



Environmental Times

A newsletter for Coast Guard environmental management and compliance

Making a Big Splash: USCG's Greenest Vessel

Submitted by Tiffany Tom, CG-443 Intern

As the greenest U.S. Coast Guard vessel to date, Great Lakes Icebreaker (GLIB) USCGC MACKINAW (WLBB-30) sets the standard for all future Coast Guard and other military vessels. The new MACKINAW (WLBB-30) is the replacement vessel for the 60-year old USCGC MACKINAW (WAGB-83). The MACKINAW (WLBB-30) has permanent accommodations for 62 personnel. CDR Donald Triner will be the Commanding Officer aboard the GLIB. The GLIB is on a shakedown cruise after its launch at Marinette, Michigan on April 2, 2005. After the shakedown, MACKINAW (WLBB-30) will depart Marinette and head to its future homeport of Cheboygan, Michigan on November 12, 2005.



With the very latest in maritime technology, MACKINAW (WLBB-30) either meets or exceeds all current applicable international, federal, state, and local environmental requirements. Planners and engineers also considered possible future environmental requirements in the design and construction.

The differences between MACKINAW (WAGB-83) and the new MACKINAW (WLBB-30) are staggering, both technologically and environmentally. MACKINAW (WLBB-30) contains environmentally-sound and protective systems, such as a double-bottom hull to move fuel tanks away from the hull bottom; a box-type cooler for machinery cooling water that stays internal to the ship; zero discharge of grey water; diesel engines that comply with 2002 MARPOL Tier 1 regulations for engine emissions; and no ballast.

Since 1993, the Coast Guard has required vessels entering the Great Lakes to either exchange ballast during the sea voyage or seal ballast tanks for the duration of the time in the Lakes. Neither alternative is completely foolproof. Thus, MACKINAW (WLBB-30) contains an important improvement and eliminates the necessity of the ballast altogether. This dramatically reduces the danger for introducing non-indigenous species into the Great Lakes and from one Lake to another. The Coast Guard is now a leader by example of conscientious and superior design while protecting the Great Lakes.

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(Credit: Daniel Koski-Karell, CG-443)

In appreciation of two years of service, the Environmental Management Division presented RADM Brown with a Superior Performance Award in grateful appreciation of his support of the service's goals and missions.

USCGC MACKINAW, *continued from page 1*

Based on a 50-person crew, MACKINAW (WLBB-30) can hold all grey water and all black water for ten days. In addition to a trash compactor, the vessel retains all trash, separating glass, plastics, and paper, and stores all HAZMATs. In contrast, MACKINAW (WAGB-83) could only hold grey and black water for four days and garbage for seven days.

Although regulations specifically exempt oil lubricated stern tube bearings from the vessel to meet the no-oil leakage requirements, the propulsor pods contain mechanical seals between the lubricated parts and pod exteriors, including a void space with detectors for water ingress or oil egress. The outer-most seal prevents any oil leakage to the environment. Failure of the mechanical seal will let water into the pod because the head pressure on the internal lip seals is less than the external water pressure on the shaft.

Foresight into the future changes in regulations gives MACKINAW (WLBB-30) flexibility in meeting those standards. Once environmentally-sound lubricating fluids are developed, the mechanical sealing system in the propulsor pods can be replaced easily.

In addition to performing MACKINAW's (WAGB-83) traditional job of heavy icebreaking in the Great Lakes to keep channels and harbors open to navigation, the MACKINAW (WLBB-30) has multi-mission capabilities including servicing buoys, search and rescue, law enforcement, and the capacity to respond to an oil spill situation. The deployment of a Vessel of Opportunity Skimming System (VOSS) provides MACKINAW (WLBB-30) with maritime environmental response. Two inflatable barges collect the oil skimmed from the surface by the VOSS. These two inflatable barges can each hold 28,000 gallons.

MACKINAW (WLBB-30) is a smaller ship (240 feet long and 3,500 long tons) and uses less power to do the same job and even more. Use of a diesel engine and control designs prove the most significant improvement to the old MACKINAW. The integrated electrical plant allows the diesel generators to both produce power for the podded propulsors and generate power for general shipboard use. These integrated diesel generators eliminate the need for separate diesel generators. While the old MACKINAW used up to one gallon per day of oil for the rubber bearings, the new MACKINAW uses only an estimated 0.11 ounces per day with potential leakage.

From December 2005 to April 2006, the old MACKINAW, also known as the "Mighty MAC," will "train" MACKINAW (WLBB-30). If any problems occur with the icebreaking in the Straits of Mackinac or St. Mary's River, the "Mighty MAC" will be present to assist. Afterwards, the new MACKINAW (WLBB-30) will be on its own. As an environmental steward, the MACKINAW (WLBB-30) leads by example in the movement toward greener Coast Guard vessels.

2005 White House Closing the Circle Award Winners

The Office of the Federal Environmental Executive (OFEE) is pleased to announce the 2005 White House Closing the Circle (CTC) award winners. The Coast Guard won two of the eleven awards presented from over 200 nominations submitted. ISC Kodiak won an award in the Recycling category for their submission *Model Consumer Recycling Program at Integrated Support Command Kodiak, Alaska* and Air Station Borinquen won an award in the Waste / Pollution Prevention category for their submission *Source Reduction and Green Initiatives at USCG Air Station Borinquen, Puerto Rico*. Congratulations to each of the winners and thank you once again for participating in the program. We had an outstanding batch of nominations this year, which is a tribute to each of you as well as your individual facilities. The judging was extremely tough and to receive such recognition this year is very significant. For more information on all of the 2005 Closing the Circle award winners, visit OFEE's website at www.ofee.gov.

