



GSO Environmental Statement

At Golden State Overnight (GSO), we care about keeping our planet healthy and green. We recognize that businesses have a special responsibility to protect our environment and preserve our natural resources. We take that responsibility seriously and are constantly looking for new ways to conserve and promote environmental solutions.

We know that even small efforts can make a big difference in the struggle for a healthy planet. As we strive for continued environmental stewardship and sustainability, we urge our employees, customers, and business partners to join our efforts.

What GSO is doing?

Reducing Waste through Paperless Billing

A paperless billing not only save trees, but also helps reduce production wastes that themselves emit greenhouse gases, produce toxic waste water, etc.

- GSO offers many paperless billing options to its customers. At present, over 25% of our customers have adopted paperless invoicing (an increase from 16% at the end of 2009). Furthermore, 69% of GSO billed packages are set to the e-billing option, which equates to over **6.6 tons** of annual CO2 savings.
- GSO also encourages customers to make payments without a (paper) check

Did you know... the pulp and paper industry is the world's 3rd largest producer of greenhouse gases?

Reducing Waste by Conserving Paper in the Office

Paper is the number one material thrown away and also one of the biggest polluting industries. The average U.S. worker uses about 10,000 sheets of copy paper each year.

Since February 2007, GSO has been focused on reducing paper consumption. With over 27 offices throughout California, Nevada and Arizona, GSO leased new copiers with scanners. Forms are now circulated electronically and are only printed when needed. Copiers default settings are set to print double-sided.

- We re-use single-sided printouts
- We re-use file folders and dividers
- We purchase high-recycled content products. GSO currently purchases 100% PCW recycled chlorine free paper.
- GSO's Annual Calendar, along with its Priority Envelopes are now made from 100% recycled content

Did you know ...if you purchase 40 cases of copy paper made from 100% post-consumer recycled content paper instead of paper made from virgin pulp, you'd save 24 trees, 7,000 gallons of water, 4,100 kilowatt-hours of electricity and 60 pounds of air pollution!



Reducing Energy through Fluorescent Lighting

GSO's headquarter uses eco-friendly fluorescent lamps that pass the U.S. EPA's TCLP test and granted non-hazardous status at all stages of life by the State of California. These low-mercury fluorescent light tubes contain 40-50% less mercury than standard tubes.

Reducing Energy through Thin Clients

The choice of ThinSTARs over PCs for businesses has reduced CO2 emissions. Energy consumption for ThinSTARs is up to 50% lower than an average PC.

As reported by **InfoWorld**, "thin clients consume anywhere from 6 to 50 watts – far less than the 150 to 350 watts used by a typical PC."

GSO currently utilizes 415 NCD ThinSTARs in place of desktops, which equates to over 42 metric tons of annual CO2 savings.

Reducing Energy by switching to Data Centers

As the economy shifts from paper-based to digital information, data centers are significant consumers of energy. A strong focus on energy efficiency is essential with the increased energy costs and increased emissions from electricity generation.

In 2008, GSO decided on moving its IT infrastructure to a Colocation centre, which allows GSO to place its servers on Colocation racks and share their bandwidth. Not only does this strategy create cost savings for bandwidth, but also have better outage protection and additional physical security for our machines. We have chosen a green data center that is focused on energy efficient practice that supports our environment.

GSO Colocation site:

- Certified by Bay Area Green Business Program
- LEED Certification
- Member of the Green Energy Grid
- Deploying heat exchangers, air economizers & power generators
- Retro-fitted with CFL light bulbs
- Installed Variable Frequency Drives in its HVAC systems for efficiency.

Along with the move to Colocation, GSO focused on improved server operations. We consolidated our servers and eliminated unused servers in our effort to increase server utilization. In addition we also purchased "energy-efficient" servers for our Colocation site.

Did you know ... most servers are only operating at 4% average utilization?



GSO's technology platform also extends green initiatives to its customers by offering **SaaS (Software as a Service) Cloud computing solution** using GSOWebShip and GSOQuickShip online shipping applications, web services integrations which minimize upfront investment & maintenance of servers on customer's side. Most of the internal software systems used by GSO are also based on **SOA** (service oriented architecture) which allows for interoperability across several business applications in a clustered environment minimizing the number of servers being utilized.

Reducing Energy through focus on Transportation

Transportation accounts for 30% of greenhouse emissions that humans release into the atmosphere. Pollution is not only generated through the burning of gasoline, but also in the production of gasoline.

GSO has demonstrated its commitment to the US EPA's Smartway Transport Partnership by purchasing 8 new Wabash 53' OHD Trailers equipped with Duraplate Aeroskirts and 12 tractors that meet Smartway specification. These trailers are the cleanest, **most fuel efficient trailers** in today's market. They provide better fuel economy and a cleaner ride by creating a savings of 5.6% in fuel consumption.

GSO also uses either electric or EPA certified forklifts for our facilities.

Did you know...each gallon of gasoline you burn produces 20 pounds of CO2?

Reusing and Recycling

The United States produces approximately 210 million tons of solid waste each year. The only safe, clean way to reduce the GARBAGE PROBLEM is "Reuse and Recycle."

GSO launched its recycling program companywide in 2009. The program began with paper, cans and bottles recycling. Printer toner cartridges are also reused and recycled. Our recycling program will also be expanded to include recycling for fluorescent lights, batteries, plastics, etc.

GSO also properly disposes of its electronic waste in accordance with California's Electronic Waste Recycling Act.

What you can do?

At Work

GSO encourages its employees to be good environmental stewards. GSO's recycling program encourages employees:

- To make suggestions and contribute ideas that will reduce our impact on the environment as a whole. Email us at recycle@gso.com
- To recycle paper goods, aluminum cans, glass and plastic bags.



- Drink from reusable cups.
- Conserve energy by :
 - Turning off computer and lights whenever you're not using it.
 - Setting computer to sleep mode when you are away for short periods of time.
- Keep air clean by:
 - Not smoking in or near the office/building
 - Eliminating usage of any type of aerosol cans
 - Joining a ride share group or take public transportation
 - Putting a plant or two by your desk.

At Home

- Conserve water and energy in and around your home practices
- Recycle, Re-use and Reduce waste
- Buy energy-efficient appliances, environment friendly products and locally grown produce
- Stay involved with community events such as Spare the Air Programs & Earth Day