shop! Enhancing Retail Environments & Experiences

DESIGNERS: *HERE IS AN EXCERPT FROM THE SHOP! WHITE PAPER CURATED JUST FOR YOU!*

Sustainability at Retail

IN JANUARY 2016, THE UNITED NATIONS began to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The agenda was a transformative plan of action based on 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that addressed the urgent global challenges over the next 15 years. In reaction to the growing need for sustainability, the Shop! Global Council identified five of the UN Sustainability Development Goals that were most applicable to the retail industry. These were chosen out of a variety of factors including:

- The need for greater economic responsibility and greater local employment.
- The need for efficient use of resources.
- The need for waste management in production sites and displays production.
- The need for the use of clean technologies & processes (renewable energy, eco calculator).
- The need for Shop! to speak as one voice for the industry on Sustainability at Retail.

UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DESIGNERS

Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation.

Increase R&D and added value for goods and services.

- Design buildings that not only limit the harm to the environment but also creates more clean energy than is being used.
- Investigate the use of living exteriors and interior design materials base in biodegradable material made from mushrooms.
- When designing new buildings, consider specifying materials like self-repairing concrete, which leads to long lifecycles and more sustainable footprints
- Empower designers that have a passion for the cause to create new, unexpected, and potentially successful solutions.
- Help clients "think outside the box" and demonstrate choosing a sustainable option does not mean giving something up.

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Increase focus on reduction of raw material consumption/energy consumption, development of re-employment and recycling, in anticipation of end of life.

- Specify ethical, sustainable, and durable materials for a project.
- Specify energy-efficient lighting, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration equipment.
- Specify sustainable refrigeration systems that utilize refrigerants with a lower climate impact.
- Specify reclaimed materials, like wood for fixtures, displays, décor, and furniture.
- Specify materials and finishes that avoid chemicals with the greatest impact to human and ecosystem health.
- Anticipate end of life through design by disassemble (DBD).

UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DESIGNERS
13 CLIMATE ACTION **Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.** **To achieve this goal [to not exceed +2°C], global greenhouse gas emissions must be reduced from 40% to 70% in 2050 (compared to 2020 levels), and reach levels of emission close to zero by 2100.**	• Use right-sizing strategies and recommend using the fewest materials possible without sacrificing function. • Recommend low impact materials for environmental impact reduction and carbon offsetting. • Implement design strategies that minimize energy use in buildings and supplement energy sources with renewable production. • Design new buildings that can extend a structure's useful life and be easily adapted to various uses..
14 LIFE BELOW WATER **Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources.**	• Implement design strategies that use less water and mitigate water risks required for long-term resilience. • Design plastic-free environments and incorporate eco-friendly materials, such as artificial brick slat wall made from FSC-certified sources, wood and cork. • Consider logistics optimization to reduce pollutants in the atmosphere (fewer trucks on the streets). • Specify water-efficient appliances and plumbing fixtures. • Shrink impermeable surfaces by designing an efficient development footprint that will also save on construction and energy costs. • Consider a green roof, an attractive addition that protects your building as it soaks up rainfall, saves energy, and lasts longer than a traditional roof.
15 LIFE ON LAND **Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss.**	• Design solutions created from wood waste generated from other manufacturing processes. • Specify locally sourced materials when feasible. • Specify signage created using products like Falcon board, which is made primarily from renewable forest resources and is completely recyclable. • Specify engineered lumber, which can be made from smaller branches and trees species that would otherwise go to waste. It resists warping, cracking, and splitting better than conventional lumber. • Take advantage of locally sourced stone and wood for architecture rooted in the building's location. It is much easier to know if a forest 50 miles away is sustainably managed than one that is located halfway around the globe.

To learn more about Sustainability at Retail, read the full white paper at *shopassociation.org/industry-reports/*