

For Immediate Release

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Indiana Furniture joins IDEM's Voluntary Idling Program Company to reduce vehicle emissions

Jasper-based Indiana Furniture is the second area company to join the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's (IDEM's) Voluntary Idling Program (VIP) in the past year, making a commitment to reduce vehicle emissions. IDEM's Southwest Regional Office Deputy Director Dave Holder visited Indiana Furniture today to officially inaugurate the company into the state program. Deputy Director Holder presented a certificate to Bret Ackerman, Indiana Furniture Chief Executive Officer, to commemorate the occasion.

"By joining VIP, Indiana Furniture is doing its part to reduce diesel emissions to help improve air quality," said Deputy Director Holder. "They are to be commended for their efforts."

The Corporate Office is located at 1224 Mill Street, Jasper. Indiana Furniture produces casegoods, conference and seating products, has over 300 employees and operates 22 vehicles. As part of its VIP commitment, the company will post "No Idling" signs at their facility, reduce unnecessary idling on the trucks they operate, and encourage their vendors to reduce unnecessary idling.

Indiana Furniture's concern for environmental compliance is also part of its corporate culture. They recycle cardboard cartons, aluminum, plastic, and computer paper.

In addition, the company's automated finish process reduces the escape of chemicals into the atmosphere. Employees are trained in finish processes to reduce volatile organic compound emissions and products feature an ultraviolet finish, which reduces atmospheric toxins. In addition, coal-burning boilers were replaced with natural gas boilers.

"Preserving our world for future generations requires commitment and dedication," said Ackerman. "We continuously look for ways to improve our manufacturing processes and make responsible environmental choices."

IDEM's free VIP initiative assists Indiana freight carriers, manufacturers, distributors and retailers reduce or eliminate unnecessary heavy-duty diesel truck idling. Increasing a company's fuel efficiency reduces petroleum consumption, fuel costs, engine wear and maintenance costs, diesel emissions, and noise.

Indiana Furniture is the 26th company to join VIP. VIP partners are encouraged to invest in employee training and support materials to better educate their staff about techniques to reduce or eliminate unnecessary idling.

For more information about Indiana's Voluntary Idling Program, visit www.idem.IN.gov/4128.htm. For more information about Indiana Furniture, visit www.Indiana Furniture.com.

About IDEM

IDEM (www.IN.gov/idem) implements federal and state regulations regarding the environment. Through compliance assistance, incentive programs and educational outreach, the agency encourages and aids businesses and citizens in protecting Hoosiers and our environment.

About Indiana Furniture

Indiana Furniture, headquartered in Jasper, Indiana for over a century is committed to providing its customers with office furnishings of the highest standards in quality and craftsmanship. Through advanced information systems and state of the art technology we deliver a wide range of environmentally conscious products, styles, and sizes at competitive prices.