

# SAUDER<sup>®</sup> MANUFACTURING CO.

WIELAND

SAUDER | Education<sup>®</sup>

SAUDER  
WORSHIP SEATING<sup>®</sup>

*Butler*  
Human Services<sup>®</sup>  
Furniture

SAUDER<sup>®</sup>  
COURTROOM  
FURNITURE

## Social Responsibility Report - 2020

Sauder Manufacturing Company, a maker of contract furniture for the Healthcare, University, Human Services and Worship markets, recognizes that with our many and various endeavors we have an immediate and tangible impact on communities both locally and nationally. We also acknowledge that, at the same time, we are a member of the global community and that all our activities, even if in the very smallest of ways, exert influences felt round the world. In recognition, therefore, of our “global citizenship” it is Sauder’s commitment that all our activities contribute to the good of all who share in the blessings and challenges of this planet.

This report covers Sauder Manufacturing Company’s Social Responsibility efforts for the year 2020 — efforts that include not only immediate conditions over which SMC has control, but remote conditions which SMC attempts to influence. SMC’s goals, measurements and achievements that are captured in this document relate to:

1. Employee Health and Safety Management
2. Labor and Human Rights Management
3. Inclusiveness
4. Community Outreach and Involvement
5. Environmental Initiatives
6. Global Impact

### 1. Employee Health and Safety Management

SMC is dedicated to achieving and maintaining a safe and healthy work environment for all our employees, as well as for the employees of all those companies with whom SMC conducts business. Sauder is committed to the prevention of occupational illness and injury, and toward that end a comprehensive safety system is established, supported, maintained and integrated in our company core values. Safety is an essential and integral part of Sauder’s normal operating practices each day. The safety of all employees is the responsibility of every employee.

SMC conforms to the standards for employee safety set forth by OSHA (Occupational Health and Safety Act) as well as requirements set forth by the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and our Title V air permits. SMC complies with the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollution (NESHAP) for Wood Furniture Manufacturing Operations.

SMC has an employee-led safety system, with 22 employee-led safety teams currently in operation. These safety teams drive safety efforts at each plant location through awareness activities, behavior-based safety, audits and policy reviews. It is the expectation that all employees will be actively involved in the safety system and be their brother's keeper.

### Measuring Health and Safety

SMC measures and investigates the following types of safety incidents to find the root cause:

- Property damage Incidents
- Near Miss Incidents
- First Aid Incidents
- OSHA Recordable Incidents
- Lost Time Incidents

SMC is on a "Journey to Zero". Sauder's goal is to have every employee return home to their loved ones, injury free, at the end of each day.

#### 2020 results:

Sauder encourages the reporting of even the most minor incident. A near miss is seen as a positive, since we are able to investigate a close call and prevent an injury before it occurs. In 2020 SMC, for all four active manufacturing facilities, had **390 near miss incidents** reported and corrected (down from 462 in 2019).

Even the most minor injury, such as a scratch, should be reported. In 2020 **52 first aid incidents** occurred (down from 115 in 2019). These, also, are most often minor, such as a splinter or a scrape, but each incident is investigated, and prevention measures are put into place.

Sauder takes OSHA recordable incidents and lost time incidents to heart. When any one of our employees goes home injured we have all failed. In 2020 Sauder had **15 OSHA recordable incidents** (down from 19 in 2019) and **2 lost time** (down from 3 in 2019).

## 2. Labor and Human Rights Management

It is the policy of Sauder Manufacturing Co. to provide equal employment opportunities without regard to race, religion, color, age, gender (including pregnancy), marital status, national origin, genetic information, disability and veteran or military status. This policy relates to all phases of employment, including, but not limited to, recruiting, employment, placement, upgrading, demotion or transfer, reduction of work force and termination, rates of pay or other form of compensation, selection for training, the use of all facilities, and participation in all Company-sponsored employee activities. Provisions in applicable laws providing for bona fide occupational qualifications, business necessity, or age limitations are adhered to by the Company where appropriate.

As part of the Company's equal employment opportunity policy, the Company also takes affirmative action as called for by applicable laws and Executive Orders to ensure that minority group individuals,

females, veterans, disabled veterans, and qualified disabled persons are introduced into our work force and considered as promotional opportunities arise.

Employees and applicants are not subjected to harassment or intimidation because they have: (1) filed a complaint; (2) assisted or participated in an investigation, compliance review, hearing or any other activity related to the administration of any federal, state, or local law requiring equal employment opportunity; (3) opposed any act or practice made unlawful by any federal, state, or local law requiring equal opportunity; or (4) exercised any other legal right protected by federal, state, or local law requiring equal opportunity.

