

Proximity Based Business

A Model for Sustainable Enterprise

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Proximity Based Businesses

- Utilize feedstock and supplies from immediate market
- Produce products for distribution within the market from which the materials are gathered

Criteria for PBB Models

- Products/services for a local market
- Locally sourced sustainable feedstock
- Minimal reliance on ‘economy of scale’
- Scalable to meet future needs of market
- Replicable systems and technology
- Adaptable to meet needs of changing market and work within varied regional conditions
- Locally owned, managed, financed, staffed

The Long Distance Loop



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DSI Sustainability Ideals for PBB Model Development

- Utilize recycled materials as feedstock
- ‘Green’ products and services
- Create or enhance social and economic stability within region and/or given population
- Meet ideals of B-Corp model (www.bcorporation.net)

DSI's Role: Building Models

- Identify opportunities - recyclable materials
- Identify products and processes
- Determine viability - market, supply
- Create resources - training, production processes
- Build partnerships in multiple markets

Case Study: Glass Pavers

- Market: Construction
- Feedstock: Bottle glass
- Product: Glass ingots/pavers
- Process: Hot glass (poured/pressed)
- Principles: Aboriginal bands

Glass Pavers:Key Strengths

- Meets an identified and growing need
- Utilizes recycled materials - strong supply of feedstock
- Scalable to meet growth requirements
- Easily replicable process - turnkey
- Resources in place to develop a viable pilot project
- Provides a sustainable business with trained employment

The Value of PBB in Your Communities

- Reduce carbon footprint of transport
- Reduce truck traffic
- Provide long term local jobs
- Support local economy
- Encourage use of recycled materials with local supply
- Reduce requirement to market recyclables

The Role of Government

- Encourage and reward local remanufacture
 - First use policies
 - Promotion of local remanufacturers at recycling depots
 - Preferred rates for recyclables for local business
- Provide incentives for recycling industry partners (NFPs, Social Enterprise, community based businesses)
 - Recycling hub areas with tax benefits
 - Use of public lands/buildings for recycling