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RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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Office of Technical & Customer Assistance

Quarterly Project Report

Project Title: *Auto Salvage Environmental Results Program: Improved Compliance & Performance Through Innovation*

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Reporting Period: April 1 - June 30, 2008

Project Description: RIDEM OTCA's vision is to reduce environmental health risks by improving regulatory efficiency and auto salvage yard industry compliance through a comprehensive, multi-media program patterned after the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's ERP model and consisting of three parts:

- 1) Facility certification
- 2) Statistically-based performance measurement
- 3) On-site compliance monitoring, pollution prevention and technical assistance

RIDEM regulatory stakeholders, industry representatives, and project partners will be recruited to assist OTCA in reaching a goal of 75% industry-wide voluntary certification with a 25-50% average measurable improvement in selected environmental business practice indicators (EBPIs) during the first years of implementation.

EBPIs will be selected to assess improvements (relative to baseline conditions) in industry performance in air, water, and RCRA compliance as well as pollution prevention; the potential for release prevention, emissions reduction and human health/environmental protection will be key considerations. Outcomes will be measured using the statistical approach developed for the RI Auto body ERP including: statistically determined number and randomly selected locations for baseline and post-implementation compliance audits (given pre-specified levels of statistical confidence, power and compliance rate proportions), generally accepted methods for data analysis and EBPI comparisons, and summary reports that outline findings with appropriate descriptive statistics.

The Auto Salvage Yard Industry in Rhode Island:

In Rhode Island, there are currently eighty-six (86) Auto Wrecking & Salvage Yards licensed by the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation (RIDBR), located in twenty-six (26) communities. The license is active for a three (3) year time period, and must be renewed with RIDBR to maintain it. Auto Salvage Yard Facilities are required by law to be licensed by RIDBR in order to operate.

As of June 30, 2008, there were fifty-nine (59) of those licensees that were in operation as auto salvage yard facilities.

A no-cost time extension for the grant/project has been granted by EPA, until March 31, 2009.

Project Partners:

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
University of Rhode Island, Center for Pollution Prevention & Environmental Health
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Narragansett Bay Commission, Pollution Prevention Program

Project Activities Completed During Reporting Period:

- During this reporting period, RIDEM updated the list of RIDBR licensees that currently have actively operating auto salvage yard facilities, and found the number to be fifty-nine (59) facilities
 - Post-certification visits and telephone calls assisted in this activity
 - This allows RIDEM to target program activities to the fifty-nine (59) active facilities, as opposed to eighty-six (86) RIDBR licensees
- As of June 30, 2008, thirty-seven (37) facilities had submitted Compliance Certification Checklists (63 % of licensees with facilities in operation); also, five (5) RIDBR licensees had submitted Facility Non-Applicability Statements
- From January 1st through June 30th, 3,428 auto switches containing mercury were delivered to the ELVS recycling contractor, which yielded 7.54 pounds of recovered mercury
 - This result was strongly promoted by the requirements of the Rhode Island Mercury and Education Act, and technical assistance efforts provided under the Auto Salvage Yard Facilities Certification Program by RIDEM and URI Center for Pollution Prevention & Environmental Health staff
- RIDEM staff handled telephone, email, and in-person inquiries related to Compliance Certification Checklists, and questions about the program
- Compliance and technical assistance provided to facility operators, by University of Rhode Island Center for Pollution Prevention and Environmental Health staff
- Completed twenty (20) randomly selected post certification audits of auto salvage yard facilities, by University of Rhode Island Center for Pollution Prevention and Environmental Health staff
- Also, University of Rhode Island Center for Pollution Prevention and Environmental Health staff contacted and conducted on-site visits and audits with sixteen (16) additional facility operators of participating and non-participating operating facilities, and three (3) RI DBR licensees found not operating auto salvage yard facilities
- RIDEM staff reviewing post certification inspection reports in relation to Compliance Certification Checklists submitted, and post-certification audits; follow-up with facilities requiring further action to comply, with technical assistance to facility operators as needed

- RIDEM staff updated facility information, and provided it to End of Life Vehicle Solutions (ELVS) for use in the ELVS Mercury Switch Recovery Program

Expenditures during Period:

During this reporting period, no expenditures were made using grant funding.

Remaining in grant:	Travel:	\$5,191
	Equipment:	\$2,854

Major Activities Planned for Next Quarter:

- RIDEM staff complete reviewing post certification audit/inspection reports, follow-up with facilities requiring further action to comply, provide technical assistance to facility operators as needed
- Handle telephone, email, and in-person inquiries related to Compliance Certification Checklists received and questions about the program
- Handle requests for compliance or technical assistance as requested and needed with RIDEM staff and/or University of Rhode Island Center for Pollution Prevention and Environmental Health staff
- Statistical analysis of post-certification inspection data.
- Participate in appropriate outreach activities with auto salvage yard facility operators