



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### WHAT IS THE SUSTAINABLE GREEN PRINTING PARTNERSHIP?

The Sustainable Green Printing Partnership (SGP) is a non-profit organization that certifies printing facilities' sustainability best practices, including and beyond regulatory compliance.

### WHY SHOULD A FACILITY GET CERTIFIED BY SGP?

SGP certification benefits your printing facility in countless ways. Beyond creating real cost and resource savings, our certification differentiates your business in the crowded marketplace, and institutes a more accountable, sustainable supply chain - something more and more buyers are interested in.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Any printing facility, small or large, using any print process, including lithography, flexography, screen, digital and gravure and is located in the United States or Canada is eligible. SGP also certifies in-plant printing operations and printing departments within government agencies and educational institutions (e.g. schools, universities, community colleges, etc.).

### WHAT ARE THE SGP CERTIFICATION FEES?

- **Application Fee: \$325**  
Must be submitted with the completed application for the certification process to begin.
- **Audit Fee: \$2,000**  
The audit fee will be invoiced once the pre-audit review of documentation and the on-site audit is complete.
- **Auditor Travel: Variable**  
The facility undergoing an audit is responsible for the travel expenses of the auditor. Costs will be kept as reasonable as possible. They will be invoiced along with the audit fee.
- **Corrective Action Required (CAR): \$75 per hour**  
When a corrective action is required (CAR), an auditor may have to spend additional time interacting with the applicant. If so, an additional \$75 per hour will be charged. This fee is invoiced with the audit fee.
- **Annual Renewal: \$350**  
Each year after the initial audit, the facility will be charged an annual renewal fee for the review of its progress report for continuous improvement.



### **WILL USING A SGP CERTIFIED PRINT FACILITY COST A PRINT BUYER MORE?**

There is no reason using a SGP certified facility should cost customers more. Adopting the externally validated standard of SGP criteria as a benchmark, there is no need for print buyers and brands to develop “green” standards, checklists or scorecards, thus reducing costs associated with vendor qualification verification.

### **WHAT ARE THE GENERAL REQUIREMENTS TO BE SGP CERTIFIED?**

All facilities must be in compliance with all applicable environmental, safety, health and employment regulations. SGP facilities must have an active sustainability management system; an annual continuous improvement project; bi-annual environmental, safety, health and energy audits; implement mandatory best management practices; and complete the program’s required metrics form.

### **HOW LONG DOES CERTIFICATION LAST?**

Facilities undergo a recertification audit every two years and must submit an annual report annually.

### **WHERE ARE THE CERTIFIED FACILITIES LISTED?**

The SGP website ([www.sgppartnership.org](http://www.sgppartnership.org)) includes a wealth of information about the program, including all the facilities with current certifications. There are details about each company including full contact information, where they are located, company information, products, printing processes and their latest Annual Report.

### **HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?**

Visit the SGP website [www.sgppartnership.org](http://www.sgppartnership.org) or contact the SGP Program Office [info@sgppartnership.org](mailto:info@sgppartnership.org).