



PPI CEO  
R. Charles Murray

**The** largest supplier of pouch-making and -filling machinery in North America, PPI Technologies is also the first packaging company to earn Earth Charter Initiative's demanding "deep green" award. Even when full of food or liquid, PPI's plastic pouches travel light, taking up less than half the truck space of bottles and cans and thereby saving fuel. Discarded pouches can't enter the recycling stream, but in counties

served by Florida Power & Light energy waste plants, they leave no carbon footprint—zero. When ground up and incinerated, PPI's StandUp Pouches metamorphose into syngas, metal ingots and slag for construction and road fill—almost perfect "end waste usage."

CEO R. Charles Murray obsesses about using raw materials effectively. Visiting Japan, he was impressed that incineration obviated landfills and their attendant problems, such as water contamination. "We've got this beautiful Earth," says Murray. "I believe in leaving nothing behind to spoil it."

Whenever possible, the company uses stainless steel to avoid paint. It runs the air compressors only as needed and redesigned machines to operate at lower pressure per square inch. The company recycles but prefers reuse, turning old documents into notepads and donating empty 55-gallon alcohol drums to schools interested in rain barrels.

PPI rewards innovation. Most exciting to Murray, PPI's nontoxic MosquitoPaQ products supersede problematic DEET by turning pregnant mosquitoes (the ones out for blood) into vegetarians. "They lose their taste for protein," Murray says.

"I've got seven grandkids," he says. "And I'd like to have them get out and enjoy nature."