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The Newsletter of the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable (GLRPPR)

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Resolutions for a Happy P2 New Year

It's that time of year again when we pause to consider what we might like to improve upon in our lives during the year ahead. In 2003, why not make some of your resolutions with pollution prevention (P2) and other environmental issues in mind? Tim McDaniel of International Truck and Engine Corporation in Springfield, Ohio, has suggested the following resolutions. Consider these, and have a safe, happy and environmentally friendly New Year!

- **Lose weight** – eliminate unnecessary packaging in landfills by requiring your suppliers to ship in returnable or recyclable materials
- **Exercise more** – exercise your purchasing power through environmentally preferable purchasing
- **Eat better** – choose organically grown foods, or foods that require less chemicals, energy or natural resources in processing and packaging. Maybe even plant a garden!
- **Stop and smell the dandelions** -- do lawns really need to be perfect? Tiptoe through your yard without a fear of exposure to chemicals.
- **Go to a spa** – get the toxins out of your body, your house and your workplace
- **Listen better** – lots of ideas are spoken quietly or just once, so be an active listener and ask questions that may help promote P2 thinking and challenge the status quo
- **Spend time wisely** – spend your time on what matters most, not on what is most urgent, and don't spend all of your time on work
- **Donate more** -- don't throw away, give away. You will be surprised what other people want for free.
- **Celebrate even the small victories** – don't forget to have fun. All P2 victories need to be celebrated and publicized, even the ones people "just do" without thinking... complacency can kill the best P2 program.
- **Read a book** – read a classic environmental book or a new one on lean manufacturing to gain new P2 insights
- **Give a compliment** – compliment someone on the "other" side of the environmental table for their hard work and dedication in areas where you have shared successes
- **Serve your community** – volunteer in a classroom, club or civic group on environmental issues this year, or write an article for the LINK!
- **Stay in touch with old friends** – maintain your contacts in GLRPPR
- **Take more walks outside** – or bike rides, or drives on scenic highways. After all, one reason we all care about P2 is because we enjoy nature.
- **Keep on truckin'** – the low hanging fruit is easy, but the choice fruit requires you to keep on trying

Mark Your Calendars for the 2003 GLRPPR Winter Conference

The Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable (GLRPPR) Winter Conference will be held March 4-6, 2003 in Chicago, IL. The GLRPPR Steering Committee will meet on Tuesday, March 4, and the two-day conference will take place on March 5 and 6 at the U.S. EPA Region 5, GSA Conference

Center. Registration for both days for a Basic Member is \$65 U.S.; payment must be received in advance or at the door. For a complete registration fee schedule based on membership level, and to register online for the conference, please see www.glrppr.org/chicago2003/conferencereg.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Palmer House Hilton at the special rate of \$155 U.S. per night. Attendees are responsible for arranging their own travel and hotel accommodations; to make hotel reservations, call 1-312-726-7500 and ask for the Regional Roundtable Block. The cut off date for making hotel reservations as part of the block is February 2, 2003.

Over 20 speakers will cover a variety of topics ranging from recycling in public schools to the research and technology of alternative fuels. A tentative agenda is available online at www.glrppr.org/chicago2003/agenda.cfm. Please continue to check this web site for the most up to date agenda. As part of the opening remarks, Tom Ustanik of Lansing Cleaners will discuss the pollution prevention efforts that have made his company a two time Illinois Governor's Pollution Prevention Award winner. State & provincial program updates, as well as regional and national updates, will be presented on the first day of the conference, followed by an opening plenary panel on urban and industrial growth. This panel will focus on the Chicago Ford Industrial Park Initiative, and will feature presentations from Tim Lindsey of the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center and Suzanne Malec of the City of Chicago. The industrial park project involves locating suppliers, as well as support services within close proximity to an auto manufacturing plant. A closing plenary session on the afternoon of March 6 will focus on alternative fuels. Ms. Rodica Baranescu of International Truck and Engine Corporation will discuss research and technology associated with low emission diesel engines developed by International, and the use of low emission formulated diesel fuel.

Concurrent breakout sessions will take place on March 6 and will address the following topics:

- Technology/technical assistance partnerships
- Environmentally Preferable Purchasing
- Pollution prevention in schools
- P2 tools & techniques/EMS
- Hospitals for a Healthy Environment (H2E)
- Energy efficiency
- P2 in transportation and the MACT standard
- The PBT Profiler

For more information, please visit the conference web site at www.glrppr.org/chicago2003.

