The City of San Diego recognizes the efforts of Innovive, Inc., a light manufacturing and assembly facility which produces metal racks and single-use plastic cages for rats and mice used in biomedical research.

The product itself helps conserve resources. The plastic cages are thermoformed from 60-70% post-consumer plastic reclaimed in California, diverting several million plastic bottles from California landfills. In addition, 50% of the energy required to manufacture the cages comes from a 10-acre photovoltaic “sun farm” in which the company has invested. The cages are lightweight and stackable, affording dense and efficient packaging which in turn leads to fewer greenhouse gas emissions from transportation to consumers.

In 2010, the company invested in a new separation and recycling facility in El Cajon and purchased a fleet of recycling vehicles to help roll-out a convenient recycling program for their customers, providing a retrieval service for used plastic cages. In San Diego, their proprietary separation technology allows customers to leave the animal bedding in the cages. Their machinery separates and shreds the plastic, and animal bedding is composted at the Miramar Greenery.

In house, Innovive employs the following tactics to conserve resources:

1. Providing filtered water for employees, reducing use of plastic bottles
2. Using washable kitchen towels to reduce paper towel use. Towels are washed onsite with an EnergyStar rated washer and dryer
3. Using reusable dishware and tableware and the use of a dishwasher onsite
4. Double-sided copying
5. Low-flow urinals and faucets
6. Landscape watering on a manual system only
7. CDs, diskettes, ink cartridges and other office electronic-ware collected in a TechnoTrash container
8. Batteries collected within the office and recycled

It is exciting to be able to provide innovative solutions to our customers in the Bio-medical industry. Our substantial investment in our own recycling infrastructure allows us to provide solution to customer's issues and allows us to extend our commitment to waste reduction."

Jim Fallon, President and COO