

Congratulations 2016 Environmental Excellence Awards Recipients

The IAPD Environmental Committee is pleased to present the recipients of the 2016 IAPD Environmental Excellence Awards. These recipients were honored at the opening general session at the 60th Annual IAPD Convention on October 6 in Phoenix, AZ, USA by IAPD President Kevin Short:

Best Overall Program — Quadrant Engineering Plastic Products

Gold — Cope Plastics, Inc.; Curbell Plastics, Inc.; and Laird Plastics

Silver — Cast Nylons Ltd.; EnCore Products, a Division of Elmer's Products, Inc.; and Piedmont Plastics

Bronze — Colorado Plastic Products, Finger Lakes Extrusion Corporation, Isik Plastik A.S., and Palram Americas, Inc.

The awards were established by the IAPD Environmental Committee in 2008 as a way to celebrate the environmentally responsible practices of IAPD member companies, including recycling, conservation, community outreach, employee engagement and more. The award application assigns a point value to sustainability practices in each of these categories. Awards are determined based on a point system. There were a record-breaking number of applications this year and more awards received than ever.

Quadrant Engineering Plastic Products received a Best Overall Program award for earning the most points. Cope Plastics, Inc.; Curbell Plastics, Inc.; and Laird Plastics received a Gold level award because the company earned more than 150 points based on their environmentally conscious practices. The four companies that received a Silver level award earned between 125 and 149 points. The three companies that received a Bronze level award earned between 100 and 124 points.

Notable among the award recipients are Quadrant Engineering Plastic Products; EnCore Products, a Division of Elmer's Products, Inc.; Colorado Plastic Products; Finger Lakes Extrusion Corporation; Isik Plastik A.S.; and Palram Americas, Inc., who submitted applications for the first time this year.

Best Overall Program

Quadrant Engineering Plastic Products had identified opportunities and initiatives that would reduce waste and energy consumption while increasing

their global product offerings, which resulted in a multimillion dollar investment in their Scranton, PA, USA facility. The first phase of the project involved the development and introduction of two ECO (recycle) grades of performance plastics, TIVAR® ECO UHMW-PE and DURAPRO™, as well as an aggressive post-consumer buyback program. The results include: an increase in production of the two ECO products of 87 percent between 2013 and 2015, a 75 percent increase in buyback from customers over the same time period, a 20 percent reduction in air emissions with additional improvement expected and a significantly improved yield on their products, which has saved the company thousands of dollars in energy costs, labor time, reprocessing and landfill costs.



Gold Awards

Cope Plastics, Inc. partners with suppliers, customers and the community to minimize their environmental impact while increasing sustainability and green initiatives through innovation, education and social responsibility. Their customer scrap reclamation efforts expanded to 1,801,041 pounds over the last year, an increase of 33 percent compared the previous 12 months (July 2014-June 2015). As this volume increased, so did the scope. In 2014, 84 customers participated in the program. In 2015, that number jumped to 109, and to-date in 2016 there are 147 active program participants. Overall scrap (generated internally plus customer scrap) numbers are up as well; from July 2015-June 2016 Cope processed 2.34 million pounds of plastic scrap. Cope has effectively doubled their throughput since 2012, now resulting in more than 4 million pounds of customer plastic processed.

Curbell Plastic, Inc.'s environmental efforts are focused on sound, proven business sustainable principals and best practices implemented throughout their operations. These include an emphasis on

the reduction of waste and pollution, protecting waterways, optimizing the use of energy and materials and investing in our communities. The results have been tremendous and include achieving and maintaining zero landfill status in the company's two largest facilities in Orchard Park, NY, USA; diverting 81 percent (2.15 million pounds) of total waste from landfill nationally, which is 6 percent more than 2014; a 12 percent reduction (139,000 kwh) in electrical consumption for the two largest facilities in Orchard Park, NY, USA; national, local, government and industry recognition; and tremendous outreach and employee participation.

As Laird Plastics approaches its eighth year of environmental stewardship, the company continues to devote significant resources to sustainable supply chain management and domestic USA plastics recycling. The company's recent accomplishments include: recycling for more than 55 of its facilities and hundreds of customers throughout North America, including 47 states in the United States and seven Canadian provinces; recycling more than 14 million pounds of plastics, metals and cardboard in 2015; moving nearly 800 shipments of plastics scrap annually; several Laird facilities recycle more than 100,000 pounds each and three location recycle more than 500,000 each; and more than 1,500,000 linear feet of environmentally corner guard is being used throughout the Laird network. The product is 100 percent recyclable, manufactured in the United States and supports the performance plastics industry's efforts to promote the positive impact plastics can have on the environment.

About the awards

Any IAPD member company is eligible to apply for the IAPD Annual Environmental Excellence Awards. Applications are collected online in the months prior to the convention.

Applicants that receive at least 100 points on the application are eligible to join the IAPD GreenScene™ program which honors all member companies that are engaging in environmentally friendly practices. GreenScene™ members receive a special logo to use on their website, in their marketing collateral, email signatures and elsewhere to promote their environmentally responsible business practices.