



Department of
**Environment &
Conservation**



Tuff Torq: Driving Toward a Sustainable Planet

Tuff Torq was founded in 1989 in Morristown, Tennessee by Kanzaki Kokyukoki Limited (Amagasaki, Japan) to support and advance hydrostatic drive system products to the U.S. market. They manufacture premium hydraulic and hydrostatic drive systems for the turf care, agriculture, construction, off-highway, and marine industries. In addition to their manufacturing priorities, Tuff Torq values community stewardship while prioritizing environmental protection.

Their products speak for themselves. For the average consumer, this means a pleasant and problem-free experience while mowing the yard in the summer heat. For the agricultural community it means reliable equipment for sustainable food production.

The first products produced in the Morristown facility were variable speed mechanical drives for John Deere self-propelled walk behind mowers. The 200 employee operation has currently transitioned to making hydrostatic transaxles and transmissions for lawn tractors and riding mowers for top tier OEMs (original equipment manufacturers) around the world.

Tuff Torq's Corporation Mission Statement encompasses their employees, their community, customers and the environment:

"Our mission is to provide a secure future for our employees, benefit the community and the environment while providing to our customers the highest value of off-highway powertrain solutions in the world."

Tuff Torq is proving their commitment to that mission in many ways. This year, Mike Haag, the Corporate Social Responsibility Coordinator for the Morristown facility, applied to become a member of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's [Tennessee Green Star Partnership](#) (TGSP). TGSP is a voluntary environmental leadership program designed to recognize industries in the state which are committed to sustainable practices.

TGSP Highlights- October 2016



- Established in 1989
- Located in Morristown, TN
- Employs 200
- Member in 2016



“We were excited to participate in the recent Sustainable Industry Workshops,” Mike Haag said of the recent Tennessee Green Star Partnership workshops held throughout the state. “Networking together on common issues and finding out what others are doing is a great outlet.”



At the end of 2014, during the site’s ISO 14001 implementation, Tuff Torq committed to recycle 22 different materials and in 2015 recycled over 600,000 pounds. To date in 2016, Tuff Torq has diverted 42,844 pounds, an 8.5 percent increase from YTD 2015.

Also Tuff Torq has committed through corporate goals to reduce Co2 emissions by 5 percent, energy consumption also by 5 percent and water consumption by 20 percent. Other goals include increasing the purchase of ecologically friendly office goods to 60 percent, reduction of air freight by 25 percent, and elimination of cardboard on non-returnable packaging from their suppliers and reduction of non-returnable finished goods packaging.

Having good manufacturing practices of recycling and waste minimization are only part of Tuff Torq’s commitment. For example, on Saturday, October 1, 2016, Tuff Torq and corporate neighbor

JTEKT sponsored a BOPAE event for the public. BOPAE is an acronym that means batteries, oil, paint, antifreeze and electronic wastes. This is an annual corporate sponsored event in Morristown which is offered in addition to the Household Hazardous Waste service sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

Tuff Torq also acknowledges their global social responsibility as an industry leader. As a manufacturer which uses many types of metals in their production, the corporation is careful to investigate what each component is made from and determines the source of the material. In accordance with Tuff Torq’s corporate standards, the corporation does not use minerals from regions or governments that don’t comply with global human and environmental rights practices.

Tuff Torq of Morristown demonstrates a unique commitment to their employees, their community, and the environment while manufacturing the quality products their customers now expect.

