



LINK

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



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A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

by Bob Iverson

The recent Region 5 and 7 joint conference held in Omaha was great. There were interesting speaker, fun accommodations, a comfortable hotel, and great networking. Kudos to everyone in both regions who had a hand in organizing and hosting the event.

One of the things that made this conference unique was that it was held in meeting rooms at the Omaha Zoo. During the breaks participants were free to explore that very nice zoo.

I couldn't help but be struck by the positioning of the conference participants and the zoo (no comments about monkeys running the conference). Just outside the conference rooms, children were enjoying visits with some of the



exotic plants and animals of our world. The conference speakers were all talking about ways to preserve the environment, and what they were fighting for was right there for us all to see. We could see endangered species and environments such as rainforests. And we could see the next generation who deserve a healthy planet. It was fun to watch the children respond to the animals. The wide-eyed look of wonder and excitement that children have at the zoo is how we jaded adults need to look at the amazing world around us.

The Omaha event began with a daylong training on Lean and Clean, including Green Suppliers, energy issues and the connection to Environmental Management Systems. The first day of the conference itself offered a variety of topics including five reasons businesses go green, the state of the ethanol industry, Green Chemistry, the Waste to Profit network, carbon credits, measuring climate change, and reports on issues from officials with the EPA and the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable. The second day offered report outs from the states in Region 5 & 7, a discussion of some new CARE grant programs, information about the Midwest Product Stewardship Council, and a discussion of P2 Intern programs. A very full agenda filled with many interesting items and examples.



About 50 people attended at least part of the event. We also had some great networking time at some wonderful restaurants in Omaha. Some of us even went to a minor league baseball game (it was a little chilly) while in Omaha.

So thanks to the people of Omaha for their hospitality. And we appreciate all of the planning and hard work of the committee.

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MnTAP SEES SUCCESS WITH TECHNOLOGY DIFFUSION METHODS

MnTAP recently completed an EPA-funded project in cooperation with the Kentucky Pollution Prevention Center and the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center that was focused on implementing technology diffusion principles to promote the use of innovative pollution prevention (P2) and energy efficiency (E2) technologies. MnTAP's approach to this project included identifying opinion leaders that would identify innovative technologies, encouraging opinion leaders to mentor within their industries, providing technology demonstrations, and conducting pilots of applicable technologies that result in full-scale implementation.

MnTAP began using this approach in 2004 and 2005 with the fiberglass reinforced plastics (FRP) and wood finishing industries. Then in 2006 and 2007, MnTAP continued with FRP and added metal casting, metal finishing, and powder coating industries. The objective was to engage these industries using the technology diffusion model by exposing industry to innovative technologies and thereby getting those technologies implemented. The goal of implementation was to further pollution prevention (P2) and energy efficiency (E2) by encouraging the adoption of new technologies.

As a result of this project from 2004 through 2007, a total of 25 demonstrations were held, 23 pilots were conducted, and 13 facilities implemented an industry technology identified by their peers. Many (18) are still in some process of evaluating technologies for implementation, half that many (9) have rejected a particular technology for any number of reasons.

So far, MnTAP has been able to document waste reduction of 1,500 pounds of chrome; 3,400 gallons of chrome plating bath concentrate; 30,000 pounds of VOC; and 5,000,000 gallons of water. In addition, energy use reductions include 8,881 MMBTU of natural gas and 399,500 kWh of electric energy. Cost savings to companies total approximately \$178,000.

The waste reduction potential includes over 1,100 pounds of styrene air emissions, energy reduction potential of over 18,485 MMBTU of natural gas and 1,729,000 kWh of electric energy. The cost savings potential is over \$293,450.

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TENNANT BENEFITS FROM TECHNOLOGY DIFFUSION PROJECT

As part of the technology diffusion project, MnTAP staff worked with Tennant Company to implement new technologies in their conversion coating line. Due to this work, Tennant has dropped their cleaner temperature to 105°F and the conversion coating now runs at ambient temperature. Tennant has been very interested in conversion coating chemistries which will reduce their energy usage. Several chemistries have been piloted with the help of their chemical supplier and each test has resulted in lower operating temperatures while maintaining the corrosion and adhesion requirements of their coating system. They have been successful in reducing the temperature from 120°F in both tanks to 105°F and ambient temperature.