2003 NEHS Conference Targets Novice and Expert Alike

The eighth annual National Environmental, Health and Safety (NEHS) Conference for the Graphic Communications Industries will be held March 23-25, 2003, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Louisville, KY. The conference covers environmental, health and safety issues for the entire printing industry and is a collaborative effort of five organizations: the Foundation of Flexographic Technical Association (FFTA), Graphics Arts Technical Foundation (GATF), the Screen Printing and Graphic Imaging Association (SGIA), Gravure Association of America (GAA), and the National Association of Printing Ink Manufacturers (NAPIM).

Composed of two general sessions and 16 breakout sessions, the 2003 conference will cover topics such as ergonomics, the toxic release inventory, test methods, injury and illness reporting, effective health and safety programs, permanent total enclosures, air sampling, and calculating emissions. For the first general session, the partners hope to recruit John Henshaw, assistant secretary of labor for the Occupational Health and Safety Administration. The second general session will cover new source review. According to Doreen M. Monteleone, Ph.D., director of membership and environmental services for FTA and this year's conference chair, the conference will target both the novice and expert environmental administrators. Some sessions will be geared toward those who come to the conference with very little EHS background, whereas others are geared toward the experienced EHS professional.

Registrations are being accepted by GATF. Conference costs are \$495 for members and \$695 for non-members. Special discounts apply for government employees, educators, students and small businesses. Group rates are also available. For more information, visit the official conference website at www.nehsconference.org or call FTA at 631-737-6020.

PNEAC and FTA Receive National Recognition

A program completed on behalf of the Printers Natural Environmental Assistance Center (PNEAC) has been elected to the 2003 Associations Advance America Honor Roll, a national award competition sponsored by the American Society of Association Executives.

The honored project was a collaborative effort of the Flexographic Technical Association (FTA) and Illinois Waste Management and Research Center (WMRC). WMRC oversees the PNEAC project. The Waste Management & Research Center is a division of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

The project that won the honor was "In-Plant Environmental Self-Assessment for Flexographic Printers," a workbook

designed to help flexographic printers assess their present in-plant environmental compliance status and current material efficiency activities, as well as identify opportunities to reduce waste. Spearheading the initiative were FTA's Doreen M. Monteleone and Debra Jacobson of WMRC. The printing industry is one of the largest in Illinois employing thousands of people and contributing millions of dollars to the economy. There are more than 400 companies in Illinois that have some flexo operations.

Now in its 13th year, the Advance America Awards program recognizes associations that propel America forward with innovative projects in education, skills training, standards-setting, business and social innovation, knowledge creation, citizenship and community service.

PNEAC and FTA also worked together to garner an Associations Advance America Honor Roll berth in 2001 for a video conference entitled "High-Performance Flexo: Printing With a Greener/Cleaner Image."

Safe Chemicals in Education Workshops Offered in Illinois

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IL EPA), the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable (GLRPPR), and the Illinois Association of Regional School Superintendents are sponsoring a workshop on safe chemicals in education for Illinois teachers, administrators, and facilities management personnel. Presenters from the Illinois Department of Public Health will discuss which chemicals used in science classes put students and teachers at risk, as well as safe handling, storage and disposal of those chemicals. A representative from the Illinois State Board of Education will address how the new state learning performance descriptors apply to chemical safety. IL EPA personnel will discuss hazardous educational materials that are found in classrooms other than science rooms. Bill Nelson of the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center will discuss the use of non-toxic (or less toxic) materials for common science experiments. Attendees will be given a "how-to" manual for using non-toxic materials in science experiments. Dr. Nelson will also present at least one hands-on experiment using non-toxic materials for the attendees to perform. IL EPA is conducting hazardous educational materials pickups for schools; the pickup program and criteria will be discussed at the workshop.

Workshop dates and locations are:

- February 5, 2003 – Rend Lake Resort and Conference Center at Wayne Fitzgerald State Park
- February 11, 2003 – Illinois Waste Management and Research Center in Champaign
- February 20, 2003 – Deer Valley Country Club in Deer Grove
- February 26, 2003 – Adams Mark Hotel in Northbrook
- February 27, 2003 – Hilton Hotel in Oak Lawn

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Five Continuing Professional Development Units (CPDUs) will be offered for Illinois teachers. You may register online at www.glrppr.org/safechem. There is a registration fee of \$25, payable by cash or check only; credit cards are not accepted. Checks should be made payable to the University of Illinois, and it is recommended that you pay in advance to ensure a smooth registration. See the registration web site for mailing information and other details.

