

MEDIA RELEASE

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SAWT leads the composting industry

The winners of the 2009 NSW Compost Leadership Awards were announced on Saturday 13 June at the NSW Compost Ball in Orange. The major award 'Leadership in the Recycled Organics Industry' was won by SITA Environmental Solutions for their new SAWT facility in Kemps Creek, NSW.

The SAWT facility is the largest source separated and mixed stream treatment and composting plant in Australia and has the capacity to process 134,000 tonnes of waste annually, and diverting up to 78% from landfill. The greenhouse emissions avoided by recycling organic and other waste at the new plant - rather than letting it decompose in a landfill - is 75,000 tonnes, the equivalent of taking 19,000 cars off the road each year.

The composting process uses proven technology and offers holistic solutions for councils. The SAWT facility is made up of two processes within one building, converting food and garden organic materials contained in the mixed bin (Liverpool City Council), and the food and garden organics from the source-separated organics bin (Penrith City Council) into compost and mulch products, as well as recovering valuable resources such as aluminium, steel, plastic and glass.

Having just entered the commissioning phase, the facility is not yet fully operational but it is accepting and processing more than 100 tonnes of household waste every day.

Accepting the award, SITA's NSW Post Collection Manager, Andrew Kosciuszko said: "SITA is very proud of the SAWT plant. This facility sets the benchmark for composting technology in Australia."

In May, the Victorian Compost Leadership Awards were announced during International Compost Awareness Week. Simon Lee, SITA Victoria's Post Collection National Business Development Manager was awarded the Overall Leadership Award by an Individual in the Compost Industry.

These awards are designed to recognise companies, individuals, and councils that have made a contribution to improving this industry.

SITA is now the largest composter in Australia with the capacity to process 500,000 tonnes of material and produce 250,000 tonnes of compost per year.



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SITA Environmental Solutions, a SUEZ Environment subsidiary, provides weekly services to over 43,000 commercial and industrial clients and more than 1.1 million households across Australia.

SITA's services include domestic, commercial & industrial waste collection; waste assessments; resource recovery and recycling options; processing of organic materials into compost; renewable energy facilities; hygiene services; waste treatment; and product destruction. More information on SITA's services can be obtained by calling 13 13 35 or visit www.sita.com.au

With over 65,000 employees and more than 120 years of efforts to constantly improve the quality of life for all, SUEZ Environment, a company present on the five continents, is exclusively dedicated to the environment business in which it has firmly secured its position as world leader.

SUEZ Environment and its subsidiaries are committed to the day-to-day challenge of conserving resources and protecting eco-systems by providing innovative solutions to millions of people and industries in the drinking water, wastewater treatment and waste management fields.

SUEZ Environment's waste and water management business expertise is a vital asset in responding to the stakes of the 21st Century: effectively, the world of tomorrow needs an economy which preserves natural resources and optimises the use of raw materials.