**Michigan Manufacturers Council-Green/Lean Group Focus Conference Notes**

**June 1, 2011**

**Company/Presenter**

*H & L Advantage – Steve Beurkens, Sales and Marketing Manager*

- Nate to check to see who recycles their purge injection molding plastic.

*Irwin Seating – Rich Thelen, Director of Manufacturing*

- Recycling of colored buckets.
  - Nate to follow up to check for lead to use at Kalsec (reference for Sarah, sustainability contact).
- Check on vinyl recycling possibilities. (Ryan and Nate)
- Incineration waste goes to Covanta Energy
- Waste powder paint an issue.
  - Possible use as cement filler (LaGrange?)
- Environmental leadership team reviews monthly progress and sets new goals
  - Review environmental regulations and attend seminars/webinars
  - Zero landfill team manually sorts recycling
    - Companies used: Padnos, Kamps, Waste Management

*Herman-Miller – Larry Dykhuis, Corporate Environmental Affairs Manager*

- Defined zero landfill as “No waste from H-M facility traveling directly to landfill.”
  - 40% Powder Paint
  - 10% Sodium Bicarb from energy center (fly ash)
  - 40% Purchased/acquired companies waste
  - Vinyl fabric (non PVC) PET an issue to reuse and recycle (Irwin mentioned the same)
- Nate to Check on FTC green guidelines/claims.
- Power paint recycling and ash are main issues.
  - Some Waste power paint used in counter balance with Innotek.
- Level Certified points available for zero landfill. (Nate to factor into his analyses.)

*West Michigan Sustainable Purchasing Consortium – Mary Ellen Mika, Steelcase Inc.*

- [www.wmspc.org](http://www.wmspc.org)
- LEED credits available for green product implementation into building? Innovation By Design section?
- Nate to Follow-up with Dr. Glasser about WMU joining the group (campus sustainability).
- SPURT: local composting company
- Nate to follow up on “Eco Logo”
Power Coat Recycling Users Group – William Small, MMTC

- Upcoming meeting at the end of June.
- Look into MEP Network
- Note: Dr. Patten forwarded note to Dr. Meade re. need for polymer chemist (Dr. Valery)

Note: one of the speakers recommended referring to waste as a treasure (as in treasure hunt or treasure chest, instead of dumpster dive).