Commitment
To Sustainability
The positives of polyolefin
The 3M Graphics Market Center offers flexible, printable polyolefin films that provide the graphics marketplace with an excellent alternative to traditional vinyl films. The manufacturing process uses substantially less solvent than traditional processes. The film’s multi-layer, specially engineered construction is made from non-chlorine chemistry, which offers use and disposal advantages to users. Our polyolefin films require no special handling or extra costs associated with disposal.

There’s an increasing awareness sweeping through business today. It’s the recognition that many people want more than just products that do as they promise: People are actively looking for products and services that have less impact on the environment, while helping conserve energy and resources. Many claims of “green” are being made, and it can be difficult to discern which are appropriate and which are questionable. This brochure will help you understand how 3M is addressing environmental initiatives. It isn’t just about buying green products — it is a systematic approach involving a partnership between supplier and customer.

Recognizing the long-term payback
Companies like 3M — and our customers — are recognizing that demand for a new generation of products and services offers substantial long-term environmental benefits, including:

> Lowering energy costs
> Cutting long-term operational costs
> Enhancing an organization’s public image
> Improving compliance with national and international regulatory standards
> Helping alleviate pollution and future cleanup costs

Meeting the challenge
The 3M Graphics Market Center embraces the principles of sustainable development, including care of the environment, and we are actively working to reduce environmental impacts wherever possible. Our quality and product performance help customers efficiently produce signs, graphics and interior environments.

Environmental track record
3M has long been recognized as a leader in environmental stewardship. In 1975, we established a Corporate Environmental Policy, including the Pollution Prevention Pays (3P) program, which recognizes that prevention is more effective and economical than pollution control. We have continued that leadership by offering products that help customers achieve their own sustainability goals.

In 2008 and 2009, the 3M Graphics Market Center manufacturing plant in Nevada, MO, completed 29 3P projects that significantly reduced waste, emissions and energy usage, and we will continue to identify additional ways to reduce environmental impact.

Significant investments, environmental advantages
We have made significant improvements in the way we formulate and build our premium cast polyvinyl chloride (PVC) film portfolio to reduce solvent usage, lead pigments, energy usage and other environmental manufacturing efficiencies, with the added advantage of improving product performance. To learn more about PVC, visit www.vinylinfo.org.

We’re also investing in new film, ink, light management and illumination technologies, allowing us to offer industry-leading product portfolios that have significant environmental advantages over many traditional products.
Environmentally preferred packaging
The 3M Graphics Market Center is working to develop environmentally preferred packaging by focusing on these three initiatives.

1. Boxless packaging: This initiative reduces the amount of packaging waste (boxes and endplugs) for customers to dispose. In the program’s first year, we prevented approximately 17,000 pounds of corrugated packaging from going to a landfill.

2. SFI certification: The SFI® (Sustainable Forestry Initiative) label is a sign that an organization is buying wood and paper products from well-managed forests, and is backed by a rigorous, third-party certification audit. Our corrugate supplier received SFI® certification in 2009, and has been printing its certification stamp on all 3M Graphics Market Center boxes.

3. Recycled resin endplug: With this new initiative, we expect to use more than 140,000 pounds of recycled resin rather than virgin resin.

Lead reductions at 3M Nevada
Over the past four years, we have reformulated more than 250 standard and special-order colored films to eliminate lead chromate pigments, while ensuring that the reformulated colors meet the same color standard and are equal in weathering durability.

We took on this challenge because it was simply the right thing to do, not because of a government mandate. We have ambitious goals for continuing to eliminate all lead chromate pigments from our films, with the exception of a few special order colors.

Environmental compliance
The 3M Graphics Market Center supplies a variety of products, some of which are used in the electronics markets. We’re committed to offering quality products that enable our customers to achieve compliance with the European Community’s Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (RoHS) Directive and the companion Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment (WEEE) Directive.

Often the 3M Graphics Market Center designs products to the RoHS requirements even when it is not a requirement of a product application. Although in some cases current technology limits us from designing to RoHS without adversely affecting product performance, we remain committed to developing new technologies that will meet both the RoHS directive and customer requirements.

For more information on WEEE-RoHS and 3M’s response to this directive, please go to 3Mgraphics.com and choose “3M and the Environment” under the Product Information heading.

Light on energy consumption
Our portfolio of light management films conserve energy by reflecting light within illuminated sign cabinets. When used properly, a substantial reduction in energy usage is possible. These proprietary films recently have been incorporated into two of our new LED-based light sources. The 3M™ Flexible Light Mat (shown at left) is a low-voltage, thermally-managed LED light source that uses proprietary 3M technologies to uniformly distribute bright LED light to virtually any shape, including concave curves. LED lights can last up to five times longer than traditional fluorescent lights. The 3M flexible light mat also features power consumption as low as 5 watts per square foot. The 3M™ LED High Efficiency Light Panel combines energy efficiency and brightness, thanks to proprietary 3M light-reflecting film that uniformly distributes bright LED light behind a sign face.
Commitment beyond product
3M recognizes that sustainability involves much more than product offerings. At www.3m.com/sustainability, you can learn about our:
> International Organization for Standardization (ISO) certification
> Environmental, Health and Safety management system
> Pollution Prevention Pays (3P) program
> Life Cycle Management review
> Other sustainability programs
These programs exemplify how 3M strives to responsibly operate in a manner that can help make the world we live in a better place.

Products with environmental advantages

- 3M™ Flexible Light Mat 3635-1000
- 3M™ LED High Efficiency Light Panel 3635-3000
- 3M™ Uniform Lighting Panel
- 3M™ Light Enhancement Film 3635-100
- 3M™ High Luminance Light Fiber
- 3M™ Daylighting Film DF2000MA
- 3M™ Daylighting Radial Lens Film DRLP22
- 3M™ Controltac™ Graphic Film with Comply™ Adhesive 3545C and 3M™ Scotchcal™ Overlaminates 8908 (luster) and 8909 (matte)
- 3M™ Wall Decorating Film IJ86E
- 3M™ Scotchcal™ Graphic Film IJ35E
- 3M™ Screen Printing UV Ink Series 9800 and 3M™ Screen Printing UV Gloss Clear 9800CL, 9720UV and 9720i
- 3M™ Piezo Inkjet UV Ink Series
- 3M™ DI-NOC™ Architectural Finishes
- 3M™ Primer WP-2000