

2010 GOLD MEDAL JURY CITATION

The Jury is pleased to award the 2010 WEC Gold Medal for International Corporate Achievement in Sustainable Development to Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. for its commitment to alter the way products are sourced, manufactured, delivered, sold, and disposed in its own business operations and across its global supply chain. As the world's largest retailer, with 8,000 retail units and 100,000 suppliers, Walmart recognizes that its huge leverage and purchasing power will promote transparency and environmentally sensitive practices. The shift of direction will be achieved through its aggressive Signature Project - Building a More Responsible Supply Chain - assisted by the Responsible Sourcing Initiative and use of Sustainability Indexes. By continuously improving its operations and those of its vast supply chain, Walmart is prepared to address the challenges of the 21st Century.

Aware of past difficulties, Walmart has regrouped and recognized the importance of a new emphasis and, as a result, in 2005, a bold 3 year plan was launched. The plan will change everything the company does - from the way it builds and operates facilities to how it purchases and stores merchandise, and hires, trains, and compensates its employees. This commitment features sustainable goals enriched by thirty-six measurable initiatives that are integrated into all aspects of the business holistically.

By looking at the supply chain through the lens of sustainability, Walmart recognized opportunities to improve the way they do business. In 2008, Walmart launched its Responsible Sourcing Initiative, RSI, to build a more environmentally sound and socially responsible supply chain. In turn RSI became its Signature Project, Building a More Responsible Supply Chain, and focused on an array of aggressive goals and expectations such as: compliance and beyond, transparency, safety, quality, and efficiency. Encouragement to reach these goals will be realized by the promise of establishing an enduring relationship to those who attain the highest standards. RSI is constantly expanded by enlarging the number of criteria suppliers must address.

The Jury is greatly impressed by Walmart Stores' transformation of business practices – building and operating facilities, purchasing and describing products, treating employees to its robust involvement with the supply chain that represents an innovative shift of direction that is integrated into its business culture. It's a bold multi-year plan, the Responsible Sourcing Initiative, and the companion Sustainability Index will drive sustainability performance along the entire supply chain. Given Walmart's enormous global presence, these endeavors should promote transparency and environmental sensitive practices. The Jury is proud to designate Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. as the 2010 WEC Gold Medal Awardee and feels confident that its forward looking approaches will empower positive global impact as they are widely shared.