For more information on the workshops and hazardous educational materials collections, please contact Becky Lockart at Becky.Lockart@epa.state.il.us or 217-524-9642.

Pollution Prevention Workshop for Illinois Metal Finishers

The Village of Addison, Illinois will be hosting a pollution prevention workshop for metal finishers on January 21, 2003 at the Village of Addison Municipal Hall. All permitted industrial dischargers that perform electroplating, electroless plating, phosphating, electro polishing, and circuit board manufacturing are invited to attend. Speakers for the workshop include Jerry Brown and Dan Marsch of the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center, Krista Durlas of U.S. EPA, and Chris Puccini of the Illinois EPA Office of Pollution Prevention.

To register, contact Rick Federighi by January 10, 2003 at 630-279-2140. The cost to attend is \$10 per person, and includes registration, workshop materials and continental breakfast.

University of Wisconsin Offers Online Mercury Education Courses

Two online classes on Mercury Education are now available from University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Both graduate level classes are worth one credit. If you are not familiar with mercury, Mercury in Schools is recommended. If you would like to address mercury and other chemical issues in the community, then Mercury Reduction for Educators is recommended. Course descriptions are listed below. The estimated cost of the graduate credit is \$250. For further information on the spring classes, contact Al Stenstrup at: allen.stenstrup@dnr.state.wi.us or call 608-264-6282.

Selected Topics in Natural Resources: Mercury in Schools NRES 605, Spring 2003, 1 Credit

The goal of this online course is to provide middle and high school educators and technical assistance providers with a basic understanding of the environmental and health impacts of mercury to enable them to more effectively integrate mercury reduction and awareness activities into the existing curriculum. Participants will also gain an understanding of key educational

principles, why mercury in schools is important, history and current usages of mercury, and how to deal with mercury in schools.

Selected Topics in Natural Resources: Mercury Reduction for Educators NRES 605, Spring 2003, 1 Credit

The goal of this online course is to provide educators and technical assistance providers with an advanced understanding of issues affecting mercury reduction throughout society. Participants will also gain an understanding of governmental approaches to reducing mercury usage, storage issues, other toxic waste reduction efforts within schools, and ways to apply life cycle analysis to product use and disposal.

U.S. EPA Announces Pollution Prevention Grant Funds for 2003

Although U.S. EPA does not yet have an approved budget for 2003, Region 5 is proceeding with notification to solicit projects for the Regional P2 Demonstration grants in anticipation of funding at levels similar to last year. For more information about these grants, please see the Region 5 website at www.epa.gov/region5/p2/p2guidance2003.pdf.

Information on funding for the Pollution Prevention Incentives for States (PPIS) grant program for 2003 has not yet been released, but keep checking the U.S. EPA website at www.epa.gov/p2/grants/ppis/ppis.htm for any new information.

IL EPA Pollution Prevention Internship Program Application Deadline

Each year, Illinois EPA's Office of Pollution Prevention recruits upper-level university students to work on pollution prevention (P2) projects during the summer. Although students have been placed primarily at manufacturing facilities, they have also worked at small business development centers, trade associations, local government facilities, environmental groups and military installations. The purpose of the program is to help facilities identify, research and pilot P2 technologies and practices.

Each student selected for the program is required to attend an initial P2 training program in Springfield. The student will spend the remainder of the 12-week summer session working as a temporary full-time employee at the sponsoring facility. Students typically have backgrounds in engineering, environmental management, chemistry, or occupational health and safety.

Student and host facility applications for the Summer 2003 Pollution Prevention Internship Program are due January 31, 2003. Program information, student applications and host

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facility applications can be accessed online at www.epa.state.il.us/p2/internships. For more information on the program, contact Rick Reese at Richard.Reese@epa.state.il.us or 217-524-4335.

Michigan's P2 Internship Program Expanding in 2003

Building on the successes achieved in the past year, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is expanding the Pollution Prevention RETAP Internship Program (P2RIP) by offering 12 engineering internships in 2003. The P2RIP is a technical assistance partnership between the DEQ, industry, Michigan universities, and the Retired Engineer Technical Assistance Program (RETAP). Under the internship program, engineering students from participating universities are placed in small to medium size companies to work on projects that integrate pollution prevention (P2) practices and technologies into manufacturing operations. The DEQ compensates the interns, and mentoring support is provided by program engineers, faculty advisors, RETAP teams, and company supervisors.

