



EPP Update

Issue 5 | September 1999 ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING

Fort Bragg Solves a "Pressing" Dilemma



A mix of creativity and technology helped the U.S. Army's Fort Bragg purchase new printing equipment that is preventing pollution and saving money. As a result of this environmentally preferable purchasing decision, the military base, located in Fayetteville, North Carolina, has reduced 1,500 gallons of hazardous waste from its printing operations and slashed its chemical purchasing and disposal costs by more than \$100,000.

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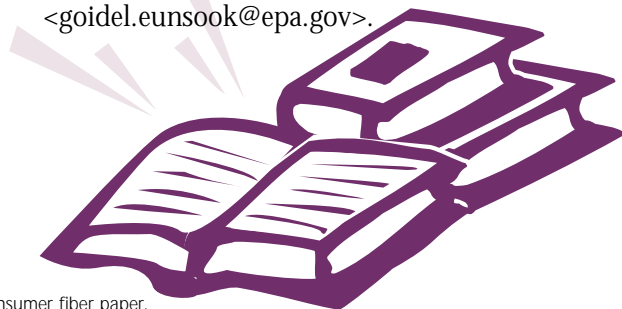
EPA's Final EPP Guidance Published

Responding to one of Executive Order (EO) 13101's mandates, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently released its *Final Guidance on Environmentally Preferable Purchasing*. As with the original, the new guidance outlines the federal government's approach for incorporating environmental considerations into its purchasing decisions. The final guidance reflects lessons learned from numerous EPP pilot projects and federal agency and public comments. It replaces the proposed guidance EPA originally released in September 1995.

One of the most noticeable changes is that EPA reduced the number of "guid-

ing principles" from seven to five in response to concerns that some of the original principles overlapped with one another. The new guidance also provides an updated list of EPP resources, an expanded glossary of terms and list of environmental attributes, and a sample EPP policy directive.

For a copy of the final guidance, please visit the EPP Web site at <www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp>. For additional information, contact Eun-Sook Goidel of EPA at 202 260-3296 or <goidel.eunsook@epa.gov>.



Highlights

- New Environmental Purchasing Tool for Local Governments
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- EPP in the Classroom
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Environmental Purchasing in Practice

Each *EPP Update* highlights a different paper type that EPA has determined to have certain positive environmental attributes. Read below to find out about the paper choice for this issue—Sandpiper.

This issue of the *EPP Update* is printed on Sandpiper, a paper from Domtar. Sandpiper is 100 percent postconsumer recycled-content paper made with minimal amounts of dyes. The paper is acid-free and is processed from non-deinked computer printout paper. No bleaching processes of any kind are used in the production of this paper.

Is Kenaf Recyclable?

Yes! A recent study showed that kenaf-based paper is totally compatible with mainstream mixed and white paper recycling processes and recycled paper production. If you have a white/high-grade office paper recycling program, check with the recycler to see if kenaf is accepted with that stream—some recyclers will accept it as white while others may not. It is perfectly acceptable in any mixed paper recycling collection program. The characteristics and fiber length of kenaf fibers are very similar to those of wood fibers, which is why kenaf paper can be successfully recycled along with wood-fiber paper.

For more information on kenaf paper, contact Thomas Rymysz at 505 294-0293 or <kenafman@aol.com>.



Note from the Editors

Environmental purchasing is not a new concept. Pioneering programs that have dealt with recycled content and energy-efficient purchasing, through many years of concerted effort, have built people's awareness that buying with the environment in mind makes environmental and economic sense. The EPP program is a relative newcomer on the scene. It builds on the knowledge and experiences of these earlier programs and broadens the environmental purchasing horizon, exploring concepts such as applying a lifecycle perspective to federal procurement. Yes, environmentally preferable purchasing involves new challenges—purchasers as well as suppliers need to make decisions that reflect a broader set of environmental factors. However, as the current and future issues of the *EPP Update* will

highlight, EPP is doable, thanks, in large part to pioneers such as Sgt. Hemsley and others. The commitment, communication, cooperation, and willingness of pioneers to try... risk... learn... adjust... retry, will make the successes of environmental purchasing easier to come by and more prevalent. Everyone has the opportunity to contribute to a greener government with each purchasing decision we make. Check out the EPP Web site <www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp> and its links to access all of the latest information and think about how you might be able to contribute to a bright EPP future.

