



“Buy Green, Be Green”

Steel, the most recycled and recyclable material

Of 58 billion pounds of plastic resin that is sold in the United States, less than 1% of it was recycled, compare that to a 68.7% recycling rate of steel.

Steel is a unique material because it ALWAYS contains recycled steel, although it is not possible or economical to recycle a product completely, therefore, the aim of recycling is to maximize the recycle resources and to minimize the mass and pollution potential of the remaining product. Even while two out of every three pounds of new steel are produced from old steel, it is still necessary to continue to use some quantities of virgin materials. This is true because many steel products remain in service as durable goods for decades at a time and demand for steel around the world continue to grow.

All new steel made last year contained a minimum of 25 percent steel scrap on average. To maintain this year-to-year recycling rate, the steel industry has become an efficient user of raw materials and has increased its demand for post-consumer scrap. The steel industry is one of the largest consumers of recycled materials in the world.

Steel is the most recycled material in the world – including nearly 70 million tons in the United States alone in 2006.

- a. Not only does steel have recycled content when new it is also 100 percent recyclable at the end of its life. In the United States, about 76 million tons of steel are collected, processed, and ultimately recycled into new products annually, from cars to cans to appliances and, of course, new construction materials, including steel studs and cool metal roofing. Recycling saves energy and other natural resources as embodied energy is amortized over future generations of new steel.

CannonCarts™ Cut Down on Packaging

Research from The Nielsen Company shows that more than half of U.S. consumers would give up all forms of packaging provided for convenience purposes if it would benefit the environment, including: packaging designed for easy stacking/storing at home (58 percent); packaging that can be used for cooking, or doubling as a re-sealable container (55 percent); and packaging designed for easy transport (53 percent). U.S. consumers are slightly more likely to give up packaging for convenience purposes than the average global consumer.

According to the Institute for Lifecycle Environmental Assessment, packaging contributes 50 percent to municipal solid waste by volume.

Click on the Earth to request more information about **CannonCarts™**



Sources:
Environmentally conscious design and manufacturing: A state-of-the-art Survey; Steel Recycling Institute; Journal of Manufacturing Systems; Study prices the environmental impacts of packaging materials. (1993, July). Environment Today, 4(7), 19. Retrieved March 6, 2008, from ABI/INFORM Global database. (Document ID: 1078091).; When Being Green Saves Money and the Planet. (2008, January 17). Washington Informer, p. 15. Retrieved March 6, 2008, from Ethnic NewsWatch (ENW) database. (Document ID: 1431680621); Nielsen: More Than Half of U.S. Consumers Would Give up 'Convenience Packaging' to Help Environment. (29 February). Business Wire. Retrieved March 6, 2008, from ProQuest Newsstand database. (Document ID: 1438344581); Gregory L Crawford (2007, May). STRONG AS STEEL. Environmental Design + Construction, 10(5), 74-75. Retrieved March 6, 2008, from ABI/INFORM Trade & Industry database. (Document ID: 1278250651)