For summer 2002, the DEQ placed interns at eight companies including chemical manufacturing, metal fabrication, and electroplating facilities. The interns worked on environmental management systems and implemented recycling programs, water reduction practices, solvent recovery, and various other process and energy efficiency projects. Savings for individual companies have been estimated as high as \$100,000 per year, and the interns have proven particularly valuable to companies with limited staff resources.

Michigan manufacturers interested in hosting an intern for 2003 should contact Dale Copedge at copedgdd@michigan.gov or 517-335-0383. Companies that have a RETAP assessment and submit a P2RIP project proposal form are eligible for an intern. For additional information on RETAP or to request an assessment, please contact Elizabeth Sapio at sapioe@michigan.gov or 517-335-0081.

NY State EFC Small Business Assistance Program Launches New Web Site

The New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation's (EFC) Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) has redesigned its web site to make searching for information easier, and to include more current updates. Information on the site is now primarily organized by business sectors. A list of available sectors appears along the right-hand side of the home page, and currently includes Autobody Shops, Boilers/Furnaces/Generators, Drycleaning—Perc, Drycleaning—Petroleum, Drycleaning—Other Methods, Electroplating—Chromium, Gasoline Stations—Stage I, Gasoline Stations—Stage II, Graphic Arts—Flexographic, Graphic Arts—Lithographic, Metal

Degreasing, Sand & Gravel Operations, Surface Coating—Metal, and Surface Coating—Wood. By selecting "Business Sector Information" from the navigation bar on the left-hand side of the home page, you may perform a search of the sector-related information by keyword and/or type of resource.

The SBAP is a free, non-regulatory, confidential technical assistance program created to help small businesses achieve compliance with Federal or State air emissions requirements. For more information, visit the newly redesigned web site at www.nysefc.org/tas/sbap.

CMTI Investigates Safer, Cleaner Technology For FRP Industry

Styrene emissions, which pose a potential risk to employee and public health, are an ongoing problem plaguing the Fiber Reinforced Plastics (FRP) industry. However, many experts believe that Light-Resin Transfer Molding (L-RTM) is ready to prove itself as a reliable, low-cost, safer, and cleaner manufacturing process for this industry. And, while the industry is interested in this technology, most companies are so strapped for technical staff resources that they simply cannot dedicate manpower to an in-house assessment. To circumvent this hurdle, the Indiana Clean Manufacturing Technology and Safe Materials Institute (CMTI) is collaborating with a number of companies, vendors and utilities to provide an objective analysis of the L-RTM at its Coating Applications Research Laboratory (CARL).

By using production molds and resin systems from different companies, CMTI/CARL engineers will be able to transfer solutions from one system to another. Applying this technology to varied systems will facilitate trouble-shooting and enrich the analysis, while at the same time protecting priority solutions unique to each participating company's process. It is hoped that the general knowledge gained from this project will aid in a broader application of this technology.

The CMTI/CARL L-RTM project will be tailored to the needs of each company involved in the project. The process investigation will involve: 1) cost analysis, 2) product quality analysis, 3) manufacturing productivity analysis, 4) molded product manufacturing parameters determination, and 5) transfer of proven technology back to the company's manufacturing process via on-site technical assistance and training.

Companies participating in phase one of this project will provide a production mold and financial support for engineering services. Suppliers will provide resin, gel coat, and L-RTM materials. The project is expected to last six to nine months. During this time, periodic reports on the non-proprietary findings from this project will be issued to the 48 company members of the Indiana Fiber Reinforced Plastics (FRP) Consortium organized and maintained by CMTI.

Green Illinois 2002 Annual Report Released

The Illinois Green Government Coordinating Council's 2002 Annual Report is available on-line at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/green-illinois/green-government/annual-report/2002/annual-report-2002.pdf>. The report details the progress state executive agencies have made in reducing their environmental impacts – from the goods and services they use, to the energy and water they consume, to the waste they generate. Specifically, the report highlights the environmental improvement projects these agencies carried out in 2001. The projects varied widely, ranging from reducing paper waste, to installing energy efficient equipment, to purchasing environmentally preferable products.

The report also summarizes the activities of the Council, which Governor George Ryan created to help state agencies improve the environmental and energy efficiency of their operations. In 2001, the Council initiated a series of workshops for agency environmental liaisons and staff to increase awareness of environmental best management practices for state facilities, covering such topics as green building design, environmentally preferable purchasing, alternative fuels use, and native landscaping.

The Council also initiated two lighting efficiency demonstration projects, created a program to collect mercury thermometers from state employees and worked with the Governor's Office to commit the state to purchasing a portion of electricity from renewable energy sources.