Are you or someone you know an EPP pioneer who should be recognized in our upcoming issues? If so, please e-mail the editor at <epp.pilot@epa.gov> and include "EPP Pioneer for Update" as the subject title of the message.

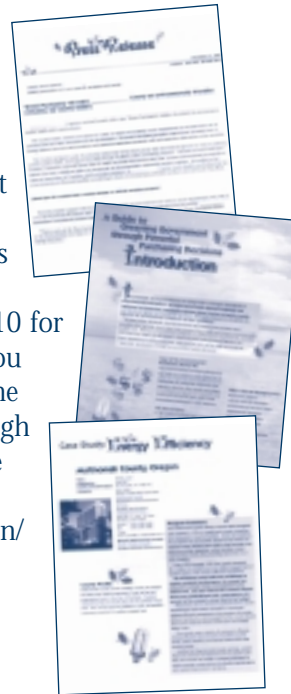
The commitment, communication, cooperation, and willingness of pioneers to try...risk... learn...adjust... retry, will make the successes of environmental purchasing easier...

New Environmental Purchasing Tool for Local Governments

(See also *EPP Update #4 [EPA742-N-99-001, March 1999]* and *EPP Update #2 [EPA742-F-97-002, November 1997]* for previous articles on NACo's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Project.)

A new tool created by the National Association of Counties (NACo), under a grant from EPA, will help local governments enhance their EPP practices. NACo's "Environmental Purchasing Starter Kit" was completed this summer and is available to parties interested in putting a cost-effective environmental purchasing program in place. The kit is designed for purchasing agents, county and city managers, recycling coordinators, local elected officials, product users, and vendors.

To order the Starter Kit, contact Naomi Friedman at 202 942-4262 or Tony Hayes at 202 942-4247. The Starter Kit is free to NACo members and \$10 for nonmembers. You also can order the Starter Kit through NACo's Web site <www.naco.org/programs/envirnon/purchase.cfm>.



The Starter Kit includes the following components:

- Information on how to implement an environmental purchasing program (e.g., how to gain support, collect baseline information, establish environmental criteria).
- Case studies on fleet maintenance, energy efficiency, and pest control.
- A sample purchasing resolution.
- A press release.
- A glossary of environmental purchasing terms.
- A baseline survey for internal local government use.
- A resource list.

EPP's Web Site Makes it Easy Meeting Green

(See also *EPP Update #4 [EPA742-N-99-001, March 1999]* for a previous article on EPA's green conferencing tool.)

Where can you find ideas for ways to make your meetings and conferences more environmentally benign? EPA's EPP Web site is now a "one-stop shop" for green meeting and conference information. The EPP Web site now offers a variety of green meeting and conference resources. The site includes a comprehensive table containing green meeting and conference opportunities. Users can consolidate and sort the table chronologically by meeting planning stages or by service sector. The site also provides information and links to other green meeting and conference initiatives as well as a bibliographic listing of other resources.

In addition, the EPP Web site soon will offer a multimedia tool to assist planners and service providers (e.g., hotels, printers, caterers) in recognizing and seizing green meeting and conference opportunities. The tool will provide planners with a comprehensive overview of the green opportunities within each of the different stages, products, and services involved in conference planning. For each opportunity, the economic and logistical impacts will be analyzed. Conducting a green meeting or conference will be easier than ever using the checklists and sample contract language available on the Web site. Service providers will find information about sector-specific green opportunities and the technical and financial information needed to determine the cost-effectiveness of each. The site also will feature case studies documenting the experiences of green conference pioneers.

