

Valencia Mold Relocates to Santa Clarita to Take Advantage of Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) Program

The City of Santa Clarita is one of 40 Recycling Market Development Zones (RMDZ) in the State of California. That may sound like just another government title to some, but it translates to “business advantage” and “financial savings” to hundreds of businesses using recycled materials to manufacture products, or to companies diverting waste from landfills.

Basically the RMDZ program combines recycling with economic development to fuel new business development, which helps existing companies expand, create jobs, and divert waste from landfills. The RMDZ program is one that is not only good for business but also good for the environment.

As part of the City of Santa Clarita’s 21-Point Business Plan for Progress, an additional focus was placed on the marketing of the RMDZ program to help retain and attract companies. Santa Clarita is proud to announce that as a result of the 21-Point Business Plan for Progress, the City is now home to one new company - Valencia Mold. Valencia Mold has been in business since 2002 in Palmdale but in June of this year decided to relocate to take advantage of the RMDZ loan program.

“I live in the area and love it. Santa Clarita is such a nice place to be. Also, I really wanted to be closer to my key industries and clients, which was another reason for the move,” commented Luis Ruiz, owner of Valencia Mold.

Truly a one-stop-shop when it comes to a consumer’s plastic needs, Valencia Mold can do it all - build plastic injection and blow molds, offer in-house design and engineering expertise, and even manufacture the end product. Sample products created by Valencia Mold include medical equipment, aerospace components, and miscellaneous plastic goods like water bottles and watering cans. Currently, their biggest seller is a plastic container designed to house protein supplement powder. Another interesting product they designed and built is a stud finder, which can be found at any local hardware store.

While most medical and aerospace components require virgin plastic materials, the majority of the products created by Valencia Mold are fashioned using recycled plastic material, including PET, nylon plastic, polypropylene, and ABS plastic. In fact, most of the consumer products they create have a recycled material rate ranging between 40 and 60 percent. As such, Valencia Mold is an ideal candidate for an RMDZ loan.

Administered by the California Integrated Waste Management Board and funded through landfill fees, the RMDZ program offers a variety of resources. The most lucrative of those resources are low-interest loans typically offered below the market rate. Other advantages of the program include technical assistance, free product marketing, and site selection assistance. In order to qualify to take advantage of the benefits of the RMDZ, a business must use post consumer or secondary waste materials in their manufacturing or processing or use innovative strategies to divert waste from landfills.

With the requested RMDZ loan funds, Valencia Molds plans to purchase additional equipment and add new technologies to their processes. Currently staffed with fewer than five employees, Valencia Molds is poised for growth and looking to hire additional employees,

and further expand their business of providing new and innovative products in the coming years.

“We are proud to welcome Valencia Mold to our business community,” said City of Santa Clarita Mayor Frank Ferry. “Programs like RMDZ are critical in keeping valuable jobs in our community and our state as they not only helping attract new businesses, but offer incentives to existing businesses that they may not find in other communities. We like to call it Santa Clarita’s Business Advantage.”

To assist in the promotion of the RMDZ program, the City secured \$3,500 in Zone Incentive Funds (ZIF) from the California Integrated Waste Management Board. These funds will be used to market the program to businesses currently located in the City and also to attract qualifying businesses to the area.

For more information on the RMDZ program, visit GreenSantaClarita.com/RMDZ or contact the City of Santa Clarita Economic Development Division at (661) 255-4347.

Valencia Molds is located at 27734 Avenue Scott, Unit 220 and may be reached at ValenciaMold.com or (661) 993-3780.