HOWE SUSTAINABILITY-FOCUSED COMMITMENT:

DESIGN FOR DISASSEMBLY (DFD)

At HOWE, we believe that truly enduring design is born from an act of intentional creation. Our approach to Design for Disassembly (DfD) is a testament to this philosophy, ensuring every product is conceived with a purposeful long life and an effective plan for its eventual next use. Since formalizing this commitment in 2010 and integrating it into our Sustainable Design Guidelines, DfD has become the bedrock of our product development. It ensures that a product's end-of-life is considered from the very first sketch, allowing us to build furniture that is inherently sustainable, durable, and ready for what's next.

EXECUTION AND VALUE: OUR THREE-PILLAR APPROACH

Our sustainability-focused DfD philosophy translates into tangible value through products designed for three primary outcomes: MATERIAL RECOVERY, VALUE RETENTION, and MEANINGFUL NEXT USE. These pillars are achieved through intentional design and manufacturing processes:

- MATERIAL RECOVERY. We design our products for easy disassembly into their base constituent materials. Every HOWE product can be taken apart with basic hand tools, which simplifies the process of separating materials like plastic, metal, and wood. This approach ensures that valuable resources can be efficiently recovered and recycled, minimizing waste and supporting a closed-loop system.

- VALUE RETENTION. Our design principles focus on longevity. By creating products where parts can be easily repaired or replaced, we significantly extend the useful life of the furniture. This approach keeps products in use longer, delaying the need for new materials and preserving the inherent value of the original product.

- MEANINGFUL NEXT USE. Every component is designed with its future in mind. Where possible, we use clear Plastic Identification Codes to ensure materials are properly sorted for their next life, whether that's through recycling or remanufacturing. This commitment to a meaningful next use is the key to minimizing environmental impact and maximizing the utility of every material.