The awards were presented in six categories:

- Environmental Management Systems
- Recycling
- Waste / Pollution Prevention
- Sustainable Design / Green Building
- Energy Efficiency in Transportation
- Green Purchasing



Winners of the DHS Environmental Achievement Award for 2005

The Department of Homeland Security has announced the winners of the 2005 Environmental Achievement Award. Seven Coast Guard units and one individual were recognized for their environmental efforts awards in six categories.

For more information on the DHS Environmental Achievement Awards, contact Ken Malmberg at (202) 267-6214.

2005 DHS Environmental Achievement Award Winners

Unit	Category
<i>ISC Boston</i>	Environmental Management Systems
<i>ISC Miami</i>	Waste / Pollution Prevention
<i>Air Station Borinquen</i>	Waste / Pollution Prevention
<i>Group Charleston</i>	Waste / Pollution Prevention
<i>ISC Kodiak</i>	Recycling
<i>ISC Kodiak: CWO Randy Saville</i>	Individual
<i>TRACEN Petaluma</i>	Sustainable Design / Green Buildings
<i>TRACEN Petaluma</i>	Natural Resources Protection and Management

New Hazardous Waste Manifest

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is [establishing new requirements](#) that revise the Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest regulations and the manifest and continuation sheet forms used to track hazardous waste from a generator's site to the site of its disposition. These revisions will:

- Standardize the content and appearance of the manifest form and continuation sheet (Forms 8700-22 and 22a);
- Make the forms available from a greater number of sources; and
- Adopt new procedures for tracking certain types of waste shipments with the manifest. These shipments include hazardous wastes that destination facilities reject, wastes consisting of residues from non-empty hazardous waste containers, and wastes entering or leaving the U.S.

There will be an 18-month transition to the new form. During this 18-month period, handlers and states will only use the old form. They will continue to acquire the old forms from the sources they use now. After September 5, 2006, only the new manifest form and requirements established under this final rule will be valid and acceptable for use. States requested this approach so that they could prepare their regulations and data bases for the changes introduced by the new form, and to use up the old forms.

You will be able to obtain new forms from any source that has registered with EPA to print and distribute the form. EPA will not distribute forms; rather, the Agency will oversee the printing requirements and ensure that registered printers follow them. EPA will maintain a list of entities that have been approved to print/distribute the form, so that you can acquire the forms from one of the approved printers. States may also register to print the new form, but State rules cannot establish the state as the exclusive source of forms. You will be able to use a manifest from any registered source.

CG-443 Environmental Management Functional Statement

CG-443 Environmental Management, formerly G-SEC, recently became part of the Office of Logistics (CG-443). CG-443 recently published their environmental management functional statement. The environmental management functional statement follows.

Environmental Management Functional Statement (CG-443)

- a. Develop and implement broad, USCG wide environmental and cultural resource policy, guidance, and procedures to meet program objectives of compliance, remediation, pollution prevention, stewardship, and environmental planning as they apply to internal environmental and management issues.
- b. Serve as USCG representative and expert authority on related operational and mission environmental issues at the national level. Act as USCG expert environmental representative on external committees, workgroups, and councils including related training and policy issues. Interface with Federal, state, local and foreign officials on matters of environmental policies and issues resolution. Serve as point of contact for environmental partnerships (with foreign countries) on international environmental matters.
- c. Serve as the USCG environmental and cultural resource information clearinghouse. Serve as the expert authority on environmental and historic preservation technologies and methodologies that relate to USCG facilities and operations. Provide relevant environmental compliance, restoration, pollution prevention, stewardship and environmental planning information to all USCG offices and units. Provide necessary reports to all external agencies. Through the logistics procedures promote and influence new environmentally sound technologies, work practices, and procurement practices to include impacts on air quality and the overall environment.
- d. Establish program policies, procedures, and performance metrics for USCG Environmental Management System (EMS) development, implementation, and management. Assist in DHS Agency-wide environmental data systems to monitor compliance of environmental programs.
- e. Establish and track the Coast Guard-wide environmental/cultural resource management training program for compliance with minimum required and/or recognized standards. Publish and maintain environmental/cultural resource management policy manuals, guides, handbooks, and related materials.
- f. Review and interpret new and proposed environmental and cultural resource management legislation, regulations, rules, and guidelines that could affect USCG facilities and operations.
- g. Establish and manage contract instruments for environmental and cultural resource management/planning studies that fill identified USCG environmental information and/or technology gaps. Provide support to all HQ program managers.
- h. Provide National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and cultural resource management support for all HQ initiated actions. Review and approve all NEPA and cultural resource management documents generated by HQ program manager unless such review has been delegated in writing to offices outside of CG-443.
- i. Manage the Environmental Compliance and Restoration (EC&R) fund. Develop and implement policies, procedures, and standards to ensure fund integrity. Develop EC&R personnel and budget requests and allocations. Monitor restoration and compliance needs, EC&R fund expenditures, and effectiveness of remediation projects.
- j. Develop Operating Expense budget requests for new and recurring environmental and training programs. Manage existing Operating Expense monies to assure national compliance assurance and training objectives.
- k. Manage the USCG environmental awards programs.
- l. Act as Secretariat for USCG's Environmental Management Board and serve as CG representative to DHS Environmental Sustainability Committee.

America's Ten Most Endangered Rivers of 2005

Since 1986, American Rivers has released a list of America's Ten Most Endangered Rivers that highlights rivers nationwide that are reaching a crucial crossroads. This report highlights acute threats, not chronic conditions. It is not a list of the nation's worst or most polluted rivers. This report not only lists problems that the selected rivers are facing, but highlights alternatives, solutions, and opportunities for the public to take action on behalf of each listed river.

The following three criteria were used by a staff of scientific advisors to qualify the rivers:

1. The magnitude of the threat of the river;
2. A major decision point in the coming year affecting that threat; and
3. The regional and national significance of the river.

