

# Reusable Transport Packaging

Improving Business through Reuse

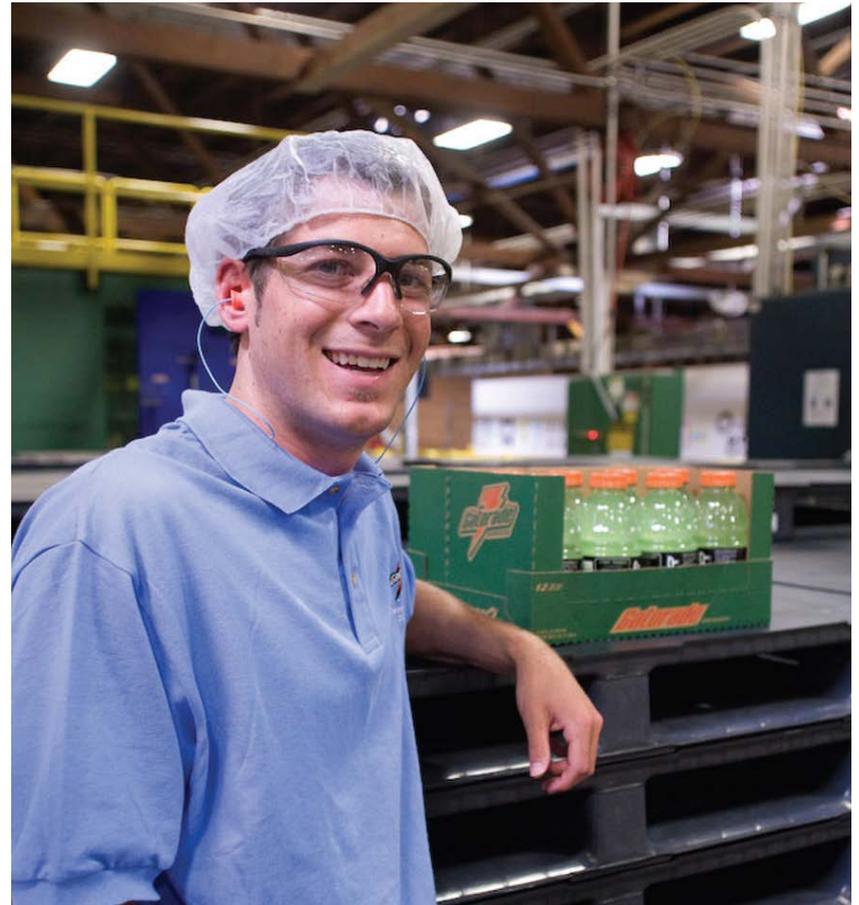


Michelle Fay  
CalRecycle RMDZ  
Zone Works  
June 5-6, 2013  
Sacramento, CA

**STOPWASTE**  
at home • at work • at school

# Today's Talk

- What is StopWaste
- Our path to Reusables
- Reusables in Action & Benefits
- Looking for good opportunities
- Resources available through the Use Reusables Project

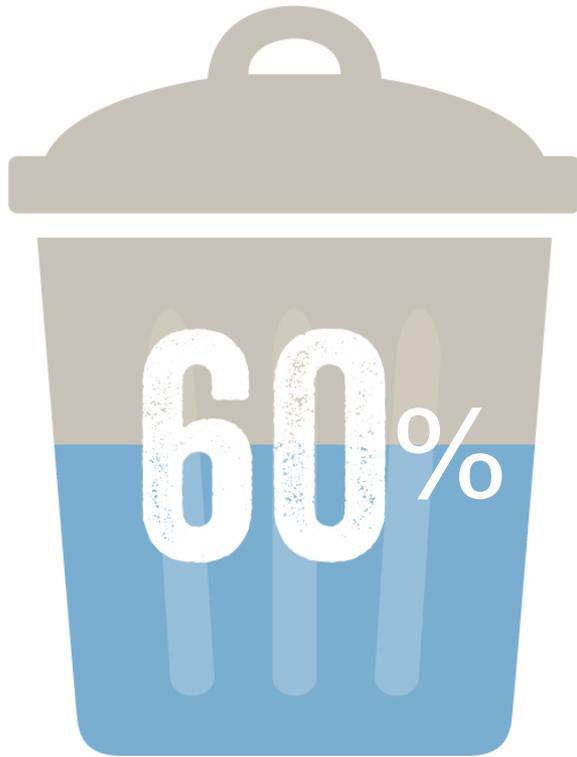


# StopWaste



- Countywide public agency with 17 member agencies, 1.4 M pop.
- Mission is to reduce waste
- Programs in Business Recycling/Composting, Green Building, Bay-Friendly Landscaping, Environmental Purchasing, proper hazardous waste disposal
- Funded by per ton disposal fees

