



# Water Footprint

We all depend on clean, fresh water for our survival.

Water supports all life on the planet and is important for maintaining and growing our biodiversity. Unfortunately, water is a limited resource that is not equally distributed throughout the world.

Understanding how our operations use and manage water is the first step to determining how to reduce our water use and how to improve our water management.



- Our water footprint is the total volume of freshwater that is used directly or indirectly to run and support the business.
- Know your water footprint and take steps to reduce your impact.

## WHAT ARE THE THREE TYPES OF WATER FOOTPRINTS?

**Blue Water Footprint** - the volume of surface and groundwater (including water provided through a municipal water supply) we use to make our products and deliver our services.

**Green Water Footprint** - the volume of rainwater consumed during the production process. The green water footprint is most relevant to the agriculture and forestry industries.

**Grey Water Footprint** - relates to water pollution. It is a calculation of how concentrated our waste waters are. It is expressed as the volume of water that would need to be used to dilute contaminants to a level that is harmless.

**Strive FOR Wise**

## DID YOU KNOW?

- We publicly report our Blue and Green Water Footprints annually in our sustainability report.
- Site specific water footprint fact sheets are available on each site's Environmental Intranet page.
- Environmental Messengers on *Measuring Our Water Footprint* and *Our 3 Water Footprints* are available on the EARTH 1st Intranet site under Monthly Messengers.
- More information can be found in Procedure E5-Water Footprint in the EARTH 1st Manual



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All your questions and discussion topics are on the reverse side - get talking!



# Water Footprint

Company \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Delivered by \_\_\_\_\_

Other topics discussed \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Signature	Name	Signature

## QUESTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

RECORD RESPONSES SPECIFIC TO YOUR SITE

1. Based on your most recent water footprint fact sheet, what is your largest use of water on-site? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What are your water sources for your operation? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What operations do you conduct that would be part of a blue water footprint? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What recent changes have you made that reduce your water footprint on-site? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## The Water Footprint Champion for 2014 is Norjohn Contracting!

Norjohn Contracting had the highest percent of water reduction for the Walker group of companies for 2014. They also had the greatest reduction in 2013!

In 2013, they reduced their water footprint by 48% from the 2010 baseline. In 2014, they further reduced their footprint by 32%. This can be attributed to the addition of a company owned water truck having high efficiency spray nozzles and when possible, using a road sweeper to reduce their water use for compaction and dust suppression.

Great job, Norjohn Contracting!



The site specific 2014 Water Footprint Fact Sheets will be available soon!



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