPLC's *Principles for Leadership in Sustainable Purchasing* and *Guidance for Leadership in Sustainable Purchasing*.

The winners were selected by a prestigious jury from government, the private sector, and civil society, which included: Karl Bruskotter (City of Santa Monica), Barry Giles (Buildingwise, LLC), Harry Lewis (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency), Christina Macken (SPLC), Amanda Stevens (World Resources Institute), and Nancy Wahl-Scheurich (Little Footprint Lighting).

#### **About the Council:**

Founded in 2013, the Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council brings together leaders from government, industry, academia, standards organizations and NGOs to develop an integrated guidance, benchmarking, and recognition program for institutional leadership in sustainable purchasing. For more information, see [www.sustainablepurchasing.org](http://www.sustainablepurchasing.org).

About the Awards: [www.sustainablepurchasing.org/awards](http://www.sustainablepurchasing.org/awards)  
About the *Principles*: <http://www.sustainablepurchasing.org/principles>  
About the *Guidance*: <https://www.sustainablepurchasing.org/guidance>  
About SPLC's members: <https://www.sustainablepurchasing.org/members>

#### **SPLC's Founding Members:**

Aflac	King County
American University	Lockheed Martin
Apex Clean Energy	Michigan State University
Arizona State University	Office Depot
Bloomberg	Portland Community College
Caesars Entertainment	Province of Nova Scotia
CIPS Sustainability Index	SciQuest
City of Portland, OR	SCS Global Services
City of San Francisco, CA	Social Hotspots Database Project
City of Washington, DC	State of California, DGS
Dell	State of Michigan, DTMB & DEQ
Domtar	State of Minnesota, PCA & MMD
Ecolab	The Carbon Neutral Company
Emory University	UL Environment
FairTrade USA	US Department of Agriculture
FedEx	US Department of Energy
Goodyear	US Environmental Protection Agency
GreenCircle Certified	Waste Management
JCPenney	

### **SPLC Strategic Partners:**

The American National Standards Institute  
The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education  
Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturers Association  
BSR Center for Sustainable Procurement  
ICLEI  
Institute for Supply Management  
ISEAL Alliance  
National Association of State Procurement Officers  
Practice GreenHealth  
The Product Stewardship Institute  
Responsible Purchasing Network  
Sustainable Food Lab  
Sustainability Standards Partnership  
UNEP Sustainable Public Procurement Initiative

### **List of Outstanding Case Study Awards:**

Aflac	<i>Advancing Sustainable Procurement and Improving Supplier Diversity</i>
Asia Pulp and Paper	<i>A Journey Towards a More Sustainable &amp; Transparent Paper Production Model</i>
Citi	<i>Citi's Supply Chain Sustainability Program</i>
City of Portland (5)	<i>On-Site Renewable Energy: Biogas; Cargo Trike Delivery of Office Supplies; Standardizing Around ENERGY STAR and EPEAT Office Electronics; Greening CityFleet: Taking on Emission and Toxics Reduction Strategies; LED Residential Street Lighting</i>
County of Alameda	<i>Trends in Climate Impacts of Public Agency Procurement: A Meta-Analysis</i>
Dell	<i>Closed Loop Recycled Plastics Initiative</i>
Domtar Corporation	<i>The Paper Trail: Digitizing Transparency</i>
Ecolab	<i>Innovating Toward Sustainability One Custodial Shift at a Time</i>
Emory University	<i>Emory University's Sustainable Food Initiative</i>
FedEx	<i>Sustainable Packaging Reporting</i>
Government of DC	<i>DC Efforts to Institutionalize Sustainable Purchasing</i>
GreenCircle Certified, LLC	<i>Benefits of Multi-Attribute Sustainable Product Certification</i>
HDR	<i>Kicking Flame Retardant Chemicals Out of Office Furniture</i>
KEITI	<i>Green Public Procurement of South Korea</i>
King County (3)	<i>King County Metro Transit Fleet Purchases ; West Point Treatment Plant Renewable Energy – Purchasing Partnerships; King County's Environmental Purchasing Program</i>
Lockheed Martin (5)	<i>Lockheed Martin Supplier Ethics Mentoring Program ; Returnable, Reusable Containers &amp; Fixtures ; Lockheed Martin Spend Analysis; E-waste Stewardship ; Towards the Shared Value Vector: Lockheed Martin Sustainable Purchasing Program</i>
Microsoft	<i>Microsoft Contact Center Strategic Suppliers</i>
Province of Nova Scotia	<i>Sustainable Procurement in Nova Scotia – Furniture Case Study</i>
Sphere E	<i>Measuring What Matters: Providing Product Evaluation Software</i>
State of California DGS (2)	<i>Open Office Panels System; State of California's Leadership in Sustainable Purchasing</i>
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture	<i>The USDA Voluntary Biobased Labeling Program</i>
UC San Diego	<i>A Collaborative Approach to Supplier Sustainability Assessments</i>

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