For More Information

Check out the green conferencing tool at <www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp>. For additional information, contact Russ Clark of EPA at 202 260-4418 or <clark.russell@epa.gov>.

EPP In the Classroom

For more information on EO 13101 and EPP training activities, contact the White House Task Force at 202 260-1297 or visit the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive Web site at <www.ofee.gov>.



Like many important endeavors, EPP will become common practice once people have the tools and knowledge to implement it. Training can provide the needed information and success stories to make EPP a victory for both the public and private sectors. To help this occur, EO 13101, *Greening the Government Through Waste Prevention, Recycling, and Federal Acquisition*, directs the Federal Environmental Executive and the White House Task Force on Greening the Government Through Waste Prevention and Recycling to evaluate federal acquisition training institutions and assist them with incorporating the components of the EO, including EPP, into their curricula.

The Department of the Defense (DOD), with more than 106,000 military and civilian acquisition personnel, provides training through the Defense Acquisition University (DAU). DAU is a consortium of DOD education and training institutions and organizations. Immediately following the release of EO 13101, the White House Task Force began working with DAU's course directors and faculty on ways to incorporate the components of the EO, including EPP, into their acquisition classes. In the fall of 1999, the White House Task Force will provide a 2½-day training workshop for course directors and faculty to help them do exactly this. Several EPA personnel will address the workshop and provide attendees with information on purchasing recycled-content and environmentally preferable products and services along with some promising EPP practices. The Task Force is continuing to work with DAU instructors to help them restructure their courses to include training on the components of the EO.

In addition, the Task Force is working with the Federal Acquisition Institute (FAI), which prepares instructional materials for acquisition personnel. The Task Force provided FAI with information on EO 13101 requirements and EPP. FAI and the Task Force are currently preparing a free Internet-based course for the FAI Web site covering the provisions of EO 13101, including information on EPP.

The White House Task Force also is working directly with procurement and contracting personnel within the various agencies including DOD, the Department of Energy, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Treasury Department. Since January 1999, members of the White House Task Force have been giving presentations to senior contracting officers on green purchasing, its cost effectiveness, and how to incorporate green purchasing into daily operations. These training sessions occur once every 2 weeks in Washington, DC, with attendees coming from offices across the United States.

Green Alternatives for Government Purchasing



(See also *EPP Update #4 [EPA742-N-99-001, March 1999]* for a previous article on FLIS.)

It just got easier for federal agencies to identify products with specific environmental attributes. The multiagency Joint Group on Environmental Attributes (JG-EnvAtt) is updating the Federal Logistics Information System (FLIS) with

a new coding system that labels the environmental attributes of a product. FLIS, a computerized database of more than 7 million supply items, now shows which stock items meet or exceed EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (CPG) for recycled-content products and the Department of Energy's Standards for Energy Products. JG-EnvAtt continues to research definitions and identify

The Road to Environmental Preferability

As recently as 2 years ago, the PSYOP print shop (see sidebar) was using 15-year old lithographic technology. The print shop was creating an enormous amount of solid waste in the form of aluminum and film, as well as some hazardous waste, which is very costly to dispose of properly. In his quest to reduce the adverse environmental impacts of this process, Sgt. Hemsley visited print shops in the private sector to see first-hand the technologies they were using. He contacted manufacturers and gathered information on the capabilities and costs associated with their products, eventually deciding on a digital image press. These presses eliminate conventional film developing and processing techniques. Specifically, this equipment eliminates the use of aluminum plates, developers, and fixers—three waste streams—dramatically improving environmental performance.

In addition, the new machines save time and money. The machines can print 10,000 copies an hour, which is much faster than the old presses. By switching to the new presses, the print shop cut annual chemical purchasing and disposal costs by 73 percent. The PSYOP Group recently received funding for two more presses, allowing it to eliminate much more waste. In addi-

tion, the print shop purchased a digital camera and a computer to further “green” the developing process.

