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#### At a Glance:

- Genzyme's Framingham location began a food waste diversion program in August, 2012.
- 6,620 pounds of food waste was diverted from landfills in the first year of the program.
- Consolidated collection and external storage are cost effective and meet the needs of the heavily regulated biotech industry.

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## Corporate Food Waste Composting Case Study Genzyme, a Sanofi Company Framingham, Massachusetts

**Summary:** Genzyme, a Sanofi Company, has been pioneering treatments for rare diseases since 1981. With nearly 10,000 employees worldwide distributing seven major marketed products, minimizing their environmental footprint is one of Genzyme's corporate goals. Steps being enacted to meet these goals include sending zero materials to landfill disposal and diverting 50% of their non-hazardous wastes, such as paper, cardboard, metal, plastics, wood, and organics for recycling and composting. Of the five campuses in Massachusetts, the three with cafeterias have compost programs in place or planned for future implementation.

**Diversion Program:** Genzyme's Cambridge, Massachusetts headquarters began diverting food waste in 2007, with a total of 26,720 pounds composted to date. Their Framingham location began an organics diversion program in August of 2012. This campus consists of 14 buildings, including 3 full service cafeterias all within ¼ of a mile of each other. Daily food generation consists of fruits, vegetables, meats, cheese, and breads. This pre-consumer food waste is collected daily in 65-gallon wheeled carts and stored outside until it is brought to a central consolidation area by janitorial staff. Save That Stuff provides a twice weekly collection service at the consolidated location on the Framingham campus. Consolidated collection and external storage allows for cost effective service and provides a level of comfort for those working in the heavily regulated Biotech industry. The food waste is delivered to the WeCare composting facility in Marlborough. Genzyme has successfully diverted 6,620 pounds of food waste from landfill disposal at its Framingham location in the first year of the program.



Genzyme food service staff



**Engagement:** Genzyme has seen positive program engagement within the company. Key departments and players that have made the program successful include facilities, safety, environmental, client services, their food service company Sodexo, and custodial staff.

**Communication:** Daily standard operating procedures detail specific guidelines describing each task and who it is assigned to for clear communication among staff. In addition, colorful, illustrative, simple, and properly placed signage has proven useful in communicating the proper procedure for organics diversion.



Genzyme composting signage

**Genzyme's Simple Steps to a Successful Organics Diversion Program:**

- 1) Perform a waste audit
- 2) Identify a hauler
- 3) Identify containers, bags, and placement locations
- 4) Identify storage and pick-up areas
- 5) Perform training and hold a kick-off campaign
- 6) Perform a public awareness campaign
- 7) Participate in EPA's Food Recovery Challenge through WasteWise



Genzyme food waste containers with signage