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MEDIA CONTACT:
José Ysea, Public Information Officer
Phone: 858-573-1291 | Cell: 858-518-8210

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
FACT SHEET

**21st ANNUAL WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING AWARDS
RECOGNIZE EFFORTS OF LOCAL BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

SAN DIEGO, CA— The City of San Diego congratulates winners of the **21st Annual Waste Reduction and Recycling Awards** for the efforts and accomplishments of their businesses and organizations in protecting our environment and conserving natural resources.

The Waste Reduction and Recycling Awards program, sponsored by the City’s Environmental Services Department (ESD), honored 28 local companies and organizations for their successful and innovative waste reduction programs that significantly contribute to diverting waste from area landfills.

The waste diversion programs of these businesses and organizations contributed to the City of San Diego being able to decrease the amount of trash brought into the Miramar Landfill. This decrease, coupled with a recent height increase agreement with the Marine Corp Air Station – Miramar, and two recycling ordinances has resulted in the lifespan of the landfill being extended from 2012 to at least 2022.

The 2013 Waste Reduction and Recycling Awards categories:

- **Recycling Partner** is awarded to a business or organization that has worked closely with ESD and whose vision, commitment and advocacy for the environment positively impacts San Diego’s communities.
- **Recycler of the Year Awards** are the highest honor for the most comprehensive, innovative and/or improved recycling programs.
- **Director’s Recycling Awards** are given to companies for their excellent waste reduction and diversion efforts.

The 2013 Recycling Partner Award was given to:

- **SAN DIEGO COUNTY DISPOSAL ASSOCIATION:** We acknowledge this group's years of collaboration with ESD, and their commitment to expanding services and utilizing advanced technologies which have resulted in improvements to the region's recycling infrastructure. Most notable is their participation and cooperation in expanding our Food Waste Composting Program which has reduced significant amounts of materials being sent to our community landfills and conserved resources for future use. By providing their business customers with Food Waste bins and collection service for those materials to be taken to the Miramar Greenery, they have allowed us to expand our program to include over 60 participants.

The Recycler of the Year Awards were presented to:

- **THE GRAND DEL MAR:** The Grand Del Mar has broad recycling programs that not only include the usual items such as paper, plastics and glass, but also includes e-waste, corks, and used kitchen oil. The Grand Del Mar is a participant in our Food Waste Recycling Program sending 17 tons of organic material for composting at the Miramar Greenery every month.
- **GOODWILL INDUSTRIES:** This great organization already does so much for the community. Not only do they take in a lot of material that was destined for the landfill, they also do their best to recycle what they can't use from the donations they receive. In 2012, they added a Sustainability Coordinator, which helped them increase their waste reduction efforts. Overall, they diverted more than 8 million pounds of material last year.
- **THE LODGE AT TORREY PINES:** The lodge has made a big impact locally because of their comprehensive recycling programs that have changed the way they do business. Within a 12-month-period, they have taken their landfill diversion rate from under 15% in 2011 to over 70% by the end of 2012. In 2012 alone, they decreased their monthly trash generation from 35 tons to 10 tons, which caused hauling costs to drop by an estimated 20%.
- **MARRIOTT HOTEL & MARINA:** Another of our recent additions to our Food Waste Recycling Program, the Marriott is turning more than 250 tons of organic waste into compost annually. By making recycling easy for employees, the Marriott has been able to educate their staff, as well as the public, about diverting waste from our landfills. In 2012, they reduced their dumpster pull by three times per week, equating to over \$70,000 in savings.

