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Kimberly-Clark Professional Expands RightCycle, the First Large-Scale Recycling Program for Non-Hazardous Lab and Cleanroom Waste, to Industrial Environments

Ideal for Light-Duty Applications and Non-Hazardous Waste

ROSWELL, Ga., June 9, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- Kimberly-Clark Professional has expanded its innovative recycling program - RightCycle by Kimberly-Clark Professional - to manufacturing and other industrial environments, enabling these customers to divert non-hazardous waste, such as nitrile gloves and apparel, from landfills.



RightCycle is the first large-scale recycling program for non-hazardous lab, cleanroom and industrial waste. Since its launch in 2011, the program has diverted more than 300 tons of waste from landfills. The items are sent to recyclers in the United States and turned into nitrile powder and pellets that are used to create eco-responsible consumer products and durable goods, such as flowerpots and lawn furniture, benches and bicycle racks.

"By recycling rather than discarding nitrile gloves and single-use apparel, customers can divert these hard-to-recycle waste streams from the landfill in order to get one step closer to achieving their zero waste goals while reducing their waste disposal costs at the same time," said John R. Adams, industrial business leader, Kimberly-Clark Professional. "In addition, we are helping to give our safety and industrial products a second life."

RightCycle enables customers to recycle thin mil nitrile gloves, apparel (including accessories such as hoods, masks, shoe covers and other items) and Kimtech Pure 100 percent polypropylene wipers. To qualify for the program, the items must be free of hazardous materials, biohazards and wet food.

"As a rule of thumb, if our personal protective equipment products, such as nitrile gloves and apparel, are being disposed of as regular trash versus hazardous waste, then we can likely accept them," Adams added.

California Success Story

Participants in the RightCycle Program have reaped many benefits and one - Lundberg Family Farms of Richvale, Calif. - credits the program with helping it achieve a Platinum Zero Waste Facility Certification from the U.S. Zero Waste Business Council.

Gloves previously represented about 15 percent of the company's landfill waste, so switching to Kimberly-Clark Professional gloves and the RightCycle program was an easy decision. The company now expects to divert four tons of glove waste annually.

"The changeover was really painless," said Ashley Vega, the company's sustainability specialist. "And our employees are actively recycling the gloves - even more than we anticipated."

Sustainability is a big part of the family-owned company's culture. "Our company is committed to nourishing a healthier planet and protecting the environment for generations to come," Vega added. "This expands our solid waste reduction and recycling efforts."

Lundberg Family Farms recycled close to one ton of nitrile gloves in its first few months in the RightCycle program. "You're either throwing the gloves away or giving them a second life. The latter is always better," Vega said.

In addition to the industrial program launch, Kimberly-Clark Professional is continuing to expand the RightCycle program -

bringing it to Western Europe and exploring expansion in other regions. For more information, visit www.KCProfessional.com/rightcycle.

Kimberly-Clark Professional has a long history of innovation and environmental leadership, and has been recognized by leading environmental non-governmental organizations for its efforts. In 2015, it became the first major manufacturer in North America to produce bath tissue and towel products incorporating domestically sourced non-wood fiber. It also was the first away-from-home towel and tissue products company in North America to obtain Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®) certification for a broad range of towel and tissue products, and currently holds the largest portfolio of FSC-certified towel and tissue products in North America. To learn more about Kimberly-Clark's global sustainability efforts, visit <http://sustainabilityreport2022.kimberly-clark.com/>.

About Lundberg Family Farms

Since 1937, the Lundberg Family has been farming rice and producing rice products at their farms in the Sacramento Valley. Now led by its third generation, Lundberg Family Farms uses organic and eco-positive farming practices to produce wholesome, healthful rice products while protecting and improving the environment for future generations. For more information, visit Lundberg.com and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Pinterest](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

About Kimberly-Clark Professional

Kimberly-Clark Professional partners with businesses to create Exceptional Workplaces, helping to make them healthier, safer and more productive. Key brands in this segment include: Kleenex, Scott, WypAll, Kimtech and Jackson Safety. Kimberly-Clark Professional, located in Roswell, Georgia, is one of three Kimberly-Clark business sectors. To see how Kimberly-Clark Professional is helping people around the world to work better, please visit www.kcprofessional.com.

About Kimberly-Clark

Kimberly-Clark (NYSE: KMB) and its well-known global brands are an indispensable part of life for people in more than 175 countries. Every day, nearly a quarter of the world's population trust Kimberly-Clark's brands and the solutions they provide to enhance their health, hygiene and well-being. With brands such as Kleenex, Scott, Huggies, Pull-Ups, Kotex and Depend, Kimberly-Clark holds No. 1 or No. 2 share positions in 80 countries. To keep up with the latest news and to learn more about the Company's 144-year history of innovation, visit www.kimberly-clark.com or follow us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

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