

Integrating Sustainability Into Brand Strategy

A comparative study of global consumer-facing industry leaders

June 2015





We researched sustainability champions to understand how industry leaders integrate sustainability into branding

COMPANY SELECTION PROCESS

III. Choose 1 top company from I. Identify major consumer-II. Identify the top each industry that most sustainability facing industries effectively communicates leaders from each sustainability programs industry Consumer BMO **Packaged Goods Apparel** adidas **E-Commerce** SAMSUNG GROUP Commercial ebay **Fast Foods Banking** Tim Hortour **Electronics**

We researched global consumerfacing industries to understand trends relating to how companies integrate sustainability into branding and communications

- Multinational companies with wellknown brands were considered
- Companies selling "environmental" products/services were excluded

We identified sustainability leaders from corporate sustainability rankings:

- Corporate Knights Global 100
- Forbes Most Sustainable Companies
- Sustainable Brands
- The Guardian Sustainable Businesses list

We researched internal and external information sources:

- Company websites
- Sustainability micro-sites
- Sustainability reports
- · External articles
- Interviews
- News about companies and sustainability initiatives



Progressive companies appear to apply 4 principal strategies in incorporating sustainability into their brands

BRAND SUSTAINABILITY INTEGRATION FRAMEWORK

Stakeholder Interaction: Engaging Corporate Identity: Sustainability language employees, customers, suppliers and is incorporated into corporate identity and **CORPORATE IDENTITY** community organizations based on articulated in company descriptions, mission, shared sustainability agenda and vision, values and principles aspirations **SUSTAINABILITY CORPORATE** VISUALIZATION BRAND COMMUNICATIONS **INTEGRATION** Visualization: Corporate visuals **Corporate Communications**: Integrate **STAKEHOLDER** including logos and infographics sustainability into website and print content, INTERACTION incorporate sustainability elements social media, advertising and company presentations



Industry leaders incorporate sustainability values and concepts into their core business and brand identity

	Unilever	6 0	adidas GROUP	Kim Ko	Sums	CA VO
Industry	CPG	E-Commerce	Apparel	Fast Foods	Electronics	Commercial Banking
Overarching statements: Mission, Vision, Values and Principles						
Company description / About Us page incorporates sustainability						
Company tagline (explicit or implicit sustainability language)	/	1			/	
Separate sustainability brand tagline					/	
Sustainability/initiatives mentioned in company history		1				
Detailed available history of sustainability journey		1				
Sustainability plan is branded and promoted						
Company sustainability policies are promoted						
Company sustainability reports easily accessible and promoted online	1	/	1	/		/
Sustainability thought leadership (publications, reports)	/					
Sub-branding (sustainability featured in sub-brands/operations)	1	/				
Country brands (sustainability featured in separate country sites)						
Company facilities and approach to resource use reflects sustainability						



Organizations are embedding sustainability into corporate identities, including the company purpose and guiding principles

EXAMPLES OF SUSTAINABILITY LANGUAGE INTEGRATED INTO OVERARCHING COMPANY STATEMENTS



Purpose: To make sustainable living commonplace.

Vision: Double the size of the business, whilst <u>reducing our environmental footprint</u> and increasing our positive social impact.



Purpose: Creating opportunities and enabling others to win while making a <u>positive social impact</u> Mission: eBay connects a diverse and passionate community of individual buyers and sellers as well as small businesses

SAMSUNG

Company Tagline: Making a better world

Mission: Through innovative, reliable products and services; talented people; a <u>responsible</u> <u>approach to business and global citizenship</u>; and collaboration with our partners and customers, Samsung is taking the world in imaginative new directions.

EXAMPLES OF SUSTAINABILITY SUB-BRANDING BUILT INTO GUIDING PRINCPLES AND CORE VALUES



Corporate governance guiding Principles: Our guests, Restaurant Owners, and our corporate team are dedicated to making a true difference for individuals, our communities and the planet.



Guiding sustainability Principles: We are a global organization that is <u>socially and environmentally</u> <u>responsible</u>, that embraces creativity and diversity, and this is financially rewarding to our employees and shareholders.

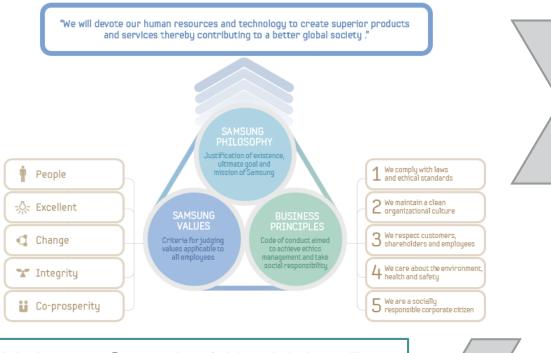


Approach to Corporate Responsibility: Our first <u>responsibility</u> is to <u>our customers</u>. We are committed to providing accessible, affordable banking and relevant products and services that make sense. As a responsible corporate citizen, we support financial literacy. We contribute to the <u>economic well-being and economic growth</u> of Canada and Canadians by creating not only employment but careers. We create a supportive workplace that welcomes individuals from diverse communities. And we <u>promote conservation</u> and the protection of our environment.



