

## BERK-TEK'S GREEN PROMISE: Sustainability for the Future

**Berk-Tek, leads the cabling industry** not only in product performance, but also in our commitment to responsible and sustainable manufacturing practices. We further recognize that LAN cables can play an important role in the creation of complete systems focused on protection of the environment and the conservation of natural resources. From manufacturing processes, through facilities operations, and on to intelligent application of our products, Berk-Tek works to control, ameliorate and improve our environmental impact.

### RoHS

All Berk-Tek data communications cabling products meet the European Union's requirements for the RoHS and REACH directives. These directives require that products be virtually free of heavy metal compounds and other substances that have been shown to be detrimental to both people and the environment. Berk-Tek's data communications cabling products are also compliant with California's Proposition 65, another leading piece of environmental legislation focused on improving the natural environment and safeguarding human life.

### Cardboard and Paper Recycling

Our Recycling Team organizes our cardboard and paper recycling program. Its mission is to divert as much cardboard and paper waste as possible by providing environmental leadership and education that promotes waste reduction, recycling, and the purchase of recycled content products. Since the inception of our recycling program in October 2006, Berk-Tek has recycled over 300 tons of paper and cardboard products.

### Raw Water

Berk-Tek uses an evaporation system to handle the water used throughout the manufacturing process. All sanitary water is treated on-site and meets strict EPA standards before being released into the environment. This prevents approximately 200,000 gallons of contaminated water from entering our local rivers and lakes every year.



## Materials Recycling

Scrap happens. It's inevitable. For these instances, we have comprehensive reclamation procedures and programs to handle it. Copper is reprocessed for use in wire, cable and other types of products, like pipe. Annually Berk-Tek reclaims, recycles, or reprocesses over 550 tons of copper scrap. This yields electrical power savings of over 14,000 MW/h and a 7,000 ton reduction in CO2 emissions.

Our reprocessed plastics are not only used in other wire and cable products, they also are used in products such as plastic lumber and garden hoses. Berk-Tek reclaims, recycles, or reprocesses over 450 tons of plastic materials. We also, when possible, have transitioned from reels made from wood to plastic reels that are made from 100% recycled materials.

## Energy Efficient Lighting

Berk-Tek replaced over 600 metal halide lighting fixtures with high-efficiency T5 fluorescent fixtures in an effort to reduce our total energy demand. Installing this technology has resulted in a savings of over 1.5 million kWh annually, saving over 1.9 million pounds of greenhouse gasses (carbon dioxide), 3,000 pounds of nitrogen oxide, and 15,000 pounds of sulfur dioxide from entering the environment. While these bulbs are highly-energy efficient, they do contain mercury, a toxin for humans and other wildlife, so we needed to ensure that we had a method to dispose of the new fluorescent lamps safely. To address this, Berk-Tek invested in a lamp-crushing product designed to capture the mercury and thereby prevent any toxic vapors from entering the environment.

**These are just some of the many ways** in which Berk-Tek is following through on our Green Promise, our statement of commitment to the environment and our communities,

To ensure a healthy and sustainable future, Berk-Tek will:

- ▶ Help our customers to achieve their environmental goals through the intelligent application of our cabling products

- ▶ Improve our products by exploring new processes, materials, and packaging to minimize our impact on energy and natural resources
- ▶ Manage our activities by behaving as a good corporate citizen, committed to minimizing and offsetting the effects our business has on the environment

From innovative materials development, through positive manufacturing practices and on to standards bodies' contributions, Berk-Tek truly does work to safeguard and improve our environment.



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