A river that was previously listed will be removed if the threat has already significantly diminished or if there is no major action in the upcoming year that could intensify or lessen the threat.

America's Ten Most Endangered Rivers for 2005 are as follows:

1. *Susquehanna River* (New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland) – Aging sewer systems discharge enormous volumes of raw or poorly treated sewage, which eventually flow into the Chesapeake Bay. Unless local, state, and federal lawmakers invest in prevention and cleanup, the river will remain among the nation's dirtiest rivers and part of the Chesapeake Bay will become a dead zone.
2. *McCrystal Creek* (New Mexico) – The river and surrounding area face the prospect of intrusive coal bed methane drilling.
3. *Fraser River* (Colorado) – For years, the water board has siphoned 65 percent of the river's water and piped it across the mountains to fuel runaway development along the Front Range. The Army Corps of Engineers needs to put a stop to these plans or there will not be much left in the river except effluent from local sewage plants.
4. *Skykomish River* (Washington) – Runaway development threatens to foul the river's clear waters. The Snohomish County Council needs to plan responsibly for growth and act to protect the river.
5. *Roan Creek* (Tennessee) – The streams and rivers of the Appalachian Mountains have largely escaped the effects of factory dairy farming but this may change for Roan Creek. Unless state officials establish and enforce stricter rules, cow manure will foul the stream exposing residents to disease and jeopardize the region's economic prospects.
6. *Santee River* (South Carolina) – For decades, an enormous hydropowered dam complex has drained the river virtually dry. Unless state regulators stand up to the utility and demand that some of the water be put back, the river will continue to be the "forgotten river."
7. *Little Miami River* (Ohio) – Proposed wastewater plant expansions, new bridges, and roads are poised to pollute this river with more sewage, stormwater, chemicals, and trash. This can be rectified through the use of modern sewage treatment and sensible transportation planning.
8. *Tuolumne River* (California) – A proposed pipeline could increase the water it removes from the river by as much as 70 percent. This would mean losing some of California's best salmon and steelhead runs, world-class outdoor recreation, and economic diversity that the river provides. To prevent this San Francisco needs to invest in making its existing water supplies go further.
9. *Price River* (Utah) – The Bureau of Reclamation is under pressure to build a dam and reservoir to take away one community's water and pipe it over the mountains to another. Communities along the river could lose their water, wildlife, and economic prospects unless the local water district and the Forest Service strengthen watershed protections.
10. *Santa Clara River* (California) – The river is under the risk of condominium and shopping center development. Unless regulators hold new development to high standards, Southern California will lose its last significant natural river.

American Rivers encourages the public to learn more and take action to protect America's endangered rivers. More information on America's Ten Most Endangered Rivers can be viewed at www.americanrivers.org/site/PageServer?pagename=AMR_endangeredrivers and updates and successes on the rivers can be viewed at www.americanrivers.org/site/PageServer?pagename=AMR_MERprogress.

ALCOAST: Hazardous Materials Information Resource System Update

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ALCOAST 129/05

COMDTNOTE 6260

SUBJ: HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INFORMATION RESOURCE SYSTEM UPDATE

A. HAZARD COMMUNICATION FOR WORKPLACE MATERIALS, COMDTINST 6260.21B

1. THE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INFORMATION RESOURCE SYSTEM (HMIRS) IS A DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) AUTOMATED SYSTEM DEVELOPED AND MAINTAINED BY THE DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY (DLA). HMIRS IS THE CENTRAL REPOSITORY FOR MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS (MSDS), AS REQUIRED BY REF A, FOR ALL U.S. MILITARY SERVICES AND FEDERAL AGENCIES. HMIRS ALSO CONTAINS VALUE-ADDED INFORMATION ENTERED BY THE SERVICE/AGENCY ADMINISTRATORS INCLUDING HAZCOM WARNING LABELS AND TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION. HMIRS PROVIDES THIS DATA FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PURCHASED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THROUGH DOD AND OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.

2. HMIRS IS AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET FOR COAST GUARD PERSONNEL WHO HANDLE, STORE, TRANSPORT, USE, OR DISPOSE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. ACCESS TO THE SITE IS PASSWORD PROTECTED.

3. HMIRS CONTAINS OVER 300,000 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND CONSISTS OF TWO APPLICATIONS:

A. ONLINE WEB APPLICATION - USED BY GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES TO ACCESS MSDS AND ASSOCIATED PRODUCTS INFORMATION FOR PRODUCTS IN THE GOVERNMENT INVENTORY.

B. CD-ROM - A STAND ALONE APPLICATION DELIVERED ON CD-ROM ALLOWS OFF-NETWORK USERS TO SEARCH AND VIEW INFORMATION ON HAZARDOUS MATERIALS IN THE GOVERNMENT INVENTORY.

4. ONLINE WEBSITE ACCESS:

A. TO REQUEST ACCESS TO THE DOD HMIRS WEBSITE, PRINT AND COMPLETE THE HMIRS REGISTRATION FORM FOUND ON THE HMIRS HOME PAGE: [HTTP://WWW.DLIS.DLA.MIL/HMIRS](http://www.dlis.dla.mil/hmirs). FILL OUT BLOCKS 1 AND 2 AND HAVE YOUR COMMANDING OFFICER COMPLETE BLOCK 3. FAX THE COMPLETED FORM TO (269) 961-5925. YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR PASSWORD IN A COUPLE OF DAYS.

B. ONCE RECEIVING YOUR PASSWORD, GO TO THE HMIRS HOME PAGE AND SELECT "CONNECT TO HMIRS." AT THE HMIRS LOGIN SCREEN, TYPE IN YOUR USER NAME AND PASSWORD. THE PASSWORD IS CASE SENSITIVE. CLICK ON THE SUBMIT BUTTON. THIS TAKES YOU TO THE "WELCOME TO THE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INFORMATION SYSTEM" SCREEN THAT CONTAINS THE QUERY BAR AT THE TOP OF THE PAGE. BY SELECTING ONE OF THE BUTTONS IN THE HEADER, YOU WILL BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE "WELCOME" SCREEN TO SCREENS THAT PERMIT QUERYING THE HMIRS DATA.