While Illinois state agencies have made great strides in protecting the environment, more can be done. The Council members are currently working with architects, engineering firms and trade associations to develop green building performance recommendations that would facilitate the use of environmentally friendly products and techniques in state construction projects.

Illinois Green Government Awards Presented

The second annual Illinois Green Government Awards ceremony was held in Springfield during December.

Awards for overall "Outstanding Performance" were presented to the Department of Transportation (DOT), Illinois State Police and the Department of Military Affairs.

- DOT was recognized for reclaiming obsolete and damaged highway signs for reuse; adopting environmental management plans for the proper handling, storage and use of regulated substances; testing a reusable oil filter for heavy equipment and trucks; updating the HVAC system with automated controls at the District 9 facility; and converting to high efficiency boilers at the District 3 facility.

- The State Police were recognized for using rechargeable battery packs in crime scene investigations; increasing distance learning/video conferencing; installing water saving shower and toilet components at the State Police Academy; expanding the use of environmentally preferable cleaning products; and increased lighting and energy efficiency measures.
- The Department of Military Affairs was recognized for distilling paint gun cleaning solvent for reuse; using membrane filtration systems to extend the life of cleaning solvents; and installing energy efficient fixtures, programmable thermostats and high efficiency windows as part of a renovation project.

The Pollution Control Board was recognized in the special category of Resource Efficiency for the use of video conferencing for 50 percent of its meetings, as well as encouraging carpooling and use of public transit. The Department of Nuclear Safety was recognized in the special category of Environmentally Preferable Purchasing by use of "just-in-time" purchasing and chemical tracking, in addition to replacing mercury thermometers with alcohol or electronic thermometers.

Two agencies were presented with the Melissa Paige Awards for Waste Reduction. The awards are named in honor of the former coordinator of the state's I-CYCLE program, who passed away earlier this year.

- The Department of Military Affairs was recognized for recycling paper, scrap metal, universal waste, vehicle waste fluids, paint cans and carpeting.
- The Department of Corrections was recognized for recycling numerous materials at its facilities as well as processing recyclable materials at the Menard Correctional Center that were generated from communities in Randolph County.

The Department of Corrections was also recognized in the Protecting an Endangered Species category by setting aside 20 acres at the Stateville Correctional Center to protect the Hine's Emerald Dragonfly.

Finally, five agencies honored at the First Green Government Awards were recognized for Continuing Excellence.

- The Illinois Department of Lottery for various resource and energy savings measures;
- The Department of Central Management Services for numerous energy conservation efforts and an integrated pest management program;
- The Department of Natural Resources for recycling, energy conservation and incorporating environmentally preferable products and green building concepts into its new headquarters building;
- The Department of Public Aid for waste reduction, use of ethanol vehicles and rechargeable batteries; and
- The Department of Corrections, receiving its third Green Government Award for a variety of energy efficient and resource conservation steps.

Indiana Governor's Awards Honor Environmental Excellence for 2002

Indiana recently recognized several Hoosier businesses, individuals and agencies for their extraordinary environmental achievements. Governor Frank O'Bannon and Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) Commissioner Lori F. Kaplan presented the awards. For more detailed information (including detailed project descriptions), visit the IDEM web site at <http://www.in.gov/idem/oppta/govawards> or call 800-988-7901.

Energy/Renewable Resources

- **The City of South Bend's Division of Environmental Services** received its award for implementing an engine driven blower that conserves natural gas and electricity by using methane gas, a byproduct of the wastewater treatment process, as a primary fuel.

Pollution Prevention/Source Reduction

- **Fairfield Manufacturing Company Inc.** discontinued a copper cyanide plating process and replaced it with a masking procedure using specially formulated paint that is more environmentally friendly and safer for employees.
- **GE Plastics Mt. Vernon Inc.** identified and implemented a stabilizer for use in the Ultem® resin manufacturing that has reduced the formation of heavy solids and byproducts, resulting in a 45 percent reduction in hazardous waste generation.
- **Nishikawa Standard Company, New Haven Division** changed technology in its rubber extruding and finishing process that resulted in a 59 percent reduction in hazardous waste, 27 percent reduction in non-hazardous air pollutants, 3 percent reduction in electrical consumption and 20 percent reduction in industrial waste.
- **NTN Driveshaft Inc.** eliminated its use of quench oils with sodium nitrite, reduced its use of sulfuric acid by 9750 pounds, potable water by 500,000 gallons, lead grease by 273,672 pounds and calcium chloride by 44,900 pounds. The company also decreased Volatile Organic Compounds emissions by 13.12 tons.
- **Reilly Industries Inc.** improved reactor yield by switching to a new type of catalyst. The company has seen a 60 percent decrease in waste generation while reducing the need for raw materials, maintaining product quality and realizing a 20 percent increase in yields for an annual cost savings estimated between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000.
- **Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana Inc.** eliminated the use of lead in their electro-deposition process and no longer has to manage the resultant waste stream as hazardous waste for lead. The Toyota Technical Center worked with its supplier, PPG Industries, Inc., to eliminate the lead content in

an additive used for corrosion protection.

