

# National Vehicle Mercury Switch Collection Program

## Great Lakes Binational Toxic Strategy Mercury Workgroup Meeting

**Ross Good – ELVS Board of Directors**

**December 12, 2007 – Chicago, IL**

# National Vehicle Mercury Switch Recovery Program (NVMSRP)

On August 18, 2006 the U.S. EPA, auto industry, steel industry, vehicle dismantlers, vehicle shredders, states, and the environmental community signed a shared responsibility agreement to collect and recycle mercury switches from end-of-life vehicles.



# What is the difference between ELVS and the NVMSRP?

- The NVMSRP is a voluntary multi-stakeholder, shared responsibility mercury switch collection program.
- ELVS is a signatory to the NVMSRP and has primary responsibility for education, collection materials, transportation, recycling, and record keeping.
- ECOS, ISRI, ARA, EPA, Steel, and NGOs make up the remainder of the NVMSRP partners and all have defined roles and responsibilities.
- Some states also have legislated requirements for some signatories and in some cases these may be identical to the responsibilities under the NVMSRP

# NVMSRP Statement of Principles

- Automakers provide educational material, collection containers, shipping, recycling of the switches, and tracking/reporting.
- Auto dismantlers remove the switches and submit them to the program for proper management.
- Steelmakers implement supply chain mechanisms to promote participation in the program.
- All parties endorse the program and encourage participation.
- The EPA considers the NVMSRP when developing area source regulation for Electric Arc Furnaces and assists with grants, communication, and evaluation.

# NVMSRP Goals

- Aggressive mercury recovery goals and performance metrics have been established. Performance will be regularly assessed by the participants.
- Nationwide implementation was targeted to occur over 12 months. (completed ahead of Sept 2007 target)
- In each state the parties will work collaboratively on an implementation plan.
- The NVMSRP will sunset in 2017 based on estimates that 90% of the auto mercury switches will be retired.

# NVMSRP Incentive Fund

- \$4 Million early incentive reward of \$1 per switch for the first 3 years of program.
- No program costs are paid from this fund-only incentives
- Available to all states regardless of legislation unless have an existing cash incentive
- Payments began in Feb, 2007 – retroactive to 9/12/06 (592 checks written totaling \$528,000)
- Incentives considered income-requires W9 from dismantlers and 1099 reporting

# How the Hg Collection Program Works

ELVS and other NVMSRP partners met with state (DEQ, DNR, EPA, etc.) and interested parties to discuss a “kick-off” plan

- State sends introductory/invitation letter and self-selection method for recyclers (postcard, email, phone).
- State is added to ELVS website
- Recycler contacts ELVS to join program and is added to database
- Task Completed in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2007, ahead of schedule

# ELVS end of life vehicle solutions

Over **1800 lbs.** of Mercury Recovered . . .

- Solutions
- Home
- About
- Class 6-8 Trucks
- NVMSRP
- Educational Materials
- About EQ
- Contact Us

## End of Life Vehicle Solutions

Welcome to the End of Life Vehicle Solutions Corporation's Web site.

The End of Life Vehicle Solutions Corporation (ELVS) was created by the automotive industry to promote the industry's environmental efforts in recyclability, education and outreach, and the proper management of substances of concern.

Participating Members of ELVS are:  
BMW of North America, LLC  
Chrysler LLC  
Ford Motor Company  
General Motors Corporation  
International Truck & Engine  
Mack Trucks, Inc.  
Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.  
Nissan North America, Inc.



- [News/Press Releases](#)
- [Mercury Collection Data](#)
- [2006 ELVS Annual Report](#)
- [View Program Participants by State \(Once page opens, scroll to bottom\)](#)

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# How the Hg Collection Program Works

- Collection buckets/educational materials sent out
- Dismantlers remove the switch(es) and/or assemblies and place them in the provided bucket.
- Just before a bucket is completely full, dismantlers contact EQ to receive a replacement bucket.
- Once a bucket is full, dismantler can contact UPS for a pickup –a prepaid UPS label will be sent with every bucket.

# How the Hg Collection Program Works

- Filled buckets returned to EQ in Romulus, MI
- EQ will then dispose of the mercury through recycling/retorting. (Bethlehem, Mercury Waste Solutions-WI, Veoila-WI, AERC-PA)
- EQ also tracks participation and mercury collection progress –may take 12-18 months to see returns

# How the Hg Collection Program Works



# How the HgCollection Program Works



# Program Results To Date

[www.elvsolutions.org](http://www.elvsolutions.org) or [www.eqonline.com](http://www.eqonline.com)

ELVS Mercury Switch Recovery Program Reporting: All Years | EQ - The Environmental Quality Comp - Microsoft Internet Explorer p

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Refresh Home Search Favorites Recycle Bin Mail Print Mailbox Documents People

