

Bag Trends a Boon for Oroville Company

Monday Jul 02, 2007

The recent backlash against oil-based plastic bags is good news for a one North State company. Roplast Industries of Oroville is one of the only companies in the country that makes biodegradable and reusable plastic bags. With more and more areas moving away from traditional plastic, Roplast's products are becoming a hot commodity.

Roplast's bags look and feel like any other plastic bag you might find in a grocery store. Unlike traditional plastic, though, their bags will not end up sitting in a landfill when a customer is done with them. "It'll go to the composting facility in Davis and it'll become compost and be used again. It has a lot of attraction and rightfully so," explained Robert Bateman, president of Roplast Industries.

Roplast has been working on biodegradable bag technology for more than a decade. They are one of the few companies in the country that produces Earth-conscious plastic alternatives. With the growing trend of banning oil-based plastic bags, this could be a huge boon for Roplast.

"We are set up to do it and now that the opportunity has arisen, we're going to push it as hard as we can," Bateman told Action News.

Roplast's other big seller, reusable plastic bags, are not biodegradable, but sturdy enough to be used over and over. The downside, though, is that these reusable bags are more expensive. This means that grocers and customers will need to pay more to use the bags.

Bateman thinks that people are less likely to throw away something they paid extra for, "If you can convince people that a plastic bag is worth something, it may well have an impact on litter, which is a positive extra."

www.KHSLTV.com Copyright (c) 2008 Catamount Broadcasting of Chico - Redding