# Maglin Sustainability Initiative Year 2 Review





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# Message from the President and CEO



As we celebrate our 40th anniversary at Maglin, we remain dedicated to creating a sustainable future and leaving a positive impact on the environment, our employees, and communities. Sustainability is a central focus of our business, and we are delighted to report the progress we have made.

Our sustainability approach revolves around three main pillars: People, Place, and Product. This year, I'm especially proud of our people. Our employees have shown unwavering commitment by embracing the Zero Waste philosophy and actively participating in every aspect of our Sustainability Initiative. Their enthusiastic efforts have transformed them into environmental champions, and we are privileged to have them on our team.

This report outlines the progress and achievements of the Maglin Sustainability Initiative during its second year. I trust it demonstrates our commitment to reducing our environmental impact and generating positive change in the spaces where we live and work. Our progress has been possible thanks to the support and cooperation of our employees, the collaboration with our suppliers and community, and the valuable feedback from our customers. For that, I extend my gratitude.

Sincerely,

Ian McAskile President and CEO

# Maglin Sustainability Statement

Maglin Site Furniture shapes your environment, and we want to help keep it healthy.

At Maglin, we understand our products become part of the natural and built environment. We want to care for the spaces our products occupy and the people who will enjoy them for generations to come.

We have initiated our plan to shape our future actions through 3 overarching pillars: **People**, **Place**, and **Product**.

### People

**People** are at the center of what we do, and we believe that protecting our environment starts with the choices we make. We will support this philosophy through teaching, equipping, and encouraging our staff to make more sustainable choices.

## Place

**Place** is where work happens. As we utilize our facility, we commit to making strides to reduce energy usage, water, transportation, resources, and waste as we adopt Zero Waste principles and continue to reduce our carbon footprint.

## Product

**Product** is what represents us. We believe we should be responsible for the full lifecycle of our products – from how they are made to where they end up. This starts with creating Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) to improve our product transparency – materials and manufacturing. We recognize it will require a longterm commitment to reassessing all aspects of our production.



# Maglin Sustainability Initiative Year Two: Walking the Walk

In the second year of Maglin's Sustainability Initiative, we have made significant strides toward achieving our core objectives. We obtained the Zero Waste Facility certification, broadened our Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) portfolio, and delved deeper into circularity. These accomplishments demonstrate our commitment to actualizing our sustainability vision. We take considerable pride in our progress thus far and eagerly anticipate what lies ahead. Together with the support of our customers and suppliers, we can lead the North American site furniture space toward a more balanced, circular, and traceable future for all.

# Waste Reduction Programs

October is designated Circular Economy Month in Canada, and Maglin celebrated by organizing a swap table, a clothing drive, and an electronic waste collection. Circular Economy Month is an extension of Waste Reduction Week, a successful campaign in Canada since 2001.

Employees were encouraged to bring in items they no longer used, wanted, or needed and could pick up something new-to-them from the office swap table. Clothing donations were generously contributed to a housing support program for women and children and another organization that assists those experiencing poverty. E-waste was properly recycled by the city depot.





In early 2023, the community group Future Oxford recognized Maglin's head office and manufacturing facility in Woodstock, Ontario, as a Zero Waste Space. This was achieved by partnering with specialty recyclers and empowering our staff to actively participate in waste reduction efforts, resulting in an impressive 86% waste diversion from landfill<sup>1</sup>.

## From Future Oxford

Everything we consume, from the food we eat to the cars we drive to the houses we live in, is produced from the earth's limited supply of resources. On the path to waste reduction, our choices are simple: every item we discard will get us closer to - or further away from - our zero waste goals. By choosing to use our limited resources sustainably, and to divert waste that we do generate away from landfills, we support future generations, reduce our impact on the environment, and help build resilient communities.

## Businesses and organizations that have committed to operating as a Zero Waste Space agree to:

- Compost/digest organics; none go to landfills capture renewable natural gas.
- Recycle all plastic, glass, metal, paper, and cardboard last year, are processed into resins for plastic producers or made into tote bins.
- Avoid single-use plastics Our warehouse team has taken significant steps to minimize the use of single-use downwards, decreasing over 50% between October 2022 and March 2023.
- Offer only reusable and/or recyclable packaging keep our products safe while reducing costs and waste.

