

Grant for transfer of composting technology

Under the United States-Asia Environmental Partnership Programme, US\$20,000 has been granted to facilitate transfer of NaturTech's composting technology to Taiwan-China. This fund will be utilized for training staff members of Taiwan Technologies Enterprises Co. Ltd. (Tai Tech), translation work and travel expenses. As per an agreement between the United States-based NaturTech and Tai Tech, the latter will fabricate and assemble the composting units in Taiwan-China from roll-off or inter-modal shipping containers.

The containerized in-vessel composting system features computerized process controls that adjust dampers to ensure the composting materials receive adequate oxygen. Though pathogens and weed seeds are eliminated, the temperature feedback control prevents the biomass from overheating and killing beneficial composting organisms. This flexible technology can produce a variety of products. Screened compost can be sold as premium compost or blended with other materials to yield value-added products like topsoil, potting soil and nursery growing blends.

The system can compost yard debris containing 80-90 per cent grass clippings into a green mulch fertilizer within four days. Also, fines from material recovery facilities can be transformed into alternative daily cover material for landfills. Liquid from the composting process, which is drained to a leachate collection system, can be reused or disposed. *Contact: Mr. Craig H. Benton, NaturTech Composting Systems Inc., the United States. Tel: +1 (206) 9324 621; Internet: <http://www.naturtech.composter.com>.*

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