The above-mentioned policies are periodically brought to the attention of supervisors and are administered with a positive attitude. It is the responsibility of each supervisor of the Company to ensure affirmative implementation of these policies to avoid any discrimination in employment. All employees are expected to recognize these policies and cooperate with their implementation. Violation of these policies is a disciplinary offense.

For the year 2020 SMC had zero Human Rights violations.

### 3. Inclusiveness

SMC affirms the importance of inclusiveness – that all individuals have the right to be treated with respect in the workplace. SMC is committed to providing a work environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity, and in a manner that supports productivity, personal goals and self-esteem.

SMC does not tolerate or condone discrimination in the workplace on the basis of race, religion, color, age, gender (including pregnancy), marital status, national origin, genetic information, disability and veteran or military status or any other characteristic protected by law.

SMC's cultural composition — encompassing facilities in Archbold, OH; Stryker OH; New Haven, IN; Richmond, VA; and Chase City, VA — as of January 29, 2020 is as follows.

Male Black	Male Hispanic	Male Indian	Male Asian	Male White	Female Black	Female Hispanic	Female Indian	Female Asian	Female White
3.7%	3.3%	0.2%	1.2%	50.6%	2.0%	3.1%	0.0%	2.0%	33.7%

### 4. Community Outreach

Sauder MFG believes that being a contributing member of one's community is an important part of social responsibility. The efforts listed below are just a few of a great many small ways that Sauder attempts to positively impact our local neighborhoods in 2020.

**I. Archbold High School Senior Scholarship**

1. Archbold Academic Boosters
2. January 21, 2020
3. Royal Short, Principal  
600 Lafayette Street  
Archbold, OH 43502  
419-445-5579
4. Sommer Mello, HR Supervisor, made the arrangements for Sauder's participation in this charity event.
5. Sauder provided three Academic and one Industrial Arts scholarship, for a total of \$1,000, to enable students to access opportunities otherwise unavailable to them.

**II. Junior Historian Sauder Village**

1. "Tee It Up For Education" Golf Tournament
2. June 27, 2020
3. Riverside Greens  
20010 Williams County Road  
Stryker, OH 43557  
419-682-2053
4. Sommer Mello, HR Supervisor, made arrangements for four Sauder MFG employees to participate in this fundraiser.
5. Sauder MFG contributed \$1,000 to this charity event.

**III. Beacon of Hope CHP**

1. Community Health Professionals Home Care & Hospice
2. March 13, 2020
3. Karin Weldy  
Marketing and Event Coordinator  
230 Westfield Drive  
Archbold, Ohio 43502  
419-445-5128
4. Sommer Mello, HR Supervisor, arranged for new furniture to be auctioned at this charitable event.
5. Sauder MFG contributed two chairs:  
Plyfold, valued at \$217.  
Link, valued at \$269.

**IV. North Clinton Church Youth Ministries**

1. Senior High Youth Ministry
2. March 27, 2020
3. Dan Martin  
Associate Pastor

831 West Linfoot Street  
 Wauseon, OH 43567  
 419-337-4776

4. Sommer Mello, HR Supervisor, arranged for new furniture to be auctioned at this charitable event.
5. Sauder MFG contributed two chairs:  
     Plyfold, valued at \$217.  
     Link, valued at \$269.

#### **V. Bucks for Beckett**

1. "Drive-By" Benefit
2. September 27, 2020
3. Defiance K of C Hall  
     111 Elliott Road  
     Defiance, OH  
     419-782-4311
4. Sommer Mello, HR Supervisor, arranged for Sauder MFG to hold a silent auction to assist with expenses related to recent surgeries incurred by a young boy named Beckett.
5. Numerous Chill Couches, Loveseats and Chairs, two Rally Privacy Booths, along with Hale units were the objects of this auction, raising a total of \$703.

#### **VI. Stryker Library**

1. Furniture Donation
2. January 6, 2020
3. Connie Aeschliman  
     304 South Defiance Street  
     Stryker, OH 43557  
     833-633-7323
4. Sommer Mello, HR Supervisor, arranged for 32 pieces of furniture to be donated to the Stryker Library.
5. The value of this donation was \$19,181.90.

#### **VII. Archbold Parks and Recreation**

1. 2020 Backyard Bash Concert Sponsorship
2. June 21, 2020
3. Archbold Parks and Recreation  
     P.O. Box 406  
     Archbold, OH 43502  
     419-445-4025
4. Sommer Mello, HR Supervisor, arranged to purchase 5 tickets to this charitable event.
5. The value of the five tickets was \$500.

