

**KY Department for Environmental Protection  
Environmental Excellent Awards  
2017**

***The KY EXCEL Champion Award***, given by the Department of Environmental Protection, recognizes a Kentucky EXCEL member that has demonstrated outstanding stewardship of Kentucky's environment in the areas of energy conservation, air quality, minimizing waste or incorporating citizens to participate in environmental stewardship behaviors.

It was awarded to Sekisui S-Lec America.



Accepting the award for Sekisui S-Lec America (*from left to right*) was Pedro Cordoba, Randy Hardwick and Kaoru Ishikawa.

Sekisui S-Lec America, which manufactures polyvinyl butyral interlayer film for use in manufacturing automotive glass, became a KY EXCEL Partner in 2016. The company is committed to reducing greenhouse gases in all its processes, reducing waste and identifying water resource risks while reducing consumption. Sekisui S-Lec America demonstrated its commitment to “reduce/reuse/recycle” in 2016, when it reduced waste generated at its Winchester plant by 43 percent from the previous year.

Last year, 60 percent of the waste generated at the Winchester plant was either reused or recycled. The remaining 40 percent went to energy generation. The company also installed a compactor which

reduces the number of waste loads shipped per year from 10 to 1, eliminating 3,708 miles of transport, 570 gallons of diesel fuel and 5,791 kilograms of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

**The Environmental Pacesetter Award**, given by the Department for Environmental Protection, is presented to an individual or firm that has demonstrated exemplary and innovative efforts to protect the environment and to set an example of environmental stewardship for the Commonwealth.

It was awarded to L'Oréal USA Manufacturing, of Florence, Kentucky.



Secretary Snavely stands with Plant Manager Nicole Fry and Project Leader Brad Konik of L'Oréal USA Manufacturing.

“Sharing Beauty With All” is L'Oréal's global commitment to sustainable, responsible, inclusive growth. As part of this commitment, L'Oréal has taken an innovative step to reduce its environmental impact. In July of this year, the Florence manufacturing site began operating its new 4,100-paneled solar array. L'Oréal has projected that these panels will cut carbon dioxide emissions in Kentucky by almost 1,200 metric tons per year.

This is equivalent to eliminating more than 2.8 million miles traveled by passenger cars per year, according to EPA Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies. The array will provide L'Oréal USA with 1.42 megawatts of renewable solar power, which is expected to produce more than 50 million kilowatt hours of electricity over the next 30 years.

**The Resource Caretaker Award**, given by the Department of Environmental Protection, goes to an individual or firm that has improved or furthered the conservation of Kentucky's natural resources in

efforts such as revitalizing underutilized or contaminated land, habitat restoration, recycling programs, pollution prevention, water-use reductions, or energy efficiency.

It was presented to the Marker's Mark Environmental Team.



Alex Thompson (*middle*) and Brian Mattingly (*right*) accepted the award for Maker's Mark.

The Maker's Mark Environmental team partnered with the Division of Compliance Assistance and with state, federal and non-governmental organizations to significantly improve the wildlife habitat, implement reforestation activities and improve water sustainability at its distillery in Loretto, Kentucky.

A reverse osmosis system was installed to offset the use of municipal water in several operations. Existing cooling towers were replaced with air-cooled chillers, which also decreased water usage.

The parking area in front of the distillery was converted to green space and the new visitor parking area was designed so runoff is channeled through a filtration garden. Tour buses that transport visitors around the property are now propane-powered to reduce emissions and to create a more sustainable method of onsite transportation.