



James Hardie is committed to responsible stewardship of the environment and to the conservation of natural resources, which is core to the long-term success and viability of the business.

We continue to devote considerable time, effort and capital to the advancement of fibre cement technology, so that environmental impacts from our operations are minimised, and recovered or recycled materials can be effectively used. This year, as in years past, James Hardie's facilities were designed, constructed and operated in a responsible manner that is consistent with regulatory standards and best-available pollution control technology where applicable.

James Hardie makes consistent efforts to ensure that its facilities are operated in a manner that is environmentally responsible and in full compliance with the letter and spirit of regulatory standards. Where any gaps are noted in our compliance efforts, corrective measures are formulated and aggressively implemented to ensure full and sustainable compliance.

Conservation

The primary raw materials used in the manufacture of James Hardie's products are abundant: cellulose fibre is obtained from plantation grown timber; sand from various sources; cement from a worldwide market; and water. James Hardie does, however, recognise that these resources are not inexhaustible

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and therefore places great emphasis on the efficient use of materials and energy.

The company's current research projects include measures to further conserve natural resources through greater use of recycled or by-product materials, and the evolution of processes whereby water and energy are used more efficiently.

From a global perspective, cement is the biggest contributor to the impact of James Hardie products on the environment, due to the energy-intensive nature of the cement manufacturing process itself. James Hardie actively monitors changes in this industry, as it adopts cleaner and more efficient technologies, and we adapt our processes and formulas to use the more environmentally-friendly alternatives.

Waste minimisation

James Hardie is passionate about minimising waste in our manufacturing operations. At all locations, solid waste – such as trimmings, scrap, fine particles and reject material – are reintroduced into the manufacturing process as raw materials, to the greatest extent possible. Solid waste that cannot be reused is

certified by authorities as non-hazardous and is disposed of in landfills or, where opportunities are available, process waste is recycled or further used in applications where its properties are especially desirable. As an example, at some locations, rejected boards are recycled in the production of cement at partnering cement suppliers.

Our products contribute to energy-efficient building systems

Finally, our building products are used in lightweight construction systems that are among the most energy-efficient and environmentally responsible building systems available. These systems are very durable and require little maintenance during their lifetime.

Our current products have been used for many years in residential and commercial building applications and do not suffer the durability problems of many other cladding materials. If buildings created using our current products are eventually demolished, the products can be safely recycled, or disposed of in landfills.