



THE VENETIAN® RESORT

LAS VEGAS

THE VENETIAN RESORT ANNOUNCES NEW INNOVATIVE RECYCLING PROGRAM TO KEEP FACE MASKS OUT OF LOCAL LANDFILLS

*The Las Vegas resort is partnering with TerraCycle in one of the first
PPE recycling programs in the hospitality industry*

LAS VEGAS (July 21, 2020) – The Venetian Resort expands Sands ECO360 recycling efforts as the first Las Vegas-based property, and one of the first in the nation, to develop an innovative program to recycle surgical face masks, which are being used by guests and Team Members as part of the resort's [Venetian Clean initiatives](#).

As part of this pilot project, in partnership with TerraCycle, the discarded masks are collected on-site at The Venetian Resort and sent to a recycling facility where they are separated, shredded and densified into a crumb-like raw material. This material will be used to make repurposed products such as composite lumber for shipping pallets, railroad ties and composite decking.

“Our responsibility to the planet is one of our company’s core values,” stated George Markantonis, president and COO of The Venetian Resort Las Vegas. “Our [Sands ECO360 global sustainability initiative](#) was designed to help minimize our environmental impact, and it reflects our vision as a leader in sustainable resort operations. We continue our journey to a more sustainable future as we seek innovative environmental solutions.”

“At TerraCycle, our mission has always been to eliminate waste, recycle the unrecyclable and use our innovative business solutions to minimize human impact on the planet,” said TerraCycle Founder and CEO Tom Szaky. “It’s through partnerships like the one we enjoy with The Venetian Resort that allows us to fulfill our objective and help preserve the environment for future generations.”

Since re-opening in June, The Venetian Resort began diverting discarded surgical face masks from other waste being sent to landfills, through an industry-leading trash-sorting initiative that takes place on property.

In addition to this program, the resort actively sorts its trash, diverting 27 types of items that would otherwise be sent to landfills. Through this program, between 55-60 percent of waste is diverted from local landfills, a number that far surpasses the national average of 32 percent, or the state average of 23 percent.

“As a company that has put sustainability in the forefront of our operation, it was

important to find a recycling solution for this PPE, to avoid sending them to our landfills,” continued Markantonis.

This project, part of the company’s Sands ECO360 initiative, will help provide “proof of concept” for such recycling, to encourage others to replicate the program. Currently, consumer masks are not recycled through main-stream or curbside recycling programs, due to the complexity of the recycling process. Surgical face masks are made of a multitude of materials, and need to be sorted and separated before recycling. In addition a magnet is used to separate the metal nose strips, which can be melted and utilized in other recycled materials.

Sustainability at The Venetian Resort

Through the Sands ECO360 global sustainability strategy, The Venetian Resort leads the hospitality industry in a movement to actively minimize the environmental impact of its resort operations on our planet. Using a science-based approach, the strategy focuses on areas with the greatest environmental impact and opportunity, each aligned with a United Nations Sustainable Development Goal. Recent highlights include:

- **ENERGY:** Las Vegas Sands and NV Energy recently signed an agreement to source **100% renewable electricity** for The Venetian Resort Las Vegas, through Renewable Energy Credits (RECs), annually taking approximately 225 million kWh “off the grid,” or the equivalent of almost 28,000 single-family houses.
- **ENERGY:** U.S. Department of Energy recognized The Venetian Resort Las Vegas for surpassing a 20 percent energy reduction goal as a partner in the Better Buildings Challenge. In the fall, it was reported that The Venetian had achieved a **24% reduction in energy** since the program began.
- **FOOD/PROCUREMENT:** To better understand its seafood supply chain **and increase its percentage of spend on sustainable seafood**, the resort has embarked on a multi-year project with FishWise, a seafood sustainability consultant.
- **WATER CONSERVATION:** With the expansion of its innovative nano-filtration system, the resort is able to purify and reuse non-potable water for irrigation, fountains, and HVAC cooling tower needs. Overall this system replaces **22 million gallons of municipal water each year** with non-potable water, allowing the company to reduce its reliance on fresh water. Beginning in August 2019, the property HVAC cooling tower is now using filtered non-municipal water, **saving an additional 175 million gallons of water a year**.
- **WATER CONSERVATION:** In 2020, Las Vegas Sands **officially launched The Drop by Drop Project**, a new collaborative water stewardship initiative that invests in regional resiliency, ecosystem, technology and educational water projects. The initiative will further incentivize conservation while helping protect water supplies and watersheds in each of our regions.

- **WASTE:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that The Venetian is a **U.S. Food Loss and Waste 2030 Champion**. As a champion, the resort is joining an exclusive list of American businesses and organizations in a pledge to reduce food waste in our operations by 50 percent before the year 2030.
- **DOUBLE HONOR:** Las Vegas Sands was once again named to the exclusive **Climate Change A-List** by CDP, an international nonprofit environmental organization. This is the company's fifth year in a row to attain a leadership position for Climate Change, a distinction shared by only 2% of companies that have active programs to disclose their global sustainability data. In addition, Las Vegas Sands was again named to the exclusive **Water Conservation A-List** by CDP. **Further, we are one of 10 American companies to attain double A-List status.** These CDP lists are widely recognized as the gold standard for corporate environmental transparency.

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About The Venetian® Resort Las Vegas

The iconic Venetian Resort Las Vegas is comprised of three all-suite towers: The Venetian, The Palazzo, and the Venezia.

The resort experience is marked by a commitment to sophisticated play with world-class restaurants from celebrated chefs; Canyon Ranch spa + fitness; a five-acre pool and garden deck; two casinos and a poker room, and enviable retail options at Grand Canal Shoppes. A premier events and conference center, the resort is also home to more than 2.25 million square feet of meeting and convention space, including The Venetian Resort Congress Center and famed Sands Expo & Convention Center.

Earlier this year the resort launched its *Venetian Clean* Commitment, new cleanliness and operational protocols that meet or exceed the resort's already rigorous standards, a *Venetian Clean* document outlines top-line changes available at Venetian.com/VenetianClean.

The Venetian Resort Las Vegas is a property of the world's pre-eminent developer and operator of world-class integrated resorts, Las Vegas Sands (NYSE: LVS).

For more information, visit Venetian.com.

About TerraCycle®

TerraCycle is an innovative waste management company with a mission to eliminate the idea of waste. Operating nationally across 21 countries, TerraCycle partners with leading consumer product companies, retailers and cities to recycle products and packages, from dirty diapers to cigarette butts, that would otherwise end up being landfilled or incinerated. In addition, TerraCycle works with leading consumer product companies to integrate hard to recycle waste streams, such as ocean plastic, into their

products and packaging. Its new division, Loop, is the first shopping system that gives consumers a way to shop for their favorite brands in durable, reusable packaging. TerraCycle has won over 200 awards for sustainability and has donated over \$44 million to schools and charities since its founding more than 15 years ago and was named #10 in Fortune magazine's list of 52 companies Changing the World. To learn more about TerraCycle or get involved in its recycling programs, please visit www.terracycle.com.

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Image link (with images of Team Members wearing face masks):

<https://lvsands.box.com/s/nfnh8ug1odhall43uj7wdl37ydi67fau>

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