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12TH CANADIAN POLLUTION PREVENTION ROUNDTABLE - EDMONTON

The annual Canadian Pollution Prevention Roundtable (CPPR), June 11-12, provides a unique opportunity in Canada for pollution prevention (P2) leaders, decision-makers, and practitioners to exchange ideas, share expertise, and coordinate P2 efforts. The CPPR brings together corporate, government, academic, and non-profit representatives and is an important event for networking and finding out about exciting P2 initiatives in Canada. Themes for this year's Roundtable include: Green Building and Sustainable Design, P2 as a Strategy to Combat

Climate Change, Sustainable Packaging, P2 Approaches in the Private Sector, Sustainable Consumption, Supply Chain Management and more. The Honourable Rob Renner, Alberta Minister of the Environment, will be starting off the event as a keynote speaker and Severn Cullis-Suzuki will be giving the closing keynote address. Presentations will be given by representatives from Environment Canada, Alberta Environment, City of Edmonton, Norwegian Ministry of the Environment, Mountain Equipment Co-op, Alberta Research Council, One Earth Initiative, Environmental Law Centre and many others.

The CPPR also features the 2008 Pollution Prevention Awards, presented by the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, which recognize innovative businesses and organizations from across Canada showing leadership in pollution prevention.

Come join us! On-line registration has been activated and the agenda has been posted at www.c2p2online.com/CPPR. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Visit www.c2p2online.com/CPPR and click on 'Become a Sponsor' for details. For additional information, please email leah@c2p2online.com or phone 416-979-3534 ext.1.

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BIODIESEL FUEL QUALITY & PUMP LABELING SEMINARS

Back by popular demand, the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program at the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity is hosting four statewide seminars on biodiesel fuel quality & pump labeling. Topics include the new Illinois pump labeling law, cold flow characteristics and additives, proper techniques for storage and handling, and ASTM updates. The featured speaker is Hoon Ge, a consultant with MEG Corporation. His company was selected to administer the national 1-800-BIODIESEL hotline where experts advise consumers and other industry members on issues related to biodiesel use.

To obtain registration information on locations, times, and fees call 800-252-3998 or visit the Web site at www.ienconnect.com/enviro.

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BUSINESS-TO-BUSINESS WORKSHOP ON BY-PRODUCT SYNERGY OPPORTUNITIES

The Ohio Business Council for Sustainable Development (OBCSD) is presenting this workshop on April 29 in Columbus to help develop a by-product synergy effort in central Ohio. By-product synergy (BPS) is the practice of matching producers of under-valued by-product streams with potential users, thus generating new revenues or cost savings while benefiting the regional economy and environment. The U.S. Business Council for Sustainable Development has helped to promote the practice of BPS by establishing successful industrial networks in other parts of the nation, and is now launching a new affiliate Council in Ohio. The purpose of this workshop is to bring together interested parties from Ohio, share information about available resources, and begin the process of establishing new BPS networks or expanding existing ones. Companies that have confirmed their attendance include Abbott Laboratories, American Electric Power, Anheuser-Busch, Ashland, Battelle, Fairmount Minerals, Honda, Owens Corning, Worthington Industries, and several others. The Ohio EPA Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention has provided technical assistance to participants of OBCSD in the past. OBCSD is an affiliate of the U.S. Business Council for Sustainable Development. Additional information is available by contacting the Ohio EPA Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention at 800-329-7518.

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RICHMOND SPARKLES AS INDIANA'S NEWEST CLEAN COMMUNITY

Richmond is "CLEAN," announced Indiana's environmental commissioner and local officials on April 24th during a special ceremony at the Richmond Municipal Building. As a result of its citywide plan for resource management and commitment to environmental protection, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's Commissioner Tom Easterly welcomed Richmond as the newest member of the Indiana Comprehensive Local Environmental Action Network, or Indiana CLEAN.

Coming Soon...Summer 2008 Edition

The LINK summer 2008 article solicitation will be sent to GLRPPR members via e-mail on or about June 2; articles will be due June 30. Send article ideas or questions to Wayne Duke at wduke@wmrc.uiuc.edu.

"Richmond is setting an example for others through its commitment to increase efficiency of street lights and traffic lights, reduce fuel consumption of city vehicles, eliminate items containing PCBs, conserve electricity in city buildings, reduce paper waste, and enhance recycling in city buildings," said Easterly. "I applaud the entire Richmond community for its good work to protect Hoosiers and our environment."

"The City of Richmond is honored to receive recognition for our commitment to environmental protection and for our work to provide a high quality of life for our residents," said Richmond Mayor Sally Hutton.

