

NORTHEAST STATES

Pollution Prevention News

FEATURE ARTICLE

Environmentally Preferable Alternatives to Mercury-Added Products

With the enactment of ground-breaking mercury education and reduction legislation, the Northeast states have begun to assemble comprehensive information and data on products that contain mercury and their alternatives. This information is essential in helping the Northeast states achieve their goal of virtual elimination of anthropogenic discharges of mercury to the environment.

The general public's exposures to mercury occur primarily by the ingestion of fish that have been contaminated with mercury. Approximately 95 percent of the mercury found in fish is in the form of methyl mercury, a particularly toxic form of mercury. Because methyl mercury is a neurotoxin (particularly harmful to the developing nervous system), fetuses and young children are especially susceptible to its effects.

- A 2000 National Academy of Sciences report concluded that "available consumption data and current population and fertility rates indicate that over 60,000 newborns annually might be at risk for adverse neuro-developmental effects from in-utero exposure to methyl mercury."
- In March 2001, based on data from the Centers for Disease Control, the US EPA estimated that 10 percent of US women of child-bearing age have levels of mercury that double their risk of having babies born with mental or neurological problems.

Exposure can also occur by inhalation of or bodily contact with elemental mercury from broken products (e.g., mercury fever thermometers) or from manufacturing processes. In these cases, mercury can be in its elemental form or combined with an inorganic element or compound.



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THE NORTHEAST WASTE MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION (NEWMOA)

NEWMOA is a non-profit, non-partisan interstate governmental association. The membership is composed of state environmental agency directors of the pollution prevention, hazardous and solid waste, and waste site cleanup programs in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont.

NEWMOA's mission is to help states articulate, promote, and implement economically sound regional programs for the enhancement of environmental protection. The group fulfills this mission by providing a variety of support services that facilitate communications and cooperation among member states and between states and EPA.

NEWMOA's P2 program was established in 1989 to enhance the capabilities of the state and local environmental officials in the northeast to implement effective source reduction programs. The program is called the Northeast States Pollution Prevention Roundtable (NE P2 Roundtable). This program involves the following components:

- NE P2 Roundtable meetings and workgroups
- Regional P2 information resource center and databases of information
- Source reduction research and publications
- Training sessions
- Regional policy coordination and development.

For more information contact:

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NORTHEAST STATES

Pollution Prevention News

Northeast States Pollution Prevention News is published a few times per year by NEWMOA's P2 Program, called the Northeast States Pollution Prevention Roundtable (NE P2 Roundtable). The publication is provided free to the Northeast states, EPA, and other interested individuals and is supported by funds from EPA Region I-New England and the Northeast States.

The NE P2 Roundtable would like to thank the following people for writing and producing this newsletter: Andy Bray, Janet Clark, Peter Cooke, Peter Crawford, Mike DiGiore, Jennifer Griffith, Rob Guillemmin, Gary Gulka, John James, Sara Johnson, Reva Levin, Dennis Lucia, Marian Mudar, Hannah Sarnow, Mary Sherwin, Karen Thomas, Paul Walsh, and Denise Zambrowski. Terri Goldberg managed production of the newsletter.

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Alternatives to Mercury-Added Products

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Over a year ago, NEWMOA published a report compiling data on the number of mercury spills that are reported to many of the public agencies in the region. This report (available at www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury) shows that there is a large number of mercury spills associated with the accidental breakage of products that contain mercury, particularly thermometers and other measuring devices.

This Feature Article provides some examples of the efforts of the Northeast states to identify non-mercury, non-toxic alternatives to mercury-added products and to promote their use and sale.

MAINE

Report on Alternatives to Mercury Products

The Lowell Center for Sustainable Production (LCSP) recently completed an investigation of alternatives to mercury-containing measuring devices and switches. Among the measuring devices examined by the LCSP were blood pressure cuffs, barometers, manometers, and flow meters. The LCSP also investigated relays, tilt switches, float switches, pressure switches, and temperature switches used in a variety of products and industrial equipment. In general, the LCSP found that functionally equivalent non-mercury alternatives are available at comparable cost for most of these products.

The LCSP report titled, *An Investigation of Alternatives to Mercury Containing Products*, is available through the website of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (<http://www.state.me.us/dep/mercury>). The Maine DEP commissioned the investigation and will use the LCSP findings to develop a strategy for reducing the use of mercury in products. The goal of the strategy is to reduce mercury emissions to the environment from product breakage and disposal. The DEP plans to submit the strategy and implementing legislation to the Maine Legislature in January.

MASSACHUSETTS

Replacing Mercury at Hospitals

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is implementing an EPA Pollution Prevention Incentives

for States (PPIS) grant to conduct Pollution Prevention (P2) technical assistance assessments at participating area hospitals. The purpose of the assessments is to identify opportunities to reduce hazardous, solid, and infectious "red bag" waste in hospitals. A primary focus of the audits has been to identify the use of products and material that contain mercury and recommend less hazardous or non-toxic materials. The assessment teams have thus far recommended replacing mercury-containing blood pressure cuffs, fever and lab thermometers, and measuring devices; and PVC-containing items, including feeding tubes, IV bags and tubing, transfusion devices, and patient I.D bracelets. *For further information contact:* Judy Shope, MA DEP.

EPA REGION I - NEW ENGLAND

With the support of an EPA Region 1-NE grant, the Sustainable Hospital Project (SHP) augmented their on-line database of alternatives to mercury-containing products (www.sustainablehospitals.org). The database can be searched by product category, manufacturer, hazard type, and product name. Some of the products featured in the database include: dental mercury removal systems, gastrointestinal tubes, laboratory chemicals and equipment, sphygmomanometers, and thermometers. The SHP uses professional judgment and sound science to evaluate product substitutes. Rather than promoting a particular material or type of product, the SHP discusses alternatives and openly acknowledges the merits and shortcomings of every choice. This information enables healthcare facilities to evaluate and make informed decisions about the products and practices they choose. The SHP is a project of the Lowell Center for Sustainable Production, University of Massachusetts Lowell. *For more information contact:* SHP Clearinghouse (978) 934-3386, shp@uml.edu.

NORTHEAST WASTE MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION (NEWMOA)

EPP for Mercury in K-12 Schools

To ensure that schools no longer purchase items that contain mercury, the 2001-2002 Mercury School Clean

Out project, conducted by NEWMOA and funded by MA Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) and MA DEP, required participating schools to sign a participation agreement. An important condition of the agreement required schools to commit to purchasing non-mercury items in the future where available. For mercury items where no non-mercury alternatives exist (e.g., fluorescent bulbs), the schools agreed to set up a recycling program for these items.

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The general public's exposures to mercury occur primarily by the ingestion of fish that have been contaminated with mercury.
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In order to assist schools in finding these non-mercury alternatives, NEWMOA created a table of common mercury items in schools and their non-mercury alternatives (www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/schools/.) For example, mercury laboratory thermometers can be replaced with alcohol or mineral spirit-filled glass bulb thermometers or with digital laboratory thermometers. Mercury barometers can be replaced with non-mercury aneroid or digital barometers. In the nurse's office, mercury sphygmomanometers can be replaced with aneroid or digital sphygmomanometers. Mercury thermometers for refrigerators (to verify correct temperatures for vaccinations) can be replaced with spirit-filled thermometers designed for this purpose.

