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Osprey Unpacks Their Sustainability Report for 2009

Monthly Traffic: 2.1 Million

URL: <http://tinyurl.com/27e3j4v>

We've discussed Osprey packs in the past, particularly their Resource collection of packs with about 80% recycled content (see links below). Recently, we noted via SNEWS that they'd released their 2009 Sustainability Report, indicating the environmentally and socially responsible endeavours they have been pursuing. Contained within the report are some green actions that aren't the usual run-of-the-mill stuff. For example, whilst Osprey does manufacture offshore in Vietnam, they have a permanent staff presence in that country as well, including company founder and head designer, Mike Pfothenauer, and his family. This allows Osprey to "inspect working conditions, advocate for fair wages, [and] monitor fair labor practices." Their machinists are paid overtime and given 3 weeks of annual leave. The company was also 2009 sponsor of Rush Hour Revolution, a three month event promoting bicycling as the alternative commute option. Additionally 15 Osprey participated and prevented 41,872 pounds of CO₂, because almost 77,000 km (48,000 miles) of commuting travel was undertaken by bike, not car.

Other notable eco-initiatives for 2009 include:

- 240 hours of paid staff time given over to conservation projects
- installing waterless urinals, to save 72,000 litres (19,000 gallons) of water annually
- 600 hours of volunteer work trail work and weed removal in Eldorado Canyon State Park.
- All Pro Deal purchases (industry staff discounts) require a \$2 per pack donation to non-profit organizations, raising over \$5,300 USD in the past year
- To ensure the longevity of their packs Osprey now have their All Mighty Guarantee, where the company "will repair for any reason, free of charge, any damage or defect in our product - whether it was purchased in 1974 or yesterday."
- 5% of their Local's Sale proceeds from the Colorado event go to locally responsible projects, in 2009 they raised over \$3,500 USD.
- Osprey were the national sponsor of The Wild and Scenic Environmental Film Festival, America's largest environmental film festival

For 2010 Osprey are looking to partner with the non-profit Bonneville Environmental Foundation to "offset the carbon produced by motor freight shipments, tradeshow travel, sales meeting travel and more."

