



NEWS RELEASE

January 17, 2006

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Nimbus Water Systems is helping to enhance and protect two of our most important resources: our water and our children.

The Murrieta-based company is a leading producer of water filtration and treatment systems and also relies on hard-working high school students to help manufacture products that are shipped all over the world.

Nimbus' products can be found in Starbucks coffee houses, Bellagio casino in Las Vegas, the San Diego Zoo and in countless new homes as standard under-the-sink filtration systems that remove chlorine and unwanted bacteria and other harmful substances that are increasingly showing up in our water supply.

"We also make the world's smallest reverse osmosis (water treatment) system that mounts on the faucet for people who travel a lot," explains Anthony Capone, president.

At any one time, Nimbus employs about a half dozen high school students from Murrieta and Temecula at its new 25,000-square-foot facility on the west side of Murrieta. All are seniors who get out of school around 1 p.m. and typically work until 5 p.m.

"We have had great success with them," says Capone. "We needed help on the plant floor but instead of going to a temporary (employment) agency we thought 'why not help out the kids in the community?'"

If an employee needs time off to study for tests or complete schoolwork, no problem, says Capone. Education takes precedence over work.

"We try to keep pretty low key," he says. "We don't want them to work so much that they can't spend time with their family or on schoolwork."

Working in the Nimbus plant has taught Andrew Wallace, 16, a sophomore at Vista Murrieta High School the value of money and hard work.

“It’s a good first job,” he said. “Everyone is easy to get along with.”

For Jenny Avila a senior at Ortega High School in Lake Elsinore, assembling water treatment filters is a good way to earn spending money but is not a life ambition. “This is just temporary,” said the 18-year-old, who plans to join the Air Force and pursue a career in the medical field.

The student-workers are paid more than minimum wage and are eligible for raises and bonuses. But the rewards of working in a factory often cannot be measured in dollars and cents.

“When they get into a manufacturing setting they realize how important school is,” explains Capone. “It really open their eyes and motivates them to continue their education.”

They also learn to take responsibility for a production and a quality control process that involves plastic injection molding equipment that uses dies that can cost upwards of \$60,000.

Nimbus has been using local high school students since relocating its headquarters to Murrieta a year ago from Northern San Diego County. The company originally tried college students to augment its labor force but discovered they were unmotivated and lazy.

Capone said he chose Murrieta for his headquarters because of affordable real estate prices and the reception and assistance he received from city staff during the relocation process.

Nimbus manufactures filtration and reverse osmosis water treatment equipment for homes and businesses under the Nimbus label as well as private label water treatment equipment for customers all over the globe.

Founded four decades ago, Nimbus about 8 years ago sold its reverse osmosis business to a unit of General Electric. Today it employs about 20 in Murrieta and reports annual sales of more than \$2 million.

Sources:

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