

lausd vendor

Understanding the Role of a LAUSD Vendor

LAUSD vendor refers to any individual or company that supplies goods or services to the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). As one of the largest school districts in the United States, LAUSD maintains a complex network of vendors that play a critical role in ensuring smooth operations across thousands of schools and administrative offices. From food services and educational supplies to construction and technology solutions, LAUSD vendors are essential partners in delivering quality education and support services to students and staff.

In this comprehensive guide, we will explore the various aspects of being a LAUSD vendor, the procurement process, how to become an approved vendor, and tips for success in working with this prominent public entity.

Overview of LAUSD Vendor Types

LAUSD engages with a diverse array of vendors to meet its extensive needs. These can generally be categorized as follows:

1. Goods Suppliers

- Educational materials (books, software, lab equipment)
- Office supplies and furniture
- Food and beverages for cafeterias
- Maintenance and janitorial supplies

2. Service Providers

- Construction and renovation contractors
- Technology and IT support companies
- Security services
- Transportation and bus services
- Health and medical services

3. Professional Consultants

- Legal advisors
- Financial auditors
- Educational consultants
- Training and development providers

Each vendor type must meet specific requirements and standards set by LAUSD to qualify for contracts.

The Procurement Process at LAUSD

Understanding how LAUSD procures goods and services is fundamental for vendors aiming to establish or expand their partnership with the district.

1. Vendor Registration

Before participating in any bidding process, vendors must register with LAUSD through its online vendor portal. Registration involves providing detailed business information, certifications, and relevant licensing documents.

2. Solicitation and Bidding

LAUSD issues solicitations such as Requests for Quotes (RFQs), Invitations for Bids (IFBs), and Requests for Proposals (RFPs). These solicitations are publicly advertised and detail the specific needs, submission deadlines, and evaluation criteria.

3. Proposal Submission

Vendors submit their proposals or bids according to the instructions provided. It's crucial to tailor submissions to meet the specific requirements and emphasize unique value propositions.

4. Evaluation and Award

LAUSD reviews all submissions based on criteria like price, quality, experience, and compliance with specifications. The district awards contracts to vendors that best meet their needs.

5. Contract Management

Once awarded, vendors must adhere to contractual obligations, deliver goods or services on time, and maintain compliance with LAUSD policies.

How to Become a LAUSD Approved Vendor

Becoming an approved LAUSD vendor involves several steps designed to ensure vendors meet district standards for quality, reliability, and compliance.

Step 1: Register Online

Visit the LAUSD vendor registration portal and create an account. Provide comprehensive business information, including:

- Business name and contact details
- Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN)
- California Seller's Permit
- Certifications (e.g., minority-owned, women-owned, small business)

Step 2: Submit Necessary Documentation

Prepare and upload required documents such as:

- Business license
- Insurance certificates
- Tax identification documents
- Certifications demonstrating diversity or small business status (if applicable)

Step 3: Review and Approval

LAUSD reviews your submission to verify credentials and compliance. Once approved, you will receive confirmation and become eligible to participate in bidding opportunities.

Step 4: Monitor Opportunities

Regularly check LAUSD's procurement portal for open solicitations, RFQs, and RFPs that match your offerings.

Key Tips for Successful LAUSD Vendor Engagement

Partnering effectively with LAUSD requires strategic planning and an understanding of district priorities.

1. Understand District Needs and Priorities

Stay informed about LAUSD's strategic goals, budget allocations, and upcoming projects. This knowledge helps tailor proposals to align with district objectives.

2. Maintain Compliance and Certifications

Ensure all your business licenses, insurance, and certifications are current. Demonstrating compliance enhances credibility and eligibility for contracts.

3. Build Relationships and Network

Attend LAUSD vendor fairs, workshops, and informational sessions. Networking can provide insights into upcoming projects and foster valuable relationships.

4. Focus on Quality and Reliability

LAUSD values vendors who deliver consistent quality, meet deadlines, and maintain excellent communication. Building a reputation for reliability can lead to repeat contracts.

5. Prepare Competitive and Clear Proposals

When bidding, ensure your proposals are comprehensive, competitive, and clearly demonstrate how your offerings meet LAUSD's needs efficiently.

