

The Porto Protocol

More than just a commitment.



Case Study

Amado & Almeida Santos – Sociedade de Advogados, SP, RL – *Small gestures, big consequences*

Since its foundation, Amado & Almeida Santos had on its genesis the concern with the environment. Being a law firm, the behaviors that could be adopted with the goal to contribute to a better environment did not seem many. However, every day we try to be meticulous and improve to avoid waste.

We are aware that our Planet is just one and that it is up to all of us, may it be in personal or professionals terms, to choose to do something. Because we believe that even the simplest, smallest gestures can translate into major contributions in the long run, if only by example and raising more people and leading them to follow our example.

We have always dispensed plastic, such as, we chose paper cups to serve coffee or tea to our clients and even in our own use. We privilege porcelain and silver cutlery or stainless steel for long-lasting and reusable. We also have a great deal of attention in the use of water, although it is not a feature commonly used in our business, when we have the need of such resource there are extra attention on keep the taps closed when not required, thus preventing the water run unnecessarily.

Another gesture, which we consider basic, is the separation of garbage. Essentially, we got small containers for paper/cardboard and plastic, once the glass has no expression in the Office. In the management of work, had always in mind the paper saving. We installed servers and an intern network which allows us to share information between us and store it in a fast, easy, economical and environmentally friendly ways. This is because this way we avoid unnecessary print, saving paper and ink. We keep the printing only to situations that we cannot avoid, that are essential. Still, when printed and there is some glitch or something is printed by mistake, this paper is used as a draft before go into recycling bin. Also, in printers' consumables we tried be sustainable. We chose to work with a brand of printers and consumables that offer free bags for collecting cartridges/ink toner for recycling so we don't put this kind of material in the trash and we know they will be treated properly.

As for the lights we have chosen to led light, low-power, class A or higher, which allows us to help the environment and even cut energy consumption levels, translate in reduction of the resources required to produce this energy. Not yet quantified the savings, but know to be significant. However, what we can highlight with these practices, is the awareness and the ease with which these gestures come into our routine. We think that something so beneficial is just a matter of habit, and it's so important learn them.
