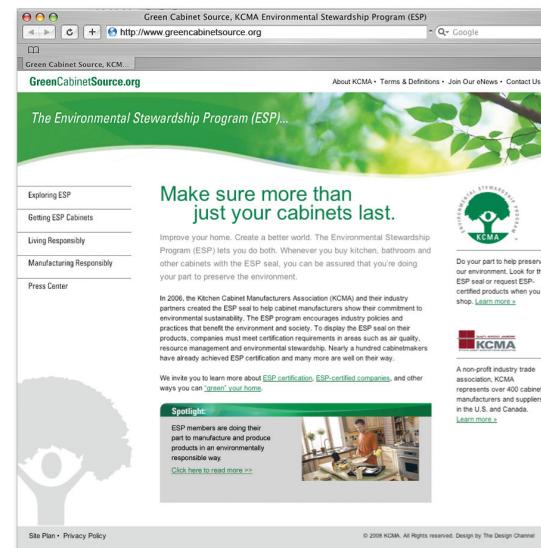


## We're Making Sure More Than Just Your Cabinets Last

With the help of industry partners, the Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association (KCMA) has created the Environmental Stewardship Program (ESP) to encourage industry policies and practices that benefit the environment and society. This groundbreaking new program provides a tangible way for cabinet manufacturers and suppliers to show their commitment to environmental sustainability.

Since launching ESP at the 2006 International Woodworking Fair, the voluntary certification program has been enthusiastically received by cabinet manufacturers of all sizes. After meeting the certification requirements in areas such as air quality, resource management and environmental stewardship, certified companies can display the ESP seal on their products.

**This seal is your assurance that you are doing your part to help preserve our environment. Ask your cabinetry supplier today if their products carry the ESP seal and encourage your customers to ask for it too.**



**GreenCabinetSource.org helps consumers make smart choices for their home and the environment.**

KCMA has also created the web site, GreenCabinetSource.org, to educate consumers about ESP and the benefits of "green" cabinets. This comprehensive online resource makes it easy to find ESP products as well as learn more about living and manufacturing responsibly. Highlights of the site include:

- Overview of what it means to be ESP-certified
- Searchable list of ESP-certified companies with links to their web sites
- Tips for "greening" your home
- Quick facts about industry sustainability and conservation practices



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## Make it Your Business to Help Protect the Environment

*Choose Environmental Stewardship Program (ESP) Certified Cabinets*



**[www.GreenCabinetSource.org](http://www.GreenCabinetSource.org)**



## How the Program Works

The KCMA Environmental Stewardship Program is designed to encourage industry policies and practices that benefit the environment and is administered similar to the existing voluntary American National Standards (ANSI) quality performance standard developed and maintained by the KCMA. Any manufacturer of pre-finished, factory-engineered cabinets may participate. Companies that manufacture component parts may also participate in this program provided they can earn the required points under the same criteria as cabinet manufacturers. Companies do not have to be KCMA members to participate. ESP certification is awarded annually and based on compliance in five categories. These categories contain 21 different criteria with a total of 105 possible points. To be certified, a manufacturer must score a minimum of 80 points. The breakdown of required points by category is as follows:

CATEGORY	POINTS
Air quality	30
Product resource management	30
Process resource management	20
Environmental stewardship	15
Community relations	10

ESP goes beyond other environmental programs to look not only at raw material sourcing and management, but also sets standards for manufacturing and product processes in regard to air quality and low formaldehyde emissions. Applicants must provide copies of written policies, proof of purchase and similar credible documentation/records to substantiate claimed points.

## What it Means to be ESP Certified

Manufacturers must have a firm commitment to environmental quality as evidenced by a written policy statement. They must also demonstrate compliance with stringent criteria to be awarded ESP certification. Manufacturers are awarded points from the following criteria:

- Consumption of all particleboard, medium density fiberboard (MDF) and hardwood plywood must be reported. In addition, 100% of all of these purchased products must meet the formaldehyde emissions level of the California Air Resources Compwood ATCM and are third-party certified to meet low formaldehyde emission standards.
- 80% of particleboard and MDF used in the cabinets contains 100% recycled or recovered fiber content.
- Hardwoods, softwoods and plywood purchased are certified through a recognized sustainable forestry program.
- A documented energy conservation program is in place.
- A written Environmental Management System is available and enforced.
- An active recycling program for process wastes is in place.
- All federal, state and local environmental requirements must be observed.
- The manufacturer demonstrates social responsibility through community involvement and leadership.

**It is a rigorous process that helps guarantee that everyone is doing their part to provide you with sustainable cabinetry products.**

## A Strong History and Reputation of Advocacy and Leadership

Since 1955, the KCMA has represented the interests and goals of kitchen, bath and other residential cabinet manufacturers and suppliers to the industry. Since the beginning, the association has been committed to excellence in manufacturing through continued quality, advocacy and leadership. It developed the consensus U.S. industry performance standard and voluntary testing program for cabinets (ANSI/KCMA A161.1) that is maintained and updated regularly consistent with ANSI requirements. Now, KCMA is building on that experience with a voluntary environmental stewardship standard for cabinet manufacturers—the KCMA Environmental Stewardship Certification Program (ESP).

In March 2009, ESP gained verification from Architectural Testing, Inc., an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited certification organization. Architectural Testing, Inc. validates the ESP certification process through annual audits. KCMA's ESP is also referenced in the ICC 700 National Green Building Standard,™ an ANSI consensus approved standard developed by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and the International Code Council (ICC).



A complete list of ESP-certified companies and brands can be found at [www.GreenCabinetSource.org](http://www.GreenCabinetSource.org).