



Unity through Enterprise

THE ARNHEMLAND PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

Owned by the Yolngu residents of Minjilang, Milingimbi, Ramingining, Galiwin'ku and Gapuwiyak communities NT

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 24 MAY, 2007

Recycling A Success in Remote Community

A partnership between the Arnhemland Progress Association(ALPA) and Perkins Shipping to reduce land fill in the Arnhemland Community of Milingimbi through a recycling program has achieved excellent results.

Darwin, NT May 24, 2007 -- The 9 month trial to recycle cardboard, paper waste and plastics has been running for the last nine months and has reduced the stores landfill waste by 80% it was announced at the Tidy Towns forum held in Darwin today. Mr Robin Tucker, the Marketing Manager of the Arnhemland progress Association said that due to the success the association will be implementing the recycling program in another 3 stores this financial year.

ALPA, an Indigenous Association which runs 13 stores in remote communities across the top end, developed the idea of recycling waste paper products and plastics from the community 12 months ago. Perkins has supported the initiative by returning the recycled waste to Darwin at no charge according to Mick Taylor, Perkins Community Trades Manager.

The program involves the purchase of an Orwak twin-chamber compactor for the store. Paper goods are compacted in one barrel and plastics in the other. The waste is then baled and palletized for transport by Perkins. The bales are collected by NT Recycling Solutions for processing and transport to a recycling plant in Queensland. Mr. Leon Shultz, Manager of NT Recycling solutions said the paper and plastics received from Milingimbi were of a high quality for recycling.

Mr Tucker announced that the Orwak Balers would be installed at the ALPA stores in Lake Evella, Elcho Island and Ramingining later this year. He said this was a testament to what could be done with organisations working together for the benefit of the community.

About ALPA:

The Arnhemland Progress Association is a successful, financially independent, Yolngu enterprise, established in 1972. ALPA's members are Yolngu who live in or are culturally connected to the Arnhemland communities of Minjilang, Milingimbi, Ramingining, Galiwin'ku and Gapuwiyak where our retail stores are located. Members are represented by a Yolngu Board of Directors. ALPA is a benevolent organisation, and our mission is the social and economic development of our members through benevolent activities and distribution of dividends. ALPA is one of the largest financially independent employers of Aboriginal people in Australia, and education and training are a primary focus. ALPA continuously works with government agencies and other service providers to enhance the quality of life and living standards of our members.

Tidy Towns Forum – George Brown Botanic Gardens, Wesley Church Hall, announcement
Thursday 24th @ 12.15pm

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