- **NAVY - REGION SOUTHWEST:** The Navy's Sustainable Solid Waste Program continues to improve its highly successful program and minimize the amount of waste generated in the San Diego area. Notably, in 2012, through their program of Office Furniture Reuse, they successfully diverted over 310 tons of furniture from landfills and achieved a savings of over \$3.2 million in hauling costs. Overall, their costs avoided through waste reduction programs sum up to over \$12.6 million in savings during 2012. They always do an incredible job and we are proud to recognize them for their efforts.
- **QUALCOMM, INC.:** Again, another big company doing new and innovative things to earn them yet another Recycler of the Year Award. Among their accomplishments in the past year includes recycling 100% of all hazardous waste and diverting over 160,000 pounds of gravel from construction of their new and innovative "cool roof" system, which helps lower energy costs by keeping indoor temperatures 10-20 degrees lower. The gravel from the project was recycled and used for local public work projects, which otherwise would have been sent to our landfills.
- **SAN DIEGO HYDROPONICS & ORGANICS:** On top of their many effective waste diversion programs and public education initiatives, the folks at San Diego Hydroponics & Organics have a strong dedication to preserving our environment. Their LampTracker program diverts e-waste from landfills by collecting and recycling used fluorescent and HID bulbs from their customers. They also educate their customers about reducing waste and consumption by supporting local food production. In 2012, they offered classes on topics of organic gardening and composting, which helped the company extend sustainable and waste reducing farming practices to San Diego residents.
- **SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT:** Finally, our hosts, the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority continues to add new elements to their waste reduction and recycling program in an effort to model best practices for airports across the country and other organizations locally. In 2012, the Airport Authority generated more than 14,000 tons of waste from their one billion dollar Green Build expansion project, and yet approximately 95% of that waste was diverted from our landfills. Through the use of planning, designing, and innovative initiatives, the airport was able to recover over 830 tons of additional recyclables, which they estimate saved almost \$200,000 in 2012 disposal costs. Along with their many other recycling, energy and resource conservation programs, they continue to be San Diego's premier ambassador as visitors arrive and depart America's Finest City.
- **SAN DIEGO PADRES – PETCO PARK:** Their commitment, continued success and innovative thinking has earned them a spot with the other top award winners here today. They have taken significant efforts to streamline their food waste program resulting in about 161 tons being recycled into compost at the Miramar Landfill's Greenery section. Overall,

in 2012, PETCO Park diverted 1,171 tons of recyclables from the landfill, accomplishing their most successful year- to-date by reaching a 76 percent recycling rate.

- **SAN DIEGO ZOO GLOBAL:** The San Diego Zoo continues to improve their Green programs through public outreach and environmentally preferred practices. Composting was an area where significant improvement was demonstrated, especially at the Zoo's sister location, Safari Park. Between the two locations, the zoo recovered over 80% of total waste. The San Diego Zoo is a leader in the field on environmental awareness and they are commended for their efforts in waste reduction, as well as public education.
- **SEAWORLD:** SeaWorld's unwavering commitment to its comprehensive environmental program serves as a model for many businesses and organizations to follow. On-going education for all staff, constant monitoring of programs, and innovative ideas are some of the key elements for the success of their programs, which include converting over to 100% post-consumer paper bags that effectively eliminate over one million plastic bags from their waste stream annually. They also recycled over 560,000 pounds of green waste in 2012, making them a leader in composting programs.
- **SHARP HEALTHCARE:** Education, awareness and convenience for guests and staff, are the key elements to Sharp Healthcare's successful and extensive recycling program. A stand-out component, which sets them ahead in the industry, is their reclamation of over 200,000 pounds of hazardous/universal waste and their collection of food waste that composted over 229,000 pounds under their comprehensive food scraps composting program.
- **SOLAR TURBINES:** Solar Turbines' commitment to environmentally-friendly business practices allows the company to develop sustainable solutions for power generation. They have significant waste reductions initiatives, as both their facilities average over 89% diversion rates. Overall, in 2012, Solar Turbines processed almost 8.7 million pounds of recyclables, making them a significant leader in waste reduction and recycling within San Diego.
- **V.A. SAN DIEGO HEALTHCARE SYSTEM – SAN DIEGO:** With a variety of recycling programs designed to conserve energy and protect the environment, the VA Hospital continues expand their award winning programs and manages to improve their numbers every year. An impressive statistic, in 2012, their recycling efforts resulted in a 41% increase in their waste diversion goal of 28% to 69.88%. In total, they saved over \$340,000 in tipping fees and dramatically increased their debris recycling tonnages.

Director's Recycling Award:

- **Amylin Pharmaceuticals**
- **County of San Diego**
- **Crowne Plaza Hanalei San Diego**
- **Cubic Defense Applications**
- **Hewlett-Packard San Diego**
- **Hilton San Diego Bayfront**
- **Kyocera**
- **Republic Services**
- **SAIC**
- **San Diego Convention Center**
- **San Diego Law Firm**
- **SDSU**
- **The Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina**
- **UCSD**

For more information about the City's Waste Reduction & Recycling Awards or establishing business recycling programs, please contact ESD's Customer Service at (858) 694-7000, or visit the website at www.recyclingworks.com.

The City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department is charged with refuse collection and disposal, recycling and environmentally sound landfill management to meet the City's long-term disposal needs. The department also oversees the City's management of energy use, and explores innovative options for energy independence and sustainability.

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