



# PLANSON INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

*Supplying Technology for Aid and Development since 1989*

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8 November 2012

## **Communication on Progress - COP Year: 2012**

On behalf of Planson International Corporation, I reaffirm the company's support and commitment to the UN Global Compact initiative and its ten principles in the areas of human rights, labor, the environment and anti-corruption. As our company grows we become ever more acutely aware of the impact our decisions and actions have in these areas. We have developed teams and initiatives to address each area.

### **Human Rights**

#### *Actions*

We are committed to informed, proactive and unflagging support of human rights and freedoms, and equal treatment of all, regardless of race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, physical or mental disability, familial status, sexual orientation, age, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

We hold regular training for all employees to communicate the content and ensure our implementation of all laws governing protection of human rights, prevention of sexual harassment, and guarantees of nondiscrimination.

We meticulously observe all laws and regulations protecting the privacy of our employees, vendors, customers and partners.

We support human rights organizations through financial, material and time contributions.

As a woman-owned business, we strongly support women's advancement in education, employment, business, health, and family.

We do not do business with individuals, companies, governments or organizations identified as violators of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

#### *Outcomes*

All Planson staff, customers, business partners and suppliers are informed that Planson supports and respects the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights, and demands that we are not complicit in human rights abuses.

We make financial and time contributions to nonprofit organizations promoting human rights and the health and wellbeing of girls, early education, physical fitness, sports, and publicly financed online adult education.

### **Labour**

#### *Actions*

Planson is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We comply with all laws, including labor laws which prohibit:

- Unfair treatment because of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age, disability or genetic information.
- Harassment by managers, co-workers, or others in the workplace, because of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information.
- Denial of a reasonable workplace accommodation that the employee needs because of religious beliefs or disability.
- Retaliation because the employee complained about job discrimination, or assisted with a job discrimination investigation or lawsuit.

The policy of equal employment opportunity encompasses all aspects of the employment relationship including hiring, promotion and transfer, selection for training opportunities, wage and salary administration and the application of benefit plans and Company policies.

Planson surveys employees and submits official reports bi-annually on the office working environment, including training, ergonomics, mental health, conflicts, indoor climate, and sexual harassment.

We believe in the power of information technology for capacity building to achieve development objectives. We partner locally with in-country ICT companies, who provide high level technical support, hardware and software installation, end user training, education, and warranty repairs. We are committed to delivering services through this global network of local partners who respect all the ten principles of the Global Compact. Our local partners gain access to large opportunities thanks to our cooperation, financial strength and experience, and as they prosper local economies are also strengthened.

We maintain a safe, positive, respectful work environment.

#### *Outcomes*

Planson consistently upholds the 4 Principles regarding Labour both internally and externally.

### **Environment**

#### *Actions*

Planson as a Value-Added Reseller of Information and Communication Technology has a positive impact on the environment by:

- 1) Promoting only manufacturers and distributors who are committed to environmentally friendly technologies, including:

Optimized packaging process to minimize packaging materials  
Guaranteed high content of recycled content, post-consumer and post-industrial  
Energy Star rating  
EPEAT power supply efficiency  
Asset Recovery Services  
E-Waste recycling  
ISO 14001:2004 certification for Environmental Management System (EMS)

- 2) Implementing environmentally sound policies in our own facilities

Company-Wide *Reduce, Reuse, Recycle* Program for paper, toners, ink, e-Waste, plastics, glass, metal  
Biodegradable packaging materials  
Standard duplex draft printing  
Hybrid company vehicle  
Staff carpooling  
weatherization, super-insulation, remotely managed environmental monitoring of building

Low energy appliances, electronics and lighting  
Fulltime telecommuting for 2 staff, flexible part-time telecommuting for all  
Green space conservation

3) Assisting our customers to be protective of the environment

TCO assessment

Recycling program for expended consumables and e-Waste

Certified Destruction and Recycling Recovery service for commodity grade metals and non-metals,  
destruction of all data, no portion of such material deposited in a landfill

*Outcomes*

Internal:

Packaging: Our packaging is 100% biodegradable

Non-recycled waste: 25% reduction in waste

Paper: 90% is recycled

Toner/Ink: 99% is recycled

Electric use: 10% reduction in usage

Fossil fuel use: 15% reduction in usage

Green space: Became a member of Maine Small Woodlands Owners of Maine (SWOAM) and placed  
140 acres of forest into longterm Tree Growth Classification under a Certified  
Forest Management Plan

**Anti-Corruption:**

Planson upholds Principle 10 by working against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

*Actions*

We maintain a strict code of ethics in all our business transactions. We reject all questionable advances, promptly report incidents of impropriety, and file protests against corrupt actions. We do not engage in corrupt activity or sanction corrupt activity by any business associates or outside partners.

In the past year we have received training from US officials implementing anti-corruption initiatives. We access a direct line to report any instances of improper sales, extortion or bribery.

We continually encourage our manufacturers/vendors to ensure that there is a level playing field for all resellers to protect the interest of our customers and ensure open, fair and transparent competition.

*Outcomes*

We maintain a zero tolerance policy toward corruption. Our business operations are free of all corrupt practices.

Sincerely yours,

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