

Lexington Medical Center going green with recycled paper while decreasing costs

Every day we make decisions about what we purchase, consume and recycle.

Nearly a quarter (20 percent) of a typical hospital's office supply budget is spent on paper alone. So it is no surprise that cost-conscious hospitals watch paper expenditures closely.



Purchasing recycled paper is beneficial to the environment, yet many healthcare organizations hesitate using it because it is slightly more expensive (typically 6 percent to 8 percent) than virgin, or non-recycled paper.

With the help of Premier contracted supplier OfficeMax, Lexington Medical Center, West Columbia, SC, found a way to purchase recycled paper while cutting costs.



The hospital decided to switch to OfficeMax and Boise® ASPEN® 30 percent post consumer fiber paper, purchasing 87 tons of it from October 2007 through October 2008. At the same time, the hospital switched to Office Max branded remanufactured toner cartridges. Even after factoring in the slight additional

cost for the paper, Lexington realized an overall savings of \$5,000.

Moreover, the environmental benefits of switching to recycled paper and remanufactured toner cartridges meant that.



- The equivalent of about 626 fewer trees were used;
- The equivalent energy needed to run five homes was saved; and
- More than 55,000 pounds of carbon dioxide, or equivalent of about what five cars per year would use, would not be emitted as greenhouse gases.

Boise Cascade has developed a [simple tool](#) (see green push pin below) hospitals can use to calculate the savings they would obtain by making the same changes.

For more information, contact your Premier representative from Office Max.

Double-click green push pin to open the calculator:



Premier contract: PP-MM-013

Visit Premier's Supply Chain Advisor catalog for details.

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