- **Valeo Inc. - Engine Cooling Automotive Division** eliminated an entire process that used hazardous chemicals, water and natural gas by changing the substrate of its product to a corrosion resistant alloy. In addition to eliminating hazardous waste and releases, the company has realized cost savings from streamlined operation and decreased utility costs.

IDEM Announces New P2 Branch Chief

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is pleased to announce that Karen Teliha has accepted the position of Pollution Prevention Branch Chief with the Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance (OPPTA), effective December 23, 2002.

Ms. Teliha graduated from Ball State University with a degree in environmental science. She has worked for IDEM-OPPTA since 1997 as a member of the Compliance and Technical Assistance Program (CTAP), providing P2 and compliance assistance to Indiana industries. As a member of CTAP, she was involved in various P2 projects including managing P2 grants, assisting with the Toxic Release Inventory Quality Assurance efforts, and integrating pollution prevention technologies in new IDEM regulations. Prior to working at IDEM, she worked for an environmental consulting firm.

For more information on the Pollution Prevention Branch of IDEM-OPPTA, see the program's website at <http://www.in.gov/idem/oppta/p2/>.

Michigan To Demonstrate Production and Use of Alternative Fuel

The Michigan Department of Consumer and Industry Services' Biomass Energy Program has partnered with the City of Grand Rapids and several local businesses to demonstrate the feasibility of collecting waste fryer oil to produce biodiesel fuel. A \$20,000 grant was awarded to the city for this project. The goal of the project is to introduce and promote the use and production of biodiesel fuel for area farmers and residents. The City of Grand Rapids will demonstrate use of the alternative fuel in one or more of its vehicles in 2003. Reducing the health impact of diesel soot and greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, as well as educating citizens about the benefits of this safe fuel, are additional goals of the project.

The prospect of biodiesel playing a larger role in fueling cars and trucks is largely based on its cleaner burning characteristics. Biodiesel can reduce net CO₂ emissions by 78%, reduce particulate emissions by 68%, reduce CO emissions by 46% and completely eliminate tailpipe emissions for SO_x compared to petroleum diesel. This is even more significant in light of the recent Health Assessment for Diesel Exhaust conducted

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by the U.S. EPA, which states in part "...available evidence indicates that adverse health effects may result from current-day environmental inhalation exposure to diesel exhaust. Diesel exhaust may cause acute and chronic non-cancer respiratory effects and has the potential to cause lung cancer in humans." Demonstration projects like the one in Grand Rapids, Michigan are important first steps to raise the awareness of business leaders and policy makers to the benefits of using a locally sustainable energy source and to encourage the investment in production and delivery infrastructure. Ultimately the establishment of full-scale biodiesel production facilities throughout West Michigan could utilize local agricultural products and urban wastes to improve the environment and reduce dependence on finite petroleum resources.

For more information contact Ms. Kelly Launder, Michigan Department of Consumer and Industry Services, at 517-241-6223.

2002—A Busy Year For MnTAP

The Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) exceeded its 2002 goals of reducing one million pounds of waste and saving companies one million dollars. This was accomplished through telephone assistance, site visits, the student intern program and the Materials Exchange. Over the past year, MnTAP helped Minnesota companies cut over two million pounds of solid and hazardous waste, 2,300 pounds of air emissions, 662,000 pounds of solids in wastewater and to conserve 7.9 million gallons of water. These efforts saved companies over \$1.4 million. In addition to working directly with Minnesota companies to maximize efficiency, in 2002 MnTAP held the Paint and Powder Coating Expo and was honored by Hospitals for a Healthy Environment (H2E).

2002 Paint and Powder Coating Expo—A Success

The 2002 Paint and Powder Coating Expo helped over 280 participants learn how to improve the efficiency of their industrial finishing operations while maximizing investment returns. The Expo, sponsored by MnTAP and the Chemical Coaters Association International, Twin Cities Chapter, included technical seminars, a vendor show and hands-on demonstrations. Participants focused on finding the best coatings, equipment and techniques for coating operations; comparing technologies; keeping abreast of technology developments; refreshing operator training and understanding environmental regulations. Presentations included topics related to new technologies and processes, powder and liquid coating, cleaning pretreatment, cost savings, waste reduction, environmental issues, water quality and case studies.

