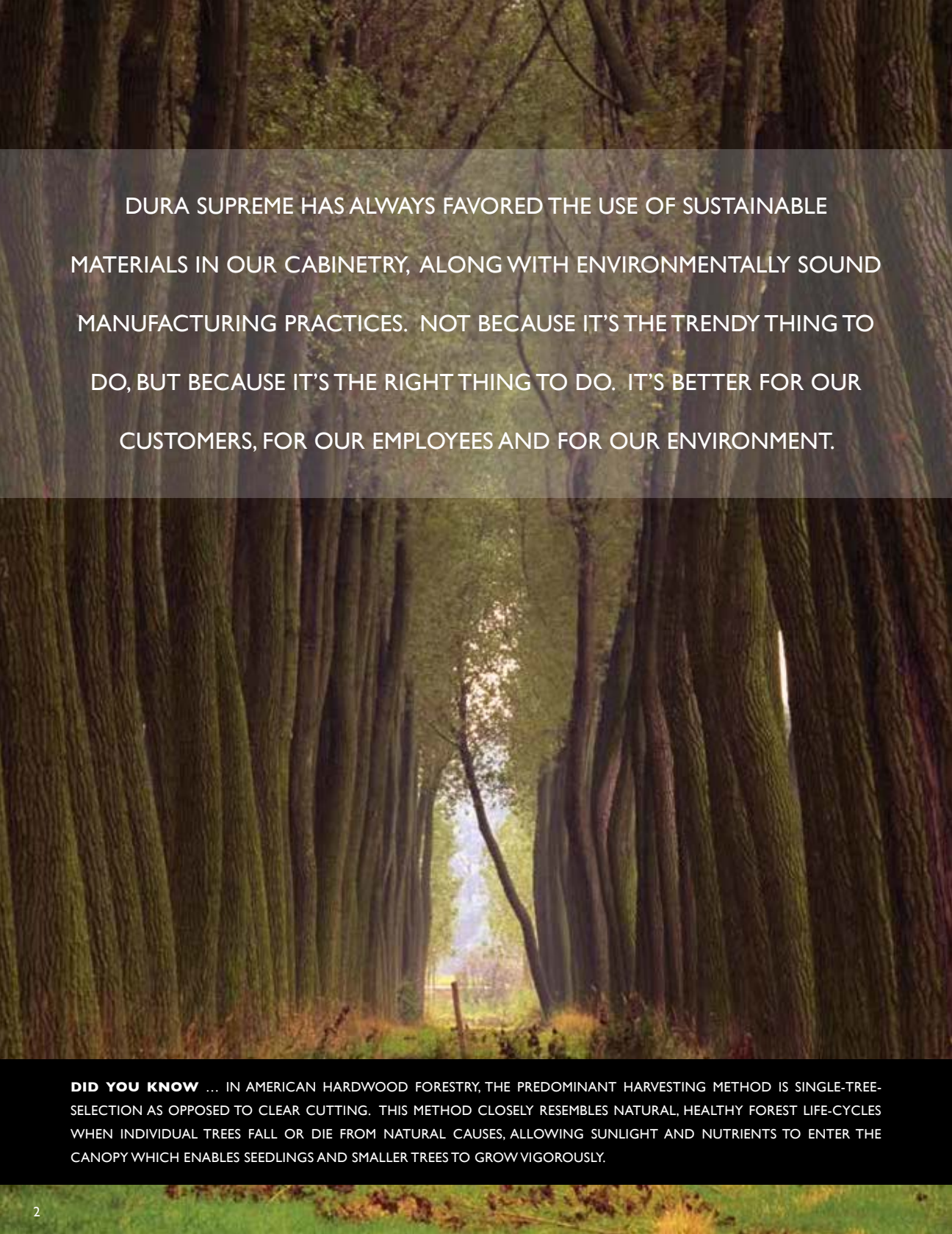


DURA SUPREME CABINETRY

GREEN

A photograph of a forest with tall, straight trees and sunlight filtering through the canopy. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent dark band across the top half of the image.

DURA SUPREME HAS ALWAYS FAVORED THE USE OF SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS IN OUR CABINETRY, ALONG WITH ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANUFACTURING PRACTICES. NOT BECAUSE IT'S THE TRENDY THING TO DO, BUT BECAUSE IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO. IT'S BETTER FOR OUR CUSTOMERS, FOR OUR EMPLOYEES AND FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT.

**DID YOU KNOW** ... IN AMERICAN HARDWOOD FORESTRY, THE PREDOMINANT HARVESTING METHOD IS SINGLE-TREE-SELECTION AS OPPOSED TO CLEAR CUTTING. THIS METHOD CLOSELY RESEMBLES NATURAL, HEALTHY FOREST LIFE-CYCLES WHEN INDIVIDUAL TREES FALL OR DIE FROM NATURAL CAUSES, ALLOWING SUNLIGHT AND NUTRIENTS TO ENTER THE CANOPY WHICH ENABLES SEEDLINGS AND SMALLER TREES TO GROW VIGOROUSLY.