With a little persistence, NEWMOA's staff was always able to find suitable non-mercury alternatives to the mercury-containing items in schools, except for the use of elemental mercury to physically and visually represent the concept of density. If anyone has any good ideas for visually demonstrating this concept, send NEWMOA an e-mail. *For more information contact:* Karen Thomas, NEWMOA, (617) 367-8558 x304, kthomas@newmoa.org.

Alternatives to Mercury-Added Products

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Mercury-Added Products Database

During the past year, the NEWMOA member states formed a Clearinghouse – the Interstate Mercury Education and Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC) – to facilitate

- ongoing technical and programmatic assistance to states that have enacted provisions of the Mercury Education and Reduction Model Legislation; and
- a single point of contact for industry and the public for information on mercury-added products and member states' mercury education and reduction programs.

The first function of IMERC has been to provide a central repository of the Mercury-Added Product Notification Forms that manufacturers and distributors have been submitting for approval under recently-enacted state laws in Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island. The Forms require mercury-added product manufacturers and distributors to provide information on the mercury content of their products or the components in their products and the total amount of mercury used in all of their product sold in the US in 2001. IMERC has used this information to create the “Mercury-Added Products Database,” which can be found at www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/imerc/notification/.

The database is not yet fully populated because the IMERC state members are trying to ensure that the information provided by the manufacturers is accurate and consistent. In many cases this is requiring extensive communications with the manufacturers, distributors, and their representatives. Eventually the database will contain extensive data on the mercury content of hundreds of mercury-added products, including measuring devices, thermostats, and electronic products, and numerous products that contain mercury switches, relays, lamps, and button cell batteries. **For more information contact:** Terri Goldberg, NEWMOA, (617) 367-8558 x302, tgoldberg@newmoa.org.

FEATURE ARTICLE

P2 for Ski Areas



Ski areas are beautiful and wonderful places to recreate, but they can have substantial and very visible environmental impacts associated with a variety of their operations, including lodging, vehicle and equipment maintenance, water use, and land management. In Northern New England and New York State, there is a growing interest within the ski industry and the state environmental agencies to help ski areas become more environmentally sustainable operations.

Recently the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment published a manual, *Greening Your Ski Area, A Pollution Prevention Handbook*, which provides comprehensive information on what ski areas can do to minimize their environmental impacts. The states in the Northeast are finding the information, case studies, and P2 opportunities identified in the manual to be helpful for them in jump-starting their assistance programs for ski areas. The following examples highlight efforts underway in two states in the region – New York and Vermont – as well as at the U.S. EPA to work closely with the ski industry to promote P2 practices.

NEW YORK

The Pollution Prevention (P2) Unit of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is making progress on its outreach to ski areas. Over the last year, it has researched and collected ski area issues and data and worked with the Ski Areas of New York, Inc. (SANY) organization to establish an ad hoc advisory group of ski area managers. The group is providing insight and advice on the development of practical, useable P2 outreach materials for NY ski areas. In September, the P2 Unit organized a P2 presentation at the SANY/National Ski Areas Association (NSAA)/Pennsylvania SAA Annual Trade Show. The Unit staff intends to return to the trade show in September 2003 to display and distribute project materials that are being developed. A three-pronged approach is envisioned: an employee-targeted video to complement the National Ski Areas Association “Spotlight Video on Sustainable Slopes”; a companion guide for ski

area managers providing P2 tips and resources; and a P2 poster and related outreach materials geared to ski area customers to raise P2 awareness. The DEC is also signing on to become a Partnering Organization to the NSAA Environmental Charter, while Belleayre Mountain (the only State-run ski mountain), will become an Endorsing Ski Area. Information on the Charter can be viewed at www.nsaa.org. **For more information contact:** Louise King (518) 402-9469; liking@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

VERMONT

The Vermont Business Environmental Partnership, a program designed to promote environmentally-friendly management practices among businesses, now has two ski areas designated as Environmental Partners, joining the 50 lodging sector participants (www.vtgreenhotels.org). Others have been recognized with a Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence in Pollution Prevention. The Partnership is shared by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (VT ANR) Environmental Assistance Division and the VT Small Business Development Center. Some of the best management practices that VT ski areas have adopted are: environmentally preferable purchasing (particularly post-consumer recycled products, encouraged by the VT Ski Area Association's EPP project), composting, alternative wastewater treatment (Living Machine), vegetable-based hydraulic oils, energy efficiency upgrades, swimming pool alternative sanitizers, placing environmental policies on post-consumer recycled content trail maps, and significant on-site recycling efforts. **For more information contact:** Peter Crawford, VT SBDC (802) 728-1423, www.vtsbdc.org, www.veap.org.

Following are some more examples of P2 projects implemented at Vermont ski areas.

Sugarbush: The Green Team established a resource consumption baseline, installed an AC Drive motor for their new GMX lift, installed lighting retrofits to one of their Base Lodges and an Administration building, purchased Vending Misers for five vending machines, and are preparing to change over five electric lift shack heaters to gas for the 2002 winter season. In efforts to conserve water the resort purchased hangers and table tents for all of their lodging units to encourage guests to re-use linens, and the base lodge restrooms will feature

the 12th Annual Water Week Poster Contest winning poster with instructions for their guests to report leaking appliances. All of the resort's brochures and 2002/2003 trail maps have been printed on recycled paper. Additionally, the resort is using six environmentally-friendly office supply alternatives.

Stratton Mountain Resort: This resort has spent \$250,000 to remove the old cobblestone Village Walkway and replaced it with an innovative underground radiant heating system to help protect upland streams and fish habitat by preventing the release of sand and salt into these fragile ecosystems. Construction of the walkway reduced the use of approximately 1,500 pounds of salt and 63 tons of sand. In addition, the project is estimated to have saved more than \$60,000 in fuel costs associated with the snow-removal activities of plows, backhoes and bucket loaders.

Smugglers' Notch: Smugglers' Notch Resort, which has marketed itself aggressively as America's Family Resort, includes environmental responsibility in the mix of what it means to be responsive to the needs of its employees, its guests, and its neighbors. The Resort has many on-going pollution prevention, environmental protection and resource conservation initiatives that include leasing the state-of-the-art snowmaking air compressors in order to keep abreast of current emission control technologies, a construction scrap reuse program that is the first in the resort industry, a construction program that builds to Energy-Rated Homes of Vermont five star specifications, and a domestic sewage management program that uses about 350 bullhead catfish in its primary lagoon to stir up the sludge, allowing for more efficient bacterial break down.

The Craftsbury Outdoor Center: This cross-country ski center promotes activities that, by their very nature present high (positive) health impacts and low (negative) environmental impacts. The major outdoor activities: Nordic skiing, biking, running, and sculling, require only limited amounts of resources and all promote good health and well-being. The Center plans to purchase a twin-hulled watercraft propelled by solar-charged batteries and electric direct drive propulsion system for sculling instruction. The use of a 4-stroke snow machine used in the trail grooming operations reduces overall emissions of air pollutants.