MnTAP Efforts Honored

MnTAP was one of the first 11 organizations honored by H2E with the "Champions for Change Award." The award recognized MnTAP's efforts to promote pollution prevention at health care facilities and for bringing more hospitals into the

Hospitals for a Healthy Environment (H2E) program. H2E is a joint effort of the American Hospital Association, American Nurses Association, Health Care Without Harm and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The program is working to eliminate mercury-containing waste, reduce the total waste volume generated and minimize the production of persistent bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT) pollutants in the health care industry.

Through MnTAP's outreach to over 130 Minnesota hospitals, 16 percent requested more information about H2E, six health care facilities signed on as H2E partners and three facilities implemented PBT and chemical reduction measures. MnTAP also had two intern projects at health care facilities in 2002.

In conjunction with the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance, MnTAP is sponsoring five H2E workshops in Minnesota this winter. Visit the health care page on MnTAP's web site (<http://mntap.umn.edu/health/health.htm>) for more information. For more information about H2E, visit www.h2e-online.org.

Michigan State University Receives Regional Pollution Prevention Grant

Michigan State University (MSU) received \$135,000 in grant funding to provide technical assistance to apple-growers using integrated pest management (IPM) practices to reduce broad-spectrum insecticide usage. MSU received the regional Pollution Prevention (P2) grant through the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The project includes growers in West Michigan, the Saginaw Bay area and Southeast Michigan.

The MSU Apple Growers P2 Project seeks to demonstrate IPM practices to apple growers by using pheromone attractants as a mating disrupter and as a lure to trap pests. MSU is also experimenting with different trapping and pheromone release techniques to better suit apple growers by looking for methods that are effective and easy to use. The goal of the project is to help Michigan apple growers reduce the use of broad-spectrum insecticides by 50%.

MSU has completed the first growing season of its Regional P2 Grant and is in the process of analyzing data on fruit damage caused by pests and evaluating the effectiveness of several pheromone trapping and mating disrupter techniques. The project will continue through the 2003 growing season. Some of the farmers in the study have already made good use of the information and data collected from the study to make management decisions in their orchards.

MSU hopes to be able to publish a report on the effectiveness of the study and on the resulting reduction of pesticide usage by next year. For more information contact: Michael Young, Michigan DEQ, at youngmw@michigan.gov or 989-686-8025.

NYSDEC Hosts Dialogue on Innovative Environmental Management Tools

In November 2002, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) hosted a dialogue on innovative environmental management tools at its Albany headquarters. The event, "Dialogue on Tools to Improve Environmental Performance," was hosted in partnership with the Council of State Governments (CSG) and the Multi-State Working Group (MSWG). The dialogue was part of the Policy Academy on Environmental Management Tools, a joint effort of CSG and MSWG to address the need for improved information on the effective use of environmental management tools in public policy. Approximately 80 participants attended the event, including representatives from England and Canada.

The objective of the dialogue was to better understand which environmental management tools hold the greatest promise for improved environmental performance and how to integrate these tools into the environmental protection framework. The dialogue consisted of four morning plenary sessions, in which participants presented examples of how environmental management tools can be applied and some lessons learned from past applications. In the afternoon, four discussion groups focused on different areas in which innovative approaches may hold promise.

A web site has been created as a repository for information presented and discussed at the dialogue, and upon completion, the final reporting for the dialogue will also be posted on this site. For more information on the dialogue, visit this web site at www.dec.state.ny.us/website/ppu/dialmain.html or contact the NYSDEC at 518-402-9469.

PNEAC and FTA Receive National Recognition

A program completed on behalf of the Printers Natural Environmental Assistance Center (PNEAC) has been elected to the 2003 Associations Advance America Honor Roll, a national award competition sponsored by the American Society of Association Executives.

The honored project was a collaborative effort of the Flexographic Technical Association (FTA) and Illinois Waste Management and Research Center (WMRC). WMRC oversees the PNEAC project. The Waste Management & Research Center is a division of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

The project that won the honor was "In-Plant Environmental Self-Assessment for Flexographic Printers," a workbook designed to help flexographic printers assess their present in-plant environmental compliance status and current material efficiency activities, as well as identify opportunities to reduce

waste. Spearheading the initiative were FTA's Doreen M. Monteleone and Debra Jacobson of WMRC. The printing industry is one of the largest in Illinois employing thousands of people and contributing millions of dollars to the economy. There are more than 400 companies in Illinois that have some flexo operations.