Under 10  
by 2020



2008



2020



# Materials Management Cycle

- Reusable transport packaging
- Food Waste Prevention
- Food Service Ware

- Recycled Content:
- Building materials
  - Compost
  - Mulch



# Assisting Businesses Since 1996



# Reuse Comes into Play



## **ANG Newspapers, 2001**

- Transitioned to reusable plastic pallets
- Prevents 37 tons of wood waste/year
- Cut labor costs by \$46,000

# Reuse Comes into Play

## Ghirardelli Chocolate Company, 2003

- Switched to reusable totes to move products “work-in-process”
- Prevents 350 tons/yr
- Cut disposal costs by \$2,700/yr
- 1,208 MTCE GHG reductions/yr



# Top 5 Materials from Businesses Going to Landfills

1. Food waste
2. Other paper
3. Uncoated Cardboard *boxes*
4. Unpainted wood *pallets*
5. Film plastics *stretch wrap*



# Reusables Defined



# Reusables are Not: Single use or Limited use



# Reusables are:

Merriam Webster defines Reusable as:

**re·us·able** *adj* \rē-`yü-zə-bəl\ : capable of being used again or repeatedly

Reusable Packaging is comprised of pallets, containers, wraps, bands and dunnage designed for reuse within a supply chain

# RPA Definition of Reusable Packaging Product or System

- Typically never disposed of by the end user
- Used to move components, finished products or raw materials
- Durable construction
- Lifetime is measured in years
- Qualifies as source reduction



# Everyday Reusables



# Reusables In Action & Benefits of Making the Switch



# Benefits of Reusables

- Reduce costs (waste & material)
- Improve efficiency
- Improve worker safety/ergonomics
- Improve product protection
- Lasting operational change
- Corporate responsibility



# Reusables in Action



## Reusable Totes for Office Relocation

- Ergonomically designed reusable totes + dollies reduce bending, lifting and handling injuries.
- Rigid totes offered better protection of contents.
- Increased moving truck capacity by 40-50%, cutting GHG emissions.
- Cost neutral

**Benefit: Improved Efficiency, Safety & Ergonomics**

# More Health & Safety Benefits



- No more building and breaking down boxes = reduced injury from repetitive motion and time savings



- Reduce injury from broken pallet debris hazards such as splinters, nails and wood on the floor.

# Reusables in Action

## Tesla, Inc. & Veritable Vegetable

<http://www.useresables.com>

Use Reusables - Case Studies - Windows Internet Explorer provided by StopWaste.Org  
http://www.useresables.com/casestudies/index.html

### Use Reusables

Reusable Transport Packaging Saves Your Company Money and Resources

Home | About Us | Reusables Basics | Cost Comparison | **Case Studies** | Resources | Events & Workshops | Contact

#### Case Studies

Many companies are realizing the benefits of reusable transport packaging already. Here are some case studies highlighting different applications for reusables.

- Pepsico Gatorade Plant: Reusable Pallets**  
Pepsico's switch to more durable reusable pallets was cost-neutral, and brought numerous product protection, safety, and labor benefits to an Oakland bottling plant. [Download case study \(pdf\)](#). [View video \(6:55\)](#)
- Savoy Spinach: Driving down costs with returnables**  
Switching from wooden bushel baskets to returnable, nestable and stackable HDPE containers has helped drive costs out of the supply chain for the Savoy Spinach industry. [View case study](#)
- StopWaste.Org: Reusable Moving Crates**  
When StopWaste.Org moved to a new office, staff wanted to avoid generating the mountain of cardboard waste typical of a traditional move. By choosing reusable moving crates they reduced waste, cut back on labor, and improved the efficiency of the move. [Download case study \(pdf\)](#). [View a video](#)
- ANG Newspapers: Efficiencies from plastic pallets**  
ANG Newspapers worked with the StopWaste Partnership to identify how they might further improve their environmental performance. StopWaste assessed the situation and determined that ANG had the ideal distribution system for reusable plastic pallets. [Download case study \(pdf\)](#)