Common Challenges Faced by LAUSD Vendors

While working with LAUSD offers significant opportunities, vendors may encounter obstacles such as:

- Complex Procurement Processes: Navigating district policies and paperwork can be time-consuming.
- Strict Compliance Requirements: Meeting diverse standards and certifications may require ongoing effort.
- Competitive Bidding Environment: High competition necessitates strategic proposal development.
- Delays in Payment: Occasionally, vendors face delays in invoice processing or payments, emphasizing the importance of clear communication and understanding district procedures.

Benefits of Being a LAUSD Vendor

Partnering with LAUSD provides numerous advantages, including:

- Access to a large and steady market
- Opportunities for long-term contracts
- Enhanced reputation through association with a reputable district
- Potential for referrals within other public agencies

Conclusion

Being a LAUSD vendor presents a promising avenue for businesses seeking to serve one of the most extensive educational districts in the country. Success hinges on understanding the procurement process, maintaining compliance, and fostering relationships within the district. By strategically participating in bidding opportunities, delivering quality products and services, and staying informed

about district priorities, vendors can build a thriving partnership with LAUSD that benefits both parties and, most importantly, supports the educational mission of Los Angeles schools.

Whether you are a small business owner or a large corporation, aligning your offerings with the needs of LAUSD can open doors to significant growth and community impact. Start by registering today, stay engaged with district opportunities, and position yourself as a reliable partner in education.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a LAUSD vendor registration process?

The LAUSD vendor registration process involves submitting an application through the LAUSD Vendor Portal, providing necessary business documentation, and completing the required certifications to become an approved vendor for Los Angeles Unified School District contracts.

How can I find current LAUSD vendor opportunities?

Vendor opportunities with LAUSD are posted on their official procurement website and vendor portal. Vendors can subscribe to notifications or regularly check the LAUSD Procurement Opportunities page for updates on bids and requests for proposals.

What are the requirements to become an LAUSD approved vendor?

Requirements include submitting a completed vendor application, providing valid business licenses, tax identification number, proof of insurance, and ensuring compliance with LAUSD's supplier diversity and ethical standards.

How does LAUSD ensure vendor compliance with their policies?

LAUSD monitors vendor compliance through regular audits, contract performance evaluations, and adherence to procurement policies. Vendors must also stay updated on certification renewals and meet all contractual obligations.

Are there benefits to becoming a certified LAUSD vendor?

Yes, certified vendors gain access to exclusive bidding opportunities, priority consideration for district contracts, and support from LAUSD's supplier diversity programs, enhancing their visibility and potential for business growth.

Can small businesses or minority-owned vendors register with LAUSD?

Absolutely. LAUSD encourages participation from small, minority-owned, women-owned, and

disadvantaged business enterprises by offering specialized programs and outreach to promote diverse vendor inclusion.

Where can I get assistance with LAUSD vendor registration or procurement processes?

Vendors can contact the LAUSD Procurement Services Division through their official website, attend informational workshops, or reach out via email or phone for personalized assistance with registration and procurement procedures.

Additional Resources

LAUSD Vendor: A Comprehensive Guide to Doing Business with the Los Angeles Unified School District

The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) stands as one of the largest and most influential school districts in the United States. With over 900 schools and more than 600,000 students, LAUSD offers a significant opportunity for vendors across various sectors. Whether you're a small business owner, a corporate supplier, or a service provider, understanding how to become a vendor for LAUSD is essential to tapping into this vast market. In this detailed guide, we will explore every aspect of LAUSD vendors—from registration and procurement processes to compliance requirements and tips for success.

Understanding the Role of an LAUSD Vendor

A vendor for LAUSD is an individual or business entity authorized to supply goods, services, or materials to the district. Vendors play a crucial role in supporting the district's educational mission by providing everything from classroom supplies to construction services.

Key Responsibilities of an LAUSD Vendor:

- Deliver quality products or services as per contractual agreements.
- Comply with all district policies, procurement procedures, and legal requirements.
- Maintain transparency and ethical standards in all transactions.
- Meet deadlines and quality standards to ensure smooth operations.

Types of Vendors in LAUSD:

- Suppliers of Goods: Textbooks, technology, furniture, uniforms, nutritional products.
- Service Providers: Maintenance, IT support, security, consulting, transportation.
- Construction and Infrastructure: Contractors for school renovations, new buildings, landscaping.
- Professional Services: Legal, auditing, educational consulting, training.

