

Murray J. Fox Recycling Innovation Award ChemStation

The Iowa Recycling Association's Murray J. Fox Recycling Innovation Award not only recognizes businesses and industry who develop, manufacture and market environmentally friendly and recycled products but who also represent the ideals and vision of this awards namesake, Murray J. Fox.

Murray's lifetime achievements are a true testament to sustainability. His product and market innovations are numerous and include a cross-section of recycled commodities such as aluminum, glass cullet and plastics. Not only did Murray have a direct impact on this global market by proving the value of recycled commodities, he assisted in maintaining and increasing that value through the innovation of automated equipment that allowed ease in handling.

Murray was one of the founding fathers and is a charter member of National Recycling Coalition and an honorary member of the Board of Directors. As such, Murray set up the environmental Trust Fund, which provides scholarships to the National Recycling Coalition for up and coming recycling innovators. Although very large shoes to fill, this year, one Iowa Company reflected the innovation, vision and spirit of this true recycling pioneer – ChemStation of Des Moines

Sustainability and Durability

ChemStation, founded in 1977, offers custom formulated, environmentally friendly industrial cleaning and process chemicals. ChemStation's patented refillable container process eliminates their client's need for drums and subsequently their need to find viable options for waste drums. In addition, because of reduced handling the process is safer, better for the environment and saves expenses related to transportation and labor in processing discarded drums.

Refillable containers are manufactured with sustainability in mind and are rotationally molded of linear, low density polyethylene plastic, combining strength, stability and longevity. This type of stringent engineering prolongs the life of the container and eliminates potential waste in the future.

Future Innovations

In addition to eliminating the need for drums and subsequently landfill space for these drums, ChemStation has taken the lead in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Design for the Environment, and has developed an environmentally oriented general purpose cleaner.

ChemStation's product number 63000 has passed EPA's stringent process for improved environmental impact and sustainability and is now available for use. The highly concentrated and mildly alkaline product is an effective low-foaming floor and general purpose cleaner. 63000 contains no inorganic phosphates, hazardous solvents or

environmentally harmful surfactants and instead uses a proprietary blend of surfactants, solvents, pH adjustors and other ingredients that exhibit more positive environmental and human health characteristics than conventional cleaning formulations.

“In addition to eliminating the logistical expenses involved in handling waste materials, ChemStation continues to promote sustainability through innovation – representing the true ideals and vision of this awards namesake, Murray J. Fox,” stated Erin Novak, President of the Iowa Recycling Association, “It is an honor for the Iowa Recycling Association to recognize environmental pioneers such as ChemStation and we are very pleased to recognize their achievements by awarding them the Murray J. Fox Innovation award.”