

Recycled Products

Company:

Axion International Inc.
(New Providence, New Jersey)
www.axionintl.com

Product:

Axion short span bridges

Recycled content:

Almost 100-percent recycled post-consumer and post-industrial proprietary blend of plastic

Target market:

Railroad construction

Axion International produces railroad ties produced from a recycled structural composite (RSC) made from post-consumer and post-industrial plastics. The company points out that, unlike traditional materials used to produce ties — such as wood or metal — these do not rot, rust or splinter, nor are they susceptible to infestation by insects. They are also much lighter and durable, as well as being resistant to graffiti and fading from ultraviolet degradation.

Axion boasts that the ties, which were developed in conjunction with Rutgers University's Materials Sciences and Engineering Department, have dramatically lower lifetime and upfront costs, and require little maintenance. The ties are also recyclable at the end of their lives.

Earlier this year, two railroad bridges at Fort Eustis, Virginia were built using Axion's recycled plastics. "Not only is this bridge able to support the weight of a 120 ton locomotive, but it was also less expensive to build than one using steel, concrete or wood. Axion's RSC solutions are designed in a manner that are nearly maintenance-free and eco-friendly," said James Kerstein, CEO of Axion.

Installing the ties requires no special tools or training, and can be used on railroad bridges that support up to 130 tons.



Company:

American Hydroponics
Arcata, California
www.amhydro.com

Product:

Net pots

Recycled content:

100-percent polyethylene

Target market:

General consumer

Manufactured in Humboldt County, California, American Hydroponics' reusable net pots, are made from recycled heavy gauge polyethylene plastic netting with a brushed satin finish and are made to be reused indefinitely.

Net pots allow the roots of a plant to grow through the mesh for better breathing and growth, and work best when using expanded clay or loose rockwool. The company notes that the pots work particularly well with Orchids.

American Hydroponics claims that its net pots are heavier than those from other manufacturers, and bend back into shape without break-



ing after being squeezed. They are good for any hydroponic system, including ebb-and-flow or nutrient film technique. The pots come in three sizes, ranging from three to 8 ¼ inches.

Company:

POP Displays
(Yonkers, New York)
www.popdisplayusa.com

Product:

POP Displays Merchandiser

Recycled content:

95-percent recycled polypropylene

Target market:

Retailers

POP Displays is touting its Merchandiser as a new way for retailers to display paper plates and other products with a new customer-friendly shelving system made from 95 percent recycled polypropylene. The idea for the shelving system stemmed from retailers' concerns that paper plates were becoming a low-price commodity item because they were often stacked on shelves in a way that made them look "cheap and uninviting."

The plate display consists of two simple parts, a rail that attaches to the shelf, and a track with a wire fence that snaps into the rail. This design gives shoppers a better view of what their purchasing options are.

In addition, the display system is simpler from its predecessors and, thus, easier to install and refill, accommodating all the various sizes of paper plates and cups. The company further notes that it is designed to "hold various sizes and shapes with durability and lack of stress point, such as heavy products or categories that suffer from shopper abuse."