Taking Pollution Prevention into the Field of Battle

Due to the PSYOP Group’s need to produce print products while in the field, it developed a Deployable Print Production Center (DPPC). The DPPC, built from components PSYOP determined were environmentally preferable, very quickly creates, edits, and produces print products in the field. The system can produce laser-quality proofs and color reproductions at high speed while dramatically reducing the amount of waste produced.

Future Plans

Special Operations Command is continuing its efforts to green its print shop. Plans are in the works for a partnership among DOD, EPA, and a university (not yet chosen) that will enable students to play a role in the design and construction of a new green building for the print shop.

For more information on environmentally preferable purchasing at the 4th PSYOP Group’s Heavy Print Facility, contact Sgt. Gregory Hemsley at 919 396-3160.

U.S. Army Special Operations Command’s PSYOP

Fort Bragg’s EPP printing efforts are focused on the U.S. Army Special Operations Command, 4th Psychological Operations (PSYOP) Group’s Heavy Print Facility. The PSYOP Group researches the culture, religion, customs, and sensitivities of host nations and then uses this information to help save lives during war and peacekeeping operations. The PSYOP Group designs, prints, and disseminates leaflets, posters, and brochures that spread important and time-sensitive messages. During Operation Desert Storm, for example, PSYOP released leaflets from aircraft warning civilians of imminent bombing before air strikes.

To be successful, PSYOP needs to send a clear and commanding message and reach the target audience in a timely manner. High-quality, colorful leaflets that can be developed and printed quickly are critical to success. But at what cost to environmental health and safety? Convinced that environmental protection doesn’t have to be compromised, Sgt. Gregory Hemsley spearheaded the implementation of an environmentally and economically superior PSYOP printing process.

products with environmental attributes and is expanding this cooperative effort to other federal purchasing entities, including the General Services Administration (GSA). “We hope GSA will be coding over 1,000 CPG paper products into FLIS,” said Nancy Royal-Jones of the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA).

As additional environmental attribute information becomes available, JG-EnvAtt will incorporate new environmental product codes into the database

(e.g., biobased properties, water conserving, low VOCs, and nongreenhouse impact). JG-EnvAtt is currently partnering with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), for example, to identify biobased commodity areas such as furniture. Once definitions are established for the commodity areas, USDA will help identify biobased products in FLIS.

For more information visit <www.jgenvatt.dla.mil> or contact Nancy Royal-Jones of DLA at 703 767-6256.



Department of Interior—Making

The Department of the Interior (DOI) is proving that changing purchasing practices to incorporate environmental considerations is not as daunting as it might seem. From its purchase of recycled-content products to green cleaning products to renewable energy systems, DOI is a leader in the environmental purchasing arena. Following are four examples of the environmental products DOI is testing and purchasing.

Green's the Way to Clean

In November 1998, in an effort to procure RCRA-designated recycled-content, environmentally preferable products and to address concerns over the indoor air quality in its Main and South Interior Buildings in downtown Washington, DC, DOI issued a request for proposals for custodial services (e.g., window washing, floor stripping, maintaining restroom supplies) asking for environmentally preferable cleaning products and supplies. The 5-year contract will cover the cleaning of 1.4 million square feet of office space. "Green" language was introduced into the scope of services and environmental preferability was a major factor in the selection of the new contractor.

