

BioPreferredSM eNews, March 2011

BioPreferred Announces Voluntary Biobased Product Certification and Labeling

As of Feb. 21, 2011, manufacturers and vendors of biobased products can apply for the [USDA Certified Biobased Product label](#). Biobased products already identified within a [BioPreferred product category](#) must meet the minimum biobased content of the product category. Products that do not fall under a previously identified category must be at least 25 percent biobased unless the label applicant applies for and receives an alternative minimum biobased content allowance. Mature market products, those that had a significant market share as of 1972, are currently excluded from the program.

How does it work?

Applicants are required to submit a [web-based application](#) to USDA. USDA will evaluate each complete application to determine if the product meets the certification criteria and respond to applicants within 60 days. Applications that have been rejected may be revised and resubmitted.

After creating a [USDA eAuthentication account](#), applicants will need to [login](#).

- If you have never been in the USDA Product Submission System before, you will be shown background information. After reading, please select “Link Your eAuthentication Account to an Existing Company Record”. Further instructions will be emailed to you.
- If you have logged into this system in the past, you will be guided to a Main Menu where you may Edit Company Details, Add a Product, or Apply for Label. In order to Apply for Label you must first click “List All” to the right of the “Product Search”. Then your products will display and you can select “Apply for Label” for each.

Questions?

Please visit the [BioPreferred Frequently Asked Questions](#) or contact the service desk at 1-877-251-6522 or USDABioInfo@iastate.edu.

BioPreferred Manufacturer Champion:

Environmental Lubricants Manufacturing, Inc.

On January 21, the History Channel aired an episode of [Modern Marvels](#) featuring a USDA BioPreferred product. This episode entitled “GREASE” featured an innovative microwave based grease from [Environmental Lubricants Manufacturing, Inc. \(ELM\)](#).

ELM worked with researchers at the University of Northern Iowa National Ag-Based Lubricants Center and AMTek, an industrial microwaves manufacturer to develop a new technology to make biobased grease using microwaves, which is safer, more efficient and improves product quality.



ELM’s biobased grease is one of the approximately 5,100 biobased products available for preferred purchasing by Federal agencies through USDA’s BioPreferred program. To view the catalog or learn more about USDA’s BioPreferred program, click [here](#).

This episode of Modern Marvels will reair on March 11 at 8:00 p.m. (EST).

Events, Presentations and More

Bioplastics—Reshaping an Industry– February 1-3, 2011

In early February, the BioPreferred program presented at the Bioplastics—Reshaping an Industry conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, regarding recent updates to the BioPreferred program, including the new USDA Certified Biobased Product label. The two-day conference provided an introduction to the key players driving transformation in the plastics industry. The conference benefited decision makers of all disciplines who wished to enhance their knowledge and participation in reducing dependence on oil-based materials.

Composites 2011 – February 2-4, 2011

BioPreferred program management presented at the Composites 2011 conference in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, regarding recent updates to the BioPreferred program, including the new USDA Certified Biobased Product label. Composites’ focus was on new materials, operational efficiencies, “green” materials and processes, advanced composites, energy and emerging market applications.

Ohio Bioproducts Symposium – Feb. 18, 2011

In a one-day event called the Ohio Bioproducts Symposium, BioPreferred program management made a presentation to two industry groups that have been steadfast supporters of the program: the Ohio Corn and Wheat Growers Association (OCGWA) and the Ohio Soybean Council (OSC). The purpose of the presentation was twofold: 1) to update both groups on program events, including the launch of the USDA Certified Biobased Product label; 2) to introduce From the Earth (www.FromTheEarth-Bioproducts.com), a new website that allows Ohio state agencies and institutions of higher learning to research and locate

bioproducts that are manufactured and distributed by Ohio companies.

BioPreferred Federal Champion:

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard

Kittery, Maine – Before switching to [Soy Strip](#), a biobased paint stripper, the [Portsmouth Naval Shipyard](#) used methylene chloride products to remove paint and adhesives from ships. The soybased alternative has fewer health risks, is environmentally friendly, does not require the protective measures and carries less health risk to employees.

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is one of four naval shipyards in the nation. Its primary mission is to overhaul, repair and modernize U.S. Navy submarines – these renovations include the removal of the panel adhesive and metal base paint.

“Soy Strip works extremely well and peels right off,” said Bruce Trent, work leader in the PNS paint shop. “The old paint stripper had acid that was very dangerous for the workers.”



Picture (right): Bruce Trent uses biobased paint stripper at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard to restore the U.S. naval submarine fleet.

BioPreferred Designated Item of the Month:

Ink Removers and Cleaners

Ink removers and cleaners are chemical products designed to remove ink, haze, glaze and other residual ink contaminants from the surfaces of equipment, such as rollers, used in the textile and printing industries. Biobased ink removers and cleaners are advantageous because they tend to be safer to the touch. Also, since biobased products are made with fewer chemicals, they are usually less harmful to breathe.



Click [here](#) for more information about biobased ink removers and cleaners.

Photo Credit (above right): Greenway courtesy of Franmar

Get Social. Follow BioPreferred.



BioPreferred is tweeting about biobased products, program news and industry topics. Visit the [BioPreferred Twitter](#) page and follow us for updates.

Share Your Story with BioPreferred.

Has your organization found success from adopting and using products found in the BioPreferred online catalog? If so, BioPreferred would like to share your biobased product experience with others. Complete the [BioPreferred Case Study Submission Form](#) or share your story via e-mail at Laura.Silverman@dm.usda.gov.

Click [here](#) to read biobased product success stories.

Upcoming Events

- March 11-13: [Natural Products Expo West](#). Anaheim, California.
- March 22-23: [Bio-Based Chemicals](#). Rotterdam, Netherlands.
- March 27-31: [ACS Polymer Chemistry Division Spring Meeting](#). Anaheim, California.
- April 19-20: [USB Technical Advisory Panel Meeting - Thermoset Plastics](#). Romulus, Michigan.
- May 1-3: [NAHB National Green Building Conference](#). Salt Lake City, Utah.
- May 1-5: [ANTEC 2011 Society of Plastics Engineers](#). Boston, Massachusetts.
- May 9-12: [Environment, Energy & Sustainability Symposium & Exhibition](#). New Orleans, Louisiana.*
- May 10-12: [GSA Training Conference & Expo](#). San Diego, California.*
- May 10-12: [USGBC 2011 Federal Summit](#). Washington D.C.
- May 15-19: [STLE 66th Annual Meeting & Exhibition](#). Atlanta, Georgia.
- May 17-18: [USB Technical Advisory Panel Meeting – Coatings, Inks & Solvents](#). Indianapolis, Indiana.
- June 7-10: [Sustainable Brands Conference](#). Monterey, California.

*BioPreferred presenting and/or exhibiting.

To learn more about BioPreferred, visit www.biopreferred.gov, call 1-877-251-6522 or e-mail USDABioInfo@iastate.edu.

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