5. CD-ROM APPLICATIONS: TO RECEIVE THE CD-ROM, SEND YOUR UNIT NAME, ADDRESS AND THE NAME OF THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR HMIRS TO COMDT (G-WKS-3), POC: MS. CAROLYN W. ONYE AT (202) 267-1882 OR CONYE(AT)COMDT.USCG.MIL.

6. INTERNET RELEASE IS AUTHORIZED.

7. RADM PAUL J. HIGGINS, DIRECTOR OF HEALTH AND SAFETY, SENDS.

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EPA National Electronics Meeting

EPA convened a meeting on March 1 and 2, 2005 to identify and initiate collaborative and scalable solutions that will contribute to a system for electronics recycling across the country. Participants in EPA's National Electronics Meeting were:

- Updated on the challenges and opportunities encountered in nationwide electronics management programs and systems, public-private voluntary projects, and legislative initiatives;
- Confirmed a collective commitment to a longer-term system for the management of used electronics across the country;
- Created action plans for multiple and diverse projects for cross-industry and government collaboration that can move from conceptualization towards broad acceptance and implementation (e.g., National Center for Electronics Recycling, Third Party Organization, Host for Safe Management Guidelines, National Database); and
- Contributed to the development of a list of science/research questions that could be addressed by EPA's Office of Research and Development and/or a collection of other research organizations.

EPA asked participants to commit to two full days of working sessions so that an action plan could be developed to foster greener design and more comprehensive recycling. Unlike a conference where attendees listen to a series of presentations, at this meeting, EPA participated in working sessions developed by a multi-stakeholder planning team of representatives from industry, retailers, government, non-profits, and recyclers. The working sessions were geared to move electronics recycling from concept to implementation.

In conjunction with the National Electronics Meeting, EPA convened a related meeting on February 28, 2005 to initiate discussions among members of the electronics community in regard to the safe reuse and recycling of unwanted cell phones.

The Seventh Annual National Harbor Safety Committee Conference ***Balancing the Missions: Safety, Security, Mobility, and the Environment***

The Seventh Annual National Harbor Safety Committee Conference was held in Long Beach, California on April 18-20, 2005. The theme of this year's conference was "Balancing the Missions: Safety, Security, Mobility, and the Environment" and was hosted by the U.S. Coast Guard, the Los Angeles / Long Beach Harbor Safety Committee, and the California Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR). The conference was attended by representatives from local, state, and federal government, industry, educational institutions, ports, and maritime organizations.

The panels discussed Security, Harbor Safety Committee Operations, the Environment, Interaction and Cooperation with Federal Agencies, Best Practices, Navigation, Incident Response, Technology, and the Shared Use of Waterways. The Environmental panel discussed not only the need to balance environmental concerns with safety, security, and mobility, but also discussed the following issues as well:

1. The work that the Pacific States / British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force has done towards planning for places of refuge for ships in need of assistance;
2. The State of California's Marine Invasive Species Act;
3. The State of Washington's Derelict Vessel Removal Program (DVRP) and Dredged Materials Management Program (DMMP);
4. The influence of short sea shipping on harbor safety in the 21st century; and
5. NOAA's Marine Transportation System Best Practices Pilot Program and the Project Impact Evaluation System (PIES).

Update – Cleaning Green at Sea

Reprinted from [Closing the Circle News, Spring 2005](#)

In 2003, in an effort to reduce its usage of toxic and hazardous chemicals and to implement greener cleaning, the U.S. Navy developed a mandatory catalog of authorized shipboard chemical cleaning products, precautions, containment requirements, and authorized dispensing systems for its surface ships. The project team drafted ten

Technical Purchasing Descriptions (TPDs) covering such information as materials and their composition, prohibited material/chemicals, relative toxicity, aquatic toxicity, biodegradability, pH, regulatory requirements, and cleaning performance. The TPDs covered nine categories of cleaners and a single category of dispensing systems.

A year later, the Navy is still taking active steps in enforcing and updating its green cleaning requirements. On September 30, 2004, the Navy issued a revised catalog to all of its surface ships. This updated catalog now contains thirteen TPD categories – twelve for cleaners and one for dispensing systems. The catalog was expanded to include requirements for dishwashing products, miscellaneous cleaners, and hand cleaners. It also contains an updated list of products that can be used on the surface ships. This list includes the suppliers' contact information, product name, precautions (such as aquatic toxicity, hazardous material, or corrosive), and type of dispensing system to be used. An online version of this catalog is available on the GSA Advantage Website: www.gsadvantage.gov under Authorized Shipboard Cleaning Products and Dispensers. It is also available on the Navy Shipboard Environmental Information Clearinghouse (Navy SEIC) website: navyseic.dt.navy.mil.

More information on green cleaning products can be found in the Spring 2005, Issue 36 of the [Closing the Circle News](#).

While the Navy has not targeted specific chemical constituents, it has tried to minimize the use of APEs (Alkylphenol ethoxylates) in cleaners as recommended by EPA. One of the machinery and bilge cleaners is an APE and is compatible with the ship's oil/water separators, whereas other cleaners may cause an emulsion with the oil and water and adversely affect the oil/water separator. The Navy is seeking an alternative product without APEs that is compatible with the oil/water separators and is developing a test protocol for this application.

For more information, contact Brooke Cipriano at ciprianob@nswccd.navy.mil.