We partner with an organics collection company that takes all the food scraps, coffee filters, and paper towels from our space for anaerobic digestion. This captures about 247 kg or 544.5 lbs a month (2,964 kg/6,534 lbs a year) and is broken down to create and

We sort our general recyclables using designated bins for different materials. This separation of materials at the point of collection eases the recycling process at the end facility. We have also partnered with a few specialty recyclers that process specific, hardto-recycle materials and transform them into new products. Our plastic film and foam wrap, 3,336 kg or 7,355 lbs over the past year, is shredded and then melted to create structural plastic lumber. Our HDPE offcuts and chips, approximately 5,443 kg or 6 tons

plastics in our outbound shipments to service providers. Their diligent efforts have yielded promising results. We've seen the amount of foam and film we send to recycling trend

Reducing our single-use plastics has meant thinking outside the box – or sometimes inside the steel box – to offer reusable ways of protecting our products as they come and go from the warehouse. Blankets, fabric dividers, and canvas straps are some of the ways we

### • Honour and commit to "zero waste"

Maglin has embraced the Zero Waste philosophy and actively seeks ways to minimize waste sent to landfills. To ensure this goal is clear to everyone, we have prominently displayed the Zero Waste hierarchy in our warehouse. In addition, we have supplied multiple bins at each workstation to encourage the proper separation of materials. This initiative is a team effort and has become an integral part of our operations. *Our current diversion-from-landfill rate is approximately 86%.* 

WASTE DIVERSION FROM LANDFILL - 41,542 KG (86%)

January 2022 - March 2023



# Product & Materials

Our Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) have become an essential offering for our customers. By outlining a product's environmental impact from raw material to end of life, EPDs provide our customers with insight into the footprint of their selected product. Armed with this information, they can opt for a product with a lower impact, offset carbon emissions over their project's duration, or simply be more conscious of their choices.

We offer EPDs for many of our products and collections, employing North American data, as part of our commitment to transparency. To ensure accuracy, we update the data annually, accommodating changes in suppliers or material information and proactively seeking ways to minimize impacts in areas where they are most significant.

### EPDs are available for Maglin:

- Benches
- Bike Racks
- Waste & Recycling Receptacles
- Chairs
- Tables
- Cluster Seating
- Modular Collections

In addition to providing valuable information to our customers, EPDs contribute points towards LEED® and SITES® certifications and are recognized as reliable resources for initiatives such as the City of Toronto's Green Standard.

Our products define us, and we are actively looking at ways to increase the recycled and bio-based content of our materials. This is our way of supporting the Circular Economy. It will be imperative to work alongside our suppliers and our customers so that we can all contribute to circularity.

To facilitate transparency and accessibility, we have listed some of our products on the



Origin product library, providing comprehensive data on sustainability, materials, and manufacturing. More products will be added to Origin as we develop new EPDs and gather more information on our products.

## Packaging

Our packaging is a customer's first impression of our products on-site, and over the past year, we have gradually shifted from white to brown boxes. Our new brown boxes are certified by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and display the SFI logo. These boxes contain 24% recycled content, 17% post-consumer materials, and 76% SFI-certified virgin fiber. Moreover, our brown kraft paper boxes are entirely recyclable, and most recycling facilities in North America readily accept them. It is worth noting that cardboard is the most recycled packaging material in the US and Canada, making our new packaging a sustainable choice for our customers.

# **Community Involvement**

Maglin is a proud Zero Waste Oxford (ZWO) member, and we celebrate being the first large-scale manufacturing business to be certified as a Zero Waste Space. As part of the ZWO community, we can join the movement toward a sustainable future in Oxford County and beyond. Our membership allows us to collaborate with other industry leaders in the area and share ideas to help everyone progress toward this important goal.

Sarah Doyle, our Head of Sustainability, spoke at one of ZWO's events in the fall, Go Organic: Rot. She discussed our organics collection program and its immediate impact on our waste volume. The panel explored various ways that businesses and community members in Oxford could participate in turning organic waste into a resource to support the county's Zero Waste goals.

Maglin Site Furniture was also represented at Future Oxford's Children's Water Festival booth. We donated a Hungry Bin as a prize, which uses worms to break down food scraps into a nutrient-rich liquid that can be used as fertilizer for plants.



# The Future of Sustainability at Maglin

Sustainability has become a core component of who Maglin is as a company – something that is considered at all stages of operations. We take pride in our progress toward sustainability but acknowledge that more must be done.

We are committed to educating our staff on climate change so that everyone within our company can understand its potential impact on us as individuals and as a business. To this end, several team members have already completed the Rewrite Climate Course, and we plan to expand this offering to many more individuals.

