

MEDIA CONTACT: Natha Dempsey, ndempey@fpi.org, 571-255-4212

New Equipment Increases Foam Polystyrene Recycling in Metro Albuquerque

ABQ Foam Recycling/The Foam Recycler receives grant from Foam Recycling Coalition for purchase of foam polystyrene densifier

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ABQ Foam Recycling/The Foam Recycler, a polystyrene foam recycling service in central New Mexico, received a \$38,800 grant from the Foodservice Packaging Institute's Foam Recycling Coalition (FRC) to fund the purchase and installation of a foam densifier.

Densifiers are used to compact #6 foam products, such as cups, plates, clamshells, egg cartons and block packaging foam, into foam blocks or ingots. The facility sells the foam ingots to end markets in California, New Jersey and Canada to be manufactured into picture frames, light switch covers, crown molding and electronic cases.

[ABQ Foam Recycling/The Foam Recycler](#) services a population of almost 1 million people in metro Albuquerque through a drop-off location, community events and commercial pick-up service.

"We are looking to not only lead in recycling polystyrene foam materials in New Mexico, but also serve as educators on recycling these materials," said Tom Spadafora of ABQ Foam Recycling/The Foam Recycler. "Repurposing foam materials and keeping it out of landfills is our top priority."

Residents and businesses in the metro Albuquerque area will see the service promoted via local municipality partnerships, social media, local publications, neighborhood associations, and other local and regional engagements.

"ABQ Foam Recycling/The Foam Recycler is extending polystyrene foam recycling to a significant residential population and commercial sector in the metro Albuquerque area," said Natha Dempsey, president of the Foodservice Packaging Institute. "Supporting programs that provide access to additional foam recycling and divert the material from landfills and into new products is at the heart of the Foam Recycling Coalition."

The grant is made possible through contributions to FRC, which focuses exclusively on increased recycling of post-consumer foam polystyrene. Its members include Americas Styrenics; Chick-fil-A; CKF Inc.; Dart Container Corp.; Dyne-A-Pak; Genpak; INEOS Styrolution America LLC; Lifoam Industries, LLC; Pactiv Evergreen; and Republic Plastics.

The Foam Recycler is the 32nd grant recipient to receive FRC funding since 2015. Over 12 million additional residents in the U.S. and Canada can recycle foam polystyrene because of FRC grants. Visit www.RecycleFoam.org to learn more about foam recycling, read about previous recipients or apply for a grant.

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ABOUT FPI: Founded in 1933, the Foodservice Packaging Institute is the trade association for the foodservice packaging industry in North America. FPI promotes the value and benefits of foodservice packaging and plays an active role in advancing the recovery of FSP to support the circular economy. The association serves as the industry's leading authority to educate and influence stakeholders. Members include raw material and machinery suppliers, manufacturers, distributors and purchasers of foodservice packaging. For more information, visit www.FPI.org.

ABOUT FRC: The Foam Recycling Coalition was formed under the Foodservice Packaging Institute in 2014 to support increased recycling of foodservice packaging made from foam polystyrene. FRC shares general information on foam recycling, provides technical resources and offers funding assistance to programs ready to start or strengthen post-consumer foam recycling. Members include stakeholders from throughout the foodservice packaging value chain. Learn more at www.RecycleFoam.org.