The Effect of Ocean Noise on the Marine Environment

There have been increased threats to marine environments and the marine mammals and other marine species including fish that inhabit those environments due to the growing use of intense human-generated noise. Some examples of human generated-noises include explosives, ship traffic, military sonar, underwater construction, and air guns. Consequences of these ocean noises include serious injury and death caused by hemorrhages or tissue trauma, stranding, temporary and permanent hearing loss or impairment, displacement from preferred habitat and disruption of feeding, breeding, nursing, communication, sensing, and other important behaviors.

In May, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill that would provide \$2.2 million dollars to the University of Hawaii to research the effects of sound on whales and dolphins. Environmentalists believe that the technologies (such as sonar) used in marine environments could harm sea life that use sound waves to communicate. There may be a correlation between increased fatal whale strandings and loud sounds emitted into the ocean.

Whales exposed to high-intensity ocean noises have suffered hemorrhaging in the brain, inner ear, lungs, and eyes. These injuries concern biologists as there is a concern that more marine mammals could be dying at sea due to the effects of ocean noises without our knowledge. In recent years, there have been a number of mass strandings and mortalities of whales and other marine mammals that have been associated with the use of military sonar including those that occurred in the Bahamas, Hawaii, Washington State, and North Carolina. In 2005, mass strandings have been documented in:

- North Carolina (January 2005);
- Florida Keys (March 2005); and
- Australia and New Zealand (June 2005).

Environmental groups have requested information on these recent mass strandings to determine whether there was a documented correlation between ocean noises and the event. The Ocean Noise Coalition, a worldwide coalition of over 120 organizations, is petitioning the United Nations to take steps to protect marine life from the powerful sound waves used in oil and gas exploration and by the world's navies to navigate and detect submarines. The precautionary principle should be applied publicly and transparently to noise generated for military, commercial, and scientific purposes.

Changes to the Hazardous Materials Table (HMT)

Some changes were recently made to the Hazardous Materials Table (HMT). The changes to the HMT are summarized below.

The following entries that were previously removed from the HMT are being reinserted:

- "Adhesives, containing a flammable liquid, UN1133," Packing Groups I and III;
- "Coating solution (includes surface treatments or coatings used for industrial or other purposes such as vehicle undercoating, drum or barrel lining), UN1139," Packing Groups I and III;
- "Extracts, aromatic, liquid, UN1169," Packing Group III;
- "Flammable liquids, n.o.s., UN1993," Packing Groups II and III;
- "Gasohol *gasoline mixed with ethyl alcohol, with not more than 20 percent alcohol*, NA1203" Packing Group II;
- "Hydrobromic acid, with not more than 49 percent hydrobromic acid, UN1788," Packing Group II;
- "Hydrocarbons, liquid, n.o.s., UN3295," Packing Groups II and III;
- "Organochlorine pesticides, liquid, toxic, flammable, flash point not less than 23 degrees C, UN2995," Packing Group I;
- "Paint including paint, lacquer, enamel, stain, shellac solutions, varnish, polish, liquid filler, and liquid lacquer base, UN1263," Packing Groups I and III;
- "Paint related material including paint thinning, drying, removing, or reducing compound, UN1263," Packing Groups I and III;
- "Pentanes, UN1265," Packing Group I;
- "Perfumery products with flammable solvents, UN1266," Packing Group III;
- "Printing ink, flammable or Printing ink related material including printing ink thinning or reducing compound, flammable, UN1210," Packing Groups I and III;
- "Resin solution, flammable, UN1866," Packing Groups I and III;
- "Rubber solution, UN1287," Packing Group III;
- "Tars, liquid, including road asphalt and oils, bitumen and cut backs, UN1999," Packing Group III; and
- "Wood preservatives, liquid, UN1306," Packing Group III.

The following entries are being removed from the HMT:

- The first occurrence of the entry "Organochlorine pesticides, liquid, toxic, flammable, flash point not less than 23 degrees C, UN2995," Packing Group III; and
- The entry "[PG II]," immediately preceding the entry "Pentanes, UN1265."

Universal Waste Accumulation Time Limit

According to [40 CFR 273.15\(a\)](#), both large and small quantity handlers of universal waste are allowed to accumulate that waste on-site for up to one year, and must have some method of documenting that they have not exceeded that time limit.

The EPA does allow generators to exceed this one-year time limit if it is necessary to facilitate proper recovery, treatment, or disposal. However, the handler bears the burden of proving that he truly needs the additional time. For example, if at the end of one year of accumulation, a handler only has two or three used batteries or light bulbs, it will not be very economical to ship those by themselves for treatment or disposal. He can then extend the time limit until he has enough to warrant shipping them off-site.

Universal Waste Containers Must Be Closed

One of the most common violations found during EPA or state inspections at hazardous waste management facilities involves universal waste containers not being managed properly. As discussed in the Environmental Resource Center's Reg of the Day on [November 23, 2004](#), universal waste is hazardous waste; it just has a simpler set of management standards than "normal" hazardous waste.

The management requirements for the different universal wastes are found at [40 CFR 273.13](#) for small quantity handlers and [40 CFR 273.33](#) for large quantity handlers. They vary slightly by type of waste (e.g., batteries vs. pesticides vs. lamps), but each contains the basic requirement that the containers be "... structurally sound ... such containers and packages must remain closed and must lack evidence of leakage, spillage or damage that could cause leakage under reasonably foreseeable conditions."

If batteries are being stored in five-gallon buckets, keep the lid tightly fastened. If light bulbs are being stored in their original container (this is not required, but is recommended), keep the box closed.

Training Requirements for Small Quantity Generators of Hazardous Waste [40 CFR 262.34(d)(iii)]

A small quantity generator is a site that generates less than 1,000 kg of hazardous waste and less than 1 kg of acute hazardous waste per calendar month. Unlike large quantity generators, for which there are specific training requirements, small quantity generators are subject to seemingly less stringent standards. [40 CFR 262.34\(d\)\(iii\)](#) states that "the generator must ensure that all employees are thoroughly familiar with proper waste handling and emergency procedures, relevant to their responsibilities during normal facility operations and emergencies."