How to Become an LAUSD Vendor

Embarking on the journey to become an LAUSD vendor involves several steps designed to ensure transparency, fairness, and quality in procurement. Here's a step-by-step breakdown:

1. Registration with LAUSD

Vendor Registration Portal:

LAUSD uses an online platform for vendor registration and procurement processes. Begin by creating a profile on the LAUSD Vendor Portal or the Los Angeles County Vendor Registration System.

Steps to Register:

- Access the official LAUSD procurement website or vendor portal.
- Fill out the Vendor Registration Form with accurate business details.
- Submit necessary documentation (business license, IRS tax ID, certifications).
- Await confirmation and login credentials.

Required Documentation:

- Business license or registration certificate.
- Tax identification number (TIN or EIN).
- Proof of insurance (if applicable).
- Certifications for minority-owned, women-owned, or disadvantaged business status (if available).

Benefits of Registration:

- Access to bid opportunities.
- Ability to receive notifications about upcoming solicitations.
- Inclusion in LAUSD's approved vendor list.

2. Understand Procurement Procedures

LAUSD follows a formal procurement process governed by district policies and California public procurement laws. Familiarize yourself with the key procedures:

- Request for Quotes (RFQ): Used for small-dollar purchases.
- Request for Proposals (RFP): Invites detailed proposals for complex services.
- Invitation for Bids (IFB): Competitive bidding process for large projects.
- Informal Quotes: Smaller or less complex procurements.

Important Points:

- Always review solicitation documents carefully.
- Respond within deadlines.
- Submit complete and compliant proposals.

3. Responding to Solicitations

When a procurement opportunity arises:

- Download and review the solicitation documents.
- Attend pre-bid meetings or site visits if scheduled.
- Prepare a comprehensive response, addressing all requirements.
- Ensure pricing, certifications, and documentation are accurate.

Tips for Success:

- Follow all submission guidelines meticulously.
- Highlight your unique value propositions.
- Include references or past performance examples if requested.

4. Contract Award and Compliance

- If awarded, review the contract thoroughly.
- Understand the scope, deliverables, deadlines, and payment terms.
- Comply with all contractual obligations, reporting, and invoicing procedures.
- Maintain open communication with LAUSD procurement officers.

Key Aspects of LAUSD Vendor Requirements

Working as an LAUSD vendor entails adherence to numerous standards and regulations. Ensuring compliance not only secures your current contracts but also paves the way for future opportunities.

Legal and Regulatory Compliance

- Business Licenses and Permits: Must be current and valid.
- Tax Compliance: Regularly update tax identification information.
- Insurance Requirements: Typically include general liability, workers' compensation, and vehicle insurance.
- Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination Policies: LAUSD emphasizes diversity and inclusivity.

Certifications and Special Status

Vendors with certain certifications may enjoy preferential treatment or eligibility for specific programs:

- Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)
- Women's Business Enterprise (WBE)

- Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)
- Small Business Certification

Obtaining and maintaining these certifications can improve your chances of winning contracts and accessing set-aside opportunities.

Environmental and Sustainability Standards

LAUSD is committed to sustainability:

- Use environmentally friendly products.
- Minimize waste.
- Follow district-specific green procurement policies.

Financial Aspects and Payment Processes

Understanding the financial procedures is crucial for smooth operations.

Invoicing and Payments:

- Submit invoices per the terms outlined in the contract.
- Include accurate purchase order numbers.
- Follow LAUSD's invoicing format and submission channels.
- Typical payment cycles range from 30 to 60 days after invoice approval.

Pricing and Cost Management:

- Be competitive but also ensure profitability.
- Clearly itemize costs.
- Consider volume discounts for larger contracts.

Challenges Faced by LAUSD Vendors and How to Overcome Them

While the opportunity is significant, vendors often encounter hurdles. Recognizing these challenges and proactively addressing them can lead to sustained success.

Common Challenges:

- Lengthy approval and payment processes.
- Navigating complex procurement requirements.
- Meeting strict compliance standards.
- Competition with larger firms.

Strategies for Success:

- Build relationships with LAUSD procurement staff.
- Stay updated on solicitation opportunities.
- Invest in certifications and business development.
- Provide exceptional service to foster long-term partnerships.
- Maintain thorough documentation and records.

