

Interstate Container Helps Customer Switch to Recyclable Boxes

Interstate Container, a founding Coalition for Resource Recovery (CoRR) member, was recently recognized for transitioning Allen Harim Foods' nonrecyclable coated corrugated packaging to Fibre Box Association-certified recyclable coated boxes. If these boxes are recycled, the move will eliminate 11,000 tons of carbon emissions each year. Global Green USA and its CoRR initiative congratulated Allen Harim and Interstate for their efforts to transform poultry packaging and set an example for all food packaging to be significantly more environmentally responsible.

"This is exactly the kind of leadership we need to reduce New York's waste stream and carbon footprint," says Annie White, director of Global Green USA's Coalition for Resource Recovery.

Allen Harim ships more than 530,000 boxes to New York City each year, many of which pass through the largest food distribution in the world at Hunt's Point. If all of these coated boxes are recycled, the city will enjoy carbon reductions equivalent to adding 100 acres of trees to Central Park. Interstate Container worked closely with Allen Harim to ensure that the packaging was robust and fully recyclable.

"Interstate Container is proud to have helped Allen Harim make the transition to recyclable boxes possible for all its domestically distributed poultry," says Jeff Cormier, national sales manager. "We operate in a highly competitive market, and providing recyclable packaging helps us stand out in the crowd by bringing additional value to our customers."

BY 2.2 MILLION POUNDS

Honda Cuts Corrugated Packaging

Honda's 2011 North American Environmental Report shared the company's packaging reduction efforts, including eliminating 2.2 million pounds of corrugated packaging material.

"We are accelerating our efforts to rapidly advance the environmental performance of our products and operations throughout the region," says Tetsuo Iwamura, chief operating officer of Honda's North American Regional Operation. "The challenges of global climate change and energy scarcity are fundamental issues that require us to think innovatively about every aspect of our operations, and to find new ways of increasing our efficiency for the benefit of our customers and society."

FROM NORAMPAC

Ex-employee Accused of Embezzling \$300K

A former employee of Norampac's Lancaster, N.Y., sheet plant faces a likely indictment after her arrest for allegedly

embezzling about \$300,000 from the company, where she had worked for more than six years, *The Buffalo News* reports.

Lynn Montgomery, 46, was charged with grand larceny and fraud after a local bank alerted the Erie County sheriff's office about suspicious deposits being made into her account.

Montgomery was charged after a three-week investigation disclosed she had allegedly been generating fraudulent payroll checks from Norampac since early 2005. She is accused of issuing payroll checks to employees who either were out on disability or had recently been terminated, and forging those employees' signatures on the checks and depositing them in her personal bank account.

FROM LOCAL CONFERENCE

Alpine Waste & Recycling Awarded for Growth

Alpine Waste & Recycling, Commerce City, Colo., was chosen as the winner of the 10th Annual Rocky Mountain Growth Conference's Emerging Growth Award.

It began as a single truck operation in 1999 and in the following years it created its recycling division (named Altogether Recycling), established a single-stream recycling plant in north Denver, expanded the plant four years later, and opened a commercial composting service.

President John Griffith thanked the Association of Corporate Growth for recognizing Alpine's steady record of growth over the years. He said he is proud of Alpine's responsiveness to customer demands, noting its willingness and ability to meet and exceed patron expectations.

IN FORUM'S OPENING SESSION

FTA to Pit Flexo against Competition

The official kickoff session of Flexographic Technical Association's (FTA) 2012 Annual Forum is "Flexo: Brand of Choice," for the March 18-21 event in San Antonio, Texas. The session will set the overall tone of the conference, as presenters and audience members alike scrutinize real-world print samples to determine if flexo truly is the "brand of choice."

Chaired by industry veterans Jean Jackson, Praxair Surface Technologies; Mark Mazur, DuPont Packaging Graphics; and Mark Samworth, EskoArtwork, the session will take real-world print jobs and pit flexo against its competition (offset, gravure and digital) to determine if flexo prevails in terms of quality, repeatability, and color accuracy. The concept was borrowed from a session featured 11 years ago on the 2001 Forum agenda.

Consumer products companies participants include Diageo, Kimberly-Clark, and Tyson Foods. Additionally, Printron will address the challenges and opportunities of corrugated packaging and how it matches brand requirements.

For more information or to register, visit www.flexography.org.