



Thoro Packaging Converts To Carbon Neutral Printing With natureOffice USA

Southern California-Based Thoro Packaging Launches Carbon Neutral Printing Program for Customers

HENDERSON, NV—(August 23, 2011) – Thoro Packaging today announced that it is converting to carbon neutral printing with the natureOffice USA program. Based in Southern California, Thoro Packaging will offer customers the option to certify all print jobs as carbon neutral.

Thoro Packaging partnered with Henderson, Nevada-based natureOffice USA to implement innovative operational changes, including how the company purchases raw materials, uses recycled paper, disposes of waste and purchases carbon credits -- all aimed at giving customers the most effective environmental and cost savings.

"During our certification process we found that prior manufacturing upgrades by Thoro, already had significant reductions in the environmental impact of the Thoro Packaging facility," says Andreas Weckwert, Chairman of natureOffice GmbH, Frankfurt, Germany.

"A few years ago, Thoro made a commitment to running our plant and all work processes as efficiently and eco-friendly as possible. We started to identify areas for improvement, making upgrades and process changes that would reduce waste and conserve energy. Partnering with natureOffice was a natural next step for Thoro; providing us with an analysis of our current carbon footprint and suggestions to further reduce our impact on the environment," said Janet Steiner, President, Thoro Packaging.

For Thoro Packaging, converting to carbon neutral printing offers customers multiple benefits and an additional sustainable packaging option. Carbon neutral printing reduces greenhouse gas (carbon dioxide) emissions; decreases the use of raw materials, shipping and energy consumption; and reduces toxic waste. In addition to promoting the use of recycled and recyclable paper, products and materials, Thoro Packaging can now purchase natureOffice USA certified carbon credits.

"The consultants at natureOffice USA helped us to re-examine every aspect of our operations, and to involve all employees in the research process," continued Steiner. "With the natureOffice USA program, we calculate the exact environmental impact of each print job -- from the number of trees used to the

amount of wastewater -- and discuss this with our customers. Following our natureOffice USA audit, we were surprised by the many ways we could further reduce consumption and waste, and potentially reduce costs."

With the natureOffice USA program, printers purchase certified carbon credits, including renewable energy sources with no emissions, to mitigate their processes that cannot integrate sustainable practices. When a printer completes the natureOffice USA program, they are qualified as a 100 percent carbon neutral print shop.

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