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OUT OF THE LANDFILL AND ONTO THE VEGGIE PATCH

Our foundry in Tacoma, United States has partnered with the City of Tacoma for spent foundry sand to be used in the making of its popular range of environmentally friendly landscaping products called TAGRO.

Environmental Manager Greg Chaplin said this agreement would reduce both the site's waste costs and its impact on the environment.

"This project will divert about 2,300 tonnes of Tacoma's waste sand per year away from landfill and onto the golf courses and garden beds of local Tacomans," Greg said.

"In addition to reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill, the project will save the site about USD\$50,000 in annual waste disposal costs." Short for 'Tacoma Grow' the City's signature TAGRO Mix is made from a blend of 50 percent biosolids, 25 percent sawdust and 25 percent screened sand.

Sold both to residents and commercial customers, and awarded the US Environmental Protection Agency's highest rating for use in landscaping and vegetable gardens, this product replenishes soil, helps it retain moisture and boosts plant growth.

A statement from the City of Tacoma said working with Bradken would help to increase the amount of recycled materials used at the TAGRO production facility.

"The making of TAGRO Mix and Top Soil products uses about 470 tons of sand each month. Through this partnership, TAGRO plan to supplement up to 50 percent of the current sand stock with treated sand from Bradken. The partnership with Bradken to recycle sand into TAGRO helps achieve the City's Sustainability Goals."

Greg said similar projects were being conducted at other Bradken foundries including Wodonga and Ipswich.

"Ipswich has been working with a company called Candy Soils for close to 20 years, while Coimbatore is starting a similar project supporting the local construction/infrastructure industry."

