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Closing the Circle News

Green Cleaning Products and Janitorial Services



This edition of Closing the Circle News focuses on "green" cleaning products and services. We're talking about everything from parts washing to bathroom cleaning to weapons maintenance - all with reduced health, safety, and environmental impacts. More and more green (including biobased) cleaning products are now being manufactured and purchased - just check out what's in the cleaning aisle of your local grocery or hardware store. In this issue, we discuss what green cleaning products are already on the shelves, where you can get them, what standards have been developed, and which NISH providers offer green janitorial services.

Many federal facilities are now joining other institutional buyers around the country in using green cleaning products, buying them directly or as part of janitorial services or facilities and equipment maintenance contracts. And they're using them for a variety of reasons: to reduce impacts on worker

health and safety, indoor air quality, and the environment; to reduce the hazardous materials stored on-site; to try out various new biobased and other environmentally preferable products; and to implement green building efforts and environmental management systems.

We know we've only scratched the surface of what's already being done, and we recognize that we still need additional research and case studies to better understand the effectiveness of various products and programs. We hope this edition will help foster further discussion - and progress - on this important issue, and we look forward to hearing from you about your green cleaning projects.

Federal Environmental Executive

Cleaning Green at Sea

Executive Order 13148, “Greening the Government Through Leadership in Environmental Management,” directs that “each agency shall reduce its use of selected toxic chemicals, hazardous substances, and pollutants, or its generation of hazardous and radioactive waste types at its facilities by 50 percent by December 31, 2006.” Well ahead of this deadline, the Navy has taken a significant step with regard to the cleaners used on board its 209 surface ships.

In order to determine what chemical cleaning products and dispensers would be authorized for use, the Navy evaluated (1) what types of shipboard cleaning products and dispensers are needed, (2) the environmental, health, and safety requirements necessary to protect personnel, the ship systems and equipment, and the environment, and (3) candidate commercial cleaning products. The Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division, Philadelphia, PA, conducted the evaluation, under the direction of Naval Sea Systems Command and with Navy Environmental Health Center support. The committee studied the availability of products against the environmental, safety and health requirements that are currently in place.

From this evaluation, the project team drafted technical purchase descriptions (TPDs) covering such information as materials and their composition, listings of prohibited material/chemicals, relative toxicity, aquatic toxicity, biodegradability, pH, regulatory requirements and cleaning or removal efficiency.

The ten TPD categories are:

- Food contact sanitizer concentrates
- Food contact sanitizer/cleaner concentrates

The USS Hamilton is just one of the Navy’s 209 surface ships that now will use environmentally preferable cleaning products.

- Non-food contact disinfectant/cleaner concentrates
- General purpose heavy-duty cleaner concentrates
- Heavy-duty cleaner concentrate for machinery and bilge cleaners
- Floor finish restorer concentrates
- Floor stripper concentrates
- Glass cleaners (concentrates and ready-to-use)
- Ready-to-use general purpose cleaners
- Chemical cleaning dispensing systems

The team then invited manufacturers to submit information for cleaning products and dispensers. Product manufacturers responded with a number of material safety data sheets, product data sheets, documentation stating the product’s biodegradability and aquatic toxicity requirements, and the results of cleaning tests that they had been performed with their product. The information was evaluated against the requirements of the appropriate TPD, and if all of the criteria were met, the product was included in the Navy’s cleaning inventory.

Based on this evaluation, the team developed a new, mandatory catalog, which contains a list of authorized shipboard chemical cleaning products (concentrates and ready-to-use products) for general cleaning applications; precautions required for handling, stowage, and disposal of chemical cleaning products; containment requirements for chemical cleaning concentrates; and a list of authorized dispensing systems. It is stored on CD-ROMs and was recently distributed to all of the 209 surface ships in the Navy’s fleet. For more information contact: Ms. Chris Socha, SochaCM@nswccd.navy.mil. ■

Several of the Federal green cleaning efforts have been reported briefly in past issues of Closing the Circle News. In the Spring 2002 issue, we reported the use of biobased products at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, including the use of green cleaners. Similarly, in the Fall 2001 issue, we reported on the use of biobased cleaners by Yellowstone National Park and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. Several of the winners of past Closing the Circle awards use greener parts cleaners or janitorial products, including Fairchild Air Force Base and the Hunting Park-Germantown vehicle maintenance facility (Summer 2001 issue of CTC News), the Mayport, Florida, Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity (SIMA) and Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore Park (Summer 2002 issue).

