



# Implementing a Sustainable Reusable Transport Packaging System

# About Ghirardelli – Incorporated in 1852

---

- The Ghirardelli Chocolate Company is a manufacturer and marketer of premium chocolate products.
- As America's longest continuously operating chocolate manufacturer, Ghirardelli has established its position as America's premium chocolate company for more than 150 years.

# Food Waste Prevention

---

- Partnered with Stopwaste(Alameda County Waste Management Authority)
- Located Recycle To Conserve(RTC)
- Implemented plastic re-usable tote based waste capturing system
- Reduced 70,000 cases
- 800 tons of food waste prevented per year
- Waste processed to make animal feed
- Many happy cows in California!!!

# Re-usable Tote vs Corrugate Box

---

- Bulk storage of product before filled into bags, gifts and other finished goods items
- Payback was 1.1 years



# Highlights and Learnings

---

- Partnered with Stopwaste and received a \$75,000 award for the project
- Improved quality of our product by reducing crushing
- 660 tons of corrugate reduced at source per year
- Reduced over million cases and significant cost reduction
- We needed to store, transport and wash 150,000+ totes in circulation
- As volumes grow need to invest in more totes
- Lead us to the next application for totes





130 Bags  
Return to stock











# Highlights and Learnings

---

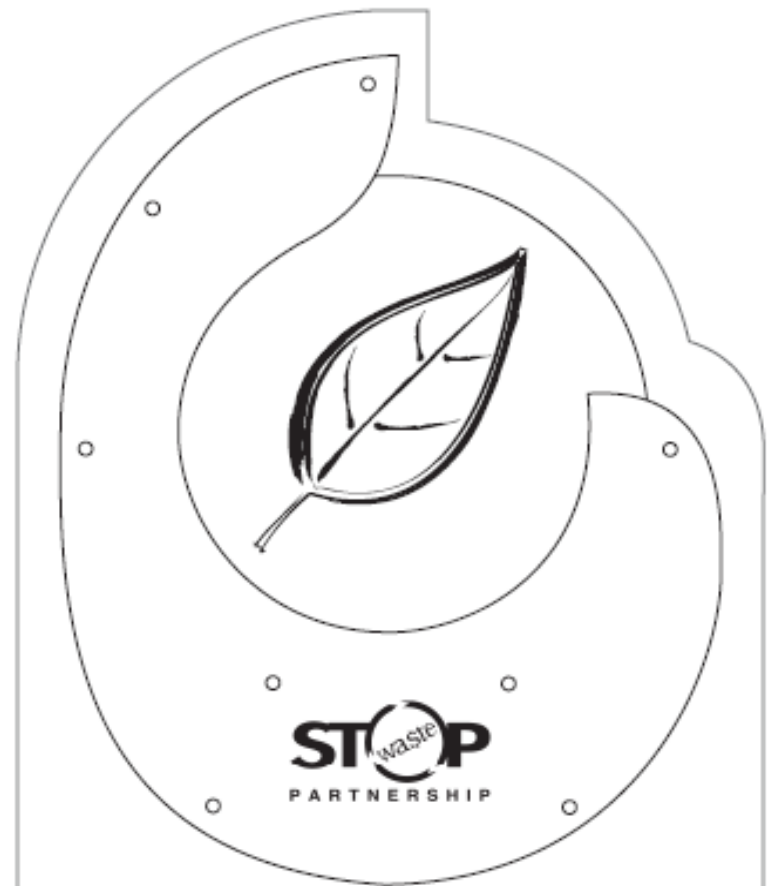
- Saved 65,000 corrugated cases
- Increased complexity in execution
  - Additional items to manage through supply chain
  - Need additional step/cost to re-pack as needed
- Need scale or reasonable volume

# Awards!

---

Each year the StopWaste Partnership recognizes businesses that have made great efforts and strides in improving environmental performance.

In 2008, **Ghirardelli Chocolate Company** received the **Award for Leadership and Achievement in Sustainability** for our efforts to reduce waste, increase recycling, and implement other environmental initiatives.



Award for  
Leadership and Achievement  
in  
Sustainability

**Ghirardelli Chocolate  
Company**



# Awards!

---

In February  
2010 we were  
recognized for  
meeting the Bay  
Area Green  
Business  
Standard



*Environmental Values at Work*

# Summary

---

1. Re-usable alternatives are effective
2. We have successfully used throughout our supply chain – chocolate, squares, bags
3. Delivered significant cost savings
4. Improved our quality
5. Consumers, customers and communities are expecting sustainable practices from companies