The terms "all employees," "thoroughly familiar," and "must ensure." are quite strict. Therefore, small quantity generators must train all employees that may handle hazardous waste and they must ensure that the employees are familiar with procedures for the proper management of hazardous waste and what to do if there is an emergency involving hazardous waste. How you ensure that they "are familiar" is up to you. Ideas for ensuring that employees are familiar with these procedures include: employee testing, on the job observations, or audits.

OSHA Guide for Toxic Industrial Chemicals Involved in Terrorist Events

Due to the potential for terrorist events, many have expressed concerns about the possibility of a terrorist attack involving toxic industrial chemicals (TICs), or toxic industrial materials (TIMs). These agents can be highly toxic and are produced in large quantities. OSHA has issued guidance to help workers understand what TICs are and how they may affect their health and safety. This [guidance](#) is designed to assist workers, employers, and emergency responders and includes a list of TICs, discusses how TICs might be used as a terrorist's weapon, identifies possible health effects of TICs, and how to protect yourself, as well as guidance for first responders and health care workers.

TICs are industrial chemicals that are manufactured, stored, transported, and used throughout the world that can be in a gas, liquid, or solid state. They can be chemical hazards (e.g., carcinogens, reproductive hazards, corrosives, or agents that affect the lungs or blood) or physical hazards (e.g., flammable, combustible, explosive, or reactive).

The Medical Management Guidelines (MMGs) for Acute Chemical Exposures were developed by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) to aid emergency department physicians and other emergency healthcare professionals who manage acute exposures resulting from chemical incidents. These guidelines can be accessed at www.atsdr.cdc.gov/mmg.html.

Hazard Codes, Waste Codes, and Hazardous Waste Numbers: What is the Difference? [40 CFR 261.30(b)]

In [40 CFR 261 Subparts C and D](#), EPA assigns hazardous waste numbers to both characteristic and listed wastes. The characteristic waste numbers are D001 through D043. Listed wastes have numbers beginning with the letters F (non-specific source), K (specific source), and P and U (commercial chemical products).

Hazard codes are used in [40 CFR 261 Subpart D](#) to identify EPA's basis for listing wastes. The hazard codes are: I (ignitable), C (corrosive), R (reactive), E (toxic based on the toxicity characteristic), H (acute hazardous waste), and T (toxic).

This is where it the codes get interesting: in the land disposal restriction regulations at [40 CFR 268](#), EPA refers to both listed and characteristic wastes using the terms waste codes and waste numbers interchangeably. In the text of the regulations, they use "waste numbers," but on the treatment standard tables at [40 CFR 268.40](#), the agency uses the term, "waste code."

When PCBs are and are not Hazardous Waste [40 CFR 261.8]

Under the federal EPA's regulations at [40 CFR 261.8](#), PCB-containing dielectric fluid and electric equipment containing dielectric fluid that are managed in accordance with the Toxic Substance Control Act regulations at [40 CFR 761](#) are not subject to hazardous waste regulations if they fail the TCLP test for only waste codes D018 - D043. However, if they display any other hazardous waste characteristic, they are regulated as hazardous waste. Note that some states do regulate PCB-contaminated waste as hazardous waste.

State vs. Federal Hazardous Waste Regulations: Which Take Precedence? [40 CFR 271.1]

Most states have an EPA-authorized RCRA regulatory and enforcement program. This means that, generally, generators in those states must follow their state's regulations instead of the federal rules. However, some Federal EPA rules are published in a way that makes them effective automatically in all states, regardless of the state's authorization status or whether the state has adopted the Federal rules.

If it were not for [40 CFR 271.1](#), this could make it difficult to determine which rules you must follow. This section of the regulations includes a table that lists the regulations that have been promulgated under the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments Act of 1984 and therefore are in effect automatically in all states.

For example, in the February 24, 2005 issue of the Federal Register, a [new rule](#) was published adding a new waste code, K181. This waste code applies in all states, even though most have not incorporated it into their regulations yet.

This topic also relates to the [new manifest rule](#) published March 4, 2005. Since the manifest regulations are not HSWA requirements, but RCRA, the new manifest would not go into effect immediately in all states on its effective date. To get around this, DOT will require any shipment of hazardous waste to be on the new manifest form.

Modification of the RCRA, Superfund, and EPCRA Call Center

On March 4, 2005, EPA announced significant changes to the operation of the RCRA, Superfund, and EPCRA Call Center (70 FR 10620). The RCRA, Superfund, and EPCRA Call Center provides program information to callers on a wide variety of topics created under the authorities of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The RCRA includes the Underground Storage Tank (UST) program; the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA, or Superfund); the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA); the Superfund Amendments Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III; the Clean Air Act (CAA) Section 112(r); and the Oil Pollution Prevention program under the Clean Water Act (CWA).

As of April 1, 2005, the Call Center will no longer support the RCRA and UST programs and will no longer answer questions on those programs. RCRA program information will be available to the public through the Internet at www.epa.gov/osw, and UST program information will be available at www.epa.gov/oust.

The Call Center will continue to respond to public inquiries about the CERCLA (or Superfund); EPCRA, including the Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) program; the Risk Management Program (RMP) under the CAA Section 112(r); and the Oil Pollution Prevention program under the CWA.

To make it easier for people to find sources of RCRA information, the Office of Solid Waste (OSW) has compiled a complete list of phone numbers and waste program websites maintained by EPA regional offices and state environmental agencies. This compilation is found at www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/comments.htm.

