

Green Care: Dart's Environmental Ethic

EFFICIENCY IS A CORE VALUE at Dart and the centerpiece of our environmental ethic. The drive for efficiency occurs within the context of Dart's balanced strategy of caring for our environment that includes ongoing efforts to:

- maximize efficiency in the materials and processes we use
- promote the environmental attributes of Dart's products
- research and develop new materials, products, and technologies that further reduce our energy usage and carbon footprint, promote recycling through the use of recycled content, or utilize renewable resources.

Dart Facilities Located Worldwide



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Corona, CA · Lodi, CA · Deerfield Beach, FL
Plant City, FL · Lithonia, GA
North Aurora, IL · Horse Cave, KY
Owensboro, KY · Holt, MI · Mason, MI
Quitman, MS · Randleman, NC · Lancaster, PA
Leola, PA · Waxahachie, TX · Tumwater, WA

INTERNATIONAL

Pilar, BA, Argentina
Smithfield, NSW, Australia
Campbellford, ON, Canada
Tijuana, BC, Mexico · Atlacomulco, MX, Mexico
Cradley Heath, WM, UK

A Spirit of Community



DART CONTAINER GIVES BACK to each of the communities that serve as home to its offices and production facilities. Above, Dart employees from the Dart Container Sales Company plant trees in Birch State Park in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Dart has provided foam cups for marathons in Lansing, MI; Modesto, CA; Lodi, CA, and across the U.S. These foam cups were then collected and recycled by Dart setting a new standard in marathons for reducing environmental impact.

Dart actively participates in river clean-up efforts like the Great LA River Cleanup and Great American River Clean-Up of Sacramento, CA.

Dart joined FedEx and the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation in the effort to save Gulf Coast sea turtles from the Oil Spill of 2010 by translocating 2,500 turtle eggs. The foam containers used to transport the eggs were recycled by Dart, reducing the environmental impact.

DART CONTAINER CORPORATION

The Industry Standard of Excellence

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DART CONTAINER CORPORATION

Overview & History



The dream that was born in a one-room shop...

THE DART STORY BEGINS with a small machine shop in Mason, Michigan known as Dart Manufacturing Company. Established in 1937, this modest business prospered through the manufacture of such products as plastic key cases, steel tape measures, and identification tags for the armed services. Subsequent experimentation with expandable polystyrene (EPS) in the late 1950s led to a line of high quality insulated foam cups. In 1960, Dart Container Corporation was formed with the production of a 6 ounce foam cup.



TODAY, DART CONTAINER CORPORATION is vertically integrated. The company has facilities throughout the United States as well as Canada, Mexico, Argentina, Australia, and the United Kingdom. Dart employs over 7,500 people worldwide and manufactures more than 600 products. Leading the market in foam foodservice products, Dart also manufactures foodservice products made from polypropylene (PP) and polyethylene terephthalate (PET).

Dart produces high-quality, cost-effective products in a manner sensitive to environmental concerns while providing tremendous value to its customers.

Manufacturing

WHILE DART HAS PRODUCTION facilities in six countries, most of our employees work in the United States where the majority of our manufacturing takes place.

The manufacturing processes for Dart foodservice products include:

- Thermoforming
- Extrusion, Polystyrene Foam
- Injection Molding
- Steam Chest Molding

Dart is vertically integrated through manufacture of ink, packaging film, and production equipment and by providing transportation and recycling services.

Vertical Integration

IN LINE WITH THE GREEN CARE ETHIC, efficiency is reflected in Dart's vertical integration. Vertical integration brings efficiency as well as the ability to control the quality and the supply of materials used to manufacture our products. At Dart :

- more than 60% of our products are transported on our own truck fleet
- the ink used to print our cups is manufactured in-house
- we produce resin used to make our foam foodservice products as well as our crystal and high-impact polystyrene foodservice items
- we produce the plastic film for packaging of our cups
- we design, manufacture and service all our cup production equipment
- all graphic design is done in-house

Environmental Stewardship

DART'S ONGOING DRIVE for efficiency has reaped an extraordinary harvest in reductions of our carbon footprint. From the lighting fixtures in our offices to the technologies on our factory floors, each element of our business is scrutinized for ways to further reduce energy consumption, air emissions, and solid wastes.

- Energy conservation measures include recovering heat from our cup-making process to warm our buildings.
- Electrical usage has been substantially reduced through the use of programmable controls and lower wattage lighting.
- Dart's largest factory uses landfill gas to run the boilers for its foam cup production and the ovens for its oriented polystyrene operations, resulting in a net reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.
- By choosing inks curable by ultraviolet light, Dart avoids the solvent emissions associated with typical solvent-based printing inks.
- The amount of material used to produce many Dart products has been reduced without altering product performance.
- The amount of materials used in the packaging of our products, both corrugated cartons and plastic films, has been reduced.



Dart Recycles!

DART CURRENTLY OPERATES foam collection centers at all our US foodservice production facilities as well as at select international locations.

Dart also has two off-site recycling programs.

The CARE Program (Cups Are REcyclable) is designed for large users of foam foodservice products to separate the foam from other products, consolidate the collected material, and arrange to have it recycled.

The Recycla-Pak™ program is tailored to smaller venues. It's an easy way for any business to recycle their foam cups. The Recycla-Pak container doubles as the recycling carton used to return the collected cups for processing at a Dart or industry recycling facility.

Dart is capable of reprocessing 12 million pounds of post consumer and post-industrial foam products annually.

Dart sells its recycled foam to manufacturers who reprocess it into useful plastic products. Recycled foam is used in the making of picture frames, plastic lumber, egg cartons, building insulation, toys, and office desk products.

For more information and a list of drop-off locations, go to www.dart.biz/recycle

Foam Facts

- The manufacture of average-weight polystyrene foam hot beverage cups requires less energy than the manufacture of comparable plastic-coated paperboard hot cups with cardboard sleeves.
- The manufacture of polystyrene foam cold beverage cups requires less energy than the manufacture of comparable wax-coated paperboard cold cups.