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## GES Environmental Sustainability Policy

### Educating and creating partnerships in the events industry by displaying sustainable actions that go beyond recycling.

GES is a provider of first class exhibition and event services to clients globally. We have always been committed to continuously improving our way of working in order to achieve best practice in the field of sustainable events. Our activities, and those within our supply chain, have potential environmental, social and economic impacts. We recognize our duty and obligation to manage, minimize any negative impacts, and maximize positive impacts that exist in relation to our events services.

We are proud of the fact that GES is the first and only, global full-service events provider to earn both APEX/ASTM Level 2 Certification in the U.S. and ISO 20121 in the UK.

Years of intense effort often go into making an event happen, but once everyone has packed up and gone home, there is still work to be done. The uncomfortable fact is the events industry is extremely wasteful. Many materials that could be recycled, reused, or repurposed end up being disposed of or destroyed – often at considerable cost to the environment, the local community and the bottom line.

The time has come to take a stand and put an end to unnecessary waste. That is why we continue to work hard to create a legacy of sustainability for the entire events industry. That means not just evolving our own processes, practices and materials, but educating others too.

In recognition of this ongoing process towards a sustainable future, we have created an Environmental Sustainability Policy that is ingrained in our daily operations, and ensures that we are a responsible partner who will take a proactive role in reducing your environmental footprint and becoming more socially responsible.

**Vision:**

We strive to be environmentally responsible by focusing on minimizing the waste sent to landfills from each GES facility and event that we produce. We continue to improve our environmental footprint by establishing goals and objectives for each event as well as providing an environmental impact report that measures what we set out to achieve. Education is key to understanding how to be fully sustainable and it is our mission to educate our clients on what actions they can take for a sustainable event. We not only aim to reduce the amount of resources we use for each event, we also try to reuse or repurpose as often as possible. A repurposed item at an event can be as simple as a reused table or chair that is sourced locally. We also aim to support our local communities environmental efforts by repurposing items to continue their life cycle.

**Principles:**

As a value-based company, we place high importance on our five core values that guide our principles and actions: Honesty, Passion, Curiosity, Service, and Team Spirit. In addition, we are committed to our Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives: Environmental Stewardship, Workplace Safety, and Community Service.

**Objectives:**

As a global events company, we understand that the choices we make when producing events have a significant impact on the environment. By focusing on waste reduction, energy conservation, material sourcing, health and safety, and community involvement, we aim to be more environmentally responsible. We adhere to all legal and other applicable requirements while striving to develop the sustainability of our event services and operations.

**Our Objectives are:**

- **Management** – We have a Sustainability Council that is dedicated to helping implement sustainability initiatives. We work with our clients to set defined environmental performance goals and provide post-event reports of achievements. We encourage the use of local labor sources.
- **Communication** – We share our commitment to sustainability with our clients and offer resources and best practices to help them meet their environmental goals. We communicate environmental objectives and performance criteria to our employees.
- **Waste** – We strive to maximize the amount of materials from events that are diverted from landfills through recycling and repurposing.

- **Air Quality** – We enforce a no-idling policy. We encourage the use of carriers that participate in the EPA’s SmartWay Transport Partnership. We strive to use green-certified cleaning products.
- **Procurement** – We established criteria for purchasing environmentally-preferred products and encourage sourcing materials locally.
- **Community Partners** – We partner with community organizations to donate materials to be reused and repurposed.

**Our Ability and Duty to Act:**

- We believe in using the earth's resources wisely, as we provide event materials and make internal choices.
- As a leader in our industry, we believe we have a unique opportunity to set a standard for sustainable practices and choices that can be emulated by others.
- We believe in continuously learning about best practices from sustainable entities such as APEX/ASTM, Events Industry Council, and working with sustainable partners to contribute to and support the overall cause of environmental responsibility.

Our Environmental Sustainability Policy and the actions of our entire Sustainability Council is the overall responsibility of our Sustainability Council Executive Sponsor and the President of GES North America.



Jay Akizer  
President of GES North America



Sheila LeMaster, CMP  
Vice President of Exhibitor Services  
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