

Recycled Products

Company:

Kafko International Ltd.
(Skokie, Illinois)
www.oileater.com

Product:

Oil Eater Naturals

Recycled Content:

Between 60-percent and 90-percent post-consumer materials

Target Market:

Industrial workplace

Oil Eater Naturals' line of absorbent pads, rolls and socks are made from 60-percent to 90-percent post-consumer recycled materials derived from cellulose-based plant byproducts,

such as corn husks. According to the company, the Naturals line absorbs up to 20 percent more, while costing less than similar products made from melt-blown polypropylene. The manufacturing process uses less energy as well, according to Kafko representatives.

As the grim spectacle of the Gulf Coast being coated with oil streams across the airwaves, products such as oil eaters, provide "a safe way to separate the spill from water." The product, which features a woven construction for greater absorbency, is available in a variety of weights and finishes, with sizes ranging from 16 inches by 18 inches to 28-inch by 150-foot rolls.



Company:

The ReBuilding Center,
a project of Our United Villages
(Portland, Oregon)
<http://rebuildingcenter.org>

Product:

ReFind Furniture

Recycled Content:

At least 99-percent reclaimed materials

Target Market:

General consumer

ReFind Furniture creates artisan pieces of furniture from recovered materials that have been donated to its parent organization, Portland, Oregon's much-beloved ReBuilding Center – itself a project of Our United Villages, "a non-profit community enhancement organization."

The center is a large warehouse where locals donate, and purchase, reusable building materials ranging from plumbing goods and doors to window frames and antique drawer pulls. It recovers more than 4.5 million pounds of materials annually, some small portion of which goes to make the items created by the skilled workers of ReFind Furniture.

The group's goal is to create "functional, artistic merchandise made of what had been considered solid waste – short pieces of 100-year-old lumber, paint-coated strips of detailed trim, discarded cabinet drawers, weathered old window sashes and an eclectic mix of hardware and other items."

Many of the items made by ReFind, such as the slab coffee table pictured, are made from old growth Douglas Fir that has been reclaimed from framing lumber of local Portland-area homes. ReFind Furniture builds tables, benches, picture frames, coat racks and hooks, clocks, and many other eclectic pieces, in addition to custom designs.



Company:
LTR Products
(Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)
<http://ltrproducts.com>

Product:
Pinnacle Rubber Mulch

Recycled Content:
100-percent recycled tires

Target Market:
Commercial and general consumer



"The premier provider of tire recycling services in the U.S.," Liberty Tire Recycling subsidiary, Pinnacle Rubber Mulch, makes an environmentally-friendly alternative to traditional wood mulch, providing a shock-absorbent material for playgrounds or other landscaping applications.

Unlike traditional mulches, Pinnacle Rubber Mulch is both weather- and pest-resistant, making it less susceptible to damage from the seasons and a product that needs to be replaced less frequently. As the summer months approach, the pest-resistant nature of the material is being highlighted by the company. "Carpenter ants and earwigs, pill bugs and snails, even snakes," are just some of the critters that are less likely to take up residence in rubber mulch over more traditional wood pulp material, according to a recent press release from LTR Products.

The mulch comes in a variety of colors, including black, blue, brown, green redwood and tan. And, as a ground cover, the mulch provides safety, too, as a six-inch layer can cushion a child's fall from as high as 12 feet.

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