**DID YOU KNOW** ... SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT INVOLVES HARVESTING NO MORE THAN WHAT THE FOREST GROWS, NOR DEGRADING THE FOREST'S CAPABILITY FOR GROWTH. CURRENTLY, AMERICAN FORESTS GROW TWICE AS MUCH HARDWOOD AS IS HARVESTED EACH YEAR.



# SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS



*Rustic Cherry*



*Lyptus*

The majority of hardwood sourced for our cabinetry comes from domestic forests that are sustainably harvested and replanted for future generations. Wood is a valuable, natural resource that is sustainable and renewable.

- Our computerized cutting equipment substantially improves the yield from our raw materials and significantly reduces waste.
- Cherry is one of our most popular offerings and our Rustic Cherry option optimally utilizes our raw materials. Our computerized equipment separates clear lumber from character lumber so that we can offer two distinctive looks for our cherry cabinetry.
- Composite wood panel products (plywood and furniture board) are used in the construction of our cabinetry and are made with recycled wood fibers for structural strength and stability. Our panel material meets stringent CARB (California Air Resource Board) emissions standards for formaldehyde, and is considered an Environmentally Preferable Product (EPP) meeting ANSI/HPVA HP-1 standards.
- Lyptus is a unique, sustainable wood species that has become a popular option for many of our customers. It resembles Mahogany with its rich, red coloring but with more variation. Lyptus is a hybrid of the Eucalyptus plant and is grown on plantations in South America that are certified to Brazil's sustainable forestry standards. A notable environmental advantage is that trees grow to full maturity in 15 years (compared to 50+ years for most domestic hardwoods).

**DID YOU KNOW** ... TO CREATE ENGINEERED VENEERS, LOGS ARE PROCESSED AS USUAL FOR VENEERS. A ROTARY LATHE PEELS THE LOG, AND THEN THE SHEET OF VENEER IS CLIPPED INTO SHORTER SECTIONS CALLED "LEAVES". DEPENDING ON THE PARTICULAR COLOR AND PATTERN BEING PRODUCED, THE VENEERS ARE STACKED WITH ALTERNATING COLORS AND THEN GLUED TOGETHER INTO A LARGE BLOCK OF WOOD. THEY ARE THEN RE-SLICED TO CREATE THE DESIRED GRAIN PATTERN, COLOR AND TEXTURE.

*Bamboo Veneer*

*Straight Grain Fir Veneer*

*Zebrawood Veneer*

*White Oak Veneer*

- For contemporary designs, Dura Supreme offers a collection of veneered doors in domestic and reconstituted exotic veneers. Veneers are made using ultra-thin slices of wood which optimize the wood for maximum yield. In addition, our exotic veneers are made with reconstituted real-wood veneers that are engineered to look like exotic species with consistent color and graining, when in fact they are made from sustainable, under-utilized species that are abundant and readily available.

- Bamboo is an excellent environmental option because it is an extremely fast-growing grass that reaches maturity in 5 to 7 years for sustainable harvesting. Considered a rapidly, renewable resource, Bamboo stalks regenerate from the same root system within 3 to 7 years. During regeneration, the root system remains intact preventing soil erosion. Our Bamboo veneers are sliced to feature a straight, narrow-stave pattern with the recognizable knuckles at the growth joints. A steaming process naturally darkens the sugar compounds present in the plant to create a warm, brown color without the use of stains or dyes.

**DID YOU KNOW** ... SINCE CARBON IS BELIEVED TO BE ONE OF THE FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE, CARBON-NEUTRAL MATERIALS ARE CONSIDERED FAVORABLE FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PROJECTS. WOOD IS CONSIDERED A CARBON-NEGATIVE MATERIAL SINCE IT SEQUESTERS AND STORES CARBON RATHER THAN EMITTING OR PRODUCING CARBON. ADD TO THIS THAT VERY LITTLE FOSSIL FUEL IS NEEDED TO PRODUCE WOOD (IN COMPARISON TO OTHER BUILDING MATERIALS LIKE STEEL, CONCRETE OR GLASS) AND THAT VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE WASTE CAN BE UTILIZED OR RECYCLED.





# REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE.

Dura Supreme is located in the heartland of America, amid the beautiful and scenic landscape of Minnesota. We value our natural resources (at work and at play) and we appreciate outdoor recreation during every season. Protecting our natural resources is a way of life here – it's part of our Minnesota heritage.

