

CALIFORNIA REJECTS BAN ON PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS


On Tuesday 31st August 2010 California lawmakers rejected a bill that would have been the first state-wide ban on plastic shopping bags. The Democrat Bill, which failed on a 14-21 vote is a milestone for the plastic bag manufacturing industry globally. Symphony Environmental Technologies Plc, the specialists in degradable plastics played a pivotal role as members of both the Californian Film Extruders' Association (CFECA) and the Save the Plastic Bag Alliance. Further, Symphony's deputy chairman, Michael Stephen, had discussions earlier this year at the California State Capitol in Sacramento, to explain oxo-biodegradable plastic to legislators.

Keith Christman, managing director of the Virginia-based American Chemistry Council which includes Dow Chemical Co. and ExxonMobil Corp says the Bill would have exacerbated California's economic problems by putting 1,000 plastic bag workers out of jobs, taxing consumers for paper bags and creating a "bag police" at a time when teachers are getting furloughed. Given the state's dire economy, he says, "there are other things California can do"

Symphony is a world leader in the development and marketing of controlled-life plastics and sells both pro-degradant additives and finished plastic products under its 'd2w' trademark in 92 countries worldwide through a network of distributors and agents. 'd2w' technology causes ordinary plastic to convert at the end of its useful life into a material with a completely different molecular structure, which can be bio-assimilated in the same way as a leaf.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

Symphony is a British company listed on the AIM market of the London Stock Exchange. It has a diverse and growing customer-base and has established itself as an international business. 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 Oxo-biodegradable Plastics Association (www.biodeg.org), the Society for the Chemical Industry (UK), and the American Standards Organisation (ASTM). Symphony is also a member of the European Organisation for Packaging & the Environment (Europe), and the British Brands Group. Symphony actively participates in the work of the British Standards Institute (BSI), the European Standards Organisation (CEN), and the International Standards Organisation (ISO)

To see d₂w plastic degrading go to: <http://youtube.com/watch?v=i3TGqcpWJTM>

For information about Oxo- biodegradable plastic generally see www.biodeg.org

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