

ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDE

HighTower wants to offer our clients well-design, well-produced, healthy furniture. We work to reduce the amount of chemicals of concern found within our products. Many of our factories are ISO 9001 (quality management) and ISO 14001 (environmental management) certified for meeting & exceeding international standards for processes related to quality control, customer satisfaction and minimizing the environmental impact. Our products are designed and produced to have the longest life span possible – we feel this is a crucial element in reducing our environmental impact.

Wooden Raw Material	Wood is a renewable material and CO ₂ -neutral rawmaterial. We do our best to ensure that our timber comes from controlled and certified forests where the natural ecosystem is respected. We try to purchase FSC or PEFCcertified woods. The majority of our plyboard, chipboard, board and MDF comply with the E1-standard (This means low emissions of formaldehyde i.e. less than .12 mg/m ³ .)
Steel	All of the steel components used can be recycled an in most cases separated from the other parts without the need of special tools. We offer some products with 99.9% recycled content based on weight (Ruby Tables, Ayre Bench). Much of our furniture is subject to high-use, public environments and so a chrome finish is applied to maximize the life span of the product. None of our products are treated with Chromium VI (6-valent chrome). Instead, we use Chromium III (3-valent chrome) which is considered to have less impact on the environment and health. The chromium parts can be recycled.
Glue	At every stage of production, we choose glue that has the least impact on the environment and the greatest stability, strength and durability. The adhesive used in assembly is typically a water-based PVAc-glue. When gluing foam, we use a variety of glues, but where it is technically possible, we use hot melt adhesive.
Foam	Almost all of our upholstered furniture is built around a high resilience foam center. Molded foam frames often contain a wooden or steel infrastructure. We are actively working to phase our highresilience foam that contains halogenated flame retardant substances in the products where the client does not require this feature.
Polyamide	Our best-selling Four Cast series uses a Polyamide seat shell (PA6 reinforced with fiberglass) which can be recycled. The shell can actually be granulated and used in new shell production.