



Pharmaceutical Manufacturer Receives 2008 Environmental Emerald Award

- Watson Labs Uses "Green" Processes to Manufacture/Clean -

DATE: April 24, 2009

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Watson Laboratories, Inc., Fort Lauderdale, develops, manufactures and markets pharmaceutical products that are the generic equivalent to their brand name counterparts. Their portfolio of products includes those that are internally developed and those that are licensed.

Solvents are used as part of the manufacturing and cleaning processes, which create emissions into the atmosphere. Through procedural changes and process improvements, Watson Laboratories have made significant reductions in volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions over the past three years. Furthermore, several other pollution prevention initiatives were undertaken in efforts to reduce or eliminate wastes by modifying manufacturing and utility processes, using less toxic substances and implementing conservation techniques.

These efforts have earned the company the 2008 Environmental Emerald Award in the "Pollution Prevention/Hazardous Waste" category. The Broward County Board of County Commissioners will present trophies to all of the Emerald Award winners at a special ceremony followed by a brief reception at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 28, in the Broward County Commission Chambers, Room 422, of the Governmental Center, 115 S. Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale.

Each year, the Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department recognizes several local businesses for their outstanding environmentally-responsible business practices. Each business receives an Emerald Award for their exceptional efforts in protecting the environment.

Additional criteria that Watson Laboratories met for Emerald Award standards include:

- Created an environmental green team to promote environmental awareness
- Created "Lights Out" campaign
- Changed cleaning process resulting in reduction in emissions of 67 percent while increasing production; this translates to 20 tons per year reduction in emissions of isopropyl alcohol
- Built a wastewater treatment plant on-site for the treatment of non-hazardous waste wastewater leading to the reduction of 1,020,000 gallons of wastewater annually
- Developed new partnership enabling Watson Laboratories to divert 1000 square yards of carpet from landfill, to be recycled, repurposed or down cycled
- Installed biofuel generators that produce 30 percent less nitrogen oxides (green house gases) and 50 percent less particulates than diesel generators
- Installed (10) 20 HPW variable frequency drives on cooling towers to reduce power requirements
- Installed a timer on warehouse lights saving 320 metric tons of carbon dioxide
- Converted water treatment chemical to biodegradable alternative, reducing energy

Altogether seven businesses will be given Emerald Awards and several individuals and one municipality/

government agency will receive the 2008 NatureScape Emerald Awards for incorporating NatureScape Broward techniques into their landscaping. The program recognizes businesses for their voluntary efforts in four areas: waste reduction, recycling, improved operating practices, and other "green" strategies that reduce pollution and waste. Both large and small businesses are eligible. One business is also honored with the title "Environmental Business of the Year," which will be announced at the ceremony.

Receiving an Emerald Award can help companies boost business. Research has shown that a company's environmental reputation will rival quality and brand name as criteria used by customers. Environmentally-friendly business practices can help companies attract new customers, encourage repeat customers and boost employee morale.

More information, including application procedures and guidelines, is available online at www.broward.org/environment, or call 954-519-1257. For more information on Broward County's Green initiatives, programs and services please visit www.broward.org/gogreen. For more information on Watson Laboratories, Inc., contact Tiffany Holmes, EHS Manager Watson, 954-585-1454 or visit www.watson.com.



The wastewater treatment plant at Watson Laboratories.

Release Properties

Date: 4/24/2009 2:11 PM
Photos: 1
Keywords: Awards or Recognition, Community, Environment, Events, Government, Pollution, Waste
News Type: News Release

Released by the Office of Public Communications
E-mail: publicinfo@broward.org
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