Standards for Green Cleaning Products

There is no single, nationally accepted standard or specification for green cleaning products. Early adopters such as the City of Santa Monica, the State of Massachusetts, and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratories developed their own specifications, which are discussed on EPA's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing program web site, www.epa.gov/opptintro/epp. However, as the next article discusses, these entities are turning to Green Seal's GS-37 as the basis for their purchasing specifications. Green Seal, www.green Seal.org, is an independent, non-profit organization that promotes a healthy and clean environment by identifying and promoting products and services that cause less toxic pollution and waste. GS-37, Industrial and Institutional Cleaners, is applicable for all-purpose, bathroom, and glass cleaners. It establishes criteria for 13 factors:

- Toxic compounds
- Carcinogens and reproductive toxins
- Skin and eye irritation
- Skin sensitization
- Combustibility
- Photochemical smog, tropospheric ozone production, and indoor air quality
- Toxicity to aquatic life
- Eutrophication
- Packaging
- Concentrate

- Fragrances
- Prohibited ingredients
- Training
- Animal testing

Other organizations also have standards, specifications, or catalogs relevant for purchasing green cleaners. Scientific Certification Systems, www.scs1.com, another independent, non-profit third party certification organization, certifies products that are biodegradable. Many green cleaners contain biobased materials in place of petrochemical compounds; to find biobased product lists, visit OFEE's web site, www.ofee.gov, click on Green Products, and click on Biobased to find links to the United Soybean Board, National Cornrowers Association, and Biobased Manufacturers Association, all of which have product catalogs. In addition, the Western Regional Pollution Prevention Network, www.westp2net.org/Janitorial/jp4.htm, reviews products for chemical content based on toxicology data and information from Material Safety Data Sheets and provides information on products which meet its standards.

In a 1999 Choose Green Report, Green Seal reviewed products from

more than 60 manufacturers of industrial and institutional cleaners, using the following criteria:

- Toxicity to both humans and aquatic life
- Biodegradability
- Corrosivity/pH
- Volatile organic compound levels
- Availability in concentrated form
- Utility for multiple cleaning purposes
- Effectiveness with diluted with water at room temperature

In addition, Green Seal recommended that products not contain a range of additives that have an effect on biodegradability, worker health, and aquatic life. Green Seal also suggested that purchasers seek products in refillable or recyclable containers in order to minimize waste generation.

As discussed in the articles in this issue of Closing the Circle News, agencies have also created their own standards for purchasing green cleaning products – particularly for those products not covered by the Green Seal standard. ■

OFEE would like to hear from you about standards or specifications you used successfully to purchase green cleaners or green cleaning services. Contact us at task_force@ofee.gov. ■



Governments Agree on National Criteria for "Green" Cleaning Products

Reprinted with permission from the Center for a New American Dream

Controlling more than \$15 million in annual cleaning product purchases, a group of state and local governments are using their purchasing power to protect the environment and their employees while saving taxpayers money.

"Green" Cleaning Products Better for Environment, Health

By purchasing and using "green" cleaners, state and local governments are cleaning up the environment one dirty surface at a time. Traditional cleaning products present a variety of human health and environmental concerns, and can contain chemicals associated with cancer, reproductive disorders, respiratory ailments, eye or skin irritation, and other human health issues. Switching from traditional cleaning products to biodegradable, low toxicity, or otherwise less harmful products can drastically improve the environmental profile of routine cleaning activities without sacrificing cleaning effectiveness. As many users have discovered, using green cleaners can also reduce costs and improve employee productivity.

A True Team Effort

The group of government purchasers, organized by the Center for a New American Dream and funded in part by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, includes all of the government purchasing pioneers who first attempted to define and purchase effective, safer, and more environmentally preferable cleaning products – Massachusetts; Santa Monica, California; King County, Washington; Minnesota; Seattle, Washington; and the

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory – among several others. Massachusetts was the first of the work group members to award contracts using the agreed upon criteria. It recently placed eleven local vendors representing seven different manufacturers under state contract. All products meet the criteria established by the multi-state, multi-municipality purchasing group.

Greener Products Work Just as Well and Are Just as Affordable

The products are very cost effective. According to Marcia Deegler, Massachusetts' Environmental Purchasing Program Manager, "Some of the environmentally preferable cleaning products are actually less expensive than their traditional counterparts. For many applications, the environmental products are, at least, very cost competitive – differing by only pennies per quart."

In addition to their relatively low cost, the new products work just as effectively as traditional products. In fact, Massachusetts went the extra mile to ensure their effectiveness. "All of the general purpose, bathroom, glass and carpet cleaners approved for use under the contract were extensively tested by an independent laboratory at the Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI) at the University of Massachusetts Lowell using three different surfaces and soils," explained Deegler. "The results clearly show that all of the green cleaners



What is a Biobased Product?

