



Policy I. 3A

Position Statement on the Environment

- Purpose:** To establish the Association's position on Environmental Issues.
- Intent:** To provide guiding principles and parameters for Interior Designers in addressing today's environmental issues.

Position

It is imperative that actions be taken to reduce the impacts of human activity on the environment in the areas of biodiversity, global warming, air and water quality, tropical and old growth forest and toxic waste production.

In support of these imperatives, the Association will promote the integration of environmental goals with product research and development as well as client/end user needs.

Interior Designers are encouraged to re-evaluate their design, specification, and materials selection process to address issues such as:

- a. Reduction of effluents, emissions, and toxic releases to the environment (air, water, land)
- b. Support and selection of products and manufacturers that utilize sustainably produced materials, practice conservation of natural resources and preserve biodiversity.
- c. Utilization of products which are designed for recycling, reuse, easy repair and extended life cycles.
- d. Development and utilization of safe and efficient sources of energy (mechanical, electrical, and plumbing with regards to building and manufacturing production systems).
- e. Promotion and utilization of safe and healthy production, manufacturing, construction, and installation processes.

The Association supports organizational communication to establish a network for the exchange of pertinent information that may improve environmental efforts. Additionally, the Association suggests that design professionals and design organizations work in conjunction with manufacturers, regulatory bodies and private organizations to develop guidelines and specifications for the certification of materials, products, manufacturing processes, and energy systems. The expertise of design professionals regarding these components makes this collaboration essential.

The Association also believes that it is important to introduce these guidelines at the post-secondary education level, and to encourage educators to include this in the design curriculum.