



Command Packaging Opens Recycling Plant in California

Command Packaging, a Vernon, Calif.-based manufacturer of reusable shopping and restaurant bags, has broken ground on a 130,000-square-foot agricultural plastic recycling facility in Salinas, Calif. The facility, called Encore Recycling, is scheduled to start operations in October.

According to Command, when fully operational, Encore Recycling will be able to recycle more than 100 million pounds of plastics per year.

The company says it expects to add 40 jobs in October and to have more than 100 employees in 2014, eventually growing the staff to 500 people.

"Encore Recycling is leading the way to help California create the standard for a sustainable and closed-loop recycling system throughout the United States," says Pete Grande, CEO of Command Packaging and Encore Recycling. "Implementing a sustainable recycling model that works for the consumer, the grocery store and the environment is a win-win for all. People love plastic. It's part of our everyday lives. Instead of trying to eliminate it, we need to create a 'smarter' plastic and Encore is doing that."

Command Packaging says its Encore Recycling business will partner with growers to collect, wash and recycle agricultural plastics that are currently being disposed. The facility will recycle the plastic into reusable bags called Smarterbags, which will be used by grocers in the state.

"We have established a hub system where growers can drop their plastic off at one of our conveniently located drop-off sites where we will bale it and send it to our processing facility in Salinas," Grande says.

He adds that the types of agricultural plastics to be recycled include fumigation film, mulch film, drip tubing, hoop housing and processor film.

The new facility will provide complete recycling services, including sorting, shredding, washing and pelletizing.

For more information:
Gretchen Hydo
Chatterbox Ink
gretchen@chatterboxink.com

Publication date: 10/07/2013
Author: Recycling Today Staff
Copyright: www.recyclingtoday.com