FMI Sustainability Task Force
Carbon Footprint Proposed Project

Approved by FMI's Board of Directors
May 4, 2008

Background

The FMI Sustainability Task Force identified carbon footprint as a key priority. Emerging legislation, increased energy costs and increased public concern is driving businesses' focus on understanding and reducing their "carbon footprints." Many companies are moving forward to understand this issue and develop strategies for reductions; however, to avoid confusion and inconsistency, there is a great need for collective cooperation in identifying and developing resources, criteria and tools.

Recommendations

FMI's Sustainability Task Force agrees that the "carbon footprint" arena presents an opportunity to accomplish a number of objectives together as an industry that individual companies cannot accomplish alone.

We would like to make the following recommendations to help our industry prepare to respond as this issue moves forward:

1. Identify and assess the current resources and tools that already exist to help companies understand, calculate and reduce their carbon footprints.

2. Develop an industry "backgrounder" on the carbon footprint issue, including common definitions and criteria, to help educate our industry and provide information on available resources and tools.

3. Share ideas and best practices from companies that have begun or completed this work.

4. Develop a simple calculation tool for industry to use to calculate carbon footprint.

5. Aggregate the industry's carbon footprint utilizing the criteria, definitions and calculation tool. Individual results to be shared with companies; aggregate results to be shared with industry.

6. Consider developing voluntary industry reduction goals.