P2 for Ski Areas

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U.S. EPA

The National Ski Areas Association, Colorado Ski Country USA, and the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment presented a P2 workshop for Colorado ski areas at Keystone, CO on April 11, 2002. The workshop summarized a three year project, funded by EPA, to reduce environmental impacts in all areas of ski area operations using P2 approaches. Areas addressed at the workshop were: the sustainable slopes assessment tool, performance measurement and reporting, purchasing, food and beverage service, lodging, grounds maintenance, buildings, sustainable design, lift operations, snow-making, and vehicle maintenance. The workshop also featured presentations by environmental managers for ski areas involved in the project, including the two partners in the project—Aspen Ski Company and Arapahoe Basin—as well as Vail Resorts. EPA is also a partnering organization in the development of the National Ski Area Association environmental charter for ski areas, “Sustainable Slopes” (www.nsaa.org).

For more information contact: John Larson, EPA (303) 312-6030, larson.john@epa.gov.

**POLLUTION
PREVENTION**

P2Rx

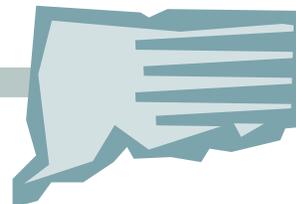
**RESOURCE
EXCHANGE**

The Northeast P2 Roundtable is a member of the Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange, P2Rx, a national network of regional P2 information centers linked together to facilitate information retrieval from experts around the

country. Current P2Rx projects include online Topic Hubs and a National Assistance Programs Database. For information about these efforts, visit <http://www.newmoa.org/prevention>.

For more information contact: Andy Bray, NEWMOA (617) 367-8558 x306, abray@newmoa.org

PROGRAM UPDATES



CONNECTICUT

Industrial Efficiency

The CT DEP Office of Pollution Prevention is part of a coalition organized by CONNSTEP, the CT Manufacturing Center, to help Connecticut’s chemical and plastics industries compete and thrive in the global marketplace of the 21st Century. The coalition of public and private organizations will come together over the next year to lay the foundation for a sustainable program.

Benefits to businesses include reducing the cost of doing business and increasing production through the use of the latest energy-efficient technologies. Collaboration on environmental and technical issues specific to the chemical and plastics industries will be encouraged. A goal of the project is for industry to develop a vision and roadmap for progress in Connecticut relative to common technology, financial, regulatory, and environmental issues. **For more information contact:** David Westcott, CT DEP (860)-424-3297 or Judy Włodarczyk, CONNSTEP 800-266-6672.

Partnering with the Department of Motor Vehicles

The CT DEP partnered with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to identify P2 and compliance assistance opportunities at the automotive service facilities in the state. DEP staff conducted a multi-media training session on environmental requirements for 21 DMV inspectors in September 2002. The training provided DMV inspectors with an environmental compliance checklist and a brochure on P2 opportunities that they are using when they inspect these facilities. The DMV will forward all completed environmental checklists to the DEP Office of Pollution Prevention for follow-up with P2 and compliance assistance.

In Connecticut, the DMV licenses 5200 facilities in the state, including auto body and repair shops, used and new vehicle dealerships, junkyards (auto dismantlers), towing companies, and some vocational-technical schools. The DMV inspects new facilities and those where there is a change in ownership, about 550 per year. In addition, they respond to about 5000 complaints annually, of which they inspect about 1250 or 40 percent. This partnership between DMV and DEP will result in greater efficiencies for the two state agencies and an improved environment for Connecticut communities. **For more information contact:** Judy Prill, CT DEP (860) 424-3297.

Energy Sen\$e

Connecticut is taking action to reduce emissions that contribute to climate change (e.g., carbon dioxide, sulfur oxides, nitrogen oxides, and methane) at the local level. With assistance from the CT DEP, non-profit organizations and some municipalities in Connecticut have initiated programs to address climate change with local actions.

The City of New Haven and Town of Willimantic are Energy Sen\$e Model Communities. Both municipalities have passed resolutions authorizing their participation in International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives' (ICLEI) Cities for Climate Protection and pledging to take a leadership role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions from municipal operations. Each has also completed a greenhouse gas emissions inventory as one of five milestones under the ICLEI process. The inventories provide baseline data and preliminary recommendations for reduction measures.

Typical recommendations included in the inventories are energy efficiency measures coupled with conservation in city buildings, and transportation-related actions. Buying renewable energy ("green power") instead of power generated from fossil fuels is another option. While funding is needed to proceed with another milestone - the action plan- it is not preventing these towns from making progress towards reducing energy consumption and emissions through such actions as lighting improvements, purchasing Energy Star office equipment, and changing over to LED traffic signals.

The City of Bridgeport and Town of Fairfield are also ICLEI partners and completed green house gas inventories prior to 2001. **For more information contact:** Connie Mendolia or Lynn Stoddard, CT DEP (860)-424-3297.



Maine Department of Environmental Protection

Current activities of the Pollution Prevention Program in Maine DEP's Office of Innovation and Assistance (OIA) include:

- Maine DEP held compliance assistance and P2 training for the Boat Building and Repair sector at the Maine Marine Trade Association annual meeting on November 14, 2002. This was a full day of presentations by DEP staff representing the Office of Innovation and Assistance and the Bureaus of Air, Land and Water, and Remediation and Waste Management. Mentor corporations spoke on the issues of P2 and EMS.
- The Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence was held on September 20th. 16 awards in 8 categories were given out. Award categories included Pollution Prevention, Smart Production, Stewardship, Individual, Institutions, ISO 14001 Certification, Environmental Leader, and Toxics Reduction Recognition.
- Maine DEP completed the legislatively-mandated P2 plan for dentists and is now proposing a companion piece of legislation that will require amalgam separators at dental offices.
- The Agency is continuing to provide assistance to the Green Campus Consortium in their efforts to move towards sustainability. The group is working in conjunction with the Climate Change Steering Committee on the New England Governor's and Eastern Canadian Premiers initiative to reduce green house gas levels by 10 percent below 1990 levels by 2012.
- ME DEP is reviewing the state procurement system to identify P2 opportunities as part of the Clean Government initiative and the law that established the Office of Pollution Prevention. They are emphasizing certification for cleaning products as proposed by Massachusetts.

- The Agency contracted with licensed hazardous waste transporters for a mercury manometer removal from dairy farms initiative. This initiative included coordinating the replacement of the manometers with an electronic manometer.
- ME DEP reviewed and finalized 2002 Toxics and Hazardous Waste Reduction Reports and provided technical assistance to the reporters
- The Agency is continuing to provide assistance to the Maine Hospital Association and industry sectors.
- The Office of Innovation and Assistance has revitalized its Compliance Advisory Panel (CAP) as an effective tool to weigh in on their activities.

For more information contact: Peter Cooke, ME DEP (207) 287-7100.



Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance (OTA)

Case Study on Solvent-Free Coating

MA OTA has recently published "InteliCoat Technologies Toxics Use Reduction Case Study." InteliCoat Technologies (formerly Rexam Image Products) achieved toxics use reduction by adopting solvent-free coating processes for the manufacturing of about 60 percent of their product line. This included the development and commercialization of both water borne and 100 percent solids UV-cure coating technology. Since the mid-1990's, the company has invested over \$20 million on product/process development and production improvements to support this new coating technology. This investment has resulted in an 88 percent reduction of air emissions from VOCs and an annual savings of \$1.25 million from the reduction of raw materials. This and other case studies are available on OTA's website at www.mass.gov/ota.

Managing Solvent Use in the Biotech Industry

On October 10, 2002, OTA co-sponsored a workshop with the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council on "Managing Solvent Use: Best Practices for the Biotech Industry." The focus of the workshop was on identifying opportunities to reduce solvent use and associated waste and emissions in both laboratory and manufacturing operations. A cross-section of approaches to solvent use and waste reduction was presented along with regulatory requirements and green chemistry applications. The workshop was well received, and many participants felt that it will help them develop better strategies for managing solvent use at their facility.

Certificates of Partnership

This past August and September, OTA presented a Certificate of Partnership to three Massachusetts companies for their leadership in toxics use reduction and their willingness to publicly set an example for other companies in the state. The companies are:

- **Cranston Print Works** (Webster, MA) for the elimination of 2.66 million pounds of sulfuric acid.
- **Crest Foam** (Newburyport, MA) for the elimination of 190,000 pounds of methylene chloride.
- **V.H. Blackinton** (Attleborough Falls, MA) for the elimination of freon, trichloroethylene, and ammonia; the reduction of between 54-95 percent of other toxic chemicals used on site; and the implementation of a closed-loop system that eliminated their sewer discharge and use of 25,000 gallons of water per day.

OTA also uses the information from their case studies to illustrate the environmental and economic benefits of toxics use reduction to local community leaders. In addition to receiving the Certificate of Partnership, all of the companies received citations from their local state legislators.

For more information contact: Denise Zambrowski, MA OTA, denise.zambrowski@state.ma.us

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Municipal Thermometer Exchange

A recent campaign by Massachusetts environmental agencies to round up and recycle mercury fever thermometers was a major win for public health. Working with pharmacy chains and other state agencies, the Massachusetts

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) collected more than 100,000 mercury thermometers across the state and provided digital thermometers and forehead fever strips as replacements.

Building on the success of this campaign, over the summer DEP began distributing digital thermometers and forehead fever strips to towns and cities for local collection and exchange programs. Exchanges are offered through hazardous household product collection events, weekend recycling collections, local boards of health and even day care centers.

DEP has distributed 7,000 digital thermometers and 8,000 forehead fever strips to about 50 communities. As of the end of August, participating towns and cities had collected approximately 2,250 mercury thermometers for recycling.

The program will continue through the winter and is publicized through listserves and Municipal Recycling Incentive Program district coordinators. DEP's supply of digital thermometers is dwindling, but the agency has an ample supply of forehead fever strips. **For further information contact:** Reva Levin, MA DEP (617) 556-1135.

Municipal Stewardship Program

Eight municipalities and two regional organizations across Massachusetts are the first participants in the state's new Municipal Environmental Stewardship Program. A pilot effort by the MA DEP, the initiative provides towns and cities with new planning tools to ensure safer schools, proper management of public works facilities, and overall compliance with federal and state environmental laws.

"By consciously integrating environmental management into their daily operations, towns and cities can improve worker safety, enhance readiness for response to chemical spills, and ensure the continuity of municipal services," said DEP Commissioner Lauren A. Liss. "It is also easier for them to achieve and sustain environmental compliance through proactive planning than the threat of regulatory enforcement."

The ten funded programs will share \$143,000 in grants. Grant recipients will use the funding primarily to develop long-term environmental compliance programs. The bulk of the money will go towards the salaries of "environmental stewards" - municipal employees that are designated to oversee specific projects and work with DEP to measure changes in environmental performance. Barre and Natick will work toward improvements in their landfill

and water treatment operations, respectively. The Franklin Regional Council of Governments will develop a municipal Environmental Management System for use in the rural towns of Colrain, Leverett, Orange, and Sunderland. Lowell and Westford will use their funding to implement environmental improvements in their schools. New Bedford, Newton, Walpole, and the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (on behalf of Adams, Dalton, Lanesborough, and Mount Washington) will develop Environmental Management Systems for municipal public works facilities. **For further information contact:** Eric Fahle, MA DEP (617) 292-5970.

EMS Training

The MA DEP received a grant in January 2002 from the EPA for the enhancement of Environmental Management Systems (EMSs) in State programs. EPA awarded this grant under its National Performance Track program in an effort to support State EMSs and stewardship recognition programs. Using this \$40,000 grant, DEP conducted a total of twelve training sessions, targeting its own employees, other environmental agencies (EOEA), state agencies subject to the Massachusetts "Clean State" Executive Order and municipal personnel. The Department emphasized the introduction of EMS concepts, the DEP's new "Guidance on Incorporating EMS into Enforcement Negotiations and Settlements," and a live tour of a state facility where an EMS is underway or under development. The continuing goal for this training is an increase in awareness and effective use of EMS to improve compliance. **For further information contact:** Anne Brown, MA DEP (617) 292-5880.

Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Institute

Toxics Use Reduction Planner Training

The Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI) conducted the 35th TUR Planner Course this autumn, thereby preparing another generation of professionals to become TUR Planners. In previous years, the final day of this course was opened to existing TUR Planners to attend. Known as "Industry Specific Day," this event provided an opportunity for new and veteran TUR Planners alike to learn what specific industry sectors are doing to implement TUR practices. This year, TURI unveiled a new format for the final day, now called "Practical Applications Day," in which the focus was on applied principles of TUR Planning. In the morning, participants heard three perspectives

on the role of a TUR Planner: (1) DEP: What does DEP look for in TUR Planning? (2) Industry Planner perspective, and (3) consultant as TUR Planner. In addition, TURI organized the following two sessions in the afternoon, (1) Convincing the Unconvinced, and (2) Environmental Management Systems (EMS) in the TUR framework, which provided practical tools and methods for Planners.

TURI also created and offered a one day "Internal Auditing Your EMS" to the University Campus and then again to industry. Participants were invited to attend an Audit Lab at Hanscom Air Force Base. This exercise was designed to supplement the concepts and principles learned in the Environmental Management System (EMS) Audit classroom workshop. By auditing several important components of the Hanscom EMS, participants could practice and apply basic skills for conducting or participating in an EMS audit, including: the expectations and goals of an audit, the role of the auditor, important documentation to be reviewed, and questions to ask the auditee. The Audit Lab was conducted by Scott Gordon, a Senior Auditor with over 30 years of experience.

Chemical Prioritization

The MA Toxics Use Reduction Science Advisory Board has just completed a year long data collection process and is beginning a project to categorize the EPCRA 313 chemicals, which have never been reported under TURA, into "More Hazardous," "Less Hazardous," and "Uncategorized" categories. The purpose of this project is to inform future policy decisions and program foci. It is anticipated that the project will take a few years to complete. The Board is meeting every other month for three hours. (Meeting schedule is on www.turi.org calendar)

EMS at the University

The implementation of a campus EMS at the University of Massachusetts Lowell kicked into high gear this quarter, with seven teams creating plans and work instructions to control critical processes. The teams are developing communications and training projects to embed these new instructions, and will do internal auditing in January. The group hopes for a certification audit to the ISO 14001 standard in the spring of 2003.

