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Office Solutions Receives Top Honors for Recycling Efforts

State of California Announces Best Businesses in Recycling for 2008:

Office Solutions is one of several companies throughout the state honored for extraordinary waste reduction efforts

Yorba Linda, Calif. (October 24, 2008) – Office Solutions, an Orange County based commercial office supplier, has been chosen as one of the 2008 Waste Reduction Awards Program winners. The Waste Reduction Awards Program (WRAP), established in 1993, is an annual program administered by the California Integrated Waste Management Board which recognizes California businesses that have made outstanding efforts to reduce non-hazardous waste and send less garbage to our landfills. Other 2008 recipients include Hewlett-Packard, Intel Corporation, Kaiser Permanente, Kraft Foods Global and Pacific Gas & Electric.

In the last year, waste diverted through Office Solutions' efforts totaled 401,410 pounds—a little more than 200 tons—including 126,000 pounds of cardboard. Since May 2008, 12,090 pounds of scrap metal and 20,424 pounds of computer equipment have been recycled.

Office Solutions has proven itself to be a business leader committed to conserving resources and reducing waste disposal. Since its founding in 1984, Office Solutions has maintained an internal recycling program. Last year, this internal program was expanded to offer these services complimentary to its customers. "After recycling internal cardboard, we chose to offer it to our customers as an added free service," said Office Solutions President and co-owner, Bob Mairena. "Since our inception 24 years ago, recycling has always been an important part of our value system; well before green was marketable. Our recycling efforts were always internal but my assumption was that some of our customers would also create their own programs if they had a simple turnkey instruction manual. We merely were offering a "how to be green" program in order for us to collectively have a bigger impact. The program became so well received, we decided to add paper, toners, computers, cell phones and almost any other type of electronic," concluded Mairena.

Office Solutions continues to distinguish itself as an innovative leader within the office supply industry, and has taken several measures to build recycling and conservation awareness into its business model.

- ◆ Customers are emailed a quarterly recycled newsletter containing recycling articles, statistics, product information and tips on being green along with a green catalog featuring recycled and eco-friendly products.

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- ◆ Customers were looking for additional ways to be environmentally friendly, so a step-by-step program to help customers launch their own recycling programs was developed and offered. Featured items include recycling basics, greening their product usage, worksheets for computing environmental impact of product usage, templates for sustainability statements as well as policies they may implement.
- ◆ Office Solutions customers receive these recycling services with free pick-up to help encourage more businesses to reduce waste. To date, more than 75 companies have signed up for the program.

WRAP provides an opportunity for California businesses to gain public recognition for outstanding waste reduction efforts. Award winners receive authorization to use the WRAP winner logo with their products, advertising, and business websites to publicize waste reduction efforts and help the community know what businesses take waste reduction seriously.

Office Solutions, the largest independent commercial office supplier in Southern California, services national corporate accounts throughout the United States with next-day service along with offering the most advanced procurement systems in the industry. It is continually recognized in the Orange County Business Journal as one of the top 25 Orange County women-owned businesses as well as being in the top Orange County minority-owned businesses. The company has also been acknowledged for encouraging employees to share their time and resources with local charities such as Habitat for Humanity, City of Hope and numerous other local organizations.

Office Solutions strives to foster a spirit of creativity and teamwork, as well as its commitment to exceptional customer service.

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