

# PRESS-REGISTER

## Environmental group awards businesses for reusing others' waste

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Twelve companies that last year formed the By-Product Synergy Central Gulf Coast program were recognized for environmental stewardship Thursday.

The awards were part of the 10<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of industrial trade group Partners for Environmental Progress held at the 5 Rivers Delta Center on the Causeway.

The Mobile-based non-profit began its By-Product Synergy program last May, trying to identify ways in which one company's waste product might be put to use by another company.

For example, Evonik sells chemical byproducts such as ammonium chloride to companies that use it as an octane fuel booster and fertilizer additive, resulting in annual savings of \$750,000 and waste reduction of 6.7 million pounds, according to Bill Klutz, the facility's environmental manager.

The program diverted more than 18 million pounds of material that would have ended up in a landfill, wastewater treatment plant or the other disposal site, including 5,300 tons of hydrochloric, hydrofluoric and nitric acids, officials said.

The re-use ended up saving participating companies more than \$1.6 million.

Partners for Environmental Progress is composed of more than 170 area businesses. The group also recognized John Steadman, dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Alabama, for his guidance of the program. PEP also credited Jim Backes of Hargrove Engineers + Contractors for his vision to bring the program to Mobile and to help create a culture of sustainability along the Alabama Gulf Coast.

### PEP honorees

The 12 inaugural members of the By-Product Synergy program are:

- Alabama Power Co.
- Arkema
- BASF
- E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Co.
- Evonik Degussa
- ExxonMobil
- Huntsman Advanced Materials
- Mitsubishi Polysilicon
- Oil Recovery
- Southern Ionics
- University of South Alabama
- Veolia Environmental Services

—Source: Partners for  
Environmental Progress