## 5. Environmental Initiatives

- Environmental initiatives are, by definition, global in their scope. By conserving energy, decreasing the careless use of water, controlling the amount of solid waste generated and reducing the amount of hazardous chemicals used and disposed Sauder is contributing toward the health of our *Global* environment by being good stewards of our *Local* environments.
- For the vast majority of its products for the year 2020, Sauder MFG has achieved the status of LEVEL 2<sup>®</sup>, BIFMA’s sustainability certification program for furniture. Level is not merely a means by which indoor air quality is assured, but a measure of the degree to which products are manufactured utilizing sustainable practices including energy usage, material selection, renewable strategies and recycling initiatives. BIFMA International is the recognized leader in developing standards for the North American office and institutional furniture industry.
- Sauder MFG employs a customized Environmental Management System to minimize the impact our manufacturing efforts have on the environment. This system includes:
  - The establishment and regular review of Sauder’s Sustainability Policy, which is available on the [Sauder Website](#).
  - The annual assessment of critical environmental aspects:
    - Energy Usage — 2020 saw a slight decrease in overall energy efficiency of 1.35% compared to the previous year, but an overall increase in energy efficiency of 13.72% over Sauder’s baseline year of 2018.
    - Water Usage — Process water in 2020 increased by 41.25% when compared to 2019, but is still down 3.11% when compared to the baseline year of 2016.
    - Solid Waste Disposal — the generation of solid waste decreased from one pound for every 123.81 sales dollars in 2019, to one pound for every 148.25 sales dollars in 2020.
    - Use, Reduction and Disposal of Hazardous Chemicals — there was a loss of efficiency of 2% in 2020. In 2019 Sauder generated 1 lb. of Hazardous waste for every \$3,497 sales dollars. In 2020 that number dropped slightly to \$3,426.
  - A review of conformance to all Local, State and National Environmental requirements and regulations.
  - An annual review of goals to reduce Sauder’s environmental impact, coupled with the implementation of action items to accomplish those objectives.

## 6. Global Impact

Sauder MFG has made it a priority not only to have a positive impact on a local, state and national level, but to positively contribute as a member of the global community. Toward that end:

- Sauder purchases raw materials and finished products from Second and Third World sources paying for those items fair prices representing livable wages.

- Sauder requires of those Global sources the same commitment to sound ethical practices as it does from any local source.
- Sauder requires all Global Suppliers with whom we conduct business to sign and comply with a Supplier Agreement and reserves the right to terminate its business relationship with any supplier who is unwilling or unable to comply with any portion of it.
- Specifically, Sauder MFG's Global Supplier Agreement addresses:
  - Health and Safety
    - Global Suppliers must provide workers a safe, clean and healthy work environment in compliance with all legally mandated standards for countries in which they operate. This includes any residential facilities a Global Supplier provides to its workers.
  - Child Labor
    - Global Suppliers must comply with local laws regarding the minimum age of employees and it must be consistent with the International Labor Organization guidelines.
  - Human Trafficking, Forced Labor and Harassment
    - Global Suppliers must treat all workers with respect and dignity. Human trafficking, forced, debt bonded, indentured and slave labor are unacceptable. No worker shall be subject to corporal punishment, physical, sexual, psychological or verbal harassment or abuse. In addition, Global Suppliers will not use monetary fines as a disciplinary practice.
  - Wage and Benefits
    - Global Suppliers must pay workers at least the minimum compensation, including overtime premiums, required by local law and provide all legally mandated benefits. Global Suppliers must provide accident insurance to their workers for work-related accidents and compensation for work-related accidents resulting in permanent disability. In addition, except in extraordinary business circumstances, workers shall not be required to work more hours than allowed by the law of the country of manufacture.
  - Nondiscrimination
    - Global Suppliers must ensure that employment and hiring practices, payments, benefits, advancement, termination and retirement are based on ability and not on personal characteristics such as race, religion, age, nationality, social or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, marital status, political affiliation, disability or any other status or characteristic that is not related to the individual's merit or the inherent requirements of the job.
  - Laws and Regulations
    - Global Suppliers and sub-suppliers must be in full operational and product compliance of the countries in which they operate including all local environmental laws applicable to the workplace, the products produced and the methods of manufacture. Additionally, Global Suppliers must use materials in an environmentally responsible manner.

- Corruption and Bribery
  - Global Suppliers must operate with the highest standards for business integrity and comply with all anti-corruption and anti-bribery laws, including the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. Specifically, suppliers will not offer or accept bribes or other unlawful incentives in order to gain advantage in any business arrangement.
- Freedom of Association
  - Suppliers shall allow an individual the right to join or leave groups voluntarily, the right of the group to take collective action to pursue the interests of its members, and the right of an association to accept or decline membership based on certain criteria.