Address <http://www.eqonline.com/services/ELVS-Mercury-Switch-Recovery-Program/annual-report.asp?year=all> Go Links



## ELVS MERCURY SWITCH RECOVERY PROGRAM REPORTING: ALL YEARS

| Year          | Number of Participants | Total Switches Recovered | Total Mercury Recovered |
|---------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>All</b>    | <b>6,224</b>           | <b>863,500</b>           | <b>1,899.70 lbs</b>     |
| <b>2007</b>   | <b>6,224</b>           | <b>622,143</b>           | <b>1,368.71 lbs</b>     |
| Alabama       | 14                     | 4,196                    | 9.23 lbs                |
| Alaska        | 5                      | 0                        | 0.00 lbs                |
| Arizona       | 34                     | 3,758                    | 8.27 lbs                |
| Arkansas      | 208                    | 3,141                    | 6.91 lbs                |
| California    | 431                    | 190,640                  | 419.41 lbs              |
| Colorado      | 53                     | 3,685                    | 8.11 lbs                |
| Connecticut   | 29                     | 6,696                    | 14.73 lbs               |
| Delaware      | 20                     | 0                        | 0.00 lbs                |
| Florida       | 192                    | 30,587                   | 67.29 lbs               |
| Georgia       | 63                     | 8,064                    | 17.74 lbs               |
| Hawaii        | 15                     | 31                       | 0.07 lbs                |
| Idaho         | 30                     | 0                        | 0.00 lbs                |
| Illinois      | 375                    | 14,445                   | 31.78 lbs               |
| Indiana       | 401                    | 4,648                    | 10.23 lbs               |
| Iowa          | 366                    | 7,619                    | 16.76 lbs               |
| Kansas        | 24                     | 0                        | 0.00 lbs                |
| Kentucky      | 33                     | 5,500                    | 12.10 lbs               |
| Louisiana     | 297                    | 300                      | 0.66 lbs                |
| Maryland      | 55                     | 414                      | 0.91 lbs                |
| Massachusetts | 185                    | 1,559                    | 3.43 lbs                |



# NATIONAL VEHICLE MERCURY SWITCH PROGRAM: PICK-N-PULL AUTO DISMANTLERS ROCKLIN #3

## Pick-N-Pull Auto Dismantlers Rocklin #3

Mailing Address:  
 10850 Gold Center Dr. Suite 325  
 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Shipping Address:  
 6355 Pacific St  
 Rocklin, CA 95677

Phone: (916) 496-6768  
 Contact: Chris Orsolini  
 Parent Company: Pick-N-Pull Auto Dismantlers  
 Switches Received?: Yes

Date Joined: 2/16/2007  
 Last Activity: 11/28/2007  
 Miscellaneous Switches Accepted: 0  
 ABS Switches Accepted: 0  
 Light Switches Accepted: 1,991  
**Total Switches Accepted: 1,991**  
 Weight of Mercury Accepted: 4.38 lbs

## History

| Date Received | Miscellaneous Switches | ABS Switches | Light Switches | Total Switches | Weight of Mercury |
|---------------|------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 11/28/2007    | 0                      | 0            | 653            | 653            | 1.437 lbs         |
| 3/20/2007     | 0                      | 0            | 471            | 471            | 1.036 lbs         |
| 3/20/2007     | 0                      | 0            | 867            | 867            | 1.907 lbs         |

# First Annual NVMSRP Meeting

- August 16, 2007 at USEPA Offices in Ann Arbor, MI
- Reviewed accomplishments to date
- Progress reports from each subcommittee
- Discussed opportunities for improvement
- Included a trip to EQ for a process review



# First Year NVMSRP Accomplishments

- Program rolled out in 49 states and DC ahead of schedule represents 99.6% of US car park
- Established process for participants to enroll in program and developed a method to clearly identify individual participants in the NVMSRP
- Processed individual requests via postcards, phone, and email from over 3,572 of 6,244 recyclers and provided to EQ
- ELVS daily averages for the first year were:
  - ✓ 80 website visits
  - ✓ 25-30 phone calls
  - ✓ over 100 emails



# NVMSRP Challenges

- Outreach continues to be at the “top of mind”
- Focus shifting toward states with low participation, return rates or returns below expected values
- EQ is receiving a lot of non-automotive mercury in the buckets

# Non- Automotive Mercury



# NVMSRP Improvements

Continuous Improvements is a key initiative

- Ongoing improvements to educational materials including “tracking participation” cards.
- Website enhancements including simplifying method to view the EQ Database
- Added 1 gallon buckets for smaller volumes or pellets only
- UPS shipping labels now included in every bucket
- We could always use a few more Indians and ...

**Thanks for the opportunity to be here today!**

Be sure to visit the following Websites:

- <http://www.epa.gov/mercury>
- [www.elvsolutions.org](http://www.elvsolutions.org)
- [www.eqonline.com](http://www.eqonline.com)