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Free Public Foam Recycling Drop-Off Facility Arrives in Texas

Dart Container of Texas encourages residents and organizations near Ellis County to divert foam from landfills at its free 24/7 foam collection center so the foam can be recycled.

WAXAHACHIE, Tex. (February 11, 2010) – Foam recycling has arrived in Ellis County. Dart Container of Texas today unveiled in Waxahachie its latest post-consumer foam collection site. The free drop-off will pioneer a new way for Texas residents, businesses and organizations to recycle foam with the number 6 on it (♻️).

Dart's Waxahachie foam collection site is one of the state's first public sites to accept foam food service containers, including foam cups, plates, take-out containers, egg cartons, as well as shaped or molded foam often used to package electronics. This site, Dart's 12th drop-off location in the country, will divert foam from area landfills and allow it to be recycled into new products such as picture frames and moldings. The southwestern United States is one of a growing number of regions to be equipped with a foam recycling infrastructure.

"We hope residents and businesses in the area utilize this free benefit and recycle foam materials that they would otherwise throw away," said Michael Westerfield, Corporate Director of Recycling Programs at Dart Container Corporation. "In 2010, Dart will continue to lay the groundwork to develop recycling infrastructure around the country."

Once foam is dropped off at Dart, it is then compacted and shipped to a company that will use it as feedstock to make new materials. To be accepted for recycling, the foam must bear the "6" symbol with chasing arrows (♻️).

"We are pleased to see that Dart Container is recycling foam here in Texas," said Dub Maines, Deputy District Director for Congressman Joe Barton. "The company is to be commended for providing this much-needed service."

To mark this special occasion, Dart Corporation held a ribbon-cutting Thursday, Feb. 11 outside of the new drop off facility at Dart Container of Texas at 850 Solon Road, Waxahachie, Tex., 75165.

Dart is driving recycling efforts from its manufacturing facilities to workplaces, warehouse recycling centers and consumers' homes in curbside recycling efforts across the country. Often improperly called "Styrofoam," a registered trademark of the Dow Chemical Company, Dart's products are recyclable and reusable. Recycled foam food service products can be reprocessed into building insulation, plastic lumber, and many other products. Foam products generate less waste in their production than paper alternatives, are stable and safe in landfills, and burn cleanly in modern municipal energy-from-waste facilities.



Pictured left to right: **Debra Wakeland** - President of Wax Chamber of Commerce, **Doug Barnes** - Wax Director of Economic Development, **Paul Coles** - ServPro of Ellis County, **Paul Stevens** - Wax City Manager, **Mike Kitchens** - Dart Plant Mgr., **Byron Campbell** - Deputy District Director for U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, **David Hall** - Dart District Sales Mgr., **Paul Hernandez** - Oncor

Foam  can be recycled by:

- Rinsing cups and containers to rid them of food.
- Placing foam in a clear plastic bag.
- No straws or lids.
- No foam insulation
- No packaging peanuts (call 800-828-2214 or go to www.loosefillpackaging.com for sites).

About Dart Container Corporation

Established in 1937, Dart Container Corporation sets the industry standard of excellence by providing high quality, recyclable, affordable and safe foodservice products and packaging, exceptionally reliable service and responsible environmental practices. Dart is making a concerted effort to increase foam recycling opportunities throughout the country and strives to produce high-quality, cost-effective products in a manner sensitive to environmental concerns. Dart is headquartered in Mason, Mich. For more information, visit www.dart.biz or call (800) 248-5960.