Resources and Support for LAUSD Vendors

LAUSD offers several resources to assist vendors:

- Vendor Portal: For registration, bid opportunities, and updates.
- Procurement Department: Provides guidance, policies, and support.
- Small Business Program: Offers training and networking events.
- California Public Contract Code: Ensures vendors understand legal frameworks.
- Local Business Support Organizations: Such as the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce.

Success Stories and Tips from Existing Vendors

Many vendors have successfully navigated the LAUSD system. Lessons learned include:

- Build Relationships: Engage with district procurement officers and attend district events.
- Be Persistent: Follow up on bid status and seek feedback.
- Deliver Quality: Consistently provide high-quality products/services to earn repeat business.
- Leverage Certifications: Use minority, women, or disadvantaged business certifications to access special programs.
- Stay Informed: Regularly check for new opportunities and policy updates.

Future Trends and Opportunities for LAUSD Vendors

Looking ahead, LAUSD's procurement landscape is evolving:

- Digital Transformation: Increased need for IT and cybersecurity services.
- Green Initiatives: Growing demand for sustainable products and services.
- Inclusive Procurement: Emphasis on supporting small and diverse businesses.
- Infrastructure Development: Ongoing construction projects open avenues for contractors.

Vendors should position themselves by staying informed about district strategic plans, sustainability

goals, and technological upgrades.

Conclusion: Navigating the LAUSD Vendor Ecosystem

Becoming a vendor for LAUSD presents a significant opportunity for businesses seeking to expand their reach within the public sector. While the process involves navigating bureaucratic procedures and compliance standards, the rewards—access to a vast, stable, and impactful client—are well worth the effort.

Success hinges on thorough preparation, understanding procurement policies, maintaining high standards of quality and compliance, and building strong relationships within the district. By leveraging available resources, certifications, and industry best practices, vendors can establish a lasting partnership with LAUSD, contributing to educational excellence while growing their business.

Whether you're just starting or looking to expand your current government contracts, becoming an LAUSD vendor can open doors to new markets and long-term growth. Stay informed, be persistent, and focus on delivering value—these are the keys to thriving as an LAUSD vendor.

[Lauds Vendor](#)

lauds vendor: Battling Corruption in America's Public Schools Lydia G. Segal, 2005 Drawing on ten years of undercover work and research in four major school districts, Segal reveals how systemic waste and fraud siphon millions of dollars from urban classrooms. Calling for renewed powers for principals and a streamlining of oversight, she offers a bold, far-reaching plan to reclaim our schools.

lauds vendor: **FCC Record** United States. Federal Communications Commission, 2001

lauds vendor: **Belmont: the Billion Dollar High School** Don Mullinax, 2020-11-11 This book has it all - fraud, waste, corruption, politics, and greed. It is an outsider's inside true story about how a group of educators tried to build a public high school in downtown Los Angeles. Inspector General Don Mullinax with the help of Leslie Dutton and TJ Johnston of Full Disclosure Network expose how a school district mired in favoritism, cronyism, and self-dealing put greed and politics ahead of the safety and educational interests of children. This book puts a spotlight on problems from 20 years ago that still exist today at most school systems across the county. It is a must read for citizens, parents, and school officials who do not want to make the same mistakes as those who came before them. The Los Angeles Unified School District had not built a high school in over 30 years. So why would a former playground supervisor be put in charge of building the most complex and politically charged school ever? This eye-opening book takes you behind the scenes of how outsider Mullinax was hired, assembled his investigative dream team, and dealt with the challenges of uncovering what went wrong with building the nation's most expensive high school - the Belmont Learning Complex. Mullinax exposes how a public-school system selected the highest bidder and signed an agreement to build a high school at a guaranteed maximum price of \$110 million. However, the cost skyrocketed to almost \$1 billion. How could that happen? This book reveals how Mullinax and his team of former FBI special agents, forensic accountants, and environmental

attorneys found that every time the LAUSD had an opportunity to make the right call, they failed. Mullinax also offers 10 key takeaways from his Belmont experience to help school systems follow the right path to building and renovating school facilities.

