# AAPEX EXHIBITOR BEST PRACTICES

At AAPEX, we are committed to advancing a sustainable future for the automotive aftermarket industry. Our focus on sustainability is reflected at AAPEX through programs and initiatives designed to reduce the environmental impact of the tradeshow and promote responsible practices among all stakeholders.

By adopting environmentally responsible practices, you can help make this tradeshow more sustainable. Here are some suggestions for making your event and exhibiting experience more sustainable.

#### **Reduce Printed Materials**

- Go Digital! Minimize printed brochures, catalogs, and handouts by providing digital versions on tablets, QR codes, or a website for attendees to access information.
- Print Selectively! If printing is necessary, use recycled paper and print double-sided to reduce paper waste.

#### Minimize Giveaways and Swag

- Avoid Disposable Giveaways! Steer clear of single-use plastic items, such as stress balls, keychains, or plastic water bottles, which often end up in landfills.
- Choose Sustainable Swag! If offering giveaways, opt for eco-friendly items made from recycled or biodegradable materials or consumables such as candy.

#### **Optimize Booth Design and Materials**

- Use Reusable Booth Materials! Invest in modular, reusable booth structures and graphics that can be used for multiple events, reducing waste and transportation emissions.
- Rent, Don't Buy! Rent booth build materials from the general service contractor.
- Rent carpet from Freeman, avoid light-colored and custom cut carpet, and opt for carpet that will be reused after the show (Black, Latte, Red Pepper, Tuxedo, and Midnight Blue).

## **Reduce Energy Consumption**

- Use Energy-Efficient Lighting! Opt for LED or other energy-efficient lighting solutions in your booth to minimize energy consumption.
- Power Down When Possible! Turn off booth lighting, displays, and electronics when not in use to conserve energy.

## **Offset Carbon Emissions**

• Calculate and Offset Emissions: Estimate the carbon footprint of your event participation, including travel, shipping, and on-site activities, and consider offsetting those emissions through reputable carbon offset programs.

## Use Renewable and Sustainable Materials

- Recycled Paper and Cardboard: Ideal for signage, graphics, and backdrops; recycled paper and cardboard are affordable and sustainable options.
- Choose Certified Sustainable Wood! FSC-Certified Wood: The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certifies wood products sourced from responsibly managed forests, ensuring sustainability and biodiversity preservation.

## **Shipping**

- Use a third-party logistics partner that participates in the U.S. EPA's SmartWay Partnership Program or an equivalent program.
- Consolidate shipments into a single shipment.