

EMBARGOED UNTIL January 28, 2020 7pm ET/4pm PT

Sustainable Purchasing Leaders Recognized in Virtual Ceremony

Leading organizations acknowledged for effective and impactful sustainable purchasing

CONTACT: Donna Westerman, CEO, SPLC
donna@sustainablepurchasing.org (202) 607-2600 (X 934)

Washington, DC – On Thursday, January 28, 2021, the Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council (SPLC) recognized seven organizations and one individual at the Council’s annual awards ceremony for their significant leadership in executing and supporting sustainable purchasing initiatives. Because of the pandemic, the awards ceremony was held virtually online for the first time ever.

Each award winner was evaluated by a prestigious panel of sustainable purchasing experts for the breadth and quality of their sustainable purchasing strategies and impacts, based on a detailed case study of their work in a specific area or comprehensive review of their overall program.

Sustainable purchasing – where organizations use their purchasing power to advance the long term health and vitality of society, economies, and the planet – is gaining momentum around the world, as purchasing organizations recognize the social and environmental impact of their procurement, and suppliers embrace sustainability as a critical element of their value proposition.

“We are proud to reward and recognize the winners of these awards for their outstanding Sustainable Purchasing Leadership efforts,” said Donna Westerman, CEO of the SPLC. “It was clear to our judges that their vision and strategy execution will help guide us toward a more sustainable world.”

The awards and awardees include:

**Leadership Award for Overall Sustainable Purchasing Program:
Ihobe – Government of Basque Country, Spain**

**Leadership Award for a Special Sustainable Purchasing Initiative:
Hilton Supply Management**

**Sustainable Purchasing Business Case Leadership Award:
California Department of General Services, Procurement Division**

**Leadership Award for Public Interest Advocacy:
Better Buying Institute**

**Leadership Award for Supplier Engagement:
Tillamook County Creamery Association**
**Leadership Award for Circular Economy:
Rheply**

**Supplier Leadership Award:
TCO Development**

**Individual Leadership Award:
Rekha Menon-Varma, Vertaeon LLC**

Outstanding Case Study Awards

Fourteen additional organizations were honored with Outstanding Case Study recognition and inclusion in the SPLC Case Study Library. Outstanding Case Study designation recognizes organizations that have documented successful and impactful sustainable purchasing efforts in detailed case studies that enable others to follow their lead. Winning case studies are published in SPLC's Case Study Library. (See full list of Outstanding Case Study winners below.)

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About the Awards

SPLC's Leadership Awards recognize organizations that have demonstrated leadership consistent with SPLC's [*Principles for Leadership in Sustainable Purchasing*](#), by:

- Understanding the environmental, social, and economic impacts of their purchasing.
- Taking responsibility for the environmental, social, and economic impacts of their purchasing by committing to an action plan.
- Delivering on their commitment to improve the environmental, social, and economic impacts of their purchasing.
- Actively promoting internal and external innovation that advances a positive future.
- Soliciting and disclosing information that supports a marketplace of innovation.

About the Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council:

Founded in 2013, the [*Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council*](#) convenes buyers, suppliers, and public interest advocates to develop programs that simplify and standardize sustainable purchasing efforts by large organizations. The Council has quickly attracted, from a wide variety of sectors and regions, more than 180 members with over \$200 billion in collective purchasing power. In 2015, SPLC released *Guidance for Leadership in Sustainable Purchasing v1.0*, which has been called the "most comprehensive literature to date" on sustainable purchasing. [Hundreds of organizations](#) are now using SPLC's [Guidance](#), resources, and online community of practice to create strategic sustainable purchasing programs, or enhance existing ones.

Outstanding Case Study Recognition

The following organizations received an Outstanding Case Study Certificate in recognition of their contribution of a valuable case study to the online library of case studies in SPLC's online Community. This list includes all submissions, including the eight award winners.

Organization	Case Study Title
Better Buying	“Promoting sustainable partnerships through data-driven transparency into purchasing practices”
California Dept. of General Services, Procurement Division	“Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP): Basic Training Module”
California Dept. of General Services, Procurement Division	“Green Buyer Project Implementing Transparency in California’s State Spend”
Clover Imaging Group	“An Environmentally Responsible Alternative to Single-Use Printer Cartridges”
County of Alameda, CA	“Inspiring Champions throughout an Organization: A sustainable purchasing training video”
Fairfax County, VA	“Supply Chain CSR in Local Government”
FedEx	“Driving Sustainability into the Supply Chain – A Closed-Loop Sourcing Process”
FedEx	“Enterprise Purchased Transportation Strategy”
FedEx	“Energy Management System for FedEx Office”
Hilton Supply Management	“Bali Circular Water Solution”
Ihobe – Government of Basque Country, Spain	“The Green Public Procurement Program of the Basque Country”
Lexmark International	“Lexmark Cartridge Collection Program Reuses Tons of Plastic”
Markit	“Providing Access to Sustainable IT Products Through a Global Marketplace”
New York State Office of General Services	“New York State’s GreenNY Icon”
Rheaply	“City of Chicago PPE Market: Using principles of circularity to equitably distribute COVID-19 resources”

Organization	Case Study Title
State of Maryland & Responsible Purchasing Network	"Building a Green Purchasing Roadmap for the State of Maryland"
State of Minnesota	"A Key to Buy-in: Effective Communication of Sustainable Purchasing Program"
Superior Essex Communications	"When the Experts Design for Themselves: Superior Essex Sustainable Cable in the Perkins and Will Toronto Design Studio"
TCO Development	"Offsetting e-waste with new TCO Certified Edge e-waste compensated"
Tillamook County Creamery Association	"Building a foundation for sustainable procurement at Tillamook"
VF Corporation	"Utility Management & Energy Consulting"