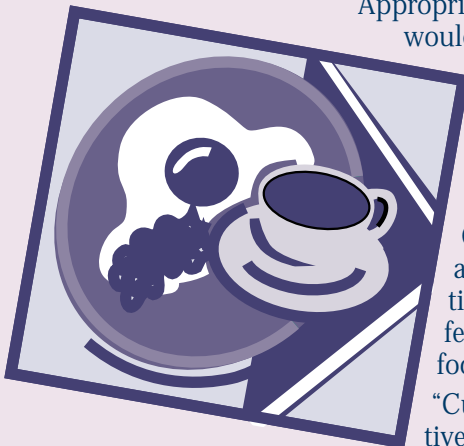


In the contract solicitation, DOI established both "mandatory" and "desirable" environmental characteristics for evaluating five categories of cleaning products and recycled-content products such as bathroom tissue, paper towels, toilet seat covers, and trash bags. Mandatory characteristics were rated on a pass or fail basis. Desirable characteristics go above and beyond the mandatory requirements and result in a more environmentally favorable product. In determining which characteristics to use in the evaluation, DOI considered those that were relevant locally (e.g., prohibiting the use of products that contain "toxics of concern" to the Chesapeake Bay), those that would make a significant environmental difference in the types of products being used (e.g., bathroom paper products with high postconsumer content and free of elemental chlorine), and those that would be healthier for its employees (e.g., cleaners that minimize irritation to the respiratory system, eyes, and skin).

"We are looking forward to a new era in green cleaning at our headquarters buildings without incurring additional cost," says Building Manager Gary Peacock. "We want to help others within and outside DOI introduce environmental stewardship into their custodial operations by making available the contract language we used."

A Shell of Its Former Self

Appropriately enough, it was on Earth Day, April 22, 1999, that DOI announced it would begin a 6-month pilot project to test compostable plates and bowls in its Washington, DC, headquarters cafeteria. EarthShell[®] Corporation manufactures the cafeteriaware, which is made from limestone and potato, corn, or rice starch. In addition to being biodegradable and compostable, Earthshell products also require less energy to manufacture than comparable paper or polystyrene containers.



Currently, EarthShell[®] is providing the DOI Headquarters cafeteria with approximately 5,000 9-inch plates and 1,500 bowls each month. In addition, DOI is partnering with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to test different composting methods and mixtures for the EarthShell[®] products and food scraps that are recycled from the cafeteria.

"Customer response to the EarthShell[®] plates and bowls has been very positive," states Ken Naser of DOI. "To educate users, we set up a display case in the cafeteria with the products and a brochure on why we are using them."

ing EPP Part of the Mission



EarthShell[®] Corporation also is using the DOI cafeteria as a testing and proving ground for its products. Thus, during the pilot project, the company is providing its plates and bowls free of charge. If successful, DOI might use these products in its numerous cafeterias and concessions stands throughout the country. DOI believes this environmentally preferable product could greatly reduce the environmental impact of these high-volume foodservice outlets.

Plastic Lumber Does the Job

In another DOI pilot project, EPA Region 8 is helping the National Park Service (NPS) install plastic lumber guard rails, walkways, and boardwalks. The plastic lumber has been donated for this project and NPS will use it in three of its parks within the next 2 to 3 years.

NPS considers plastic lumber to be environmentally preferable because it is made from postconsumer plastic and lasts longer than some other materials and, therefore, does not require as frequent replacement. In addition, plastic lumber is virtually maintenance-free and is highly durable. It does not decay, rust, splinter, rot, crumble, or need painting.

At Dinosaur National Park in Utah, park officials already have the plastic lumber on site and will begin constructing guard rails. In the Washington, DC area, the George Washington Memorial Parkway was recognized with a 1999 White House Closing the Circle Award for its use of plastic lumber in a raised trail on Theodore Roosevelt Island. Although the initial cost to construct the trail was 1.65 times that of wood construction, the estimated payback is 7 years, given the lower associated maintenance costs. During the course of the pilot projects, NPS officials will be evaluating how well the plastic lumber withstands the natural elements.

The Sun Is Energizing

NPS has identified the use of renewable energy sources as a key strategy in its overall effort to develop sustainable energy goals and to respond to concerns about global climate change. In 1993, through a partnership with the Department of Energy, NPS agreed to promote energy conservation and increase the use of renewable energy at all NPS facilities.

Since the inception of this project, NPS has implemented multiple photovoltaic (PV) projects throughout its parks. PV systems consist of solar cells that convert sunlight into electricity. Most of the PV systems used by NPS are in the range of 5 to 20 kilowatts and replace existing diesel-fueled engine generators. NPS is using PV energy for facility power, lighting, and water pumping.

