The City of San Diego recognizes the efforts of Qualcomm, Inc., who has expanded upon their current programs of defaulting printing to double-sided paper use, employing an Office Outlet program to re-use office supplies, and the use of an entirely digital docketing system by the Patent Legal department.

During 2010, Qualcomm, Inc. began diverting all unusable scrap wood, such as shipping crates and pallets, for recycling, redirecting 6.19 tons of wood waste from the landfill. Also during 2010, bottled water was removed from vending machines and refillable water bottles were made available in all break rooms to encourage the use of reverse osmosis drinking water units located therein.

Qualcomm’s recycling programs are varied:

1. Mixed recycling bins account for an estimated 1,068 tons of diverted material annually
2. Kitchen grease from cafeterias onsite is collected and recycled to New Leaf Biofuel
3. A fluorescent lamp recycling program has recycled approximately 10,000 pounds of lamps to date
4. Batteries and electronic waste are collected thrice-weekly and recycled by the company’s e-waste hauler
5. Construction and demolition debris recycling resulted in a 61% diversion rate
6. Printer toners are recycled through Office Depot’s recycling program

Currently, Qualcomm is continuing to expand their green portfolio. Upon learning of the SANCO construction and demolition recycling facility’s ability to recycle polystyrene foam, the company began including any Styrofoam and foam packaging for diversion in their existing construction and demolition recycling practices.

Looking to the future, Qualcomm is no working to develop a program to manage food waste from their café’s, and continues to search for ways to reduce, reuse and recycle!