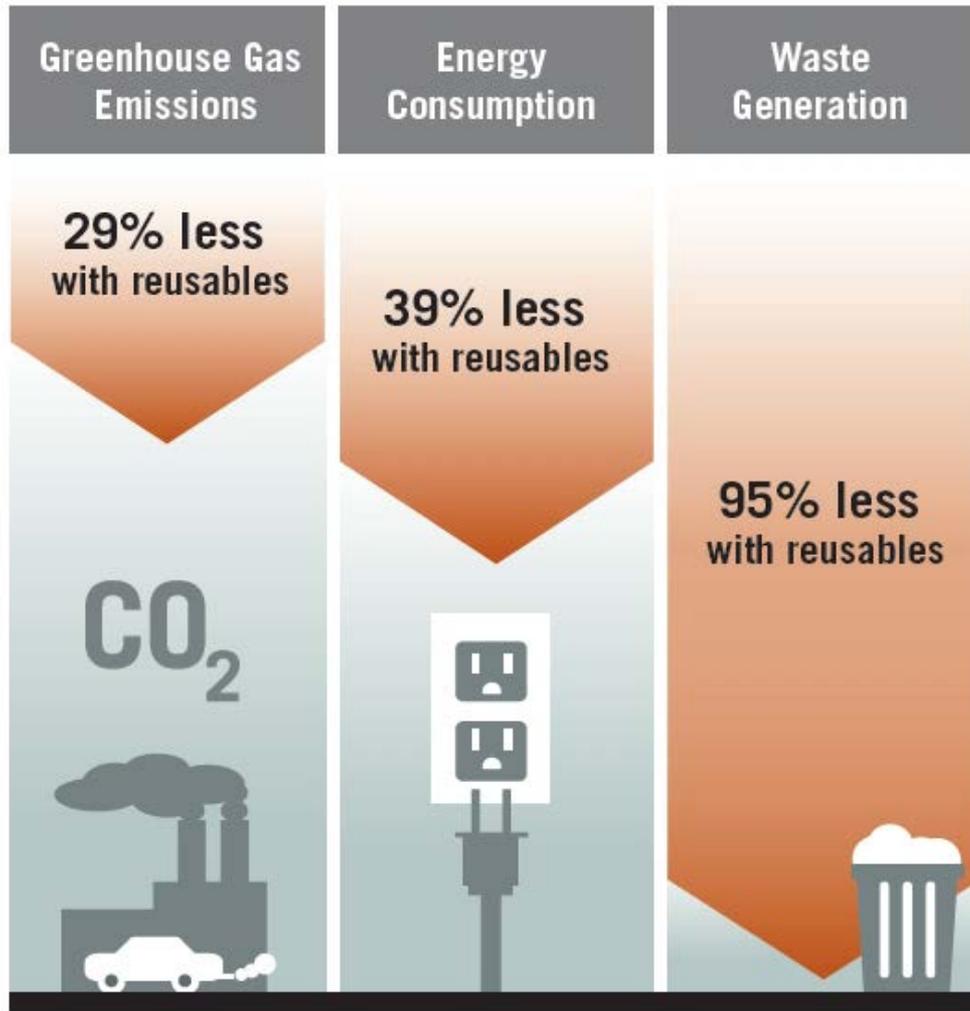
# Stability



# Cube Efficiencies



# Environmental Benefits



Reusable transport packaging containers

- generate 29% less total greenhouse gas emissions;
- require 39% less total energy; and
- produce 95% less total solid waste on average

# Attributes of Good Reusables Opportunities



# Attributes of Good Reusables Opportunities

- Flow of Consistent Products in Large Volumes
- High Turn Rate
- Large and/or Bulky Products, or Easily Damaged Products
- Suppliers or Customers Grouped Near One Another
- High Waste Disposal or Recycling Costs
- Sustainability Goals or Mandates

# Reusables Systems: 3 Types



- **Work-in-Process:** Used in-plant for storage and transport within a single facility. (Ghirardelli)
- **Closed-Loop:** Reusables move through supply chain without 3<sup>rd</sup> party management; this approach is ideal for reusables. (ANG Newspapers)
- **Open-Loop:** A 3<sup>rd</sup> party company manages the return of empty containers and distribution of containers back to the manufacturer; best for consistent flow with high volume. (StopWaste Office Move)

# The Use Reusables Campaign



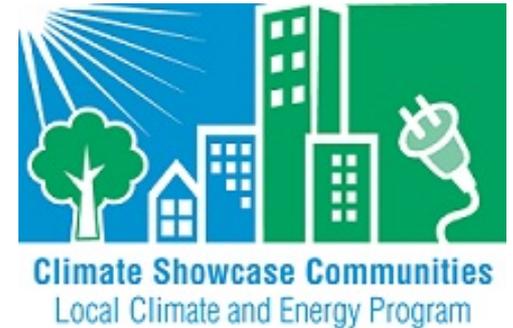
# The Use Reusables Campaign



- Helping businesses convert to more sustainable reusable alternatives.
- Reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and solid waste associated with one-time and limited-use transport packaging materials.

