

# SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY CHAIN PROGRAM



## CASE STUDY

## NYSP21 Performs Supply Chain Sustainability Assessment for Staach

Staach, Inc. (Staach), located in Rochester, New York, is a manufacturer of handcrafted furniture. Since its beginning in 2006, Staach's furniture has been handcrafted with intent and for a long life. Their use of sustainable methods and materials and operating with social and environmental responsibility are evidenced by being a certified B Corp.

### Challenge

Staach prides itself in being proactive and continually looking for ways to improve operationally, socially and environmentally. As such, Staach was interested in identifying less impactful manufacturing processes as part of their business expansion. In addition, meeting customer demands for LEED and Living Building Challenge/Declare attributes offer an opportunity for Staach to advance as a sustainable supplier.

### Solution

Staach requested support from the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP21) to (1) enable minimization of environmental impacts through supply chain decisions and benchmarking, (2) provide recommendations for their sustainability practices, and, (3) evaluate and provide a plan to improve product and process flow, leveraging lean manufacturing practices, resulting in less material use and waste generation.

### Results

NYSP21 utilized an assessment tool developed in-house specifically for evaluating a company's supply chain sustainability to assist Staach. The results of the assessment included:

- A Sustainable Supply Chain Gap Assessment Report detailing opportunities such as improvements to the existing supplier questionnaire, the development of a Supplier Code of Conduct and Scorecard to ensure material traceability and enabling customer conformance to green building standards
- A comprehensive benchmarking summary of other furniture manufacturers' sustainability commitments and attributes
- "Ecomaps" for current and future operations that quickly identified environmental aspects, as well as areas of concern regarding environmental health, and safety impacts based on site visit observations and input from employees.

In support of the facility expansion footprint, value-stream maps were created that assessed and improved sustainable product flow through the establishment of 'supermarkets', one-piece flow, and minimization of waste, including transportation and handling. Additionally, NYSP21 provided a plan for implementing the proposed suggestions.

Through this project with NYSP21, Staach has been enabled to continually improve their positioning as a sustainable supplier to their customers and minimize their environmental impacts while expanding into a new facility.

### Testimonial

*"At a critical juncture in the development of the company, NYSP21 provided Staach with a comprehensive set of services to prepare for a significant expansion - from market analysis to operational efficiencies. Their team provided exceptional services, and wealth of resources with key insights to elevate our brand position - which relies on high performance in environmental practice - and internal efficiency."*

- Anne Sherman, Director of Sustainability; Staach, Inc.

### CHALLENGE

- Staach wanted to identify less impactful manufacturing processes during business expansion and improve their positioning as a sustainable supplier

### SOLUTION

- NYSP21 assisted Staach with a sustainable supply chain assessment, eco- and value-stream mapping

### RESULTS

- NYSP21 utilized an assessment tool developed in-house specifically for evaluating a company's supply chain sustainability
- In support of the facility expansion footprint, value-stream maps were created that assessed and improved sustainable product flow
- Staach has been enabled to continually improve their positioning as a sustainable supplier to their customers and minimize their environmental impacts while expanding into a new facility

# Staach

## NYSP21 PARTNERS

**R·I·T**



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The State University of New York



New York Manufacturing Extension Partnership

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