



NEWS

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Air District Announces Winners of Great Race for Clean Air

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air District is announcing the results of the Great Race for Clean Air, a competition between Bay Area companies to see whose employees could reduce the most CO₂ by ridesharing, vanpooling, biking, walking or riding transit to work instead of driving alone.

This is the third year of this annual Bay Area-wide commuting competition. Driving alone to work is on one of the region's largest sources of air pollution.

"As the economy improves and traffic picks up on Bay Area roads, alternatives to driving alone will prove even more important for cleaner air and less commute gridlock," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "Using commute alternatives through the Great Race for Clean Air shows us that we can make a big difference just by changing the way we get to work."

During September and October, 1,234 employees from 93 companies logged in their daily air-friendly commutes. Approximately 674 tons of CO₂ were saved by employees who chose not to drive to work alone.

The companies with the highest overall CO₂ savings were:

- Nektar Therapeutics – San Francisco
- Gilead Sciences – Foster City
- Facebook – Menlo Park

Companies with highest level of participation were:

- Bars+Tone Creative Video Agency – San Francisco
- Hacienda Owners Association – Pleasanton
- Trinity Consultants – Oakland
- Langley Investment Properties – San Francisco
- Nektar Therapeutics – San Francisco
- Aviat Networks – Santa Clara
- O'Melveny & Meyers LLP – San Francisco

Winners were chosen in several categories, including highest CO₂ savings, highest percentage of "clean commute days" logged, and highest percentage of employee participation. CO₂ savings were calculated based on the length of the employee's commute, their vehicle's gas mileage and the number of miles that were traveled using one of the commute alternatives.

A complete list of winners is available at <http://www.sparetheair.org/Get-Involved/Your-Community/Great-Race-2012.aspx>.

The Great Race for Clean Air was sponsored by the Air District in partnership with 511 Rideshare. For more information about Spare the Air, visit www.sparetheair.org.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (www.baaqmd.gov) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area.

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