Case Study

The Challenge

Boost expanded polystyrene recycling in commercial and residential waste streams through advancements in EPS recycling technologies, innovations that result in material processing efficiencies and new program developments or existing program improvements that significantly increase EPS recycling. Demonstrate a wide variety of EPS recycling solutions to facilitate broader recognition and adoption of EPS recycling practices.

Sustainable Solutions by Glu6

Nine Lives Products launched a new recycled glue product made from a blend of recycled polystyrene waste and plant-based ingredients. Using a natural, citrus-based terpene blend that dissolves the polystyrene waste, shrinking it by more than 30 times its original size, Glu6 is a 100% recycled content consumer product. Glu6 maintains third-party certification in compliance with ASTM D-4236, Standard Practice for Labeling Art Materials for Chronic Health Hazards.

Founded in 2012, Glu6 is an innovative end use for recycled polystyrene and a 2014 recipient of the EPS-IA Excellence in EPS Recycling Honorable Mention Award. Currently it is the only recycled content glue available to consumers and is available in three forms: school glue, craft paste and a non-porous liquid glue. New and ongoing market development is a key aspect of viable recycling initiatives and this new end-use market brings yet another opportunity for recycled polystyrene to gain a new life.

Notable Achievements

With a new manufacturing facility in northern California, Glu6 is made from polystyrene foam waste collected and proudly made in the U.S.A. Located in the San Francisco Bay area, Glu6 takes things a step further and provides residential curbside pickup for polystyrene foam waste for a nominal fee. Whether a one-time pickup or periodic service, starting as low as $4.95/month, the fees help defray the collection costs.

Benchmarks

- 100% Recycled Content Feedstock
- Bio-based Additives
- ~200,000 Lbs Waste Polystyrene Collected
- Volume Reduction of 30-50x Per Jar/Bottle of Glu6
- Commercial & Residential Benefits