IDEM administers the Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge in partnership with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, the Indiana Department of Transportation, the Indiana Finance Authority, and the Indiana State Revolving Fund. Partner agencies provide financial incentives to Indiana CLEAN Community members, such as better terms and improved chances for state grant and loan dollars. Richmond is one of seven Indiana communities that have received the Indiana CLEAN Community designation from IDEM. To learn more about IDEM's CLEAN Community Challenge, visit www.cleancommunities.IN.gov.

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DTE ENERGY INTRODUCES "GREEN" DIELECTRIC FLUID FOR NEW DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS

Detroit Edison, a wholly owned subsidiary of DTE Energy, has introduced distribution transformers containing a renewable, vegetable-based oil at two locations in Southeast Michigan, with two more scheduled in the first half of 2008.

The benefits of using the vegetable-based FR3 instead of traditional petroleum-based dielectric fluid are:

- FR3 is derived from domestically produced commodity seed oils that are not required to be genetically engineered. This reduces our utility's dependence on petroleum products.
- Unlike petroleum products, the seeds are renewable.
- FR3 fluid has achieved the highest rating as an "ultimately biodegradable" product. It will exceed 99% biodegradation within 45 days of testing.
- FR3 has a high flash point, reduces the risk of transformer fires, thereby reducing the risk of a release. FR3 is listed as a "less flammable" insulating liquid per NEC Section 450-2.
- FR3 is expected to improve performance of distribution transformers and extend the average transformer life by 33%. Reducing the number of transformers disposed of as waste or recycled for raw material recovery and freeing up energy and natural resources for other uses.

The vegetable-based oils were used in the transformer installation at the new Skyline High School in Ann Arbor, Michigan. The Skyline High School is scheduled to open its doors to students for the first time in fall 2008. The new high school was designed and constructed to minimize its environmental impact and foster an ethic

of sustainability among its staff, students, and community. The school building will be applying for LEED certification. The school district was pleased to provide the first location for Detroit Edison's installation of a distribution transformer containing only renewable, biodegradable dielectric fluid.

The Ann Arbor Skyline High School has a transformer, three regulators, and a reducer, each separately padmounted. The equipment contains the following amounts of Envirotemp FR3tm Fluid:

- Transformer - 5 MVA: 1154 gallons (approx)
- Regulators: 280 gallons each
- Reducer: 0 gallons



Padmounted transformer and regulators containing vegetable based oils. Skyline High School, Ann Arbor, MI

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INDIANA RECOGNIZES NINE HOOSIER COMPANIES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP

Governor Mitch Daniels and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) announced nine new members to Indiana's Environmental Stewardship Program (ESP). The members were accepted into the program after agreeing to continuous environmental improvement and demonstrating long-term compliance with environmental laws.

"These nine Hoosier businesses are models for others and proof positive that sound environmental management is simply good for business," said Daniels.

These businesses are ESP's newest members:

- BF Goodrich Tire Manufacturing (Woodburn, Allen County)
- Covanta Indianapolis, Inc. (Indianapolis, Marion County)
- Cummins Fuel Systems Plant (Columbus, Bartholomew County)
- Cummins Inc.—Columbus Engine Plant (Columbus, Bartholomew County)
- Fun Country Marine Industries, Inc. (Muncie, Delaware County)
- Manchester Tank & Equipment (Elkhart, Elkhart County)
- Mitsubishi Climate Control (Franklin, Johnson County)
- Uniseal, Inc. (Evansville, Vanderburgh County)
- Wabash National Corporation (Lafayette, Tippecanoe County)

"ESP members voluntarily eliminate wastes, preserve resources, and protect the environment. They deserve recognition for going beyond basic requirements of the law," said Thomas W. Easterly, commissioner of IDEM.

Efforts during their first year of membership will result in:

- Reducing water use by 28,120,570 gallons;
- Reducing energy use by 240,232 kilowatt hours per year;
- Reducing solid waste by 2,246 tons and 1,080 gallons; and,
- Reducing hazardous waste by 65,592 gallons.

ESP recognizes businesses that have a strong record of environmental compliance, set goals for continuous improvements in environmental performance beyond their legal requirements, have internal systems in place to manage their environmental impacts, engage in community outreach, and consistently report results. In return for outstanding environmental action, ESP members can receive accelerated permit review, flexibility

in permitting, less frequent data review, and other benefits that will aid the company without loosening current environmental regulations.

This is the second year of the Environmental Stewardship Program and there are 33 members participating in this initiative. For more details about ESP, including membership requirements, benefit details, and how a facility can apply to become an ESP member, visit IDEM's Web site at <http://www.idem.IN.gov/prevention/esp>.

