



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency · Region 2

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EPA RECOGNIZES HEWLETT PACKARD CARIBE FOR PLANS TO ELIMINATE USE OF LEAD

Companies Encouraged to Join Program Promoting Waste Minimization

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(#03134) San Juan, Puerto Rico – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Deputy Regional

Administrator William J. Muszynski today recognized Hewlett Packard Caribe Ltd. (HP) for pledging to significantly reduce its use of lead. Muszynski presented Juan Berrios of Hewlett Packard with a plaque marking the company's enrollment in EPA's Waste Minimization Partnership Program, which encourages industrial facilities to reduce or eliminate the use of 30 harmful chemicals called waste minimization priority chemicals (WMPC).

“The 30 hazardous chemicals on the priority list are extremely toxic and readily accumulate in the environment,” said Deputy Regional Administrator William J. Muszynski. “EPA has been working to reduce the generation of these substances since 1991, with a goal of 50% reduction by 2005. HP's initiative to work towards phasing out its use of lead takes us a step closer to that goal. We encourage other industries to follow their lead.”

Hewlett Packard Caribe's facility is located in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico. Among other things, it manufactures electronic components such as PC boards and uses lead, one of the priority chemicals targeted for reduction. HP has pledged to maintain this site as a small quantity generator of lead waste, despite recent significant increases in its manufacturing activity. It will decrease overall lead production, increase recycling and develop an alternate lead-free process to aid in reducing its need

for lead. This facility also received a 2003 EPA Environmental Quality Award, which recognizes businesses for environmental contributions for reducing energy and water use, reducing waste normally sent to landfills and developing environmentally-friendly business practices.

EPA's National Waste Minimization Program publicly showcases ideas and approaches to chemical and industrial source reduction and recycling. To get information about obtaining technical assistance, identifying WMPCs in production wastes and identifying ways to produce products in a cleaner, cheaper and smarter way, visit: www.epa.gov/wastemin.

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