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## **Earthcycle Packaging joins forces with international distribution company The Van der Windt Wentus Packaging Group**

VANCOUVER, BC – Earthcycle, the award-winning developer of certified\* compostable and renewable packaging, announces its recent dedicated distribution partnership with the Van der Windt Wentus Packaging Group (VDW) - an internationally recognized distribution company with locations in the Netherlands, England, Denmark, Belgium, and Ireland.

Made from a renewable resource called palm fiber, a waste product discarded when the palm fruit is harvested throughout the year for its oil, Earthcycle's compostable packaging is a natural product that complies with FDA requirements for contact with food. Earthcycle has recently received the European DIN CERTCO certification for compostability, allowing all its products in Europe to carry the distinctive "seedling" logo.

Additionally, the raw fiber used in production for Earthcycle is sourced from palm plantations in West Malaysia that have been reviewed against principles and criteria established by the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO). Based on these principles, Earthcycle's sources of raw material have been verified by SGS, the international testing and verification agent, to have not replaced any primary forests nor converted any Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA) for the purpose of palm oil production.

"Earthcycle is particularly excited about having joined forces with VDW, increasing our distribution reach to continental Europe," explains Shannon Boase, President and Founder of Earthcycle. "We are committed to the environment and therefore unwavering in our commitment to reaching the world with our compostable packaging. Van der Windt's international connections, along with the company's leading position in packaging for a.o. fruit & vegetables, potted plants and herbs and pre eminent distribution facilities, ensure Earthcycle continues on its plight of global change and education."

"There is no doubt that Earthcycle is a leader in the green revolution, and VDW is proud to follow suit, offering our customers award-winning, sustainable packaging that makes an impressionable impact on the environment," said Arjan Klapwijk, Biobased Product Specialist. "Earthcycle's compostable trays and pots are an important addition to our range of flexible biodegradable packaging materials."

*\*Earthcycle products not only comply with FDA requirements for contact with food, the packaging company has also passed American Society for Testing and Materials Standards (ASTM) D6400/D6868, and complies with the European DIN CERTCO biodegradability and compostability certification scheme. It has further lab documentation attesting to its home compostability. In addition, the Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) has awarded Earthcycle the BPI compostable logo, which certifies that Earthcycle's packaging will biodegrade completely and safely. Finally, Earthcycle has passed rigorous Biobased Content testing (ASTM D6866), confirming the materials used to produce its signature packaging line are certifiably renewable.*

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### **About Earthcycle**

Earthcycle has used the design brilliance of nature to develop innovative sustainable packaging made from a renewable resource, called palm fiber, which composts in less than 90 days, turning into a healthy contribution to the soil.

Earthcycle's President, Shannon Boase, was first introduced to palm fiber packaging while managing a technology commercialization fund for the Malaysian government from May 2002 to July 2004.

Since its inception in November 2005, Earthcycle's durable packaging has proven to be an innovative and eco-friendly way of reducing the ever-growing packaging crisis that is the chief contributor to North America's mounting waste problem.

Earthcycle's packaging is currently available in select Wal-Mart, Whole Foods, Safeway, Publix, Loblaws, and Trader Joe's, among others.

In October 2007, Earthcycle and the Oppenheimer Group were named the winners of the inaugural Impact Award for Sustainability by the Produce Marketing Association (PMA), which bestowed its first annual Impact Award for Excellence in Produce Packaging at the PMA Fresh Summit International Convention and Exposition.

In March 2007, Earthcycle was also named the winner of the Award for Technology Innovation and Application at the GLOBE awards, part of the EECO 2007 Environment & Energy Conference. And in April 2008, Earthcycle and Innovia Films won the prestigious DuPont Award for Packaging Innovation, recognizing the Earthcycle™-Natureflex™ Organic Kiwi Package.

Learn more, visit: [www.earthcycle.com](http://www.earthcycle.com)

### **About Van der Windt**

The Van der Windt Group develops, manufactures and supplies plastic and cardboard packaging and disposables. Van der Windt began in 1969 in the heart of Westland, supplying packaging for that region's famous horticulture industry, but since then has expanded to become a leading international supplier of packaging for the agriculture, horticulture & flower-growing sectors, the food & non-food industries and the retail & services segments, such as hotels & catering, food services, cleaning and healthcare.

Van der Windt is part of the worldwide Clondalkin Group, which has 46 packaging companies in Europe and North America, divided over 10 countries. Van der Windt has sales and distribution organizations in the Netherlands, Belgium, Great Britain, Denmark and Ireland. With our production companies in Germany and Slovakia, we are flexible and independent, and can quickly and accurately deliver articles of a constant quality.

Van der Windt supplies more than 15,000 different articles. In addition to the packaging that is produced in our own group, they also supply articles made by other leading international packaging manufacturers who operate with the same high standards of quality and service as Van der Windt.

[www.vanderwindt.com](http://www.vanderwindt.com)

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