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OHIO COMPANIES RECEIVE THIRD FRONTIER AWARDS

On March 25, 2008, Lieutenant Governor Lee Fisher, chair of the Ohio Third Frontier Commission, announced more than \$12 million in grants to 17 Ohio entities to accelerate the development and growth of advanced energy from wind, solar, alternative fuel, energy storage and instruments, controls and electronics sectors.

The Third Frontier Advanced Energy Program is designed to help Ohio companies make technical progress toward the commercialization of advanced energy-related products for future applications. For more information about these awards, please visit www.odod.state.oh.us/newsroom/2008PR/releases/1877.asp.

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HAMILTON COUNTY BUSINESSES, ORGANIZATIONS AND COMMUNITIES TAKE THE CHALLENGE TO GO GREEN

The Go Green Challenge kicked off September 18, 2007, at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Cincinnati Children's partnered with Christ Hospital, the University of Cincinnati, Keep Cincinnati Beautiful, and the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District to initiate the challenge. The program, whose original mission was to educate organizations located in Hamilton County, both large and small, about the importance of making environmental friendly decisions and to challenge those organizations to "go green," has evolved into an ever-growing network of entities committed to taking steps to reduce their environmental impact.

Eddie Leonard, then Coordinator of the Green Team at Cincinnati Children's, said the idea for the Go Green Challenge started off as a tool to increase recycling at the hospital. "An employee in our environmental services department was talking about ways that the hospital could increase its recycling efforts," said Leonard. "After we talked, I reached out to the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District, Christ Hospital, and Keep Cincinnati Beautiful to see if they wanted to join in on the efforts to challenge their companies to recycle more, too. The different organizations and businesses were excited about the idea and decided that we shouldn't only recycle, but that we should challenge organizations throughout the county to make several good decisions that would help the environment."

Since then more than 70 organizations in the Hamilton County area have joined the initiative. Each of these organizations has developed at least one goal, and most have several, toward reducing their environmental impact. Subsequently, each organization received a Go Green Pledge certificate suitable for framing, which contains their stated goals and objectives.

The Go Green Challenge steering committee, which consisted of representatives from each of the founding organizations, developed a list of local technical resources available to help organizations achieve their goals in the areas of solid waste reduction, air quality, energy usage and efficiency, alternative fuels, storm water

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management, and pollution prevention strategies. As time went on, it became evident that there was a real desire on the part of the participating organizations to learn more, ask questions, and share information. This led to the kick-off of a monthly series of networking events held in January, February, and March 2008. Each of the three gatherings consisted of a keynote address about “green” projects being implemented at the host location, a question and answer session, and time for networking.

In January, people gathered at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden to hear Mark Fisher, Senior Director of Facilities & Planning for the Cincinnati Zoo, speak about “An Integrated Approach to Reducing Environmental Impact: Lessons from the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden.” Also at that time, County Commissioners Todd Portune and David Pepper were present to announce the County’s participation in the national Cool Counties Initiative and the adoption of the Environmental Stewardship Policy for Hamilton County.

In February, Go Green participants and other interested people convened at Park + Vine, known as Cincinnati’s green general store, to hear owner Dan Korman speak about “Green Purchasing: Challenges and Solutions.” This event was covered by the Cincinnati Enquirer and the article can be viewed at <http://news.enquirer.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080222/BIZ01/802220395/-1/back01>.

The Civic Garden Center of Greater Cincinnati hosted the third luncheon in the series. Vickie Ciotti, Executive Director of the Civic Garden Center, introduced the audience to an exciting project in the works that involves the design and construction of a “green learning station” of which a “green roof” is a major component. The keynote speakers were Gary Meisner, Landscape Architect with Meisner & Associates, and Michael Bolan, of UrbanAlta. They presented technical information in their address entitled “Case Study for Innovative Sustainability Technology: “Green Learning Station” Green Roof Project at the Civic Garden Center of Greater Cincinnati.”

Participating organizations were publicly acknowledged on Earth Day. On April 22, 2008 businesses, institutions, non-profits, and municipalities who had taken the Go Green Challenge were honored for their commitment to reducing the environmental impact from their operations. There were more than 70 organizations invited to the celebration. Keep up to date with the current list of participants by visiting the Go Green Challenge Web site at <http://www.hcdoes.org/gogreen.htm>.

For questions or to talk with someone about the Go Green Challenge, contact Catherine Walsh, Program Specialist with the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District, at 513-946-7732.

