

**NEWS**

# Mount Gay bans styrofoam

**MOUNT GAY DISTILLERIES has put a ban on all styrofoam products on its premises.**

With this latest move, the three-century-old rum-maker is hoping it would become a model for other companies.

Speaking at his Spring Garden, St Michael office yesterday, managing director Raphael Grisoni said his company was about to write to the relevant authorities to ensure that other companies followed.

"We are going to write a letter to the appropriate ministries about the negative impact of plastics and styrofoam and show them what we have done to decrease its use in Barbados.

"Right now what we're doing is at an individual level or a private initiative, but at the end of the day there are no constraints. If you really want to progress as a nation, the regulation must be imposed nationally," he said.

The environmental campaign was held in celebration of Mount Gay's Distilleries 314th anniversary. As the company, the world's oldest rum producer, kicked off the initiative earlier this month, Grisoni informed members of staff who attended an anniversary event at their Visitors Centre about the ban on the use of styrofoam containers for food and beverages on the premises.

Human resources manager Candace Browne explained said they even went a step further and provided nearby food vendor, Faye Atherley, with a package of biodegradable containers encouraging her to discontinue using styrofoam.

"It's not easy but over time we'd hope

that everyone will be on board, so we've asked the guards to alert us when

anyone tries to bring those materials on our compound; so there is that

policing," she said. The initiative was supported by director

at Better Caribbean, Ariana Marshall, who also pointed to countries

in the Caribbean such as Grenada that had banned styrofoam imports. (TG)

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MOUNT GAY'S managing director Raphael Grisoni speaking about the ban yesterday. (TG)

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