Re-upholstery and re-use of furniture can help stem environmental challenges:

## Re-Up and Re-Use for a More Sustainable Furniture Industry

2017

Here's the size of the problem:

Only 9% of the 102 billion tons of raw materials that annually enter the global economy is reused 1

70% to 80% of what the furniture

of what the furniture industry produces goes to landfill<sup>2</sup>

Solid waste landfills are the 

3rd-largest source of human-related



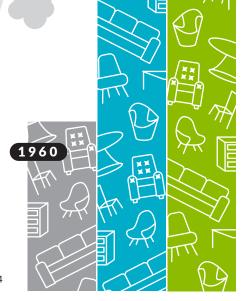
methane emissions in the USA3

## 2 million tons

of US furniture is incinerated annually for energy, releasing carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ ) and nitrous oxide ( $N_2O$ ) into the air<sup>4</sup>

9.8 million tons of

furniture
went to
US landfills
in 2017,
almost
double
1990
volume
& almost
5 times
1960
totals<sup>5</sup>



OPPORTUNITIES



**1.5 tons** of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions can be saved by re-using about 2 large sectional sofas. That's 4,000 miles of typical car driving<sup>6</sup>

In optimum conditions, the energy used to re-manufacture an existing product can be

85 to 95% less

85 to 95% than required to manufacture that new product<sup>7</sup>



We have the resources: Commercial furniture hit

\$16 billion in

production and sales

in 2018 in North America, yet is one of the least recycled goods in the USA<sup>8</sup>

Almost **80%** of millennial employees are loyal to companies that support sustainability?

Sources:

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