The PV-powered visitor facility in the North Rim of the Grand Canyon is an example of a successful NPS project involving renewable energy. The visitor station consists of restrooms along with staffed exhibits with information on the North Rim.

"In the past, because of the remote location of the North Rim, our power source could be inconsistent," said Curt Edlund, a Grand Canyon park official. "Installing the PV system allowed us to eliminate our use of the generators and even contribute power back into the [power] grid [for use by others.]"

Setting a Standard

These examples demonstrate that DOI is committed to making EPP a standard approach to procurement. Each EPP project was conceived not only to make the agency's facility operations more sustainable, but also to educate the public about these environmentally preferable products and services.



For more information on the projects highlighted in this article, contact the following individuals:

Green Cleaners:
Heather Davies
202 208-7884

EarthShell[®] Products:
Ken Naser
202 208-3901

Plastic Lumber:
Gilbert Bailey
303 312-6284

North Rim PV Project:
Curt Edlund
520 638-7730



EPP Standards

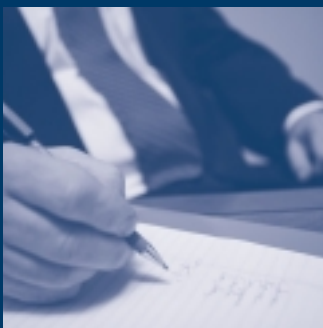
Moving Forward—Voluntary EPP Consensus Standards Development

EPA is closely examining how the private sector can help make EPP easier for federal agencies. In a *Federal Register* (FR) notice issued January 15, 1999 (64 FR 2640), the Agency sought comments from nongovernmental standards developing organizations (SDOs) on the development of environmental standards for use in federal procurement. Specifically, EPA asked for information on what types of markets are most suited to the incorporation of environmentally preferable products. The FR notice was intended to determine the level of interest among SDOs in the development of environmental attributes and associated voluntary standards for specific product categories.

In response to the FR notice, 20 representatives from a variety of groups, including the leading independent SDOs, purchasers, and manufacturers and vendors, demonstrated interest in standards development, voicing support as well as various suggestions and concerns. A contention among many commentators was the degree of consensus needed to develop EPP standards. Some of the manufacturers advocated complete consensus in standards development while others believed that consensus should not be required, but rather aspired to with a reasonable amount of effort. Two major SDOs took another stance, suggesting the elimination of consensus standards altogether and advocating the use of “leadership” standards instead, which identify those products that represent the top range of the market in terms of environmental preferability.

Despite these issues, most respondents supported the development of voluntary consensus EPP standards. EPA will now work with SDOs who are ready to move forward, helping them choose product categories of interest to federal agencies and ensure balanced standard-setting committees that include manufacturers, consumer and environmental groups, and government.

To see a summary of the comments to the FR notice, visit the EPP Web site at www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp. For more information on the use of voluntary standards in EPP, contact Julie Shannon at 202 260-2736 or shannon.julie@epa.gov.



Development

Setting the Standard for Sustainability

When it comes to setting industry standards, the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) is one of the largest and most respected voluntary standards development organizations in the world. EPA's EPP Program has made efforts to encourage sustainability in buildings through the purchase of environmentally preferable construction products and services. The two organizations have recently come together to put their expertise, as well as that of a wide variety of professionals representing industry and nonprofit organizations, to work to create an industry standard for sustainable buildings.

"Industry professionals, facility managers, building owners, vendors, and general contractors use industry consensus standards like those developed by ASTM for guidance on what products to buy and performance measures to use," explained Ruth Heikkinen, EPP program staffer and EPA's representative on the ASTM Subcommittee on Sustainability (Committee E06.71). "That's the main reason to create a standard," Heikkinen added. One of the first projects of the subcommittee is to create a standard environmental impact questionnaire.

The standard questionnaire would be used to survey manufacturers and vendors about the environmental attributes of their products and services. The data collected would enable architects, facility managers, and others to better identify environmentally preferable products and services. Further, a standard questionnaire would allow manufacturers and vendors to develop model responses, saving significantly on reply time. Currently vendors and manufacturers can spend a great deal of time answering various different product surveys developed by individual architects and construction contractors.