For more information contact: Janet Clark, MA TURI (978) 934-3346.



NEW HAMPSHIRE

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

Motor Vehicle Salvage Facility (MVSF) Project

NH DES is completing the quality assurance portion of the Motor Vehicle Salvage Facility (MVSF) project by conducting visual and in-person inspections to 74 non-responders from the MVSF questionnaire. A high percentage of the non-responders were not salvage facilities; the facilities were auto repair shops and will be removed from the database. NH is also drafting the first four fact sheets addressing above ground storage tanks, underground storage tanks, fuel tank management, and recovered auto fuel, which will be mailed to salvage facilities in the next few months. Additional fact sheets will be completed throughout the year. **For more information contact:** Paul Lockwood, NH DES, plockwood@des.state.nh.us.

Mercury Legislation

NH DES is once again planning to submit mercury-added products legislation in the coming legislative session. P2 staff has been drafting a bill in conjunction with the proposed bill's legislative sponsors for introduction in January 2003. The contents of the bill are still being finalized but will likely include provisions for labeling, a disposal ban, state procurement of low or no mercury products, and a ban on the sale of thermostats and dairy manometers. **For more contact:** Stephanie D'Agostino, NH DES, sdagostino@des.state.nh.us.

P2 Week

To celebrate P2 Week, NHPPP staff provided P2 training to over one hundred DES staff. The training included brainstorming activities, a hands-on project, and process

flow diagramming. The response to the P2 training continues to be positive, and NHPPP will be offering the training every year during P2 Week, rather than every three years. **For more information contact:** Sara Johnson, NH DES, sjohnson@des.state.nh.us.

Amalgam Management Rules

Last January, Governor Shaheen signed a law (HB1251) that requires DES to create rules relative to the management of mercury amalgam waste. Following internal development of draft rules based on existing legislation, the NHPPP established a stakeholder workgroup to further develop the draft regulations. In addition to DES

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To celebrate P2 Week, NHPPP staff provided P2 training to over one hundred DES staff
.....

representatives, the workgroup is comprised of the Executive Director of the NH Dental society, a practicing dentist, a representative of an amalgam manufacturing company, a POTW pre-treatment coordinator, and a representative of the Clean Water Action. The workgroup has met once, to date, and hopes to submit completed draft rules by late winter. **For more information contact:** Paul Lockwood, NH DES, plockwood@des.state.nh.us.

New Staff

In October, the NHPPP welcomed Jared Teutsch as the Program's latest staff member. Jared has a J.D. in environmental law from Vermont Law School and a B.S. in environmental science and policy from Michigan State University. Prior to coming to NHPPP, Jared was an intern at DES in wetlands bureau and watershed management. Jared will be working on the MVSF project, PrintSteps program, and technical assistance requests. **For more information contact:** Jared Teutsch, NH DES, jteutsch@des.state.nh.us.



NEW JERSEY

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

POTW P2 Training

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJ DEP) Office of Pollution Prevention and Permit Coordination (OP2PC) has received an EPA Pollution Prevention Grant to conduct P2 training workshops for Publicly Owned Treatment Work (POTW) technical staff. The purpose of this training is to provide P2/source reduction assistance to POTW technical staff to help them develop a methodology for identifying problem pollutants in their plant influent and to provide them with the technical expertise to work with the industries they regulate to reduce the quantities of these pollutants through P2/source reduction measures. This training will be developed utilizing the "train the trainer" concept designed to enable the POTW technical staff to be equipped with the necessary tools to promote P2/source reduction measures to their users. The NJ DEP is focusing on POTWs that are delegated to issue and enforce New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDDES) permits. Therefore, a portion of the training would focus on regulatory integration of P2/source reduction into permitting and enforcement programs.

The first step in this project will be the identification of a stakeholder group, comprised of POTW and NJ DEP representatives, to discuss and design the parameters of the training, identify P2/source reduction opportunities, and identify areas of concern where environmental benefits can be achieved. Subsequent to the training, surveys will be conducted to:

- Quantify the number of industries that implement P2/source reduction;
- Quantify hazardous material reductions and cost savings associated with the implementation of P2/source reduction;



P2 PUBLICATIONS

8 Good Ideas for Reducing Mercury Exposure and Pollution in your Community:

A Guide for Municipal Officials, www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/schools/.

InteliCoat Technologies Toxics Use Reduction Case Study

by the Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance (OTA) documents the P2 achievements of InteliCoat Technologies (formerly Rexam Image Products). This and other case studies are available for download from OTA's website at www.mass.gov/ota.

As a result of a Cooperative Agreement with US EPA, the New York Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC's) Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) has developed an **educational module for students in Grades 5-8**. The module is designed to help students understand the environmental and health impacts of fueling the family vehicle with gasoline, and air quality issues related to gasoline stations that are affected by the requirement for a Stage II vapor recovery system. This

environmental requirement primarily affects stations in the New York Metropolitan Area; the New York Boroughs and Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland; Westchester Counties; and Lower Orange County.

The module includes a lesson plan that will help teachers meet the requirements of the New York State Core Curriculum, a gas station field trip plan and many worksheets including word games, puzzles, word matching, and fill-in-the-blanks on the theme of **Maintenance, the Pollution Solution** for gasoline vapor recovery at gasoline stations. The module will soon be posted on EFC's website, www.nysefc.org/tas/sbap. **For more information contact:** Marian J. Mudar, NY EFC (518) 402-7462, (800)-780-7227 (toll free hotline within NYS).

NYS DEC's **Environmental Self-Assessment for the Pulp and Paper Industry** manual has been published and will be available on their website. The manual contains a self-assessment checklist designed to test a facility's performance in pollution prevention, waste reduction and recycling.

- Evaluate the effectiveness of the workshop's success in motivating behavioral change through the promotion, education, and training in P2/source reduction methods.

Case studies of P2/source reduction success stories will also be compiled. Currently, it is anticipated that two P2/source reduction workshops will be required.

A large portion of the training will focus on multi-media P2/source reduction. This focus will include a discussion of cross-media shifting of pollutants, such as occurs when air pollution control scrubber devices shift pollutants to waste streams and ultimately to wastewater treatment

units. Participants will also learn techniques to reduce the amount of hazardous substances in their influent that may have an adverse affect on the beneficial use of wastewater treatment sludge. Industry P2/source reduction techniques will be identified and described to illustrate the affects process modifications, material substitution, and in-process recycling can have on discharges to the POTW. Thus, the facility will be able to identify where and when cross-media shifts may occur. **For more information contact:** Sharon Davis, NJ DEP (609) 777-0518, sharon.davis@dep.state.nj.us.