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 defines "biobased" as "a commercial or industrial product that is composed, in whole or significant part, of biological products or renewable domestic agricultural materials (including plant, animal, and marine materials) or forestry materials." So, a biobased product is one that contains plant and animal materials as its main ingredient and is made from a renewable resource. The Biobased Manufacturers Association considers products containing 90 percent or more biobased material to be biobased products, while products with lesser percentages of biobased materials to be biobased content products. When the U.S. Department of Agriculture proposes to designate biobased products for Federal procurement later this year, it will also propose percentages of biobased content that each product should contain in order to be considered "biobased" for purposes of Federal preferential purchasing. ■

What is Biodegradable?

The Federal Trade Commission's Environmental Marketing Guides provide guidance for claims that a product is "biodegradable." In general, this term means that the materials in the product will break down and return to nature within a reasonably short time after customary disposal. In the case of products that go down the drain, like detergents and shampoos, products are biodegradable or degradable if they will degrade in wastewater treatment systems. For more information, including examples of claims that are deceptive and not deceptive, visit FTC's web site at <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/grnrule/guides980427.htm>. ■

perform as well, if not better than, the traditional products they can replace."

"The bottom line," suggests Deegler, "is that the green cleaners are safer, they're effective, and they don't have to cost more. The decision to switch to environmentally preferable cleaners should be easy."

The Need for Consensus

Before this effort, according to Steve Ashkin, an industry expert with The Ashkin Group, there were numerous competing definitions of what constitutes a green product.

"Industry couldn't respond," Ashkin remarked, "because of what it saw as a constantly moving target. Very few companies invested in reformulating products because no standard had gained national credibility or created enough marketplace demand to make it a profitable investment. With the new Massachusetts contract and the incredible momentum behind the new purchasing criteria, it will be much more likely for the entire industry to respond."

A report on the industry, *Cleaning for Health*, released earlier this year by INFORM, a national nonprofit research organization, reached a similar conclusion. "The wide variety of conflicting environmental standards," observed Alicia Culver, Director of INFORM's Chemical Hazards Prevention Program and co-author of the study, "has really hurt the ability of purchasers to find safer products. That's why we strongly recommend that purchasers buy products meeting the new consensus criteria."

New Criteria are Based on Existing Green Seal Standard

The initial focus of the Center's purchasing work group was to compare the numerous competing definitions and specifications for safer cleaning products. After extensive analysis and discussion, the group realized the standards were

describing remarkably similar products using very different approaches. Some standards, for example, relied on extensive lists of prohibited chemicals while others prohibited the same chemicals by referencing a specific toxicity test. This recognition allowed the group to begin searching for a single standard they could all endorse.

After developing a set of purchasing criteria, the work group members began comparing them with existing standards. The existing Green Seal standard for Industrial and Institutional Cleaners (GS-37) met most everyone's concerns and was remarkably similar to the criteria developed independently by

the work group. In addition, GS-37 was developed in an open, consensus-based process that included environmentalists, government officials, end-user, and industry participation. It was already the

List of Approved Products

The Center is maintaining a list of products meeting the new consensus criteria for green cleaning products. For a copy of the list, visit:

www.newdream.org/procure/products/cleaners.html

For additional information, contact Scot Case at 610-373-7703.

basis of several successful purchases.

As a result, GS-37 became the foundation for the mandatory criteria. However, it only covers three cleaning product categories (general purpose, bathroom, and glass cleaners), so work group members, working with outside experts, extrapolated the GS-37 standard to develop purchasing criteria for four additional categories – carpet, disinfectants, floor care, and hand soaps.

Additional Contracts to be Awarded Soon

The City of Santa Monica is using the same environmental criteria in a bid that will be awarded within the next few months. It is currently testing products from five manufacturers that appear to meet the criteria. Minnesota is also applying the criteria to its own purchases. Other work group members and other interested purchasers are discussing similar and more ambitious plans. Now that purchasers are working together to promote a common standard, safer products will be more widely available, more affordable, and easier to locate. ■

“Green Cleaning” in GSA

by *Nathan Smith, GSA Public Buildings Service*

GSA's Public Buildings Service has more than 600 custodial services contracts in place in more than 1,800 Federal buildings. The combined effect of the use of various cleaners, solvents, and other chemicals in every building has a substantial impact on the safety and health of the people who use these materials, as well as the people within those buildings.

