

Case Study:

Waste Audits, Zero Waste Program Design, Zero Waste Certification for Large Research and Manufacturing Facilities

ThermoFisher Scientific (multiple facilities)

Maryland, Oregon, California and Israel

ThermoFisher Scientific operates multiple research and manufacturing facilities

throughout the US and globally. Their facilities were tasked with moving towards and getting certified as “zero waste facilities”. Individual facilities were in various stages of the zero-waste process, including: needing waste audit and calculation of current diversion rate; needing zero-waste plan; already on path towards zero waste; at zero waste but not yet certified.



Synergis –Zero Waste Group was contracted by ThermoFisher Scientific (Life Technologies at that time) to move their facilities to zero-waste and to certify their achievement of zero-waste. Where needed, Synergis performed waste audits to determine the different types and quantities of waste going to landfill. These results were used to develop a zero-waste plan encompassing waste reduction, reuse, recycling and composting strategies. Facility material handling procedures were reviewed to uncover opportunities to give credit for diversion activities already in place, and to find additional opportunities to reduce waste. This included looking at incoming material packaging changes with the support of their suppliers. When each facility surpassed the 90% diversion from landfill threshold, Synergis reviewed all diversion data for accuracy, contacted markets to verify the final disposition of materials, and certified that the facilities had reached zero-waste status.

"We were very happy with the results and their Zero Waste approach. They did an excellent job verifying our waste channels and opened our eyes on a lot of opportunities for improvement. The depth of their verification gave us a lot of confidence in their accuracy. The final report was exactly what we were looking for and gave us a roadmap to our next steps in order to achieve our goal. We highly recommend Synergis for their knowledge of this industry and detailed final report. "

Saasha Stanton, Sr. Packaging Engineer, ThermoFisher (Carlsbad, CA)