

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

# Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Mercury Emissions Reduction Strategy



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Presented by Adam Carpenter  
Battelle

On Behalf of Alexis Cain  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,  
Region 5



# Great Lakes Regional Collaboration

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- Stakeholder Process Created by 2004 Presidential Order
- Overseen by: Federal Interagency Task Force; Mayors; Governors; Tribal Leaders; GL Congressional Delegation
- Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Executive Committee, October 2007, Charge to Great Lakes States and USEPA: Develop strategy to “produce institutionalized activities to sustain mercury emissions reduction”



## Two Strategies Developed

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- Great Lakes Mercury Product Phase-Down Strategy (2008)
- Great Lakes Mercury Emissions Reduction Strategy (12/2010)
- Strategies developed by a team including reps from each GL State, USEPA, tribes and cities (Product Strategy), with stakeholder input and public comment, approval by Governors offices



# Product Phase-Down Priority Products and Sectors

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## Products

- Dental Amalgam
- Switches, Relays & Control Devices
- Fever Thermometers
- Lamps
- Thermostats

## Sectors

- Industry/Manufacturing
- Schools
- Steel Manufacturing
- Healthcare/ Veterinary care
- Households (including button cell batteries)



## Recommendations-- 59

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- Bans on sale of some mercury-containing products
  - Thermostats
  - Fever thermometers
  - Button cell batteries (by 2011)
  - Switches, relays and measurement and control devices (with a mechanism to allow for exceptions)
  - Everything (except lamps and amalgam, and with a mechanism for exceptions) by 2015
- Ban on mercury use in schools
- State government purchasing policies to avoid mercury where appropriate



## Recommendations (cont.)

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- **Mandated best management practices for mercury containing wastes for:**
  - **Dental offices (including amalgam separator installation)**
  - **Lamps (except households)**
  - **Mercury in state-owned facilities**
  - **Consider for auto switches, appliances and other mercury-containing products likely to end up in steel scrap**
- **Consider producer responsibility approaches**



# Implementation

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- Workgroup formed to share information about implementation/ discuss priorities.
- Each state has already taken significant actions to implement recommendations.
- Each state has recommendations that it has not begun to address.
  - Resources and political support are important constraints
- Report on Implementation Progress— by the end of 2011





# Mercury Emission Reduction Strategy

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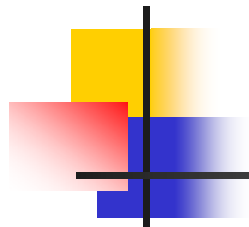
- Finding: while long-range transport is an increasingly important contributor to mercury deposition in GLs, sources within the GL states are still significant
- 34 recommendations for action by states to address mercury emissions



# Most Significant Emissions Reduction Recommendations

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- All states should require BACT for new & modified sources – considering a threshold  $< 10$  lbs/yr
- Recommend to EPA under CAA 112(a) a lesser quantity definition of major source for Hg
- Consider mandatory reporting for sources 5 lbs or  $<$



# Implementation

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- Workgroup Formed this year
- Will track implementation and report every two years