Purina Achieves Significant Environmental Goal to Make Pet Care Products Sustainably

100 percent of Purina U.S. pet care factories and Headquarters now zero waste for disposal

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 5, 2020 /PRNewswire/ -- Purina's robust portfolio of pet care products for dogs and cats is now getting to pet food bowls and litter boxes in a more sustainable way. Known for trusted brands spanning dog food, cat food, treats and litter, Purina announced today it has reached the company's 2020 goal to achieve zero waste for disposal across all manufacturing operations and its corporate headquarters.

"Purina is passionate about pets and the planet, and sustainability is a central factor in our operations and product development," said John Bear, Vice President of Manufacturing. "I'm incredibly proud of the effort it took to accomplish this goal of being zero waste across our operations. This achievement is a testament to the passion and commitment of our more than 8,000 employees across the country who are working to create a better world for us to share with our pets."

Achieving zero waste for disposal means that all 21 of Purina's manufacturing sites and its St. Louis Headquarters have found ways to derive benefits from materials that would have otherwise been discarded. All locations now recycle, reuse, recover or compost waste from daily operations. In certain cases, locations also may utilize destinations that convert waste to energy to generate power. Purina products feed 49 million dogs and 66 million cats every year, so reaching 100 percent across all Purina brands and factories was no small feat.

The company-wide commitment was achieved thanks to local teams and local solutions. Each site began with an in-depth review to understand its waste streams. This fueled passion within the facility to identify solutions and improve processes to minimize waste generation at the source while also identifying credible vendors that could support efforts to handle remaining materials in a sustainable way. Some of the materials from Purina facilities even transform into the company's Yesterday's News alternative cat litter, which uses recycled paperboard as a key ingredient.

"Pet lovers care about how their pets' food and litter are made, and that it's done in a responsible way, and we couldn't agree more," said Gopi Sandhu, Director of Sustainable Operations at Purina. "By focusing on reducing waste and finding beneficial uses for materials that would have otherwise been discarded, Purina employees lead the charge by driving innovation towards a more circular economy. Some of our former waste materials now become soil amendments, needed to grow our healthy ingredients. Others are converted to methane, which is then captured to fuel the types of carbon-neutral energy we increasingly rely on."

Purina is working toward a global ambition for zero environmental impact in its operations by 2030, and achieving zero waste is a significant step in that journey. Purina is also committed to sourcing ingredients responsibly, caring for water, making the packaging for all of its pet care products 100 percent recyclable or reusable by 2025 and acting on climate change with a goal of achieving 100 percent renewable electricity at all of our sites. Learn more about Purina's packaging recyclability efforts here: https://www.purina.com/about-purina/recycling.

About Nestlé Purina PetCare

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Nestlé Purina PetCare creates richer lives for pets and the people who love them. Founded in 1894, Purina has helped dogs and cats live longer, healthier lives by offering scientifically based nutritional innovations. Purina manufactures some of the world's most trusted and popular pet care products, including Purina ONE, Pro Plan, Fancy Feast and Tidy Cats. Our more than 8,000 U.S. associates take pride in our trusted pet food, treat and litter brands that feed 49 million dogs and 66 million cats every year. More than 500 Purina scientists, veterinarians, and pet care experts ensure our commitment to unsurpassed quality and nutrition.

Purina promotes responsible pet care through our scientific research, our products and our support for pet-related organizations. Over the past five years, Purina has contributed more than $150 million towards organizations that bring, and keep, people and pets together, as well as those that help our communities and environment thrive.

Purina is part of Nestlé, a global leader in Nutrition, Health and Wellness. For more information, visit purina.com or subscribe here to get the latest Purina news.

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