The questions being developed focus on five criteria: materials, manufacturing process, operational performance, indoor environmental quality, and corporate environmental policy. These questions are applied to each of the seven major building elements previously developed by ASTM. These Uniformat II classified building elements are: substructure, shell, interiors, services, equipment and furnishings, special construction and demolition, and building sitework.

Once approved by the subcommittee, the proposed questionnaire could be voted on by the entire Performance of Buildings' main committee as soon as fall 1999.

Look to future issues of the *EPP Update* for the latest on ASTM's building sustainability standards. To learn more about the standards, contact Dru Meadows, chair of the Sustainability Subcommittee (Committee E06.71), at 918 599-0011 or <dmeadows@busprod.com>, or Ruth Heikkinen at 202 260-1803 or <heikkinen.ruth@epa.gov>.



Web-Based EPP Tools Under Development

For more information on GUS

Check the EPP Web site at www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp for breaking news. For additional information, please contact Russ Clark at 202 260-4418 or clark.russell@epa.gov, or Eun-Sook Goidel at 202 260-3296 or goidel.eunsook@epa.gov.

The EPP Program is developing several Web-based tools to make environmental purchasing easier. Known collectively as the Greening Uncle Sam (GUS) Purchasing Tool Suite, EPA is designing the tools to accommodate users with all levels of environmental purchasing experience—from users new to the concept to those looking for environmental attribute information about specific products. GUS will be available later this year on the EPP Web site www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp and will include the following tools:

- **General Training Videos**—Basic EPP principles, along with some more in-depth applications of EPP, will be introduced in an entertaining multimedia format. Users will be able to watch, listen, and learn as EPP is explained with audio narration and animated graphics. (Users without data streaming and sound capabilities will be able to visit accompanying Web pages with the same text-based information.)
- **Pioneer/"How to Do EPP" Training Tool**—Also in multimedia format, this tool will attempt to prepare EPP pioneers for either of two situations. The tool will help guide pioneers of EPP into previously unexplored EPP territory (product or service categories not yet tackled by others). It also provides the needed steps to identify appropriate environmental attributes for the product and to navigate the procurement process within their organization. Others might choose to replicate a successful EPP procurement previously undertaken by another. The process for taking this approach also will be addressed.
- **Promising Practices Guide**—Initially this tool will include a series of short case studies highlighting successful EPP strategies implemented by several federal agencies. Users will learn how others got started, what challenges were overcome, and how to duplicate their successes. Eventually, the guide also will include detailed information about how recent changes to the Federal Acquisition Regulations facilitate environmental purchasing. It also will include standard EPP language to insert into federal purchasing contracts.
- **EPP Database**—Anyone looking for existing environmental attribute information (e.g., environmental standards and guidelines or contract language) will find it in the EPP Database. The database includes product-specific information developed by government programs, both domestic and international, as well as nongovernmental entities. Users will be able to browse the database or search for specific product categories. Users also will be encouraged to submit their own information so the database can be updated continually.

We'd like to see the list of projects on this chart keep growing. Please help by sharing your EPP efforts and successes with others through the EPP Web site. The pilot project chart can be found on the Web site at www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp.

Charting the Success of EPP

Did you ever wish you could easily find out who's doing what in EPP? Now you can. As part of the EO 13101 mandate, EPA developed a chart listing federal agencies and the EPP pilot projects with which they are involved. The chart covers 14 projects in seven product categories and provides information, tools, and hints for conducting your own EPP pilots. Among the initial entries are the Aberdeen Proving Ground paint project, the Department of Interior cafeteria project, and the EPA copier equipment pilot project. Categories include building materials, office products, and solvents, among others.

For more information on EPP Pilot Projects, contact Russ Clark of EPA at 202 260-4418 or clark.russell@epa.gov.