GSA sought to address this issue in February 1993, when it participated with EPA on a 3-year study, the Cleaning Products Pilot Project. This project was a cooperative, interagency effort to establish a framework for identifying and comparing “environmentally preferable” commercial cleaning products. The project began as an effort to identify specific cleaning products that were effective yet offered positive environmental attributes. However, the project was soon adapted to become the first “environmentally preferable product” pilot project under Executive Order 12873, “Federal Acquisition, Recycling, and Waste Prevention”. The report of this pilot project, which was published in 1997, is available at:

<http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp/pubs/cleaner.pdf>

In recent years GSA regions have worked to initiate efforts in establishing “Green Cleaning” programs. A recent survey of regional green cleaning activities revealed the following:

- All GSA regions that replied to the survey had made some use of green cleaning practices. However, there is substantial variability among regions with regard to the penetration of their green cleaning efforts across their inventory, the methods employed, and the vendors utilized. Virtually all regions have made

efforts to implement “Green Cleaning” programs through their contracted custodial operations. Several regions have made significant strides to institutionalize green cleaning procedures.

- Most regions that sought to utilize green cleaning products also included provisions for the use of other green products in the performance of the contract. These provisions generally referenced EPA's recycled content product guidelines as the basis for specifying green products—such as paper supplies—for use under the contracts.
- While anecdotal rather than based upon any true analysis of costs, there is nearly universal opinion that the incorporation of “green” provisions in cleaning contracts does not result in additional costs when compared to contracted services that do not require any “green” provisions.
- The clear majority of contracts have been awarded to NISH Community Rehabilitation Programs under the negotiation method.

Plan for the future

In recent months, GSA has begun an attempt to invigorate green cleaning efforts on nationwide. This effort seeks to create a coherent, progressive approach that will be easy to manage, while also being an approach that the cleaning industry can readily respond to without adding cost to cleaning services. The first product of the initiative, a draft green cleaning specification, is currently undergoing a series of reviews prior to its distribution. The distribution of the draft green cleaning specification is planned for the Fall of 2003 as part of a kick-off to announce GSA's commitment to furthering our efforts in this area.

For further information, contact Len Purzycki, 215-446-4643 or len.purzycki@gsa.gov. ■

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Pollution Prevention
and Toxics
(7409)

EPA742-R-07-002
February 1997



Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program



Cleaning Products
Pilot Project

Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks Set the Example for NPS

The adage: you can't teach an old dog new tricks certainly doesn't apply to Yellowstone or Grand Teton National Parks. They are two of the National Park system's oldest parks and over the past five years they have fully evaluated, converted, and educated their janitorial personnel concerning the practicalities and applications of converting to and utilizing environmentally preferable janitorial products.

The parks lie at the heart of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, the largest ecosystem still existing in the temperate zones on Earth. Preserving this delicate, natural balance is complicated as the parks encompass more than 313,000 acres, attract more than 5.5 million visitors a year, and contain

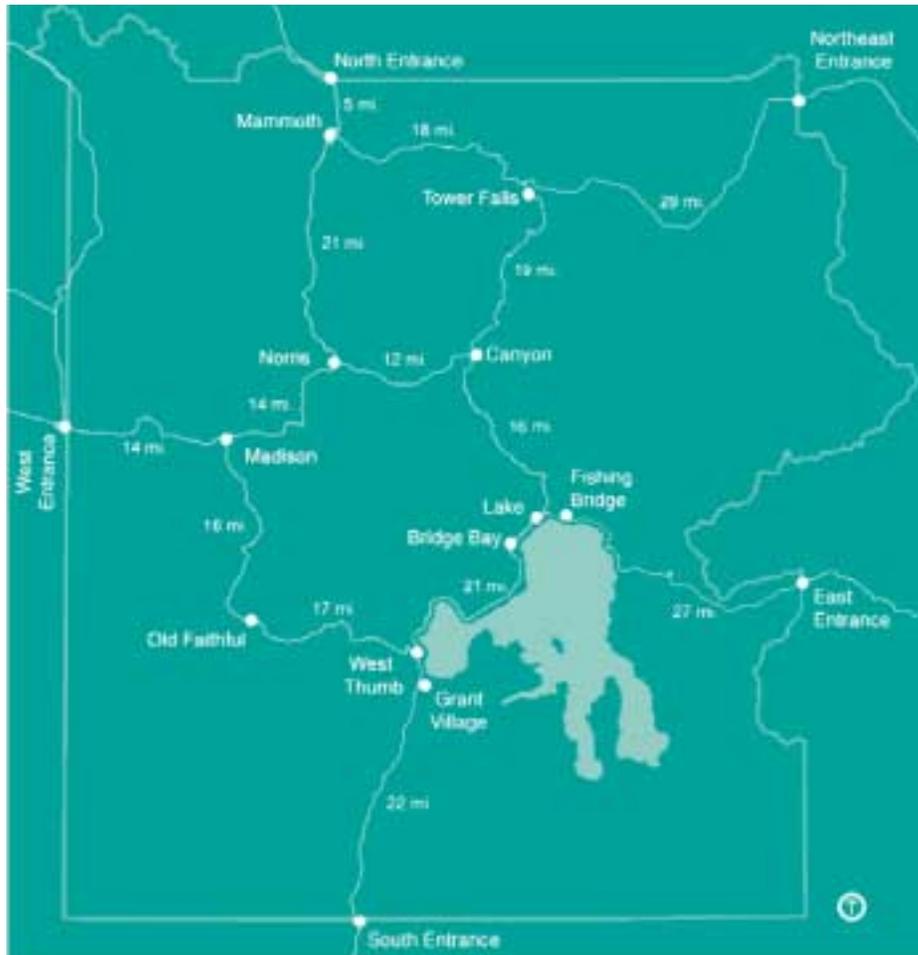
dozens of visitor and government office facilities (e.g. visitor centers, restaurants, employee offices, bathrooms) that need to be cleaned on a daily basis.

The initial effort to switch to environmentally preferable products began in 1997 at Yellowstone to coincide with the park's 125th anniversary. The challenge was formidable as Yellowstone staff had been using more than 100 cleaning chemicals. Many contained chemical compositions that were detrimental to the health of not only janitorial employees who were exposed to them on a daily basis but park visitors who were sensitive and often allergic to the mainly petroleum-based products. In addition, the potential for the park's rivers and streams to be adversely affected by a chemical spill or leakage from a cleaning chemical storage facility were quite high due to the fact that the chemicals were not being stored

properly nor had proper labeling that detailed their chemical compositions.

Environmental Protection Agency Region 8 provided consultants to assist Yellowstone in the cleaners evaluation and

conversion process, with the intention being that success at Yellowstone could translate into similar results at Grand Teton. After interviewing park staff and inspecting Yellowstone's buildings, the consultants discovered that not only were more than 100 chemicals being used daily, but an additional 30 toxic chemicals simply sat on the shelves with no specific application and with no knowledge of park staff as to their purpose. To complicate matters further, most of the park's 50 janitorial



workers had not been properly trained in how to use disinfectants or in the procedures involved with properly mixing the cleaning products safely.

In September 1999, Yellowstone reduced its chemical cleaners list by 80 percent to 15 environmentally preferable general purpose cleaners, plus three other products used for special purposes such as floor stripping. Most of the products selected had previously met the City of Santa Monica's environmentally preferable bid specifications. The park installed dispensing centers, which automatically mix and dispense cleaners into reusable, recyclable spray bottles. This eliminates excessive waste and decreases the need for janitorial employees to be personally responsible for chemical

continued on next page

NPS from previous page

dilution of the products. The areas cleaned with these products include offices, visitor centers, stores, restrooms, kitchens, restaurants, and medical clinics.

There are other benefits from the conversion to environmentally preferable products. Janitorial workers take more pride in their jobs and have started to take the initiative in suggesting alternative ways that the park could increase its environmental consciousness through its janitorial operations. Since the cleaning products list was dramatically reduced, facility managers were able to identify and cancel requests for unapproved cleaning products, helping the park eliminate unnecessary spending. All of these measures proved to the Yellowstone staff that they had made the right decision in switching over to environmental preferable products.

"Yellowstone prides itself in being a leader in environmental stewardship for the National Park Service," said Yellowstone Management Assistant Jim Evanoff. "As a result we strive to introduce initiatives that reduce our waste stream. One such project was environmentally preferable janitorial cleaning products. Overall, we have seen cost reduction, an increase in employee morale, and the virtual elimination of harmful products within the park. Also to our delight, the greater Yellowstone region and gateway communities have adopted our ideas. In addition, as a result of Yellowstone's actions dozens of other national parks across the country have converted to similar lines of products," he said.

Product conversion at Grand Teton followed quickly. Since Grand Teton employs 16 janitorial workers – compared to Yellowstone's 50 – the conversion occurred quicker and with a smaller learning curve. Like Yellowstone, Grand Teton experienced immediate benefits due to the switch.

Both parks now utilize biobased products mainly comprised from corn- and soy-based ingredients.

General Cleaning Products Used Throughout Yellowstone

Air freshener - plant-based deodorizer. Used for deodorizing restrooms and masking odors.

All purpose cleaner - a pH neutral, biodegradable concentrated cleaner made from plants. Works in cold water. Used for floors, surfaces, walls and spotting. Bathroom cleaner - two products, both made from renewable resources. One is acid free. The other is made from food grade citric acid and has a pH of 2.5. Used for sinks, bowls, and showers.

Bowl cleaner - a mildly acidic citric cleaner for routine use to dissolve mineral deposits, and as a back-up for the bathroom cleaner.

Degreaser cleaner - contains plant-based solvents, wetting agents and alkaline (pH 9.5) detergents. Dilutes with water. Used for automotive, industrial and kitchen soils or oils.

Disinfectant - a quaternary ammonium chloride disinfectant. Used for disinfecting specific areas such as toilets.

Enzyme stain treatment - made from natural enzymes and vegetable-based

surfactants. Used for floors around urinals, and wherever organic matter is a problem.

Furniture polish - Used for furniture and log cleaning and polishing. Free of petroleum solvents, volatile organic compounds, zinc, and wax.

Glass and window cleaner - biodegradable, contains no fuming solvents, butyl ethers, ammonia or denatured alcohol. Used for glass, display cases and windows.

Liquid hand soap - a plant-based soap that works with hot or cold water. Used in metal hand soap dispensers. ■



Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Park employees use environmentally preferable products following an extensive review and evaluation process.

Source: Cleaning National Parks: Using Environmentally Preferable Janitorial Products at Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, EPA/908/R-00-001, March 2000. Available electronically at http://www.epa.gov/Region8/conservation_recycling/yellowstone.pdf

Greening of the Pentagon Now Includes Cleaners

Continuing its award-winning efforts to build, renovate, and operate its facilities using green products, the Pentagon's Real Estate & Facilities Directorate (REFD) is now contracting for green cleaning services. The division oversees the janitorial cleaning of more than 6 million square feet of office space at the facility. Currently environmentally preferable products are being used in a variety of applications and settings throughout the Pentagon's interior, such as bathrooms, hallways, and offices.

In October 2002, REFD negotiated and awarded three janitorial services contracts to three Community Rehabilitation Programs participating in the NISH program: Chimes, Didlake Inc., and Tri Ark Industries. The contracts, which are valued at just under \$7 million a piece, represent a fundamental shift in the Pentagon's approach from a previous model of performance based contracting to a newer model combining the performance based approach with an award fee. The award fees provide monetary incentives and bonuses to the contractors when environmentally preferable janitorial cleaners are utilized, the volume of recyclables that are collected from one month to the next increases, and new environmentally preferable products or methods are introduced.

The Pentagon's award fee evaluation factors are broken down into three categories, weights, and maximum award amount available:

- **Performance (70 percent, \$42,000 available)** includes in addition to other standards the meeting or exceeding of the quality, completeness and timeliness standards as specified in the contract.
- **Environmental/Safety compliance (15 percent; \$9,000 available)** stipulates the meeting or exceeding of environmental initiatives, the affirmative procurement and use of environmentally preferable products, using environmentally preferable products to perform services (recycled and energy efficient equipment, recycled cleaning rags and uniforms), actively monitoring the

cleaning industry for new products and incorporating them when practical, and employee awareness and compliance of environmental and safety requirements.

- **Recycling (15 percent; \$9,000 available)** requires the contractor to recycle, minimize the waste stream, and improve the Pentagon occupants' awareness about recycling efforts through promotion and education efforts. The contractors have developed activities to encourage Pentagon workers' participation in the recycling efforts. Also included under this evaluation factor, similar to the environmental/safety compliance factor, the contractor is directly responsible for continuously monitoring developments in the recycling industry for methods to improve the recycling program.

The contracts' implementation in October 2002 produced a significant shift in the Pentagon's janitorial efforts not only in the types of cleaning products being used but also in employees' attitudes and commitment towards recycling. REFD has been pleased with the response and friendly "competition" that is now taking place between the three contractors in trying to attain the various awards that are available for their environmental innovativeness. Earlier this year, one of the contractors initiated the idea of using different color collection bags to differentiate garbage from recyclables, while another contractor introduced a new mop made out of recycled rubber materials, that not only lasts longer than the previous cloth mop but ultimately can be recycled itself.

With this, the Pentagon's takes another step in its journey towards sustainability—photovoltaic arrays were installed to offset the building's reliance on the electrical grid a few years back—it bodes well to see that if the largest office building in the world can incorporate environmentally preferable products into its janitors supply closets than other federal agencies can surely follow its lead.

For more information contact: Michael Langone, Building Management Specialist, Federal Facilities Division, Pentagon, 703-695-7968. ■

With more than 6 million square feet of space, the Pentagon is the world's largest office building. Three of its janitorial contracts employ NISH contractors and use environmentally preferable cleaning products and practices.