# The Team

- SAIC for technical assistance
- Partnership with RPA for vendor/supplier facilitation
- Supported by EPA's Climate Showcase Communities Program



# How StopWaste can Help

- Workshops & Trainings – 14 in 3 states with 850 attendees
- Technical Assistance
- Cost Benefit Analysis
- Facilitate Vendor/Supplier Conversation
- Follow-up to monitor and assist
- Case Study Development
- Funding Assistance
- Toolkit for Other Agencies & Partners

# www.UseReusables.com

- Reusables Basics
- Interactive Cost Comparison Calculator
- Case studies / videos
- Events calendar
- List of suppliers

The screenshot shows the homepage of UseReusables.com. At the top, the site title "Use Reusables" is displayed in a large, bold font, with the tagline "Reusable Transport Packaging Saves Your Company Money and Resources" underneath. A navigation menu includes links for Home, About Us, Reusables Basics, Cost Comparison, Case Studies, Resources, Events & Workshops, and Contact. The main content area is divided into four columns: "Reusables Basics" (highlighted), "Cost Comparison", "Case Studies", and "Events/Workshops". Each column contains introductory text and a call to action. The "Reusables Basics" column features an image of a cardboard box with the slogan "Think Outside the Box Think Reusable". The "Cost Comparison" column includes an image of a pen and a bar chart. The "Case Studies" column shows a man in a white lab coat holding a reusable container. The "Events/Workshops" column lists a "Reusables Workshop" for January 30, 2008, in Oakland, CA, with a "Learn More" link and an "RSVP" button. At the bottom, the site is supported by the StopWaste Partnership and the Reusable Pallet & Container Coalition (RPCC), with their respective logos displayed.

**Use Reusables**  
Reusable Transport Packaging Saves Your Company Money and Resources

Home | About Us | **Reusables Basics** | Cost Comparison | Case Studies | Resources | Events & Workshops | Contact

Reusables Basics	Cost Comparison	Case Studies	Events/Workshops
<p>Reusable transport packaging offers environmental advantages while it adds to your bottom line.</p> <p><a href="#">Click here to find out how reusable transport packaging can benefit your company.</a></p> 	<p>Hundreds of companies have already benefited from reusable transport packaging. These companies found that switching to reusables brought increased product protection, improved worker safety and efficiency throughout the distribution network. Do the numbers and see if it makes sense for your company.</p> 	<p>A viable alternative to one time or limited use shipping containers, sturdy, long-lasting reusable transport packaging can save your company money, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions, increasing waste and saving energy. <a href="#">Read what other companies say.</a></p> 	<p>Reusables Workshop – Topic TBD January 30, 2008 10AM - 12:30PM Oakland, CA <a href="#">Learn More</a> <a href="#">RSVP</a></p>

UseReusables is supported by the StopWaste Partnership and the Reusable Pallet & Container Coalition (RPCC).

**STOP WASTE PARTNERSHIP** **REUSABLE PALLET & CONTAINER COALITION**

# Reusables 101 & 102

REUSABLES 101

Think Outside the Box:  
**Think Reusable**

Reusable transport packaging saves your company money and resources

An open cardboard box is shown from a top-down perspective, looking into the empty interior. The box is made of brown corrugated cardboard. The text "REUSABLES 101" is in the top left corner. The main text "Think Outside the Box: Think Reusable" is centered in the middle. At the bottom, a teal banner contains the text "Reusable transport packaging saves your company money and resources".

REUSABLES 102

A cost comparison model for  
**Reusable Transport Packaging**

How Businesses Have Successfully Switched to Reusable Transport Packaging

A collage of images related to reusable transport packaging. The top image shows a close-up of a pen tip pointing at a document with numbers and a dollar sign. Below this is a white box with the text "A cost comparison model for Reusable Transport Packaging". The bottom section features two images: on the left, a worker in a white shirt is loading a blue reusable transport container onto a truck; on the right, a worker in a white lab coat is filling a white reusable transport container with green material. A teal banner at the bottom contains the text "How Businesses Have Successfully Switched to Reusable Transport Packaging".

# Grants & Loans

## Reusable Transport Packaging

- Up to \$30k (\$5-10k ave.)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> & final round this Fall, \$60k available
- Applications due September 10<sup>th</sup>
- 10+ projects funded to date, totaling \$130,000



## Revolving Loan Fund for Recycled & Reused Materials

- \$10k-\$30k, 5 year term
- Interest rates: WSJ Prime to Prime + 6%



# THANK YOU!

**Michelle Fay, StopWaste**

**Program Manager**

**mfay@StopWaste.Org**

**[www.UseReusables.com](http://www.UseReusables.com)**

