



Radical Transparency: Responding to Supply Chain Sustainability Expectations

Leading retailers are increasingly seeing sustainability as both an integral part of their customer offering and a tool to drive cost reduction and efficiency. To help them deliver this, they are looking to their suppliers to demonstrate compelling sustainability performance. In response, suppliers are enhancing corporate sustainability initiatives and the measurement of corporate and product sustainability performance to provide competitive products and establish themselves as a partner of choice.

Retailer sustainability requirements are becoming more complex. There are already extensive requirements coming from major retailers, including the likes of Sears, IKEA, and JC Penny – and Walmart’s announcement of the release of their *Sustainable Product Index* in Canada is an indication of what’s to come.

There are common themes emerging among retailers’ sustainability requirements, notably:

- Energy and Climate Change
- Material Efficiency
- Natural Resources
- People and Community

How to Respond

Businesses that take a coordinated, strategic approach to addressing the sustainability needs of their customers and partners will see value created across their organization. A strategic approach offers:

- A cost-effective, planned approach that minimizes surprises and enables consistency across your market offering
- A strong foundation on which to build corporate sustainability initiatives
- Enhanced positioning to enable development of strategic supplier relationships with sustainability leaders

Whether you’re new to the game or your business has been working on sustainability for years, this is the opportunity to start building your coordinated sustainability program or to take your existing programs to the next level.

Stratos as your Partner in Sustainability

Stratos (www.stratos-sts.com) has a ten year track record of acting as sustainability advisors for leading Canadian and international businesses. We develop tailored, effective strategies to deliver sustainability performance and return on investment.

We help our clients to:

- Understand what sustainability means for their business
- Develop an effective sustainability strategy
- Support implementation and integration, and
- Communicate results of their actions and the value it provides customers.

For more information on sustainability in the retail sector, please contact Matt Loose at mloose@stratos-sts.com or Aaron Amorosi at aamorosi@stratos-sts.com or call 613.241.1001.

