

## Reference Materials

A number of excellent resources addressing environmental purchasing exist on the Internet. Many web sites offer sound advice, helpful recommendations and links to other sites.

### [www.buygreen.com](http://www.buygreen.com)

A site dedicated to providing information on "green" products and services, and tips on how to set up a green procurement program. Buy Green is divided into five topic areas:

- **Information on Purchasing and the Environment** - This menu provides links to Environment Canada, the US EPA and many other resources that are excellent sources of advice on everything from starting a buy green program to environmental issues related to products and services.

This menu also provides information on how to obtain copies of GIPPER's (Governments Incorporating Procurement Policies to Eliminate Refuse) Guide to Environmental Purchasing. The guide is a tool to assist purchasers' to incorporate environmental considerations into the procurement process. The document describes a number of methods for doing this, one of which is the application of environmental criteria to target product categories.

- **Green Products and Services** - This menu includes green products and services, and a number of directories of products and services from various organizations. Links to supplier web pages are featured as well as lists from organizations such as Environmental Choice, EcoMall and EcoExpo.

- **Guidelines, Standards, and Certification Services** - A number of independent third party organizations develop standards and guidelines for green products and services. Included in this menu are links to national programs such as Environmental Choice and Green Seal, as well as specific programs such as Energy Star and Power Smart.
- **What's New** - News on green procurement will appear here, and will be updated on a regular basis.
- **Join Buy Green** - This page is a shared resource created with special funding from Environment Canada. It is maintained by volunteers.

### [iisd.ca/business/gprocurement.htm](http://iisd.ca/business/gprocurement.htm)

Hosted by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD). This site is designed to encourage business people to develop a vision of a sustainable company, translate that vision into a management action plan and turn sustainability into a competitive advantage. Provides a Green Procurement Tool Kit, developed by Manitoba Green Procurement Inc.

### [www.environmentalchoice.com](http://www.environmentalchoice.com)

The Environmental Choice Program web site. This site is an excellent source for information on certified environmental products and services.

### [www.greenseal.org](http://www.greenseal.org)

This site includes the Green Seal program standards and certified product database.

### [oee.nrcan.gc.ca/energuguide](http://oee.nrcan.gc.ca/energuguide)

Web site for the Canadian energy efficiency and consumption labelling program, EnerGuide. This site includes information on EnerGuide programs.

### [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)

Web site for the U.S. energy efficiency and consumption labelling program, ENERGY STAR. This site provides lists of ENERGY STAR qualified products.

### [www.ec.gc.ca](http://www.ec.gc.ca)

The Green Lane: Environment Canada's World Wide Web site. This site contains significant resources available on a wide range of environmental issues and topics. Visitors can use the search function to investigate green procurement resources and links.

### [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency website. This site offers significant resources available on wide range of environmental issues and topics.

### [www.iclei.org](http://www.iclei.org)

The International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), an association of local governments dedicated to the prevention and solution of local, regional, and global environmental problems through local action, hosts this site. It provides resources and links addressing local environmental action.

### [www.powerpartnerships.com](http://www.powerpartnerships.com)

BC Hydro website for businesses. This site includes information on increasing energy efficiency and associated programs.

### [www.environmental.detr.gov.uk/greening/greenpro/greenpro.htm](http://www.environmental.detr.gov.uk/greening/greenpro/greenpro.htm)

The Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions (DETR) website in the United Kingdom. This site provides resources and links to show buyers how to put environmental purchasing into practice.