

Choice Organic Teas Wins Environmental Award

Seattle, WA June 17, 2005 – Granum, Inc., maker of Choice Organic Teas, was honored at the 4th annual BEST Awards (Businesses for an Environmentally Sustainable Tomorrow) ceremony on June 9th. The awards ceremony, hosted by Resource Venture, a partner of the City of Seattle's Public Utilities and the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce, recognized and celebrated the sustainable measures applied by businesses in the Greater Seattle area. Granum, Inc. / Choice Organic Teas was presented with a Waste Prevention & Recycling Award for their environmental practices. To learn more about the winners' sustainable actions visit <http://www.resourceventure.org/rv/news/in-the-spotlight/index.php>.

Granum Inc. received this award because of the many sustainable and socially conscious practices used in their business applications. They are the manufacturer of Choice Organic Teas, the number one selling exclusively organic tea line in North America. Their facility is certified organic, and they offset 100% of their electricity usage by purchasing wind-generated power. Their tea bags are made with natural fiber, unbleached filter paper and no PVdC (Polyvinylidene Chloride). They recycle an estimated 71% of their total waste. "We are honored to receive this award, and appreciate Resource Venture's acknowledgement and highlighting of our operations. We hope that other businesses see Granum, Inc. as an example and realize that environmental consciousness is smart for business," says Blake Rankin, company founder and president.

The Resource Venture provides free environmental consulting services to Seattle-area businesses. It helps companies lower their utility costs, obtain rebates, comply with regulations and receive public recognition, all while protecting the environment. Since 1990, the Resource Venture has helped thousands of businesses recycle, use less water, prevent stormwater pollution and build sustainably. It is a program of the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Seattle Public Utilities. For more information, contact the Resource Venture at (206) 389-7304 or help@resourceventure.org. You can also visit their web site, www.resourceventure.org.

Granum, Inc. introduced Choice Organic Teas in 1989 with three teas from organic Japanese tea gardens. Sixteen years later, they offer more than seventy varieties of Black, Green, Oolong, White teas, and herbal infusions, from around the world, available in tea bags and loose leaf. They strive to produce the highest quality, best tasting teas that appeal to a wide range of palettes and emphasize their commitment to sustainable agriculture. Choice Organic Teas became the first tea crafter in the US to Fair Trade Certify all qualifying teas. Choice Organic Teas provides exceptional tasting teas with an environmental and social conscience. Visit www.choiceorganicteas.com for more information.