- Recycling stations are set up throughout the facility to recycle plastic bottles, aluminum cans, paper, cardboard scrap and metal scrap. We even recycle the metal banding that straps many of our incoming shipments together.
- Throughout the factory, metal halide lighting has been replaced with high-efficiency fluorescent lighting which requires less energy and is easier on the eyes.
- 99.9% of our wood waste is ground up and recycled for use as livestock bedding and wood pellets for pellet stove heating units. We recycled over 3780 tons of wood scrap last year.
- Motion sensors and programmable thermostats in the office and factory minimize use of heat and light.
- Efficient radiant heat is used to heat the factory.
- Our production equipment has energy-efficient motors with soft-start technology to reduce our peak load energy requirements.
- A solvent distiller within our finish line reclaims and reuses solvent. Last year, our purchase of solvents was reduced by 75% and over 7800 gallons were recycled.
- We voluntarily participate in an energy curtailment program with our electricity provider to reduce peak power demand.

**DID YOU KNOW** ... AS TREES GROW, THEY ABSORB CARBON FROM THE ATMOSPHERE AND STORE IT, WHILE RELEASING PURE OXYGEN. A TREE THAT DIES NATURALLY RELEASES THE STORED CARBON AS IT DECOMPOSES. HOWEVER, WHEN A TREE IS RESPONSIBLY HARVESTED FOR USE AS CABINETRY OR A BUILDING PRODUCT, THE CARBON REMAINS STORED IN THE WOOD FOR THE LIFE OF THE PRODUCT.



# AIR QUALITY

- Formaldehyde is a chemical compound widely used in glues and binding agents and has been known to create certain health risks in excessive amounts. Since 1980, regulations and awareness have reduced emissions in building products by over 80%. Panel products used by Dura Supreme meet the stringent standards set for formaldehyde emissions established by ANSI/HPVA HP-1 and CARB (California Air Resource Board).
- We work closely with our finish supplier to formulate our finishes to minimize their impact on the environment, without sacrificing quality and durability. Our catalyzed conversion varnish sealers and topcoats are formulated to be extremely low in HAPs and formaldehyde. We conform to stringent emissions standards for VOCs. Our finish quality and durability is one of the many reasons we can stand behind our cabinetry with a lifetime limited warranty.
- Ventilation and filtering systems within our finish system ensure safe indoor air quality. Dust collection systems ensure clean, dust-free air throughout the factory.



# LIFETIME WARRANTY

We believe one of the most environmentally friendly features of Dura Supreme cabinetry is our limited lifetime warranty. In order to stand behind our cabinetry with that kind of confidence, we make significant investments in employee training, state-of-the-art machinery, fine hand-craftsmanship, quality materials and quality finishes.

That investment ensures that your cabinetry does not need replacement or refinishing. It ensures that drawer glides, roll-outs and doors operate solidly and smoothly and that your cabinetry looks beautiful for the long term. We know that your kitchen may be a once-in-a-lifetime purchase and our ongoing investments in quality, along with our limited lifetime warranty, make Dura Supreme cabinetry a practical, beautiful and environmentally friendly choice.

**DID YOU KNOW** ... IN U.S. FORESTS, MANY MORE TREES ARE LOST TO FOREST FIRES, INSECTS, BLIGHT AND OTHER NATURAL CAUSES THAN ARE HARVESTED FOR PAPER AND TIMBER. FOREST OWNERS PLANT MORE THAN 650 MILLION NEW TREES EACH YEAR, ALMOST TWICE AS MUCH AS WHAT IS HARVESTED.

**DID YOU KNOW** ... THE VOLUME OF HARDWOOD IN AMERICAN FORESTS TODAY IS 90% LARGER THAN IT WAS 50 YEARS AGO. BECAUSE OF SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY PRACTICES, AMERICAN HARDWOOD IS ABUNDANT AND RENEWABLE.

# ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Your beautiful wood cabinetry from Dura Supreme is certified under the Environmental Stewardship Program (ESP) administered by the independent KCMA (Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association). Dura Supreme has achieved certification by demonstrating our commitment to sound environmental management and sustainable practices.

Designed to encourage industry policies and practices that benefit both the environment and the well-being of society, this groundbreaking program provides companies with tangible ways to support sustainability. Companies are reviewed annually for continued compliance. The ESP seal lets homeowners, designers, builders and architects know they are supporting sustainability when they buy or specify Dura Supreme cabinetry.

ESP certification is achieved by demonstrating compliance within the following 5 categories:

- Air Quality (including compliance with approved formaldehyde emission levels for panel materials)
- Product Resource Management
- Process Resource Management
- Environmental Stewardship
- Community Relations

Dura Supreme is proud to have been instrumental in the development of this program and one of the first cabinetry manufacturers to achieve certification. We recognize the value of our natural resources and the responsibility we have in ensuring their sustained availability.



Dura Supreme supports the Hardwood Forestry Fund (HFF) in their efforts to plant trees in managed hardwood forests. The mission of HFF is to create sustainable forests for future generations. These trees are specifically meant for future timber production of quality wood products, regenerating and replacing timber resources being utilized today. Dura Supreme is dedicated to preserving our natural resources. By partnering with HFF, we plant a tree for every kitchen we produce.