



Bay Area Green Business Program
Environmental Values At Work



All auto fluids are drained and recycled



Used office paper is cut and used for scratch paper



Used catalytic converters are shipped back to the plant

Park Avenue Motors

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For Park Avenue Motors, a Mercedes Benz sales and service center, the main motivation to become a certified Green Business was the opportunity to eliminate as much solid waste as possible. Over the last five years they have cut their garbage use by more than half. "This is entirely due to the rigorous recycling and waste reduction program in place in both the office and shop areas," says Steve Kirksey, Director of Operations. Employees work with vendors to reduce packaging, use returnable containers for shipping parts, have eliminated disposables in the lunchroom, and installed recycling containers in every office. In the shop, mechanics are provided with containers for the separation of all recyclable materials. Cardboard from parts boxes, auto fluids, metal and plastic car parts, and tires are all recycled. "Even the used catalytic converters are sent back to the Mercedes Benz plant," says Kirksey.

In addition, the buildings that house the sales office and the two auto shops are all energy efficient and have water saving toilets and faucets installed. The shops have also achieved zero discharge of pollutants to the storm drains which resulted in them becoming one of the first businesses in the Regional Water Quality Control Plant's Clean Bay Business Program back in 2001.

"The Green Business Program has been well received by all of our employees and we feel we are making a difference just by changing how we handle things typically thrown away. It also means a lot to our customers; they really appreciate our efforts," says Kirksey.

For more information on Park Avenue Motors green efforts contact Steve Kirksey.