The City of San Diego recognizes the efforts of Hawthorne CAT, an authorized Caterpillar dealer and a winner of the 2010 CalRecycle Waste Reduction Awards Program (WRAP). Their unique waste reduction techniques employ a vigorous cardboard re-use and recycling program, which has eliminated the company’s need to purchase any new cardboard boxes. Hawthorne CAT recycled and reused 28,000 pounds of cardboard and eliminated the need for 14,000 more pounds of incoming boxes, leading to a savings of $14,700.

Their entire green program saves the company $250,000 annually, through the cardboard recycling program and other programs such as the recycling of industrial waste water, repair, re-use and recycling of wood pallets, generating “e-documents” rather than distributing paper reports, and recapping fleet tires to reduce the need to purchase new ones.

Since Hawthorne CAT’s Green Program inception, seven additional waste-reduction programs have been added to their portfolio:

1. Recycling used aerosol cans
2. Recycling 100% of all light ballasts
3. Partnering with specialized recyclers to dispose of 100% of used low pressure sodium bulbs
4. Recycling 100% of fluorescent bulbs through specialized recyclers
5. Working with vendors and methods that capture all welding and welding flux wastes
6. Designing a machine to process and re-use oil absorbency pads
7. Eliminating hazardous waste shipment of oily mop water by using a mop water reclamation system

“We’re excited to be recognized as one of California’s top leaders in resource sustainability”

Steve Hollingsworth, Environmental, Health and Safety Manager