NEW YORK

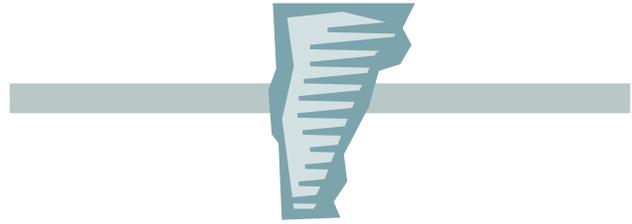
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Environmental Innovations Dialogue

The P2 Unit received a \$5000 grant from the Policy Academy on Environmental Management Tools (a joint initiative of the Multi-State Working Group and the Council of State Governments) to conduct a "Dialogue on Tools to Improve Environmental Performance." Additional funding of \$6,000 was obtained from other sources. The dialogue was held on November 20th in the NYS DEC's Albany office. This day long event consisted of four morning plenary sessions, a series of break out discussion groups, and a final plenary forum. Approximately 80 participants including participants from England and Canada attended this innovative dialogue. The first plenary session discussed "The Case of the NYC Watershed Agreement: An Innovative Approach to Achieving Environmental Results." The second plenary covered "Innovations Focused on Improved Compliance and Environmental Performance." The third discussed "Using Environmental Indicators to Identify Problems and Improve Results." The final plenary developed the topic "Tools to Integrate Environmental Concerns into Corporate Culture."

New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation

The New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation's (EFC) Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) has recently redesigned its website to make it easier for small businesses to find information and more current updates. The website's information is now primarily organized by business sectors, so businesses can click on their sector for specific information and assistance. The new design will be more dynamic through frequent updating and will be easier to manage with the use of new site management software. The new website can be reached at www.nysefc.org/tas/sbap. **For more information contact:** Harry Ching, NY EFC (518) 402-7462, sbap@nysefc.org.



VERMONT

Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Mercury Education & Reduction

VT DEC's Environmental Assistance Division staff is making mercury presentations at elementary and middle schools throughout the state. This fall there will be 15-20 presentations that will reach over 1000 students. School science teachers were mailed an announcement before the beginning of the school year with a return postcard, where they could request a date for a presentation. This system worked well and may be repeated in the future.

The Division participated in the annual Vermont State Dental Society meeting and spoke to over 200 dentists, hygienists, and dental assistants on environmental best management practices. They also had a booth at the meeting and were able to meet and talk with many dentists about their environmental management practices.

The Division is working with the Advisory Committee on Mercury Pollution to conduct a pilot project on dental amalgam separators. Although there are currently no requirements in Vermont to install separators, the Vermont State Dental Society is working closely with DEC to evaluate separators, establish performance standards, and conduct a pilot project where several types of separators are installed in dental clinics and evaluated on an operational basis by the clinics. This will also provide an opportunity for dentists to visit installation sites. It is hoped that this pilot project will be completed by the summer of 2003.

VT DEC has completed a pilot project with seven salvage yards for voluntary removal of mercury trunk and hood light switches. Five of these salvage yards were paid a bounty for switch removal through SEP monies. A total of 800 switches were removed during the pilot, and

overall, the results were mixed. It is clear that a financial incentive alone is not sufficient incentive for voluntary programs. DEC will be further evaluating the need for legislation in this area as had been previously proposed.

An effort was made this fall to reach out to HVAC contractors with a mailing on thermostat recycling opportunities at commercial wholesale supply establishments. Most of these supply establishments participate in the Thermostat Recycling Corporation's program.

DEC has developed a mercury reduction project for hospitals in collaboration with the hospital trade association in Vermont. A series of conferences are being planned as well as on site assistance in conducting mercury inventories and developing mercury reduction plans.

P2/Compliance Workshops

VT DEC and the Vermont Small Business Development Center recently completed a workshop series for conditionally exempt generators of hazardous waste, reviewing regulatory requirements, pollution prevention, and assistance opportunities. About 150 businesses and municipalities attended one of six workshops. The effort was considered a success and may be repeated in the future.

Following distribution of an Environmental Guide for autobody shops, DEC conducted an environmental workshop for the sector. Attendance was lower than expected. It appears that the sector is a challenging one to reach out to, perhaps due to minimal exposure in the past to environmental regulatory programs.

For further information contact: Gary Gulka (802) 241-3626, garyg@dec.anr.state.vt.us.

Vermont Small Business Development Center

The Vermont Environmental Assistance Partnership (including VT ANR, VT Department of Economic Development, VT Manufacturing Extension Center, and VT SBDC) are planning five stormwater Multi-Sector General Permit workshops for manufacturers for January.

For more information contact: Peter Crawford, VT SBDC (802) 728-1423, www.vtsbdc.org, www.veap.org.



EPA REGION 1 - NEW ENGLAND

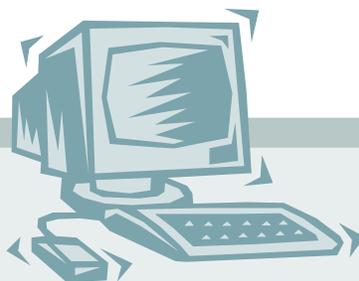
Environmental Technologies

EPA NE's Center for Environmental Industry and Technology (CEIT) is promoting Technology Connection, a program that matches anyone seeking new environmental technologies with over 900 providers of innovative environmental technologies, P2 techniques, and environmental management systems. To participate, submit an announcement on the web (http://www.epa.gov/NE/steward/ceit/techconn_form.html) or use the web form as a template and e-mail it to Maggie (theroux.maggie@epa.gov). CEIT will then place a short announcement in CEIT's electronic newsletter, *Envirotech News*, which summarizes the nature of the services being sought. Interested companies respond to CEIT within seven days by e-mail, and the compiled results will be forwarded to the interested client. **For more information contact:** Robert Guillemin, EPA Region 1-New England (617) 918-1814.

Green Team & EMS

In an effort to improve environmental performance, EPA NE has established a Green Team and initiated an EMS for its Boston office and laboratory in Chelmsford, MA. In October, the EMS Team prioritized environmental aspects and impacts for EPA facilities and the Green Team submitted action plans for the following project areas: public transit, fleet, printers, environmentally preferable purchasing, "green" meetings, employee education, mail room, and internet/web development. In November and December, the EMS Team will assess the Green Team environmental action plans and develop EMS Objectives, Targets, and Management Plans. **For more information contact:** Cynthia Greene, EPA Region 1-New England (617) 918-1813.

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WEB RESOURCES

In this section of the newsletter, useful websites and electronic resources are offered, focusing on the topics of the Feature Articles.

ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE ALTERNATIVES TO MERCURY-ADDED PRODUCTS

Purchasing Specification Database

www.state.ma.us/ota/support/medspecs.htm
Database includes language used in Requests for Proposals (RFPs), public solicitations for contracts, or purchasing contracts to specify environmentally preferable products for health care organizations.

Healthcare for a Healthy Environment (H2E) - EPP Resources

http://www.h2e-online.org/tools/epp_res.htm#mercury
Contains a list of resources that hospitals can use to improve their mercury-free purchasing practices.

Sustainable Hospitals Website

<http://www.sustainablehospitals.org/>
Includes general information for promoting EPP. Also includes specific information for selecting non-mercury thermometers and for procuring aneroid sphygmomanometers.

Wisconsin Mercury Sourcebook

<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/bnsdocs/hgsbook/ed.pdf>
Covers mercury use and P2 in schools. Includes information on alternatives to mercury-containing lab chemicals and switches.

