



Bay Area Green Business Program

Environmental Values At Work



Cartridge World Owner, Jimmy Cain, in front of their Green Business sign

Cartridge World

161 Homer Avenue, Palo Alto

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cwpagreen.com

Certification Date: January 2008

When Jimmy Cain opened his Cartridge World store, he was very excited about the prospect of doing something good for the environment. Cartridge World offers free delivery and pick-up of ink and toner cartridges, and cleans and refills them onsite. They also provide recycling services to schools by placing a collection box on site, collecting the cartridges, then paying the school \$1.00 or more for each cartridge. “We only have one planet and people need to take environmental efforts seriously,” says Cain.



Ink cartridges are cleaned and refilled with water-based inks on premises

When cartridges come into the store the components are inspected for wear and tear. Parts that are worn down are recycled and all others are cleaned and reused. To remove the ink or toner, the cartridges are cleaned with either pressurized water or a high-powered vacuum. The cartridges are then refilled on site with water-based inks or new toner and sold for less than the cost of a new cartridge. “I like that I can offer a product that saves businesses money and helps the environment at the same time,” says Cain. If customers don’t want to purchase refilled cartridges, Cartridge World will still collect their used ones.

They reuse boxes as well as packing materials for shipping and recycle paper, cans and bottles. They have also installed a low flush toilet and retrofitted the office with energy efficient fluorescent lights. They plan their pick-up and delivery service schedule for efficiency to avoid putting unnecessary miles on their car or polluting the environment. Cain’s goal is to purchase a hybrid delivery vehicle.



A cartridge recycling kiosk is placed at the front door

“I tell everybody I am certified because I think it’s very important for companies to get certified” says Cain. “Paying attention to the environment is not a joke. Going green and being green doesn’t take much effort out of your life”.

For more information on the environmental efforts of Cartridge World, contact Jimmy Cain.