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Dart Container Corporation Brings Free Public Foam Recycling Drop-Off Facility to Clarke County, Miss.

Dart Container Company of Mississippi encourages residents and organizations to divert foam from landfills at its free 24/7 foam collection center so it can be recycled

QUITMAN, Miss. (December 10, 2009) – Foam recycling has arrived in Clarke County. Dart Container Company of Mississippi today unveiled in Quitman its latest post-consumer foam collection site – the first in the state. As one of a growing number of regions to be equipped with foam recycling infrastructure, the free drop-off will pioneer a new way for Mississippi residents, businesses and organizations to recycle foam with the number 6 on it ().

This is the state's first public site to accept foam food service containers, including foam cups, plates, take-out containers, egg cartons, as well as shaped or molded foam often used to package electronics. This effort, Dart's 11th drop-off location in the country, will divert foam from area landfills and allow it to be recycled into new products such as picture frames and moldings.


"As a part of Dart's mission to infuse foam recycling infrastructure in areas where we do business, we're proud to introduce the first facility in the state of Mississippi," said Michael Westerfield, Corporate Director of Recycling Programs at Dart Container Corporation. "As a company, we're committed to opening recycling facilities across the country that give communities a way to reduce waste and contribute toward a cleaner future."

Once foam is dropped off at Dart, it is then compacted and shipped to a company that will use it as feedstock to make new materials. To be accepted for recycling, the foam must bear the "6" symbol with chasing arrows ().

"I am pleased that Dart Container is opening the first public drop-off site for recycling foam foodservice products in our state," said State Rep. Sherra H. Lane. "This is a positive development for Clarke County and, indeed, for the entire state of Mississippi."

To mark this special occasion, Dart Corporation held a ribbon-cutting Thursday, Dec. 10 outside of the new drop off facility at Dart Container Company of Mississippi at 197 Harris Avenue, Quitman, Miss., 39355. In attendance were State Rep. Sherra H. Lane, Southern Regional Rep. Morgan P. Shands of Sen. Roger Wicker's office, and Harry Gibbs of Mississippi Development Authority representing Gov. Haley Barbour.

Dart is driving recycling efforts from its manufacturing facilities to workplaces, warehouse recycling centers and consumers' homes in curbside recycling efforts across the country. Often improperly called "Styrofoam," a registered trademark of the Dow Chemical Company, Dart's products are recyclable and reusable. Recycled foam food service products can be reprocessed into building insulation, plastic lumber, and many other products. Foam products generate less waste in their production than paper alternatives, are stable and safe in landfills, and burn cleanly in modern municipal energy-from-waste facilities.

Foam  can be recycled:

- Rinse cups and containers to rid them of food.
- Place foam in a clear plastic bag.
- No straws or lids.
- No foam insulation.
- No packaging peanuts (call 800-828-2214 or go to www.loosefillpackaging.com for sites).

About Dart Container Corporation

Established in 1937, Dart Container Corporation sets the industry standard of excellence by providing high quality recyclable, affordable and safe foodservice products and packaging, exceptionally reliable service and responsible environmental practices. Dart is making a concerted effort to increase foam recycling opportunities throughout the country and strives to produce high-quality, cost-effective products in a manner sensitive to environmental concerns. Dart is headquartered in Mason, Mich. For more information, visit www.dart.biz or call (800) 248-5960.