Visionaries tie sustainability to future growth strategies, with goals to solve environmental and social issues while growing financial returns

EXAMPLES OF STRATEGIC PLANS WITH INTEGRATED SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC OBJECTIVES



Samsung Vision 2020

Samsung set clear and direct guiding Principles to approach the creation of new products and technologies that will fuel future financial growth while inspiring communities and creating a better world





Unilever Sustainability Living Plan

Unilever made a plan to double the size of their business while reducing the environmental footprint of their products by half and improving the health / well-being of more than a billion people. The company plans to use sustainability to drive future business opportunities.



Leading companies feature their sustainability initiatives and reports on main pages alongside other important company information

SAMSUNG DISPLAYS ROTATING BANNERS ON 'ABOUT US' PAGE WITH LINKS TO SUSTAINABILITY MICRO-SITE



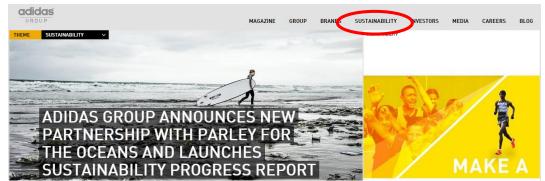


Samsung Creates Possibilities, A Corporation of Discovery

Committed to Social Responsibility

Bettering Everyday Experiences

ADIDAS FEATURES FIXED SUSTAINABILITY TAB ON ALL COMPANY PAGES



TIM HORTONS HAS A LINK TO SUSTIANABILITY MICRO-SITE ON MAIN PAGE



BMO HAS A FIXED SIDE PANEL WITH LINKS TO ALL REPORTS INCLUDING INVESTOR, FINANCIAL AND SUSTAINABILITY REPORTS



Quick Info & Resources

- Q2 15 Corporate Fact Sheet
- Q2 15 Investor Presentation
- Latest Quarterly Results
- Corporate Governance
- Dividend Information
- Corporate Responsibility Report Environmental, Social and
- Governance Report and Public Accountability Statement
- Shareholder Engagement Policy BMO's shareholder Dividend Reinvestment Plan (DRIP Plan)





Sustainability messaging is integrated across all types of corporate communications

	Unilever	9	adidas GROUP	Link Ho.	SIMS	SA CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY
Industry	CPG	E-Commerce	Apparel	Fast Foods	Electronics	Commercial Banking
Main consumer-facing website includes sustainability or has CSR-related tab (different from holding group corporate website)	/					
Sustainability micro site has detailed information about sustainability strategies						
Advertising of sustainability awards/promoting corporate sustainability initiatives						
Sustainability mentioned in the annual report						
Investors – investor fact books and presentations include sustainability concepts						1
CEO or senior level advocate	/					
Speeches and interviews with CEO or senior sustainability executive	/	/				
Sustainability concepts in product / service advertisements	1					
Social media (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube)						
Videos	/		/			
Externally published magazines/newsletters	/				/	
News and news feeds (including company blogs and internal newsletters)	/	/				
Press releases and media kids include sustainability concepts	/		/	/	/	



(2)

A CEO advocate is important in building awareness and credibility of sustainability commitments



"The core purpose of eBay has a lot of social innovation in it. And it has environmental innovation. If you just think of what the eBay marketplace itself does, it helps extend the life of goods. And Pierre didn't use green terms when he founded the company, but there's no doubt that social innovation is deeply ingrained in our core purpose."

John Donahoe CEO of eBay



"Business is here to serve society. We need to find a way to do so in a sustainable and more equitable way not only with resources but also with business models that are sustainable and generate reasonable returns."

Paul Polman CEO Unilever



"Implementing environmental performance across our value chain is an important step to deliver sustainable operations over the long term"

> Herbert Hainer CEO Adidas Group



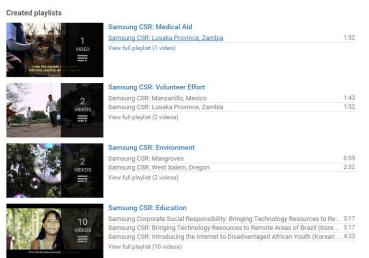
"Samsung is sharply aware of the growing environmental impact associated with the sourcing, manufacturing, use and disposal of our products. Therefore, it emphasizes its 'Green Management philosophy' internally and externally."

