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CERTIFIED COMPOSTABLE BEACH TOY COMPANY LAUNCHES AT BEACH CLEAN-UP

Rogue Wave debuts new line of beach toy prototypes to over 1,000 ocean lovers at annual event

WAIMANALO, OAHU, April 21, 2019—Rogue Wave launched its certified compostable beach toy prototype at the annual Earth Day/Easter beach clean-up hosted by non-profit Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii. Registered participants used the 3D printed compostable prototypes during a Rogue Wave-hosted sandcastle-building contest with 14 teams of four people.

Rogue Wave founder, Kate Reimann, was impressed with the overall turnout for the contest. "This is the first time we've brought these compostable beach toys to the public, and the reaction has been really positive. Everyone is excited about an alternative to conventional plastic, especially since everyone here spent the morning removing microplastics from this beach."

The company, based in Oahu, uses a certified compostable biopolymer to 3D print the prototypes. Reimann prints each piece of the 3-piece set—beach bucket, sifter, and shovel—herself in her home office.

The goal of the business is to curb conventional plastic use, only 9% of which is traditionally recycled. The rest goes to landfills or incineration facilities.

The Sustainable Coastlines Earth Day/Easter beach clean-up removed 4,000 pounds of debris. According to the <u>Ocean Conservancy</u>, 8 million metric tons of plastics enter our ocean every year, on top of the estimated 150 million metric tons that currently

circulate our marine environments. That's about 21,918 metric tons of plastic entering the ocean *each day*.

"Conventional plastic breaks down, but it never disappears," Reimann said. "We are trying to change the way we buy and make products—innovative materials are out there, but it's up to us to start choosing them."

Three current and former Sustainable Coastlines employees and volunteers judged the contest, and structures were judged for creativity, best use of marine debris, and tallest structure. Winners received prizes from local Kailua businesses, including Kailua Kayaks, Paniolos, Stacy G Jewelry, Sand Kids, Hawaiian Water Sports, and Bayview Golf Course.

The clean-up had over one thousand attendants who cleaned at four different locations.

Reimann said, "So many people today asked me if they could buy the product. We're still prototyping and securing funds for our long-term manufacturing plan, so we're not able to sell at this time. But I was encouraged to see the way people responded to a compostable plastic. I feel like people are ready for this. And it gives me hope that we really can solve our plastic pollution problem—we can make it better."

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Hawaii-based innovative materials company, Rogue Wave, was founded in 2016. Rogue Wave makes certified compostable beach toys in an effort to fulfill its mission: to make our oceans plastic free, reduce use of fossil fuels, and create better products using better materials. For more information, visit www.roguewavetoys.com, or @roguewavetoys on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter.