

BIOBASED SOLUTIONS FOR GOVERNMENT


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2009 "Closing the Circle" Award Winners Using Soy-Based Products

WINNERS

U.S. Air Force: Mr. Jeffrey Grages, U.S. Air Force Vehicle and Equipment Management Support Office (VEMSO)

The U.S. Air Force Vehicle and Equipment Management Support Office (VEMSO) at the Pentagon was awarded the 2009 Closing the Circle Award in the alternative fuel and fuel conservation in transportation category for Mr. Grages' efforts in promoting the use of alternative fuels, hybrids, low speed vehicles (LSV) and improving energy efficiency processes throughout all transportation functions. After a decrease in Air Force use of biodiesel in 2007, Mr. Grages worked closely with the Air Force Petroleum Agency and co-authored the Fuels Tech Letter (FTL), which provided detailed procedures to maximize biodiesel use. His strategy resulted in an increase in biodiesel consumption – to 4 million gallons - in FY08. Additionally, his efforts laid the groundwork for an increase in biodiesel infrastructure. Today, the Air Force has the most biodiesel stations in the Department of Defense with 63.

Robins Air Force Base (AFB): The Green Procurement Program Team

The Green Procurement Program Team at Robins Air Force Base (AFB), Ga. won in the green purchasing category. Their far-reaching environmental accomplishments include using B20 blend biodiesel in all diesel equipment such as tugs, which pull aircraft to position, and refuelers, capable of carrying 6,000 pounds of jet fuel to awaiting aircraft. In 2008, Robins Air Force Base purchased 173,000 gallons of biodiesel fuel and the AFB Fueling Depot has a 75,000 gallon biodiesel storage capacity to help support the mandatory requirement for biodiesel fueling of all diesel-powered vehicles. Robins is currently evaluating biobased hydraulic fluids, engine oil, antifreeze, solvents and cleaners to further expand its' green philosophy.

United States Postal Service (USPS): The Green Purchasing Team

The United States Postal Service Green Purchasing Team, based in Washington, D.C. was honored in the green purchasing category. Over the past year, the USPS rolled out a new agency-wide "Green Purchasing Plan" and Green Purchasing Implementation Tools. This document sets a new direction for more than 40,000 facilities and the 700,000 employees that work for the Postal Service. The green purchasing program now includes a defined preference for environmentally preferred products that meet specific criteria including:



What's New

27 New Item Designations

Updates to the Best Practices Guide

Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR)

Recent Federal Actions on Biobased Products

View New Profiles of Agencies' Use of Biobased Products

Biobased Products Best Practice Guide

Evaluation Form for Best Practices Guide

Newsletter

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Renewable Resource - Product is made from a renewable resource, either biobased materials (i.e. USDA BioPreferredSM) or renewable energy. For example, the Postal Service uses a soy-based mastic remover among other products.

Alternative Fuels - such as, biodiesel, compressed natural gas, E-85, etc.

HONORABLE MENTION

U.S. Air National Guard: The 179th Airlift Wing, Ohio



U.S. Air National Guard: The 179th Airlift Wing, Ohio won an honorable mention in the green purchasing category. The 179th Airlift Wing Green Purchasing Team created a comprehensive and highly successful Green Purchasing program that includes B20 biodiesel blends, which they have used successfully for the past year in almost all of their diesel vehicles.