

# IAPD Supports Operation Clean Sweep; You Should, Too

**A**lthough plastics are recyclable and should not be littered, too often they end up on beaches or in our marine environment. Industry frequently partners with governments to prevent litter, but there is one aspect of marine debris where the responsibility is completely that of the plastics industry. We're talking about raw plastic pellets — spilled in manufacturing plants or in transit — that are washed down storm drains and end up in our oceans and waterways. It can be a bigger problem than many realize and the solution rests solely with us. IAPD has recently signed on as a supporting member of Operation Clean Sweep® (OCS) to give our member companies the tools they need to keep resin pellets out of the environment.

Operation Clean Sweep is an international program designed to empower and aid employees of the plastics industry and others handling pellets to keep resin pellets out of the marine environment. Operation Clean Sweep was created with the many levels of the resin plastic business in mind; including resin manufacturers, plastic processors, trucking and rail companies transporting the pellets and the plastic machinery and equipment companies that use the resin pellets. Operation Clean Sweep is a simple step to help strengthen your company's sustainability initiatives, safety record, financial bottom line and reputation in the community.

Becoming a member of OCS is simple. Visit [www.opcleansweep.org](http://www.opcleansweep.org) and sign the pledge. You will immediately be able to take advantage of all of the OCS tools posted online. These include customizable checklists for employees and managers to conduct site and equipment audits. Also included are posters to display in the work place to help encourage everyone to help reduce pellet waste. You will receive an OCS flag, a certificate of participation and an OCS logo to highlight your company's commitment to sustainability.

IAPD is committed to a sustainable future. With the involvement of companies such as yours, we can keep resin pellets where they belong: in our plastic products, not in the ocean. After all, we don't want plastics to get any more bad press because of the marine litter issue. What are you waiting for? Take the OCS pledge!

For more information about Operation Clean Sweep, you can see the recorded IAPD e-training webinar presented in December here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=e1QfGe6KQcE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e1QfGe6KQcE).

## IAPD Environmental Committee Members

Chair: Mark Shriver, Curbell Plastics, Inc.

Amy Brandon, Boltaron

Andy Ferguson, Cope Plastics, Inc.

Mark Hense, Midland Plastics, Inc.

Angela Rodenburgh, Redwood Plastics Corporation,

A Member of Prisma Plastics International Inc.

Drew Schwartz, Colorado Plastic Products

Kevin Short, Laird Plastics

