



Photo: Zeneh Santana Delgado

RECYCLED GLASSWARE FROM CRISIL, BOLIVIA

Gregorio Yupanqi and his wife Concepcion, can look forward to Christmas - thanks to a seasonal tradition at Crisil in Bolivia, which makes beautiful handmade glass products for Traidcraft.

Every worker at Crisil receives a hamper that includes a chicken and bottle of wine, plus toys for any children aged 12 or under, which means the couple has two hampers for the family to share. The gift is presented in a large bowl, so even the container can be put to good use once the contents are removed. Gregorio who joined Crisil nine years ago, now specialises in wine glasses, connecting the base and stem, while Concepcion is part of a team that packs the finished products. The regular income they receive has helped them to build their own home - but things were very different when Gregorio worked elsewhere.



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CRISIL is a glass-making factory situated in Cochabamba, central Bolivia. It is a family-owned business begun by two brothers, Carlos and Walter Bustos, after one of them spent some years in the USA but wanted to return to his home country.

CRISIL currently employs around 100 people as well as providing employment for used-bottle collectors who supply the factory with glass for recycling. CRISIL has been involved in product development consultation and been given technical assistance in recent years to help the business develop.