The site also provides links to the RCRA Online database, which is a searchable compilation of OSW memorandums and guidance documents, and to an online order form for OSW publications. OSW publications may also be ordered by calling the National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP) toll-free at (800) 490-9198.

The OSW website also includes a link to a database of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that will allow users to search for RCRA information from a comprehensive set of FAQs. If the existing FAQs do not respond to the user's request, the user can use the system to transmit the question to OSW for resolution.

For information about the UST program and leaking UST program, please visit the Office of Underground Storage Tanks (OUST) website at www.epa.gov/oust. This website contains general information about the federal tank program; answers to FAQs; laws, regulations, and policy guidance about the tank program; publications and compliance help for states as well as tank owners and operators; and links to regional, state, local, and tribal tank programs. OUST publications may also be ordered by calling NSCEP toll-free at (800) 490-9198.

EPA has established an [official public docket](#) for this action under Docket ID no. RCRA-2005-0001. You may use EDOCKET to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the official docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically.

Does DOT Certify Hazardous Materials Training? [49 CFR 172.704]

The Department of Transportation (DOT) does not have a program in place to certify hazardous material training programs or providers. Shippers, carriers, and others who are subject to hazardous materials inspection by DOT can expect a thorough review of training records to verify that all required training has been completed including modal-specific training. DOT training components, detailed in [49 CFR 172.704](#), must include general awareness, function-specific, safety, and security awareness training for all hazardous materials employees. Furthermore, in-depth security training is required for employees of facilities that are required by DOT to have written security plans.

To comply with DOT's regulations, shippers, carriers, and other hazmat employers must identify hazmat employees, conduct or have conducted required training and testing, and maintain accurate records of training.

Hazardous Waste Satellite Accumulation Time Limits [40 CFR 262.34(c)]

A common question heard at hazardous waste training is, "What is the time limit for satellite accumulation?"

Under the federal regulations, there is no time limit for satellite accumulation. At [40 CFR 262.34](#), EPA states that a hazardous waste generator can accumulate up to 55 gallons, or one quart of acutely hazardous waste. Once the 55 gallons has been exceeded, you have three days to either move the waste to a 90-day accumulation point (if you are a large quantity generator), 180-day accumulation point (small quantity generator), Part B permitted (or interim status) storage, or to ship the waste off-site. You must date the container with the date that you exceeded 55 gallons. That date marks the beginning of the only time limit in a satellite accumulation point. This is the only date that is required on the containers during the satellite accumulation period ... under the Federal rules. Some states have established a one-year limit for satellite accumulation points.

The New FedCenter.gov Website

FedCenter.gov has been revised and is now up and running!

FedCenter.gov is the Federal Facilities Environmental Stewardship and Compliance Assistance Center's website. This website is a collaborative effort between the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive (OFEE), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Construction Engineering Research Laboratory, and the U.S. EPA Federal Facilities Enforcement Office. The FedCenter.gov site replaces the previous FedSite.gov as a one-stop source of environmental stewardship and compliance assistance information focused solely on the needs of federal government facilities.

Examples of the information available on the website include:

- Environmental Management System (EMS) guidance and lessons learned
- Proposed and newly finalized regulations with environmental impact
- Green purchasing resources and tools
- Compliance guidance for routine facility activities
- Information on partnering opportunities, award nominations, and available grants
- Workshops, conferences, and training opportunities

Please visit FedCenter at www.fedcenter.gov to assist you in your environmental information needs.

Failure to Submit Form R Leads to \$53,749 Penalty

Cherokee Chemical Co. Inc., of Los Angeles, has agreed to pay the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \$53,749 for failure to submit toxic chemical release forms, a violation of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA).

"These right-to-know reports give the public valuable information on chemicals being released in their communities," said Enrique Manzanilla, the EPA's Cross Media Division director for the Pacific Southwest. "This penalty should remind others that we are maintaining a close watch over chemical reporting practices and are serious about enforcing community right-to-know laws."

In February 2004, the EPA inspected Cherokee Chemical Co., which blends and repackages chemicals for the water treatment and sanitation industries. Upon reviewing Cherokee Chemical Co.'s management records, the EPA discovered that the firm had failed to submit a timely toxic chemical release inventory reporting form for sodium dimethyldithiocarbamate and glycol ethers in 2000-2002, and for sodium nitrite in 2001 and 2002.

Sodium dimethyldithiocarbamate is used in disinfectants and insecticides; it is considered a developmental toxicant which may cause negative effects on developing children. Glycol ethers are used in aerosol paints and agricultural chemicals, and are considered to be cardiovascular toxicants which may cause negative effects on human blood systems. Sodium nitrite can be used as a corrosion inhibitor in the manufacturing and metalworking industries and is also a developmental toxicant.

All units should already have TRI-DDS software CD to help in this reporting requirement. If you need another copy, please contact TJ Granito at (202) 267-1941 or tgranito@comdt.uscg.mil.

Reminder: Coast Guard units with Firing Ranges need to report annually each July under EPCRA Sec 313 – Toxic Release Inventory if they use (i.e., shoot/fire) over 100 lbs of lead (Pb) rounds per calendar year.

Deadlines for SARA Title III Section 311 MSDS Reporting [40 CFR 370.20(c)]

According to [40 CFR 370.20\(c\)](#), the owner or operator of a facility that is subject to Section 311 of SARA Title III must submit either all applicable MSDSs or a list of hazardous chemicals that includes specific information. This submission is required for any hazardous chemical present at the facility at any one time in an amount equal to or greater than its threshold planning quantity (TPQ). The MSDS copies or chemical list must be submitted to the state emergency response commission (SERC) and the local emergency planning committee (LEPC) with jurisdiction over the reporting facility.

The initial deadline for reporting under this section was October 17, 1990. Additionally, facilities must comply with this requirement within three months after a chemical first triggers its applicable threshold amount.