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lausd vendor: *Agroecology in Policy and Practice* Rachel Bezner Kerr, Hans Rudolf Herren, Barbara Gemmill-Herren, Caterina Batello Cattaneo, Franz-Theo Gottwald, 2023-10-13 In the past years, there has been steady growth in work relating to agroecology. People-centred, knowledge-intensive and rooted to sustainability, it is now well established that agroecology matches the transformative approach called for by the 2030 Agenda; a transition to sustainable food and agriculture systems that ensures food security and nutrition for all, provides social and economic equity, and conserves biodiversity and the ecosystem services on which agriculture depends. Although not a new concept, agroecology is today gaining interest worldwide among a wide range of actors as an effective answer to climate change and the interrelated challenges facing food systems, finding expression in the practices of food producers, in grassroots social processes for sustainability and the public policies of many countries around the world.

lausd vendor: *Institutions as Conscious Food Consumers* Sapna Elizabeth Thottathil, Annelies Goger, 2018-08-28 Institutions like schools, hospitals, and universities are not well known for having quality, healthy food. In fact, institutional food often embodies many of the worst traits of our industrialized food system, with long supply chains that are rife with environmental and social problems and growing market concentration in many stages of food production and distribution. Recently, however, non-profit organizations, government agencies, university research institutes, and activists have partnered with institutions to experiment with a wide range of more ethical and sustainable models for food purchasing, also known as values-based procurement. *Institutions as Conscious Food Consumers* brings together in-depth case studies from several of promising models of institutional food purchasing that aim to be more sustainable, healthy, equitable, and local. With chapters written by a diverse set of authors, including leaders in the food movement and policy researchers, this book: - Documents growing interest among non-profit organizations and activists in institutional food interventions through case studies and first-hand experiences; - Highlights emerging evidence about how these new procurement models affect agro-food supply chains; and - Examines the role of policy and regional or geographic identity in promoting food systems change. *Institutions as Conscious Food Consumers* makes the case that institutions can use their budgets to change the food system for the better, although significant challenges remain. It is a must read for food systems practitioners, food chain researchers, and foodservice professionals interested in values-based procurement.

lausd vendor: *Tax Court Memorandum Decisions* Commerce Clearing House, United States. Tax Court, 1991 Contains the full texts of all Tax Court decisions entered from Oct. 24, 1942 to date, with case table and topical index.

lausd vendor: *Anything But Mexican* Rodolfo F. Acuña, 2020-04-14 Mexicans and other Latinos comprise fifty percent of the population of Los Angeles and are the largest ethnic group in California. In this completely revised and updated edition of a classic political and social history, one of the foremost scholars of the Latino experience situates the US's largest immigrant community in a time of anti-immigrant fervor. Originally published in 1996, this edition analyses the rise and rule of LA's first-ever Mexican American mayor, Antonio Villaraigosa, as well as the harsh pressures facing Chicanos in an increasingly unequal and gentrifying city.

lausd vendor: *Defending Latina/o Immigrant Communities* Alvaro Huerta, 2019-06-21 A collection of short essays and stories, *Defending Latina/o Immigrant Communities: The Xenophobic Era of Trump and Beyond* focuses on one of the most vilified, demonized, and scapegoated groups in the United States: Latina/o immigrants. Using his rigorous academic training, public policy knowledge, and community activist background, as well as his personal and familial experiences as the son of Mexican immigrants, Alvaro Huerta defends and humanizes los de abajo / those on the bottom. He skillfully re-frames how Latina/o immigrants should be viewed as productive and

important members in this country, debunking the xenophobic tropes, lies, and myths about Latina/o immigrants as criminals, social burdens, and national security threats. Accompanied by the brilliant art of an internationally acclaimed artist, Salomon Huerta, and powerful photos of two established photographers, this book also investigates intersectional issues related to race, class, place, and state violence.

