

	DE LA SALLE-COLLEGE OF SAINT BENILDE		
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I. INTRODUCTION

There have been a lot of studies and articles about Styrofoam and how it affects our body and the environment. Not all of us are fully convinced with the idea of totally banning the Styrofoam in our own homes, schools and workplaces or even going to the extent of bringing one's own food container to a restaurant that offers take-out food in Styrofoam. If the idea sounds remote to you, here are the reasons why we need to change our old ways and go for a Styro-free campus.

II. SCOPE

This policy shall apply to all De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde campus buildings.

III. PURPOSE/RATIONALE

Banning entry of products made out of Expanded Polystyrene Foam (EPS) or "Styrofoam" material.

IV. OBJECTIVES

This campaign aims to minimize non-biodegradable wastes that will be placed in our landfill, lessen the emission of petroleum that contributes to air pollution and most importantly, spare a number of communities from health risks brought by Benzene and Styrene chemicals which are emitted when Styrofoam is heated. It's about time that we use non-disposal, biodegradable and/or non-plastic containers to contribute for a healthy environment.

V. DEFINITION OF TERMS

Definition of Expanded Polystyrene (EPS)

"**Polystyrene** is an aromatic polymer made from the aromatic monomer styrene, a liquid hydrocarbon that is commercially manufactured from petroleum by the chemical industry. Polystyrene is a thermoplastic substance, normally existing in solid state at room temperature, but melting if heated (for molding or extrusion), and becoming solid again when cooling off.

Pure solid polystyrene is a colorless, hard plastic with limited flexibility. It can be cast into molds with fine detail. Polystyrene can be transparent or can be made to take on various colors. It is economical and is used for producing plastic model assembly kits, license plate frames, plastic cutlery, CD "jewel" cases, and many other objects where a fairly rigid, economical plastic is desired.

Polystyrene's most common use is as expanded polystyrene (EPS). Expanded polystyrene is produced from a mixture of about 90-95% polystyrene and 5-10% gaseous blowing agent, most commonly pentane or carbon dioxide. The solid plastic is expanded into foam through the use of heat, usually steam.

Extruded polystyrene (XPS), which is different from expanded polystyrene (EPS), is commonly known by the trade name Styrofoam. The voids filled with trapped air give it low thermal conductivity. This makes it ideal as a construction material and it is therefore sometimes used in structural insulated panel building systems. It is also used as insulation in building structures, as molded packing material for cushioning fragile equipment inside boxes, as packing "peanuts", as non-weight-bearing architectural structures (such as pillars), and also in crafts and model building, particularly architectural models. Foamed between two sheets of paper, it makes a more-uniform substitute for corrugated cardboard, trade named *Fome-Cor*. A more unexpected use for the material is as a lightweight fill for embankments in the civil engineering industry. Expanded polystyrene used to contain CFCs, but other, more environmentally-safe blowing agents are now used. Because it is an aromatic hydrocarbon, it burns with an orange-yellow flame, giving off soot, as opposed to non-aromatic hydrocarbon polymers such as polyethylene, which burn with a light yellow flame (often with a blue tinge) and no soot. Production methods include sheet stamping (PS) and injection molding (both PS and HIPS). The density of expanded polystyrene varies greatly from around 25 kg/m³ to 200 kg/m³ depending on how much gas was admixed to create the foam. A density of 200 kg/m³ is typical for the expanded polystyrene used in surfboards.

Source: Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polystyrene>

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VI. POLICY STATEMENT

The members of the Community shall help and support the College advocacy to promote the banning of products made out of Expanded Polystyrene Foam (EPS) or "Styrofoam" material. It is also encourage of bringing one's own reusable food containers/utensils in the Cafeteria.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Center for Logistics and Property Management (CLPM)

The Center for Logistics and Property Management must inform and implement policy to all Cafeteria Concessionaires.

The Cafeteria Concessionaires shall only use biodegradable or reusable container and utensils such as ceramic plates, stainless utensils, and glasses during catering services within the campus and on all College-wide activities and meeting. During field activities that require take-out meals (recollection, retreat, general assembly, external meetings, workshops, seminars, trainings, educational trip, field research, etc.) or when the venue is not suitable in giving a sit-down meal and /or the allotted meal time is short, the Cafeteria Concessionaires may use reusable plastic or compostable carry-out containers and utensils.

Center for Emergency Management Safety and Security (CEMSS)

Security personnel must not allow anyone entering the building premises with Styrofoam materials/products.

Purchasing Center (PC)

All purchases with Styrofoam materials and products are discouraged. For products which use polystyrene as packaging material, Buyers must request for an alternative packaging. If this is not possible, Suppliers will facilitate the proper disposal of the Styrofoam.

Human Resources Department (HRD) / Office of the Vice-Chancellor for Academics (OVCA) / Department of Student Life (DSL) / Center for Institutional Communication (CIC)

HRD, OVCA and DSL will disseminate the policy for its implementation to the Personnel, Faculty and Students. CIC will develop the campaign materials to market the project.