Some facilities are ensuring continued compliance with this "update" type of requirement is by submitting a list of reportable chemicals (including the identification of the applicable hazard categories on a quarterly basis to their SERC and their LEPC).

How Long Must Employers Retain MSDSs? [29 CFR 1910.1200 and 29 CFR 1910.1020]

There are two sections in OSHA's General Industry Standard that address MSDSs: [29 CFR 1910.1020](#) "Access to employee exposure and medical records" and [29 CFR 1910.1200](#) "Hazard Communication."

Under [29 CFR 1910.1020\(c\)\(5\)\(iii\)](#), the MSDS is considered a form of an employee exposure record. [29 CFR 1910.1020\(d\)\(1\)\(ii\)](#) indicates that employee exposure records must be preserved and maintained for at least 30 years. Therefore, MSDSs must be maintained for this period of time unless an alternate form of this information is maintained. According to [29 CFR 1910.1020\(d\)\(1\)\(ii\)\(B\)](#) MSDSs "need not be retained for any specified period as long as some record of the identity (chemical name if known) of the substance or agent, where it was used, and when it was used is retained for at least 30 years." Although this alternate form of keeping exposure records is an option, many organizations choose to maintain MSDSs for at 30 years so that they can preserve not only the required exposure information, but all of the information on the MSDS.

OSHA states at [29 CFR 1910.1200\(g\)\(8\)](#) that the employer must ensure that the applicable MSDSs are readily accessible to employees during each work shift when the employees are in their work area(s). Thus an MSDS for a chemical must be retained for as long as that chemical is in use.

What OPSEC Means to You: **Office of Security, Operations Security (OPSEC) Branch**

Operations Security (OPSEC) is an analytic process used to deny an adversary information – generally unclassified – concerning our intentions and capabilities by identifying, controlling, and protecting indicators associated with our planning processes or operations. OPSEC does not replace other security disciplines – it supplements them.

Since the events of September 11, 2001, the nation’s attention to security has had to change. Federal employees need to know that they are representatives of the people. We must keep our vulnerabilities from our adversaries. Because of this, it is important to learn about OPSEC because the information that often used against us is not classified.

OPSEC has recommended the following five-step process to maintain and improve security within our government:

Step 1: Identify Your Critical Information:

- What do you want to protect?
- Why do you want to protect it?
- Is it governed by a regulatory requirement?
- Can it be defined as sensitive but unclassified?

Examples of potential critical information:

- Travel Itineraries
- Operations Planning Information
- Employee Addresses
- Employee Phone Lists
- Budget Information
- Entry / Exit (Security) Procedures

Step 2: Analyze the Threat:

- Who wants the sensitive information?
- Is there more than one adversary?
- What is their Objective?
- What will they do to get your sensitive information?
- What methods will they use to get it?

There are two elements of Threat:

- Intent
- Capability

Step 3: Analyze Vulnerabilities:

- How is your information vulnerable?
- How is it protected or not protected?
- Or, is it properly protected?

Examples of Vulnerabilities:

- Critical information posted on the Internet
- Non-secure communications

Step 4: Assess the Risk:

- Is the risk great enough to do something about the threat?
- How would the loss of sensitive data affect your operations?
- What would be the cost of losing sensitive information?

Risk is determined by analyzing three factors:

- Threat
- Vulnerability
- Impact

Step 5: Develop and Apply Countermeasures:

- What countermeasures will block access to your information? Adopt measures specific to your operation.

Examples of countermeasures:

- Limit web page access
- Shred sensitive hard copy
- Sanitize bulletin boards
- Monitor public conversations
- Do not use email to discuss sensitive operations
- Training and awareness

For further information, please contact the DHS Office of Security, Internal Security Division, OPSEC Branch at (202) 772-5064 or OPSEC@dhs.gov.

Summer Interns for CG-443

The Environmental Management Division (CG-443) is happy to welcome our 2005 summer interns: Sarabeth LeVangie, Tiffany Tom, and Ashley Welter!

Sarabeth LeVangie:

My name is Sarabeth LeVangie and I will be interning at CG-443 from 31 May to 6 August 2005. My internship was facilitated by The Washington Center Internship Program. I am a senior at Bridgewater State College in Massachusetts. My major is biology with a concentration in environmental studies. I also have a minor in chemistry. I have also worked as a veterinary assistant for four years and have had some experience with wildlife rehabilitation. Upon my return to Bridgewater State, I will be researching the effects of toxic heavy metals on plants and how plants react to their exposure. Someday I hope to work on wetland conservation and restoration.

Tiffany Tom:

My name is Tiffany Tom and I am interning through The Washington Center in the Environmental Management Division for the summer. During my internship, I will be helping out with NEPA and NHLPA projects. This fall I will be a junior at the University of Arizona, double degreing in both environmental science and history.

Ashley Welter:

My name is Ashley Welter. Starting in the fall I'll be beginning my senior year at Ohio Northern University in Ada, OH. I'm majoring in Environmental Studies with a minor in Criminal Justice. I'm also Vice President of Development of my sorority, Kappa Alpha Theta.

I'll be preparing for the LSAT this October by taking an LSAT review class through the Princeton Review this summer. I'm interested in going to law school for environmental law (hopefully Pace Law School!) after I graduate from ONU.

I'm originally from North Olmsted, OH, which is suburb outside Cleveland. Ada and North Olmsted are extremely different from one another. Ada is pretty much a small town in the middle of corn fields (with only four traffic lights), while North Olmsted has everything you need around you.

I'm excited to start my internship in Washington and start working for the U.S. Coast Guard. I can't wait to start getting projects from Mark and TJ and really get involved and start learning from them!

Even though I'm across the hall don't be shy to come over and say Hello! I'm looking forward to working with everyone over the next ten weeks.



Homeland Security



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