NEWMOA Mercury Thermostats Topic Hub – Alternatives

<http://www.newmoa.org//prevention/topichub/bibliography.cfm?hub=102&subsec=10&nav=101>
A list of online resources related to non-mercury thermostats.

NEWMOA Mercury Thermometers Topic Hub – Alternatives

<http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/topichub/subsection.cfm?hub=101&subsec=10&nav=101>

INFORM Inc.

<http://www.informinc.org/PBTmedequip.htm>
“Purchasing for Pollution Prevention Project: Mercury-Free Medical and Surgical Supplies” includes performance information on mercury-free substitutes and actual specifications used in state government contracts.

<http://www.informinc.org/fsbldgs.pdf>

Table of building construction and maintenance products and non-PBT alternatives (including non-mercury alternatives)

SKI AREA P2

The Green Room, Ski Industry Environmental Database of the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA)

http://www.nsaa.org/nsaa2002/_environmental_charter.asp?mode=ss
Information on the Environmental Charter and Sustainable Slopes Program of the NSAA.

Greening Your Ski Area, A Pollution Prevention Handbook

<http://www.peakstoprairies.org/p2bande/skigreen/>
A comprehensive manual for P2 at ski areas. Covers various aspects of this sector and includes a number of case studies. Demonstrates that practical, proven techniques and technologies that exist for reducing environmental impacts of ski area operations and identifies resources for ski area personnel to obtain more information.

Storm Water Phase II

EPA NE has been giving a variety of workshops and presentations for construction activity (now regulated over five acres of disturbance, and as of March 2003, over one acre). These include workshops in NH in partnership with the NH Office of State Planning's Seacoast program, DES, and Granite State Designers and Installers; presentations to Massachusetts trade associations and firms; and presentations at regional events like the International Erosion Control Association's northeast annual meeting. A second workshop for Associated General Contractors of Massachusetts is scheduled for this Spring, and EPA NE is continually seeking other partners, events and venues.

EPA NE is also developing tools and writing articles to bolster their in-person outreach efforts, and participating on OECA's compliance assistance work group for Construction, which is developing multi-media products for the sector. Enforcement continues simultaneously, providing a good motivation to increase awareness. Abby Swaine and Chris Jendras are focusing on construction outreach, which will focus not only on the industry but on the many government and other public entities that do construction or can influence it.

EPA NE is winding down the outreach to Departments of Public Works (DPWs) and Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) on Phase II requirements, having (with considerable assistance from our state partners) offered 8 workshops for POTWs and 16 for DPWs, plus disseminated a model Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for DPWs and another for POTWS. Jack Healey is now turning his attention more completely to outreach and technical assistance to the municipalities and institutions (MS4s) that will have to develop comprehensive storm water programs. Chris Jendras will be taking the lead to develop outreach specifically targeted to the construction and post-construction programs MS4s will have to develop. They will be offering application workshops and other practical support to MS4s throughout FY2003. **For more information contact:** Jack Healey, EPA Region 1-New England (617) 918-1844.

Colleges & Universities

To help colleges and universities (C/Us) implement best management practices (BMPs), EPA NE is planning to co-sponsor a regional workshop and make presentations at existing workshops. The presentations will promote a BMP Catalogue and will encourage C/Us to submit additional case studies to be incorporated into it. The workshop will focus on environmental sustainability topics such as: waste minimization; micro-scale chemistry; recycling; End-of-Life Electronics; green building, and implementing an EMS. EPA will coordinate with state assistance programs (MA EOECA) and non-profit organizations to include issues such as environmentally preferable purchasing (EPP) and Green Building. **For more information contact:** Peggy Bagnoli, EPA Region 1-New England (617) 918-1828 or Josh Secunda, EPA Region 1-New England (617) 918-1736.

Schools

EPA New England obtained funding from various EPA offices (Office of Water, Office of Children's Health, and the Office of Pollution Prevention) to test environmental management system (EMS) development in schools in pilot projects in MA and ME. On September 13, a kickoff meeting for the Massachusetts Schools EMS pilot project took place in Amherst, MA. MA DEP participated along with representatives from several towns. The meeting allowed participants to clarify expectations, sign all necessary contracts, and receive initial EMS training. The Assistance and Pollution Prevention office is also partnering with the American Lung Association of Maine's Schools EMS project to promote the program in southern Maine. **For more information contact:** Lee Fiske, EPA Region 1-New England (617) 918-1847; Joan Jouzaitis, EPA Region 1-New England (617) 918-1846; or Cindy Brown, EPA Region 1-New England (617) 918-1743

Metal Finishing

The National Strategic Goals Program for metal finishers has shifted its focus. The Program will now concentrate on encouraging metal finishers across the country to develop Environmental Management Systems. The partners of the Strategic Goals program, including American Electroplaters and Surface Finishers (AESF)

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NORTHEAST STATES P2 CALENDAR

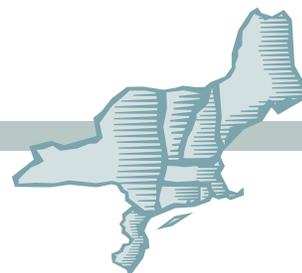
TITLE	SPONSOR	DATE / LOCATION	CONTACT
Marina & Boat Yard Workshops in New York State	NYS DEC	December 5, 2002 Grand Isle, VT; December 18, 2002 Wantagh, NY; January 8, 2003 Williamsville, NY; January 14, 2003 Canandaigua, NY; February 4, 2003 Staten Island, NY	518-402-9474
NOFA's 2 nd Annual Course in Organic Land Care	NOFA	January 21-23, 2003, Boylston, MA, January 28-29, 2003, Boylston, MA	617-576-0810
Mid-Atlantic P2 Conference	NPPR	January 30-31, Baltimore, MD	202-299-9701
Building Energy 2003 Conference & Trade Show	NESEA	March 12-15, 2003, Boston, MA	413-774-6051 x20
International Sustainability Indicators Network Meeting	City of Toronto, Environment Canada	March 13-16, 2003, Toronto, Ontario	978-688-7053
7 th Canadian Pollution Prevention Roundtable	C2P2	June 11-12, 2003, Calgary, Alberta	519-337-3425 or 800-667-9790
Energy, Economic & Global Challenges: Environment in the Balance	A&WMA	June 22-26, 2003, San Diego, CA	412-232-3444 x3127
Sustainability & Industry-Increasing Energy Efficiency & Reducing Emissions	ACEEE	July 29- August 1, 2003, Rye Brook, NY	302-292-3966
11 th International Conference of the Greening of Industry Network	GIN	October 12-15, 2003, San Francisco, CA	781-646-4596
Sustainable Innovation 03	CfSD	October 27-28, 2003, Sweden	+44 0 1252 89 27 72
NPPR Spring Conference	NPPR	April 8-11, 2003, Louisville, KY	202-299-97901
For a more complete listing of upcoming events, visit www.newmoa.org			

Association, Metal Finishing Suppliers Association (MFSA), National Association of Metal Finishers (NAMF), EPA, States, and POTWS feel that environmental management systems will help metal finishers to reap the economic rewards that going beyond compliance can bring to a small business.

