

## About Us



Tapecon is a five generation family-owned privately held New York State corporation, specializing in printing and converting. Tapecon currently focuses on Medical/Medical Device, Industrial OEM, Electronics, and Military/Aerospace markets. Our products include: single-use medical diagnostics, printed electronics, custom converted functional parts & shields, digitally printed products, labels, membrane switches, product identification, and other printed markings.

Tapecon has been located in the Larkin building since 1950. In recent years we have remodeled and rehabilitated our existing space and expanded into adjacent spaces within the Larkin building. Tapecon's current workforce of 115 is drawn from the city of Buffalo and surrounding areas.

## Mission

A tradition of partnered solutions to assist our customers to design, grow and improve their products.

## Vision

Tapecon aspires to be a World Leader in Product Commercialization and Innovative Manufacturing Services.

## Our Sustainability Journey

Tapecon is committed to keeping our operations within the bounds of existing infrastructure and working to upgrade our equipment and existing infrastructure. We are committed to the Buffalo region and we believe the Western New York region is a great place to work, live, and play. It is important that we continue to improve the way we impact the environment in which we and our future generations will live.

Our past initiatives to lessen our impact on the environment include; upgrading our compressors with more efficient models. We have replaced most of the lighting with energy efficient T8 lighting and have installed motion-sensors throughout the majority of our facility. Additionally, we have installed a facility wide energy management system that allows us to more efficiently run our HVAC equipment. We supply purified drinking water systems throughout the facility and encourage employees to bring in their re-usable water bottles. Tapecon currently recycles paper, plastic, cardboard, e-waste, scrap metal, and pallets.

Tapecon copiers and printers default to double-sided printing to reduce the amount of paper used. We continuously strive to consolidate and reduce the amount of paper used throughout the organization by asking what is being printed and why. In 2014 we reformatted our manufacturing job paperwork structure and on average reduced the number of pages printed for each job in half.

## Our Future

Tapecon looks forward to continuing to education ourselves and our customers about inks and chemical options that are environmentally friendly.

With new ink technologies, we will be able to reduce our waste output as well as the VOC emissions associated with traditional printing.

Tapecon is looking at newer printing technologies like LED to cure and dry ink after applications. These technologies use a fraction of the energy currently used by our driers.

## Our Community and Partners

As the oldest tenant in the Larkin building we have been fortunate enough to be part of revival of the building and surrounding area.

We are committed to remaining within the City of Buffalo in order to provide our local work force the opportunity to commute via mass transportation.

Tapecon participates in local charities like the United Way and encourages personnel to participate with other local charities.

Local business and trade associations Tapecon is affiliated include Buffalo Niagara Partnership, World Trade Center and Western New York Sustainable Business Roundtable.

Tapecon has been a member of FTA: Flexographic technical association since 1999. FTA has recently added sustainability resources to its website to help members improve their sustainable business practices.

We partner with National Grid, NYSERDA, and our suppliers to support projects relating to energy efficiency improvements.

## Our Sustainability Goal

To provide innovative solutions to our customers while using energy and materials as efficiently as possible.

We will monitor our progress by measuring the following metrics;

### Liquid Hazardous Waste

- The amount of hazardous waste produced each month is monitored and measured
- A baseline for hazardous waste produced has been determined
- Our goal for 2015 is to produce 10% less than the baseline amount each month

### Energy Usage

- The amount of Kwh used each month is monitored and measured
- A baseline for electricity used has been determined
- Our goal for 2015 is to use 2% less energy than the baseline amount

## Optimize Use of Materials

In support of our goals we are committed to improving our housekeeping and manufacturing practices.

Good housekeeping minimizes hazardous waste production by increasing the likelihood that chemicals will be used before they expire and reducing the need to clean up chemical spills.

- Using a “first in, first out” inventory system in which older chemicals are used before newer chemicals in order to prevent them from expiring before they are used
- Keep non-hazardous waste streams separate from hazardous waste streams in order to reduce the amount of hazardous waste that must be disposed of
- Seal and contain processes to prevent the escape of fumes or leaks to the environment
- Take care when transferring chemicals in order to minimize spills and the additional wastes generated during spill cleanup

Good manufacturing practices minimize waste by preventing nonconforming products that result in excessive scrap. Our Good manufacturing practices include:

- Planning and training for efficient use of raw materials
- Maintaining the appropriate environment for raw material storage including; climate control and good housekeeping
- Providing operator training and work instructions on the proper handling of materials and manufacturing process needed to produce products that meets Tapecon’s and our customers’ expectations
- Preventative maintenance program for our equipment and facility to provide a safe work environment for our operators

## Our Sustainability Commitment

The owners and management team have approved and support our sustainability initiatives.

The sustainability initiative can only be achieved by education and commitment of our workforce. Communications at company meetings, posters and the reporting of metrics to all personnel will be used to promote awareness and support for our sustainability goals. Our operators are the key to the reduction of hazardous waste by; using less solvent and inks when possible, taking steps to eliminate nonconforming product and processes that lead to the creation of waste.

We will dispose of wastes in a manner that protects the air quality, water quality, land quality, and human health.

Tapecon is committed to establishing and implementing a sustainability plan that meets the needs of our employees, community, and customers by working to continuously reduce energy usage and waste produced by our process and products.