JWOD Affiliates Offer Green Cleaning Products and Services

Many Federal buildings are cleaned by nonprofit organizations affiliated with the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program (JWOD). These organizations clean some of the most important landmarks and offices in the country, including the Statue of Liberty, the Pentagon, and the main Department of the Interior (DOI) headquarters building. They are using and encouraging others to use environmentally preferable cleaning products.

Two years ago, the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) program began promoting the sale of green cleaning products by National Industries for the Blind (NIB) affiliates and green janitorial services by NISH providers (CTC, Winter 2001). JWOD continues to work with EPA and DOI in developing and promoting "green guidance" for JWOD affiliated agencies. JWOD has held frequent training programs entitled "How to Green Products" both with NISH and NIB. JWOD is aiming to shortly unveil a "How to Green" training program for nonprofit custodial services.

But what sets NISH and its partner agencies apart from other janitorial contractors is that 75 percent of their staff is diagnosed as having a mental or other disability. This factor makes it essential for NISH and its Community Rehabilitation Partners to educate disabled workers that the products they use are not only effective in meeting their performance standards but also harmless for the individuals who come into contact with them daily.

NISH has been a catalyst in urging the adoption and implementation of greener and safer products into its workers' supply closets. In 2002, NISH performed five "green cleaning" training events, a program adopted from, and initially developed by, DOI.

One of NISH's partner's in this effort is Rochester Midland, Inc. which is the first company to have its cleaning products certified by Green Seal. The certification is the culmination of more than two decades of RMI research that led to the

production of the Enviro Care line of environmentally preferable, institutional cleaners. These products are now being packaged as Skillcraft products and are being used extensively by NISH and other janitorial agencies across the nation in a variety of federal locations.

Following are a few of the JWOD affiliates that have received the green cleaning training and examples of the federal facilities that are currently being cleaned with green products:

- Melwood
USDA Agricultural Research Facility
Beltsville, MD
- The Chimes, Inc.
The Pentagon and DOI headquarters
- Fedcap, Inc.
Statute of Liberty/Ellis Island
- Didlake, Inc. The Pentagon
- Tri-Ark Industries
- The Pentagon
- WITCO
- Tacoma Goodwill
- Black Hills Work Shop (doing business as BH Services)
- Vocational Guidance Services
- Developmental Workshop Inc.

For more information contact: Blaine Robinson, NISH, 571-226-4646, brobinson@nish.org, or Joan Smith, Business Management Specialist, Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 703-603-0664, jsmith@jwod.gov ■



Cleaning Products: A Listing of Providers

The following is a listing of the various providers of cleaners that are available from the General Services Administration. GSA publishes an Environmental Products and Services Guide (EPSG) annually; the next edition is due in March 2004. The EPSG is available on-line from GSAAdvantage. Hard copies are available for customers without Internet access. Contact the GSA Centralized Mailing List Service (CMLS), (817) 334-5212, cmls@gsa.gov, to order a hard copy.

The Defense Logistics Agency also offers environmentally preferable products via its on-line purchasing Emall. At the site, do a refined search for "green corridor".

Cleaning Equipment, Janitorial Supplies, Cleaning Chemicals, and Sorbents

Schedule 539, Solutions and More (SAM) Class 79

Biodegradable cleaners and degreasers, nonphenolic and nonpetroleum cleaning products.

