POLLUTION PREVENTION newsletter







SPRING 2013

IN THIS ISSUE

In the Spotlight1
News You Can Use 2
Quarterly Data Highlights5
Pollution Prevention:
Success Across
Installations6

UPCOMING EVENTS

Marine Corps Installation
Command (MCICOM) GF-5
completed the **Environmental Compliance Evaluations**(ECEs) at MCRD San Diego,
MCB Butler, Camp Mujuk, and
MCB Hawaii. ECEs will continue
this Spring and Summer at MCB
Camp Lejeune/MCAS New River
(5–24 May), MCB Quantico
(10–20 June), and MCMWTC
Bridgeport (15–24 July).

Earth Day was 22 April 2013. The Marine Corps' 2013 Earth Day theme was "Global Reach → Local Action." U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) installations participated in a variety of Earth Day activities during the week of 22-26 April. MCICOM GF-5 would like to recognize installation Earth Day 2013 activities—

to contribute information please contact Capt. Anne Braden (anne.braden@usmc.mil).

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Lead-Acid Battery Reconditioning Program at MCAGCC 29 Palms

MCAGCC 29 Palms, in collaboration with Marine Corps Systems Command (MARCORSYSCOM), started a lead-acid battery reconditioning program in May 2008. The program's environmental and economic benefits are twofold. First, reconditioning batteries conserves resources and eliminates costs by reducing procurement of new batteries. Second, the program reuses lead-acid batteries instead of recycling them, reducing hazardous waste (HW) generation and associated disposal fees.

The program has reconditioned approximately 10,700 batteries since its inception, saving the installation approximately \$2.39 million over the past three fiscal years (FYs) and reducing lead-acid batteries shipped offsite by 60%. Cost savings from the program have grown consistently over the past three years, from \$540,000 in FY10, to \$750,000 in FY11, and \$1.1 million in FY12.

MCAGCC 29 Palms is a large-quantity generator of HW, operating a 90-day HW Accumulation Area that collects both Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and non-RCRA HW. Lead-acid batteries used in ground tactical equipment account for three million pounds of the overall HW stream annually.

In an effort to reduce HW generation, MCAGCC 29 Palms started reconditioning and reusing absorbed glass material (AGM) batteries multiple times. Traditional lead-acid batteries cannot be reconditioned and must be pelletized and sold for their lead content at the end of their useable lives. The program began when MARCORSYSCOM provided MCAGCC 29 Palms with battery reconditioning equipment and the technology supplier offered training.

Initially, MCAGCC 29 Palms procured four bench-top battery reconditioning machines. To satisfy growing demand for battery reconditioning, MARCORSYSCOM and the technology supplier provided an industrial-sized reconditioning machine, which can accommodate twelve batteries simultaneously. The installation now has three additional large-scale machines and an expeditionary battery charging shelter.

The battery reconditioning procedure begins with the receipt of used batteries from various commands. Each battery is inspected; if the battery meets the criterion of five volts, it is prepared for reconditioning. If the battery is not salvageable, it is pelletized and sold. The average 12-volt battery requires two days to remove the phosphate from the lead plates, after which the recharging process begins. The battery

POLLUTION PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

MCICOM GF-5 rescheduled the **Facilities Operational Advisory Group** (FOAG) meeting for 19–21 November 2013 at MCB Quantico. MCICOM GF-5 will provide additional information regarding the FOAG later this summer.

The Air Force Institute of Technology will hold the next Air Force **Qualified Recycling Program** (WENV 160) training session from 15–19 July 2013. Enrollment opens 16 April 2013. For more information or to enroll, visit: http://www.afit.edu/cess/Course_Desc.cfm?p=WENV%20160.

Defense Acquisition University provides several online training courses related to pollution prevention, including "CLC 046 Green Procurement Training." For more information, visit: http://www.dau.mil.

DATA CALL DUE DATES

MCICOM GF-5 would like to thank all of the installations who reported and submitted data for the Calendar Year (CY) 2012 HW Annual Data Call.

Toxics Release Inventory (TRI)
Form Rs for Reporting Year 2012
are due to the Environmental
Protection Agency (EPA) on 1 July
2013. MCICOM GF-5 requests
all reporting installations send
copies of the Form Rs submitted
to EPA. MCICOM GF-5 will
issue a formal tasker for TRI data
later this spring. More information
on TRI reporting is available at:
http://www.epa.gov/tri.

then rests for one day to allow the electrolyte and the lead plates to cool before installation personnel assess and reissue the battery.

Two individuals and their support personnel have been instrumental in the creation and continued growth of the program. Mr. Carl Atchley, Material Examiner and Identifier, HW Management Branch, has been invaluable during the implementation and the daily operation of the program. Upon encountering problems with the first generation reconditioning machines, Mr. Atchley worked diligently with engineers from the supplier to incorporate modifications to the equipment. Mr. Michael



Battery reconditioning equipment and several lead-acid batteries. (Courtesy of MCAGCC 29 Palms.)

Bissonnette, MARCORSYSCOM Expeditionary Power Systems, provided MCAGCC 29 Palms with the initial and follow-on equipment to implement the program. MCAGCC 29 Palms is a leader in battery reconditioning and is helping USMC achieve its sustainability goals.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Green Product Codes and National Stock Numbers

National Stock Numbers (NSNs) are unique identifiers that the Federal government assigns to supply items that are routinely procured, stocked, stored, and issued. These numbers are an essential part of the military's logistics supply chain and are essential for managing, moving, storing, and disposing of materials ranging from light bulbs to aircraft parts. The Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) manages 6.5 million NSNs, including green products that are available to USMC and other Military Services. Over 8,000 of these products have an assigned



Green products are available for purchase on DoD's Electronic Mall site.

Environmental Attribute Code (ENAC), which signifies that the product meets strict, definable environmental standards and criteria. ENAC products include paints, coatings, lamps, and industrial cleaners that are energy efficient, water-conserving, biobased, made with recovered content, or have other positive environmental attributes.

The Department of the Navy's Green Procurement Program policy requires the "use of 'green' products and services to the maximum extent practicable, consistent with the requirements of relevant Federal procurement preference programs." Since introducing ENAC eligible items, DLA has helped DoD and its Components meet procurement sustainability goals. DLA's Green Products Team is available to support customers with green product needs as well as ideas for new products or processes.

If you have ideas or questions you would like to share with this team, e-mail GreenProducts@dla.mil.

For a list of NSN items with ENACs, please review Table 194 at http://www.dlis.dla.mil/PDFs/Procedures/vol10.pdf.