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## **IT consulting firm shows how easy it is to be green**

Akuwa Solutions Group, an information technology consulting firm, is Sarasota County's newest Green Business partner. The firm, which is located at 6341 Porter Road, Sarasota, offers professional guidance from project conception, strategy and planning, through specification and procurement to project management and implementation.

According Green Business Partnership Program Coordinator Tom Franklin, this technology-driven company is reducing its costs and environmental impacts by operating more efficiently. "They realized that they could reduce significant costs just by consolidating eight servers down to two using a tool called virtual server technology, reducing energy consumption and heat generation," said Franklin. "Akuwa also purchases used hard drives and other hardware and collects used computer hardware from its clients to refurbish and recycle."

The Green Business Partnership was initiated under a Florida Department of Environmental Protection grant and is open to all businesses in Sarasota County that implement required resource conservation measures and pass an on-site certification assessment. Each certified business receives a Green Business Partnership certificate and seal it can display to demonstrate its commitment to a healthy environment. Companies also receive a logo for use on company stationery and promotional items.

Akuwa is now part of a Green Business Partnership directory that is available online at the Green Business Web site, [www.scgov.net/greenbusiness](http://www.scgov.net/greenbusiness).

The Green Business Partnership is actively seeking other participants. For more information, or to request a Green Business Partnership packet, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000.

For more information on the businesses currently certified under the program, visit [www.scgov.net/greenbusiness](http://www.scgov.net/greenbusiness) and click on the link entitled, "Participating Businesses."

**Media note:** A JPEG image of the Green Business Partnership logo is attached.

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