

11th October 2010

CALIFORNIA - A DEFEAT FOR THE BIOPLASTICS LOBBY

On 28th September Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger rejected Senate Bill 1454 proposed by Sen. de Saulnier which would have extended to almost all plastic products the already unreasonable restrictions on the labelling of oxo-biodegradable plastic bags and food & beverage containers

He said "I am concerned about the much more expansive universe of plastic products that this Bill would regulate, and the unforeseen consequences that could result from such a vast expansion."

Michael Laurier, CEO of Symphony Environmental Technologies Plc said "The tide is beginning to turn. It is time to start rolling back legislation in California which gives a commercial advantage to compostable plastics, which is not in the public interest. Biodegradation in the environment is not the same as industrial composting."

California legislators have been misled by the cornstarch lobby, into using a compostability standard (ASTM D6400) for oxo-biodegradable plastics which are not intended for composting, but are intended instead to self-destruct if they escape into the open environment. They should have specified ASTM D6954 but were persuaded to reject it.

On 31st August 2010 California lawmakers also rejected a Bill that would have been the first state-wide ban on plastic shopping bags

NOTE TO EDITORS:

To see d₂w plastic degrading go to: <http://youtube.com/watch?v=i3TGqcpWJTM>
For information about Oxo- biodegradable plastic generally see www.d2w.net and www.biodeg.org

Symphony Environmental Technologies Plc is a British company listed on the AIM market of the London Stock Exchange, with an ADR facility in New York. It has a diverse and growing customer-base in 92 countries worldwide. Symphony's technology is branded d₂w[®] and appears as a droplet logo on many thousands of tonnes of plastic packaging and other plastic products.

Symphony is a member of the British Plastics Association (www.bpf.co.uk), the Oxo-biodegradable Plastics Association (www.biodeg.org), and the American Standards Organisation (www.ASTM.org). Symphony is also a member of the Society for the Chemical Industry (UK) www.soci.org, and the European Organisation for Packaging & the Environment www.EUROPEN.be. Symphony actively participates in the work of the British Standards Institution (www.BSIgroup.com), the European Standards Organisation (www.CEN.eu), and the International Standards Organisation (www.ISO.org)

For further information, contact:

Carteret Communications on 0207-828-8598 / trense@googlemail.com

Louise Ling, Marketing at Symphony on 0208-207-5900 / Louise.ling@d2w.net