



CONTACT: Heidi Sanborn, Executive Director
(916) 480-9010 or Heidi@CalPSC.org

CALIFORNIA COMPANIES RECEIVE STATEWIDE RECOGNITION FOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sacramento, California – August 8, 2011. Four California businesses were honored by the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) during the organization's Arrow Awards ceremony held recently in San Diego at the California Resource Recovery Associations 35th annual conference. Opportunity Green, Savory and Sweet Catering, Agricultural Container Recycling Council and the US Air Conditioning Distributors received statewide recognition for excellence in product stewardship, green design, coalition building and product take-back. The Arrow Awards were created by CPSC with a grant from the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) given to the Del Norte Solid Waste Management Authority.

Located in Los Angeles, Opportunity Green was given the Golden Arrow Award for Overall Excellence in Product Stewardship for their efforts in bringing together leading companies and visionaries to create opportunities and innovations that drive today's sustainability movement. Focusing on the "triple bottom line"—people, planet and profit—they foster vital changes in product development not only by bringing groups together, but also by making the conference itself carbon neutral. Beyond the conference, they inspire local production companies, movie studios and other businesses to make responsible changes in their energy use, including integration of electric vehicles and compostable products. For more information, visit www.opportunitygreen.com.

Sunnyvale-based Savory and Sweet Catering was awarded the Green Arrow for System Design and Innovation for integrating green thinking into their entire business model. Their goal of having minimal impact through conservation of resources, energy efficiency and a healthful environment has been met by recycling all products they use. They also were the first U.S. business to purchase a Korean composting tub that turns food scraps into a soil amendment every 24 hours. Over the past 10 years, their goal of having 95 percent of any catering event be edible, re-usable, compostable or recyclable has provided a blueprint for other food services and catering businesses across the state. For more information, visit www.savoryandsweet.com.

Ag Container Recycling Council (ACRC) was honored for their coalition building with a Bow & Arrow Award. The recycling program is run by Interstate Ag Plastic, based in Buttonwillow, Calif. The oldest, continually running, voluntary, industry-funded, product-stewardship program in the nation, ACRC members formulate, produce, package and distribute crop protection and other pesticide products. Their efforts in California have led to 20,000,000 lbs. of containers recycled, 45,000 gallons of gasoline saved

as well as 100,000 cubic yards of landfill space saved. The reductions create fewer potential hazards to public health and the environment. Their pro-active role in the stewardship of products through the entire supply chain makes them a model for other industries to follow. For more information, visit www.acrecycle.org.

Because of their "Cash for Clunkers" mercury thermostat take-back program, the City of Industry-based US Air Conditioning Distributors received the Infinity Award for Service and Take-Back this year. The program gave contractors incentives to collect and properly recycle mercury thermostats by placing recycling bins at all their branches. By collecting more than 55.24 lbs. of mercury in 2010, the company also won a Waste Recycling Award from CalRecycle. The company also saved \$85,000 in fuel by switching to natural gas trucks, recycled 73,180 lbs. of scrap metal, 12,320 lbs. of corrugated cardboard, 3,360 lbs. of white paper and 500 lbs. of electronic waste that same year. Their pro-active efforts make them a leader in the nation and a champion for the environment. For more information, visit www.us-ac.com.

"We are so pleased to spotlight the contributions of these businesses and organizations that are truly product-stewardship stars in California," said Heidi Sanborn, Executive Director of the California Production Stewardship Council.

Honorees were escorted down a recycled red carpet, donated by Bentley Prince Street, a California carpet manufacturer.

For a complete list of honorees, please go to www.calpsc.org/awards/2011-winners.html.

The California Product Stewardship Council educates both the public and private sectors about product stewardship and closely partners with businesses, jurisdictions, waste and recycling companies, manufacturers and others to promote and encourage sustainable practices. Through its annual Arrow Awards, the nonprofit recognizes companies that are taking a leadership role in waste reduction.

For information, please visit www.CalPSC.org.

###