Oh – Hyun Kwon CEO Samsung Electronics



Companies use creative multimedia strategies to promote sustainability content including videos, blogs and fora

SAMSUNG USES MULTIMEDIA TOOLS INCLUDING A POPULAR YOUTUBE CHANNEL TO COMMUNICATE THE SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF ITS SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES. COMPANY RETAINED KOREAN ARTIST TO CREATE A RAP & VIDEO FEATURING THE ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY PLAN





EXAMPLES OF ONLINE BLOGS AND FORA USED TO ENGAGE CUSTOMERS AND PROMOTE INFORMATION

samsung village

Sharing Samsung News and Perspectives

5 Innovative Ideas by School Students to Solve Local Challenges Through Technology

Samsung Electronics Supports Habitat for Humanity's Work in Zambia

May 22, 2015 at 4:35 AM ⊢ Permalink ■ 0 Comment





Leaders use sustainability as a strategy to engage employees and collaborate with customers and community organizations

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	Unilever	egos)	adidas GROUP	Link Ho.	SHARING	\$ P. C.
Industry	Consumer Packaged Goods	E-Commerce	Apparel	Fast Foods	Electronics	Commercial Banking
Employees – sustainability language used in recruitment material/videos	/		/	/	/	
Employees – workplace engagement includes community giving and involvement		/	/	/		
Employees – support programs to start grass-roots sustainability initiatives	/	1	1			
Employees – multiple health & safety / training & development programs	/	1	/	/	/	
Employees – awards and recognition		/		1		
Customers – tools to educate customers about product/service		/	/	/		
Customers – offer sustainable solutions (life-cycle analysis, green alternatives, etc)		/	/		/	
Communities – events, fund-raising, local program sponsorships	1			/		/
Other stakeholders – supply chain partnerships with industry organizations		/		/	/	
Other stakeholders – strategic partnerships align with non-profit causes/NGOs	/	/		/		



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Companies use sustainability as a means to build employee loyalty and community brand

GIVE TEAMS

38 TOTAL TEAMS



Barcelona - Brazil - Denver - Georgia - Italy - Kentucky Luxembourg - Los Angeles - Malaysia - Netherlands NYC - Seattle Singapore - Ukraine - Wisconsin



Through the Summer of Giving campaign, 753 eBay Inc. employees in Salt Lake City (more than half the office)

VOLUNTEERED 3,269 HOURS

with 26 nonprofit organizations

Pink Tea Party was held at the PayPal office in Ireland to support the Irish Cancer Society. Employees

RAISED OVER \$6,400.

GIVE TEAM®

Employees in Arizona

DONATED 520 BACKPACKS

filled with school supplies to Children First Academy and Assistance League of Phoenix.



The Mumbai, Chennai and Bangalore offices joined together to raise funds and support Save the Children to provide aid to those affected by the massive floods at Uttarakhand.

A total of

USD (7,000 WAS DONATED

ALL BENCHMARK COMPANIES PROVIDE EMPLOYEE PROGRAMS THAT GENERATE SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS

Paid days to volunteer in the community

Social and team building events

Giving programs for corporate charities or donation matching

Company-wide philanthropy groups and organizing committees

Health & safety and professional development training

Rewards for showing initiative or extraordinary performance

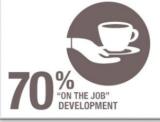
















BMO Volunteer Day

Learn ty Passion Service Back

Commitment and Helping Time

Pride Take action



A majority of sector leaders have a "signature foundation" that supports local and international charities

EXAMPLES OF FOUNDATIONS AND CAUSES





Since it's foundation in 1998, the Foundation has donated over \$4.3 million to nonprofits globally, focusing on creating economic opportunities and community development





The Foundation is designed to change the way young people from economically disadvantaged homes think about themselves and the opportunities that exist for them





The Foundation promotes social and economic equality by funding non-profit organizations that help empower youth to fulfil their potential and lead healthy, happy and active lives







Foundation-sponsored programs provide childcare and senior care of the highest quality, as well as extensive rehabilitation programs that help put marginalized individuals back on the path to self-sufficiency



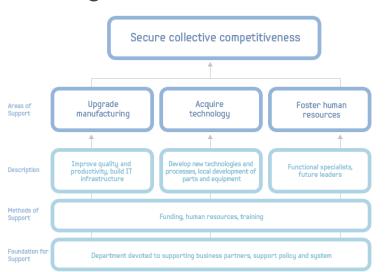




The Foundation's mission is to improve quality of life through the provision of hygiene, sanitation, access to clean drinking water, basic nutrition and enhancing self-esteem. Has partnerships with five leading global organizations – Oxfam, Population Services International, Save the Children, UNICEF and the World Food Programme



Companies form partnerships to influence their supply chains and align with "causes" relevant to their industries



















Eco-Label (Korea)

The Korea Eco-labeling Program started from April 1992. It is a voluntary certification program that endorses eco-products based on good quality and performance, as well as eco-friendliness through their entire life cycle.



