State Purchasing

An overview of state purchasing efforts
States are active in EPP

- Recycled content paper
- Office products
- Laser toner cartridges
- Tires
- DOT applications
- Cleaning products
- Landscaping
- Plastic lumber and much more
Massachusetts

- Must specs and desirable specs
- Contract awarded to 11 manufacturers
- All removed carpet must be recycled
- Modular-Recycled content or reusable
- Broadloom-Phased in recycled content
- Claims must comply with FTC Guides
- Refurbished is acceptable
More Musts

- Provide written plans for recovery and recycling
- Written assurance no carpet will be landfilled or WtE (exception for low end or contamination)
- Offer customer education on company program
Desirables

- document a high percentage of post-consumer content in their products
- a plan to increase the post-consumer recycled content in the carpet products over the contract term
- certification by a neutral, third party organization for recycled content (e.g. SCS or an equivalent)
Product must contain recycled content. If virgin is substituted, must obtain approval from State Procurement Officer.

Carpet shall be recyclable via current technology at an available commercial facility.

The successful contractor(s) shall provide, with bid, a description of their reclamation program.
Recycled content

- Recycled content/total product by weight = combo PC/PI
- Low-medium traffic area - 15%
- Heavy traffic area - 25%
- Extra heavy use area with worst installation conditions - 30%
North Carolina-Recycled content and/or recyclability

- Carpet offered must comply with at least one of the following three requirements
- Minimum 5% PC by weight except that vinyl-backed and other similar hard-backed products contain 20% by weight.
- 15% by weight-combo if PC & PI
- Or 25% by weight recyclable content
More from NC

- FTC Guides must be followed
- EPA/CPG glossary of terms used
Pennsylvania

- Removed carpet recyclable at a minimum 80% taking into consideration elements that may not be recycled due to contamination.
- Carpet tiles max face weight of 22 oz. Broadloom carpet shall have a max of 26 oz.
- Carpet must have a minimum 15-year non-prorated, written warranty.
More PA

- All materials removed, including old and new carpeting, cushion materials, and packing must be recycled. Documented plan and chain of custody required.
Results

- While there are variations there are commonalities as well.
- Sales have been largely dependent on market conditions (state budgets)
- Problems with recycling existing carpeting
- Some sales reps not familiar with contract terms
- Using agencies need education as well