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laUSD vendor: Social Ecology in the Digital Age Daniel Stokols, 2018-01-02 *Social Ecology in the Digital Age: Solving Complex Problems in a Globalized World* provides a comprehensive overview of social ecological theory, research, and practice. Written by renowned expert Daniel Stokols, the book distills key principles from diverse strands of ecological science, offering a robust framework for transdisciplinary research and societal problem-solving. The existential challenges of the 21st Century - global climate change and climate-change denial, environmental pollution, biodiversity loss, food insecurity, disease pandemics, inter-ethnic violence and the threat of nuclear war, cybercrime, the Digital Divide, and extreme poverty and income inequality confronting billions each day - cannot be understood and managed adequately from narrow disciplinary or political perspectives. *Social Ecology in the Digital Age* is grounded in scientific research but written in a personal and informal style from the vantage point of a former student, current teacher and scholar who has contributed over four decades to the field of social ecology. The book will be of interest to scholars, students, educators, government leaders and community practitioners working in several fields including social and human ecology, psychology, sociology, anthropology, criminology, law, education, biology, medicine, public health, earth system and sustainability science, geography,

environmental design, urban planning, informatics, public policy and global governance. Winner of the 2018 Gerald L. Young Book Award from The Society for Human Ecology Exemplifying the highest standards of scholarly work in the field of human ecology.

<https://societyforhumanecology.org/human-ecology-homepage/awards/gerald-l-young-book-award-in-human-ecology/> - The book traces historical origins and conceptual foundations of biological, human, and social ecology - Offers a new conceptual framework that brings together earlier approaches to social ecology and extends them in novel directions - Highlights the interrelations between four distinct but closely intertwined spheres of human environments: our natural, built, sociocultural, and virtual (cyber-based) surroundings - Spans local to global scales and individual, organizational, community, regional, and global levels of analysis - Applies core principles of social ecology to identify multi-level strategies for promoting personal and public health, resolving complex social problems, managing global environmental change, and creating resilient and sustainable communities - Underscores social ecology's vital importance for understanding and managing the environmental and political upheavals of the 21st Century - Highlights descriptive, analytic, and transformative (or moral) concerns of social ecology - Presents strategies for educating the next generation of social ecologists emphasizing transdisciplinary, team-based, translational, and transcultural approaches

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laUSD vendor: *True Cost Accounting for Food* Barbara Gemmill-Herren, Lauren E. Baker, Paula A. Daniels, 2021-06-22 This book explains how True Cost Accounting is an effective tool we can use to address the pervasive imbalance in our food system. Calls are coming from all quarters that the food system is broken and needs a radical transformation. A system that feeds many yet continues to create both extreme hunger and diet-related diseases, and one which has significant environmental impacts, is not serving the world adequately. This volume argues that True Cost Accounting in our food system can create a framework for a systemic shift. What sounds on the surface like a practice relegated to accountants is ultimately a call for a new lens on the valuation of food and a new relationship with the food we eat, starting with the reform of a system out of balance. From the true cost of corn, rice and water, to incentives for soil health, the chapters economically compare conventional and regenerative, more equitable farming practices in and food system structures, including taking an unflinching look at the true cost of cheap labour. Overall, this volume points towards the potential for our food system to be more human-centred than profit-centred and one that has a more respectful relationship to the planet. It sets forth a path forward based on True Cost Accounting for food. This path seeks to fix our current food metrics, in policy and in practice, by applying a holistic lens that evaluates the actual costs and benefits of different food systems, and the impacts and dependencies between natural systems, human systems, agriculture and food systems. This volume is essential reading for professionals and policymakers involved in developing and reforming the food system, as well as students and scholars working on food policy, food systems and sustainability.

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across the Pacific on a home-made -junk raft- Over the past several years, the news media has brought the -Great Pacific Garbage Patch---the famous swirling gyre of plastic litter in the ocean--into the public consciousness. When Marcus Eriksen cofounded the 5 Gyres Institute with his wife, Anna, and set out to study marine pollution, they found that the reality is even more dire: instead of a stable mass of litter, they discovered that a -plastic smog- of microparticles permeates the world's oceans, defying simplistic clean-up efforts. What's more, these microplastics and their toxic chemistry have seeped into the food chain, threatening marine life and humans alike. Far from being a gloomy treatise on an environmental catastrophe, though, Junk Raft tells the exciting story of Eriksen's fight to raise awareness and solve the problem of plastic pollution, contributing to a fast-growing movement to stem the tide of trash. Eriksen writes of his voyage from Los Angeles to Hawaii aboard his homemade -junk raft,- and along the way he recounts the successful efforts to fight corporate influence and demand that plastics producers take responsibility for a problem they've created. Eriksen provides concrete, actionable solutions and an empowering message: it's up to bold, brash, unapologetically activist -citizen scientists- to challenge the status quo for the sake of the planet---

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