



Bay Area Green Business Program

Environmental Values At Work



Director, Aseem Das stands next to some of the biodegradable products World Centric sells



Employees place food scraps and yard trimmings in a compost pile outside their building



Research Associate, Anna Ching shows off the 32 gallon garbage can they've been able to switch to

World Centric

2121 Staunton Court, Palo Alto
650.739.0699
worldcentric.org
Certification Date: March 2007

Encouraging sustainability is what World Centric is all about, along with participation in sustainable enterprises and educating communities about economic injustice and environmental degradation. The non-profit organization holds a weekly film series, brings in local speakers, and offers courses that help participants examine personal values and habits that might impact the environment. In addition, they sell fair trade and environmental products, including biodegradable food service products and packaging (e.g., plates, bowls, cups, take-out trays, trash bags, cutlery, drinking straws) made from renewable resources like sugarcane, fiber, corn, and potato starch.

“We heard about the Green Business certification several years ago and realized it fits in with who we are and what we are all about,” said Director, Aseem Das. As part of their mission to encourage sustainability, they aim to become a resource neutral organization which they have a very good start at. Research Associate, Anna Ching developed an office operations footprint report that shows the impact World Centric has on the environment through its water, electricity, transportation, and landfill usage.

They recycle or compost almost everything that comes into the building, managing to reduce their garbage from 96 gallons to 32, saving \$50 per month. When they moved into their new offices they used low toxic paint (with low volatile organic compounds), installed aerators on faucets to reduce water usage, and installed wood flooring from forests certified as being sustainably managed. They also offer incentives for employees who use public transportation, participate in Palo Alto Green for their renewable energy and buy mostly 100 percent post consumer paper products. “We will also be offsetting our footprint by channeling a portion of our profits into small scale energy and water projects in developing countries,” says Ching.

For more information on the green efforts of World Centric, contact Anna Ching.