- Alfa Kleen Chemical Co.
Phone: 714-524-2530
Contract: GSO7F-0062J
- American Cleaning Solutions, Inc.
Phone: 253-942-8086
Contract: GSO7F-0134J
- Arrowak Mfg. & Dist. Inc.
Phone: 803-754-5168
Contract: GSO7F-0178K
- Caljen Sales Company
Phone: 310-547-2977
- Chemstar Holding Inc.
Phone: 314-995-1519
- Champion Chemical Company
Phone: 800-621-7868
Contract: GSO7F-0073J
- SOQ Environmental Technology
Phone: 480-966-2892
Contract: GSO70F-0009K
- ElSCO International
Phone: 619-696-6609
Contract: GSO7F-0411J
- Hillyard Industries, Inc.
Phone: 816-233-1321
Contract: GSO7F-0188K
- PCI of America
Phone: 800-222-1455
Contract: GSO7F-0131H
- Fessenmeier Enterprises LLC
Phone: 800-748-9597
Contract: GSO7F-0131H
- Knight Marketing Corporation
Phone: 518-762-4591
Contract: GS10F-8867H
- Golden Products, Inc.
Phone: 440-248-3463
Contract: GSO7F-0146K
- Penetone Corporation
Phone: 800-631-1652
Contract: GSO7F-0159J
- Quick 'n Brite, Inc.
Phone: 425-778-8285
Contract: GSO7F-0076K
- SC Johnson Professional
Phone: 800-992-3867
Contract: GSO7F-0254K
- Selig Chemical Industries
Phone: 404-691-9220
Contract: GSO7F-0128H
- Shadow Lake, Inc.
Phone: 203-778-0881
Contract: GSO7F-0113H
- Sunshine Makers, Inc.
Phone: 562-795-6030
Contract: GSO7F-0065J
- K-Tool Corp. of Michigan
Phone: 248-669-5000
Contract: GSO7F-0304K
- Sun Brite Corporation
Phone: 208-342-8842
Contract: GS07F-0157J
- The Butcher Company
Phone: 800-795-9550
Contract: GS07F-0083K
- DiverseyLever Institutional US
Phone: 800-767-7090
Contract: GS07F-0284K
- Dynamold Solvents, Inc.
Phone: 817-355-0862
Contract: GS07F-0140J
- Enhanced Chemicals Corp.
Phone: 407-678-8733
Contract: GS07F-0308K
- Golz Enterprises, Inc.
Phone: 914-342-5209
Contract: GS07F-0177K
- Flore-Chemie, GMBH
Phone: 261-889-2250
Contract: GS07F-0122J
- Geerpres, Inc.
Phone: 231-773-3211
Contract: GS07F-0320K
- Robby Vapor Systems, Inc.
Phone: 954-974-3434
Contract: GS07F-0311K
- Maintex, Inc.
Phone: 858-513-8286
Contract: GS07F-0044K
- Morning Star Industries, Inc.
Phone: 800-440-5305
Contract: GS07F-0298K
- Rite Kem, Inc.
Phone: 662-840-6060
Contract: GS07F-0283J
- Singerman Laboratories
Phone: 412-798-0447
Contract: GS07F-0398J
- Spartan Chemical Co. Inc.
Phone: 800-537-8990
Contract: GS07F-0194J
- State Industrial Products
Phone: 216-931-7574
Contract: GS07F-0295K
- Theochem Laboratories
Phone: 813-237-6463
Contract: GS07F-0172J
- Chemstar Holding, Inc.
Phone: 314-995-1519
Contract: GS07F-0401K
- Biosystems, Inc.
Phone: 970-224-4605
Contract: GS07F-0126H
- Western Chemical International, Inc.
Phone: 480-990-9487
Contract: GS07F-0142K

Green Seal Certified Cleaning Products

<http://www.greenseal.org/certproducts.htm#cleaners>

Product Category: Cleaners

Product Name	Manufacturer	Standard
ES 51C Washroom Cleaner ES 70C General Purpose Cleaner ES 75C Heavy Duty Cleaner/Degreaser ES 77C NFP Glass Cleaner ES 84C Neutral Floor Cleaner	Enviro-Solutions	GS-37 Industrial and Institutional Cleaners
Oxy-Clean Powdered Bleach	Oxy Company, Ltd.	GC-11 Powdered Laundry Bleach
Clean-'n-Gentle Hand Cleaner	Worx Environmental Products	GS-8 Household Cleaners
Green 4+Kleen	Ipax Cleanogel, Inc.	GS-8 Household Cleaners
Green Unikleen	Ipax Cleanogel, Inc.	GS-34 Cleaning/Degreasing Agents
Enviro Care Tough Job Cleaner Enviro Care Glass Cleaner Enviro Care Washroom Cleaner Enviro Care Low Foam All Purpose Cleaner	Rochester Midland Corporation	GS-37 Industrial and Institutional Cleaners

Product Category: Cleaners

Product Name	Manufacturer	Standard
Green Solutions All Purpose Cleaner Green Solutions Restroom Cleaner Green Solutions Industrial Cleaner	Spartan Chemical Company, Inc.	GS-37 Industrial and Institutional Cleaners
H2Orange2 Concentrate 117 H2Orange2 Grout-Safe Concentrate 130	EnviroX	GS-37 Industrial and Institutional Cleaners
#140 Super Shine-All #808 Super Shine-All	Hillyard Industries	GS-37 Industrial and Institutional Cleaners
Twist 'n Fill #1 Glass Cleaner Twist 'n Fill #3 Neutral Cleaner Twist 'n Fill #4 Bathroom Cleaner Twist 'n Fill #8 General Purpose Cleaner Twist 'n Fill #24 3-in-1 Floor Cleaner	3M	GS-37 Industrial and Institutional Cleaners
ECOgent General Purpose Cleaner	Cogent Environmental Solutions, Ltd.	GS-37 Industrial and Institutional Cleaners
Chemspec ECOgent General Purpose Cleaner	Chemical Specialties Manufacturing Corporation	GS-37 Industrial and Institutional Cleaners

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