Now in its 13th year, the Advance America Awards program recognizes associations that propel America forward with innovative projects in education, skills training, standards-setting, business and social innovation, knowledge creation, citizenship and community service.

PNEAC and FTA also worked together to garner an Associations Advance America Honor Roll berth in 2001 for a video conference entitled "High-Performance Flexo: Printing With a Greener/Cleaner Image."

Wisconsin Energy Efficiency Program Delivers Results and Builds Momentum

Focus on Energy is a public-private partnership offering energy information and services to energy utility customers throughout Wisconsin. These services are delivered by a group of firms contracted by the Wisconsin Department of Administration's Division of Energy. The goals of the program are to encourage energy efficiency and use of renewable energy, enhance the environment, and ensure the future supply of energy for Wisconsin. In its first year (July 1, 2001–June 30, 2002), Focus on Energy saved the state's businesses and residents over 53 million kWh of electricity and approximately 2.5 million therms of natural gas. Electricity demand was reduced by 14 MW, and consumers' utility bills decreased by \$48 million.

During the quarter from July 1 – Sept. 30, 2002, Focus on Energy continued to build momentum, helping businesses and residents realize savings of 41 million kWh of electricity and about one million therms of natural gas.

Focus on Energy offers a variety of energy efficiency programs, including:

- **Residential Programs** that offer expert technical assistance to existing and new homeowners, landowners and tenants, and Cash-Back Rewards on qualifying ENERGY STAR® appliances, electronics and lighting products. The program is overseen by the Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation,
- **Business Programs** which target commercial businesses, industry, local governments, schools, water and wastewater facilities, and agriculture. These programs have helped businesses identify ways to reduce energy use, lower their operating costs, and improve their bottom line. The Milwaukee School of Engineering oversees the business programs.
- **Renewable Programs** that help business and residential consumers turn sun, wind, water, and organic resources into

[continued on next page](#)

electricity, heat, and fuel. The Midwest Renewable Energy Association oversees these programs.

- **Environmental Research Program** with the primary objective being to better understand the non-energy impacts of electrical generation and transmission within the state of Wisconsin and provide that information to decision makers. Funding is provided for research projects that address the overall environmental impacts of the electric utilities. The Energy Center of Wisconsin oversees the environmental research program.

For information about Focus on Energy services and programs, call 800-762-7077 or visit www.focusonenergy.com.

EPA Region 5 Announces TRI Training Workshops

U.S. EPA Region 5 will sponsor a number of full-day Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA) Section 313 / Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) workshops in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Minnesota, and Wisconsin locations. The TRI workshops will be conducted during the spring of 2003 as a part of the Region's effort to provide compliance assistance to the regulated industries. These workshops are intended to assist persons preparing their annual reports (Form R and/or Form A) on releases and other waste management activities concerning EPCRA Section 313 listed chemicals. The TRI Form R and Form A reports must be submitted to the EPCRA Reporting Center and designated state environmental offices on or before July 01 of each year.

The following is a schedule of the workshops. The workshops are free, and each will be held from 8:15 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. local time. Additional workshop schedules will be published on the TRI homepage (<http://www.epa.gov/tri>) in the future.

- March 25, 2003 -- Indianapolis, IN 46240; Marriott North Hotel, 3645 River Crossing Parkway
- March 27, 2003 -- Chicago, IL 60604; U.S. EPA Region 5, 77 W. Jackson Blvd., Conference Room 331
- April 23, 2003 -- Beachwood, OH 44122; Hilton Cleveland East / Beachwood Hotel, 3663 Park East Drive
- May 07, 2003 -- Cincinnati, OH 45202; Westin Hotel, 21 East 5th Street
- May 20, 2003 -- Minnetonka, MN 55343; Minneapolis Marriott S.W. Hotel, 5801 Opus Parkway
- May 22, 2003 -- Middleton, WI 53562; Madison Marriott West Hotel, 1313 John Q. Hammons Drive

To register, contact Fran Guido, U.S. EPA Region 5, via phone at 312-886-4348 or fax at 312-353-4788. Prior to registration, interested individuals are advised to verify dates and specific

locations for any changes; EPA bears no responsibility for your decision to purchase non-refundable transportation tickets or accommodation reservations. Space is limited, thus, registration is on first come first served basis. Workshop locations (hotels) have no information on the content of the workshops.

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