As Corporate Sponsors of the Strategic Goals Program, Pratt & Whitney of Hartford, CT is sponsoring an Environmental Management System Project for their suppliers. The project kicked off on October 9 at the UTC Leadership Center in Farmington, CT. Pratt & Whitney, along with EPA Region NE and CT DEP, invited all Connecticut metal finishers to a one day workshop on Environmental Management Systems for Metal Finishers. Many attendees indicated that the measurement section of the workshop, based on case studies of companies that saved thousands of dollars by implementing an EMS, was most useful. Pratt & Whitney has now begun the next step of the project, a monthly peer training session that develops different aspects of an EMS. By the end of the project, participating companies should have a basic EMS developed for their facility. **For more information contact:** Linda Darveau, EPA Region 1-New England (617) 918-1718.

Electronics & Reusable Material

Chris Beling hosted a meeting on October 21 focusing on New England stakeholders working on “reuse” of used electronics. Representatives from all six New England states were present including State Agencies and not-for-profits. The meeting provided a networking opportunity to promote Regional collaboration. The group will meet again in the early winter to further discuss the LA Shares model; a not-for-profit in Los Angeles, CA that diverts materials from the business community to not-for-profits. **For more information contact:** Chris Beling, EPA Region 1-New England (617) 918-1792.



NORTHEAST P2 ROUNDTABLE

Mercury Video

To educate the public on some of the issues associated with mercury-added products and the work of NEWMOA's Interstate Mercury Education and Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC), the Association worked with a company that produces short videos that are aired on public broadcasting stations around the country. The program is part of the American Environmental Review series. The five-minute video is now being broadcast and there is a web link to it on the NEWMOA website (www.newmoa.org). It provides an overview of the environmental problems associated with mercury and what the states in the region are doing to address mercury-containing products in waste.

Greening the Government Conference

EPA Regions 2 and 1 and NEWMOA are planning a “Greening the Government” two-day conference for June 2003. The exact date and location have not yet been determined. The conference will be for federal facilities, state government, state colleges and universities, and others. The conference agenda will be organized around two green themes - “Building Green” and “Buying Green.” Session topic suggestions and speaker and case study recommendations from readers of this newsletter are welcome during this planning stage. **For more information contact:** Karen Thomas, NEWMOA (617) 367-8558 x304.

Compliance Assistance Advisory Committee

NE P2 Roundtable staff is currently participating on an official advisory committee to the US EPA to provide the agency with advice on their compliance assistance programs. This “Compliance Assistance Advisory Committee” (CAAC) is a subgroup of the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT), which is an official advisory committee that was formed by EPA under federal statute with the purpose of providing advice to the EPA Administrator on key policy and technical issues facing the agency. The CAAC

views pollution prevention as integrally connected with compliance assistance. The CAAC is developing recommendations to the Agency primarily in the areas of compliance assistance measurement, development of effective partnerships, and integration of compliance assistance throughout the agency. If readers are interested in discussing the efforts of the CAAC, ideas on ways of making compliance assistance more effective, or the policy topics identified above, contact Terri Goldberg, NEWMOA, (617) 367-8558 x302 or tgoldberg@newmoa.org.

Measuring the Impact of P2 Programs

As available funding diminishes, many environmental programs are being asked to show the effect of their activities on the environment in order to justify the funds that they receive. Under grants from EPA, NEWMOA has been working with its member P2 programs to develop a system to track program activities and their associated outcomes. The resulting Access-based software was distributed to interested P2 programs in the spring of 2002. The database can be used to track program activities and their associated behavioral and/or environmental outcomes in three main areas: client projects, including on-site visits and grants; workshops and conferences; and production of educational materials. Activities related to information requests are also tracked. Over the summer and fall, NEWMOA staff traveled to many of the states to provide in-depth training on using the database and to obtain feedback on the system. Future work includes making upgrades to the software based on the suggestions and comments received, and finalizing the accompanying Users Manual. NEWMOA will soon receive a new grant from EPA to develop a limited number of reports to obtain aggregated output from the database. NEWMOA is also sharing and discussing the database with P2 programs around the country through the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable. **For more information contact:** Jennifer Griffith, NEWMOA (617) 367-8558 x303, jgriffith@newmoa.org.

P2 Topic HUBs Launched

NEWMOA is pleased to announce the launch of the Marinas Topic Hub and the Environmental Management Accounting Topic Hub. The Topic Hubs are web-based guides to resources on selected topics. A Topic Hub:

- provides quick answers to common questions about why a topic is important, describes the topic, what options for change are available, and who has expertise with the topic;

- invites the user to add resources pertinent to the topic;
- provides juried comments/reviews and ratings of the collected materials; and
- offers direct referrals to expert resources.

The new Marinas Topic Hub includes: background information on the industry; information about the key processes and raw materials used at marinas; an overview of federal regulations that marinas need to comply with; economic benefits and the enhanced public image that come from implementing P2; information about technologies and operating practices that reduce the hazards, quantities and costs of waste; and a list of online publications related to the P2 at Marinas.

The new Environmental Management Accounting (EMA) Topic Hub is intended to inform assistance providers so they may encourage the use of EMA at firms. The Topic Hub includes: a definition of EMA and why companies might use it; why traditional accounting systems are not sufficient and how EMA can aid P2 efforts; what information is needed to “do” EMA and how to collect it; and a list of online publications that highlight EMA techniques and success stories at firms.

In addition to the two new Topic Hubs, NEWMOA has developed five Hubs covering general mercury issues, mercury thermometers, mercury thermostats, mercury in dental clinics, and metal fabrication and machining. The general Mercury Hub provides background on the issues related to mercury including health effects, releases to the atmosphere, mercury in products, mercury in the environment, and fish advisories. It also covers the spectrum of assistance and regulatory approaches focused on mercury reduction, as well as federal, state, and local mercury reduction programs. The Mercury Thermometer and Thermostat Hubs cover collection and exchange programs, alternative products, handling, recycling, and disposal issues and spills.

The Mercury in Dental and the Machining and Metal Fabrication Hubs, like all of the P2Rx sector-related hubs, provides a background and overview on these sectors, outlines the resource inputs and outputs, outlines what drivers there are for changing from traditional behaviors and technologies, and what the P2 opportunities are for these sectors.

In addition to the Topic Hubs mentioned above, there are currently 31 other Topic Hubs available from www.p2rx.org, covering such topics as EMS, Green Procurement, and Residential Construction.

For more information contact: Andy Bray, NEWMOA (617)367-8558 x 306, abray@newmoa.org.



Northeast Waste Management
Officials' Association
129 Portland Street, 6th floor
Boston, MA 02114

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Boston, MA
Permit No. 50276

NORTHEAST STATES POLLUTION PREVENTION NEWS

- I would like to receive the Northeast States P2 News via e-mail. I've included my e-mail address below.
- Please add my name to the Northeast States P2 News mailing list.
- Please remove my name from the mailing list.
- Please change my address (send us your old mailing label and list the new address below).

Name

Company/Agency/Organization

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City

State

Zip

E-mail *(please print clearly)*

Return this form to: NEWMOA, 129 Portland Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02114, fax: (617) 367-0449,
e-mail: nep2news@newmoa.org.