



PRESS RELEASE

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Model EPP Purchasing Specs for Office Supplies Now Available

The Northeast Recycling Council, Inc. (NERC) recently completed Model Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Specifications and Purchasing Guidelines (EPP Specs) for one of the most frequently purchased products by public purchasers—office supplies. The EPP Specs are the result of a project funded by the Roy A. Hunt Foundation, and will make it easier for public and private purchasers to purchase “green” office supplies.

NERC developed the EPP Office Supplies Specs with the assistance of an expert team of EPP professionals, public purchasers, and product experts. The EPP Specs include product specifications and purchasing guidelines based on current market conditions. “The collaborative process used by NERC to develop the EPP Specs was very successful,” stated Lynn Rubinstein, Executive Director, NERC, “and resulted in the EPP Specs of which NERC and the expert team members are very proud.”

The EPP Specs are accessible by searching on NERC’s website (www.nerc.org) under EPP, and can be used in part or in their entirety for bid requests and vendor contracts. In addition, EPP Specs were developed for monochrome toner cartridges and copy and multipurpose (20 lb.) paper. These documents, as well as fact sheets for each of the specs, a webinar recording, and a PowerPoint presentation are also available.

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Karl Bruskotter, an Environmental Programs Analyst for the City of Santa Monica, California commented that, “I am excited to have contributed to this very worthy project. I hope that any organization interested in greening these particular goods will find the [EPP specifications and] purchasing guidelines useful. Here in Santa Monica, we have already used them in two bid solicitations.”

NERC would like to thank the expert team members for sharing their time and expertise in the development of the EPP Specs:

Office Supplies Expert Team

- Karl Bruskotter, Environmental Programs Analyst, City of Santa Monica (CA)
- Alicia Culver, Executive Director, Responsible Purchasing Network
- Stacey Foreman, Sustainable Procurement Coordinator, City of Portland (OR)
- A state procurement specialist who requested anonymity

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