SAMSUNG

SAMSUNG SUPPORTS ECO-LABELING LEGISLATION AND ADHERES TO THE RELEVANT LABELS IN EACH OPERATING COUNTRY. THE COMPANY IS COMMITMENT TO ELECTRONIC RECYCLING AND IS ADDRESSING CHILD LABOR IN THE ELECTRONIC GOODS INDUSTRY TOGETHER WITH INDUSTRY PARTICIPANTS.

TIM HORTONS FOCUSES ON SOURCING FAIR TRADE, ETHICAL AND CONFLICT-FREE FOODS INCLUDING FAIR TRADE COFFEE AND SUSTAINABLE PALM OIL. THE COMPANY APPLIES LIFE-CYCLE ANALYSIS TO

ALL PRODUCT WASTE STREAMS.

















The Planet

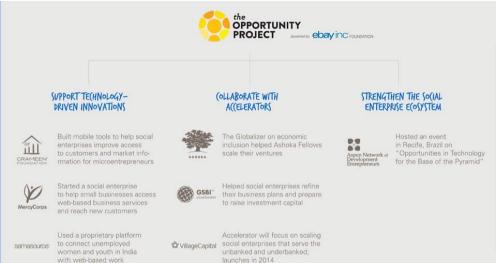
SUSTAINABLE AND ETHICAL SUPPLY CHAIN PRACTICES

WATER, ENERGY AND WASTE

REDUCING WASTE



Companies form partnerships to influence their supply chains and align with "causes" relevant to their industries (con't)











Sellers can become true "cause marketers" for their favorite charities, donating between 10-100 percent of their sale. Sell now.

Donate directly to charities eBay users can make direct

contributions to any eBay Giving Works-listed nonprofit using their PayPal account. Find a nonprofit to support.

Shop to support charities

Shoppers can buy items to support causes they care about. Look for the eBay Giving Works blue and vellow ribbon on charity listings. Shop



EBAY SUPPORTS ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN EMERGING ECONOMIES AND PROMOTES ECOMMERCE AND BUSINESS LITERACY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE COMPANY HAS COMMITTED TO SELLING AND PROMOTING GOODS FROM ARTISANS OF THESE COUNTRIES.

ADIDAS FOCUSES ON DRIVING SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH ITS SUPPLY CHAIN: STIPULATES ETHICAL BUSINESS CONDUCT, FAIR LABOR PRACTICES, AND SOURCING OF GREATER SUSTAINABLY-PRODUCED AND HAZARDOUS-FREE MATERIALS, INCLUDING COTTON, POLYESTER AND SPANDEX.







Cotton

FAIR I ABOR ASSOCIATION...









Benchmarked companies use visuals to draw attention to sustainability attributes and educate audiences about sustainability impacts

				XON!		
	Unilever		adidas GROUP	Tim House	SHISTING	SA CANONICA CONTRACTOR OF THE CANONICA CONTRACTO
Industry	Consumer Packaged Goods	E-Commerce	Apparel	Fast Foods	Electronics	Commercial Banking
Logo with sustainability attributes	/					
Separate sustainability logos				/		
Images showcase sustainability aspects (e.g. environment, safety, diversity, industry, people, community)	/	/	1	/	1	/
Colour palette (sustainability and standard brand colour alignment)						
Sustainability plan or strategy visualized using infographics				/	/	
Graphics to display sustainability facts		/			/	
Sustainability processes visualized (e.g. greenhouse gas emissions in product lifecycle)	/	/	/	/	/	/
Graphics or videos showcasing innovation		/	1	/	/	



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Companies associate sustainability initiatives with specific colour palettes and imagery, as opposed to integrating sustainability in logos









EXAMPLES OF SUSTAINABILITY COLORS AND CONCEPTS INCORPORATED INTO CORPORATE LOGOS AND SEPARATE SUSTAINABILITY-RELATED LOGOS



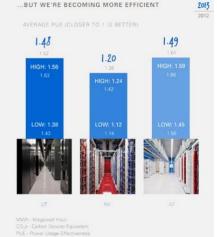
APPLICATION OF
SUSTAINABILITY COLORS
AND CONCEPTS INTO
PRODUCT DESIGN,
ADVERTISEMENTS, AND
PROMOTIONAL
CAMPAIGNS
17

of green



Infographics showcase companies 'walking the talk', with impacts of initiatives such as energy savings and supply chain innovation









MAKE A DIFFERENCE / Sustainability Progress Report 2014









Quinn & Partners

Sustainability strategies for leaders

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