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INDIANA PROVIDES FUNDING FOR PROJECTS TO PREVENT POLLUTION

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and four Indiana businesses are working together to protect the environment through pollution prevention projects totaling more than one quarter of a million dollars. IDEM awarded \$251,000 in funding for several local projects aimed at conserving energy, conserving water, and reducing hazardous waste.

The recipients and their projects follow:

- Harrison Steel Castings Company (Fountain County) will reduce the amount of volatile organic compounds released into the air by reducing the amount of resin in their chemically bonded sand.
- Hill's Pet Nutrition Indiana, Inc. (Wayne County) will install a water conservation system and reduce the facility's wastewater discharge by millions of gallons.
- Frito-Lay, Inc. (Clinton County) will design and install a waste heat recovery system that will significantly reduce energy consumption.
- Saint-Gobain Containers (Jay County) will be the first company in the United States to install and test a new energy-efficient compressed air system.

Indiana's pollution prevention grants are available to businesses, cities and towns, and schools. Grants require a 50 percent match; reduced match amounts are available for minority business enterprises, small businesses, members of the Indiana Environmental Stewardship Program, and the Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge program.

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STEAM TRAP ASSESSMENTS LEAD TO ENERGY SAVINGS

During the past year, MnTAP conducted a pilot project with support from Xcel Energy and conducted over 35 steam trap assessments at facilities in Minnesota. From this testing, MnTAP found that a number of facilities had steam traps that are in need of repair or replacement. Once MnTAP conducts a steam trap assessment, the facility receives a detailed report outlining traps that are problematic and options for repair or replacement. Often, this report also includes information about potential rebates from the facility's utility provider. Recognizing a leak immediately and repairing or replacing problematic steam traps will result in energy and cost savings and may qualify for such rebates.

One particular site, Saint Anthony Park United Methodist Church, has already recognized the cost savings associated with steam trap testing. "We ended up replacing 21 traps this winter, which was more than the 12 originally planned. We have applied for an Xcel Energy rebate to help with the additional cost," Pastor Donna Martinson said. "However, we have had a \$4000 month for heating in the past, but not this winter. I think that's a sign of the improvement due to the repairs." The church is also planning to purchase a steam trap tester to stay on top of their steam system.

At Minnesota State University - Moorhead, MnTAP conducted an inspection of steam traps in the residential buildings, steam tunnel and heating plant, which represents only 12% of the facility's system. Tom Schmidt reports that during the follow-up from MnTAP's inspection, the facility found that most traps had a plugged inlet strainer. Therefore, he installed valves on the strainers to allow them to blow down while at operating pressure.

MnTAP found through its work with steam traps that it was very common for facilities to not be conducting steam trap inspections as recommended by the DOE. When facilities do not follow DOE inspection recommendations, the trap failure rate and associated energy costs will increase. Therefore, facilities with steam traps should evaluate the DOE testing frequency recommendations and implement a maintenance schedule to lower the likelihood of failure and save money and energy.

Implemented suggestions from MnTAP's steam trap assessments to date have saved companies over \$73,000 and approximately 100,000 therms/year of energy.

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FREE LEAN AND CLEAN WORKSHOPS

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), in partnership with the Clean Manufacturing Technology Institute (CMTI) at Purdue University, is offering free “Lean and Clean” workshops at locations across Indiana for manufacturing facilities that are certified to the ISO 9001 Quality Management System Standard and/or have implemented lean manufacturing or other quality and production efficiency systems but do not have an Environmental Management System in place.



The purpose of this half day workshop is to increase the value of the lean and/or quality programs at participating manufacturers by incorporating environmental and energy efficiency elements to reduce overall cost and liability associated with manufacturing, to help reduce their “carbon footprint” and to enhance the facility’s contribution to their community’s sustainability. The workshops will be conducted by staff of CMTI at several locations across the state in June, July, and August; the locations and dates will be provided on the CMTI Web site: <https://engineering.purdue.edu/CMTI>. Those participating in the workshop will be eligible for a free one-day Lean and Clean assessment at their facility performed by CMTI staff or the IDEM Environmental Engineer.



Ten facilities will also be selected to receive three days of in-depth technical assistance, provided by CMTI staff on-site, to integrate environmental and energy elements into their lean and/or quality system.

For more information about the workshops and to register, contact: Gail A. Mills, Clean Manufacturing Technology Institute, Center for the Environment, Discovery Park, Purdue University, 2655 Yeager Road, Ste 103, West Lafayette, IN 47906, Phone: 765-463-4749, Fax: 765-463-3795, E-mail: gail.a.mills.1@purdue.edu.

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