Recent Publications



Defending the Environment At the Department of Defense

DOD is setting an example, showing that protecting the environment and pro-

tecting your pocketbook are not mutually exclusive. DOD is using EPP principles to ensure that ongoing routine renovations to its buildings and other nearby DOD facilities incorporate products it considers to be environmentally preferable. In addition to improving environmental performance, DOD also has realized significant cost savings. A recently published case study, *Defending the Environment At the Department of Defense: Using Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Procedures to Maintain the Pentagon and Other DOD Facilities* (EPA 742-R-99-002), focuses on the development, award, and implementation of the 5-year, \$10 million per year construction, renovation, and repair contract. Much like the DOD parking lot project, very specific environmental language was written into the contract. For more information, contact Ruth Heikkinen of EPA at 202 260-1803 or <heikkinen.ruth@epa.gov>.



EPP Pioneers in the Private Sector

Federal agencies are not the only ones interested in EPP. Private companies have discovered that EPP makes sense for

them, too, not only environmentally but economically as well. EPA interviewed 18 companies, covering a variety of industries, to collect information on

their initiatives. Participating companies include: Anheuser-Busch, Ben & Jerry's, The Body Shop, Canon, Collins & Aikman Floorcoverings, Herman Miller, DaimlerChrysler, IBM, McDonald's, NEC, Patagonia, Perrigo, Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G), Sony, Sun Microsystems, Tokyo Gas, Volvo, and Warner Bros.

The resulting report, *Private Sector Pioneers—How Companies Are Incorporating Environmentally Preferable Purchasing* (EPA 742-R-99-001), demonstrates how varied environmental purchasing activities can be. For example, some companies have developed lists of chemicals to avoid (e.g., DaimlerChrysler, Volvo, Canon, Sony, Collins & Aikman, The Body Shop, and Ben & Jerry's). Other companies consider multiple environmental attributes when making purchasing decisions (e.g., Warner Bros., Anheuser-Busch, Patagonia, Volvo, Herman Miller, DaimlerChrysler, and Canon). For more information, contact Eun-Sook Goidel of EPA at 202 260-3296 or <goidel.eunsook@epa.gov>.

To obtain copies of these or other EPP documents, write to the Pollution Prevention Clearinghouse (7409), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW., Washington, DC 20460; or call 202 260-1023. The documents also are available in Adobe Acrobat format (PDF) on the EPP Web site <www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp>.

EPP on Tour

The EPP booth is on the move to spread the word about environmentally preferable purchasing! Look for it at the upcoming National Recycling Coalition conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, in September. Then it's off to sunny San Antonio, Texas, for the Joint Services P2 conference in December. In between shows, the booth will be visiting the lobbies of federal buildings in the Washington, DC area including the Department of the Interior and the Department of Education.

The EPP booth is a major outreach tool used by EPA and provides interested individuals the opportunity to learn more about environmentally preferable purchasing. For more information about the EPP booth schedule, please contact Alison Kinn at 202 260-1090 or <kinn.alison@epa.gov>.

PROFILE OF A PIONEER

Green is for More Than Just Camouflage



It was Sgt. Gregory Hemsley's will and persistence, which included conducting research on his own time, that made Ft. Bragg's purchase of environmentally preferable print shop technology possible. (See "Ft. Bragg Solves a Pressing Dilemma," p.1.) Sgt. Hemsley was born in Los Angeles, California, to a family with a strong military tradition. Despite this upbringing, Hemsley admits he really wanted to wear a suit and tie to work, so he went on to receive a Bachelor's degree in business from the University of Southern California. Military service, however, must be in his blood because it wasn't long before Hemsley enlisted in the Army. That was 13 years ago, and in that time, he has traveled all over the world. He laughs as he talks about the kangaroo that licked his head in Australia and becomes solemn as he reflects on the intensity of battle during Desert Storm. Sgt. Hemsley's thirst for knowledge and commitment to environmental protection earned him another Bachelor's degree in environmental studies in December 1998. He now has his eye on a Master's degree in environmental management.

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