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KPPC Wins Two National Awards for KY SEN and YouTube Channel

On September 19, KPPC accepted two Most Valuable Pollution Prevention (MVP2) Awards at a ceremony in Washington, DC hosted by the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable (NPPR). The awards celebrate the successes of innovators in the areas of pollution prevention and sustainability, and are presented annually during national Pollution Prevention Week. This year's recipients range from federal government agencies, academia and industries to non-profit organizations and individuals.

Project/Programs

In the Projects/Programs award category, KPPC was recognized for the success of its [Kentucky Save Energy Now](#) (KY SEN) program. To date, 29 industrial and commercial facilities from across the Commonwealth have enrolled in the KY SEN program. At the start of the program in 2010, KPPC established an overall program goal of identifying 815,000 MMBtu in source energy savings for industrial and large commercial clients. KPPC has already surpassed that goal, well in advance of the June 2013 program completion date, and continues to identify savings for its clients.

To aid KY SEN participants in the implementation of energy management projects, KPPC offers long-term engineering support, measurement and verification tools and additional on-site assistance. With this support, participating facilities continue to advance through progressively higher levels of energy program implementation.

Multimedia

In the newly-created Multimedia award category, [KPPC's YouTube channel](#) was recognized as an important resource tool that provides comprehensive coverage of the Center's events and activities.

The channel provides audiences a conduit to information that supports the systematic approach the Center utilizes to assist Kentucky organizations as they develop and implement environmental management solutions at their facilities. Video topics showcasing systematic improvements include: setting goals and creating action plans, building stakeholder buy-in and benchmarking. Videos addressing technical topics include: demand management, wind energy, compressed air and best energy management practices.

The channel now houses 52 videos, which have been viewed 6,676 times. All of these videos include closed captioning to offer accessibility to the widest possible audience.



KPPC Technical Services Program Manager Richard Meisenhelder (right) accepted the awards from NPPR Executive Director Jeffrey Burke.

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KPPC's 2011-2012 Annual Report is Now Available Online

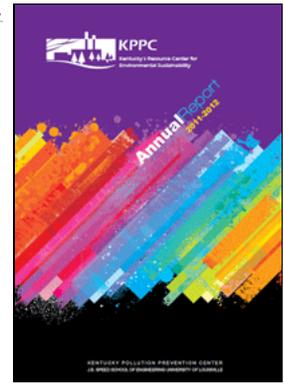
With the Center's support, Kentucky organizations are changing the way they operate, turning to less toxic materials use and realizing year-over-year reductions in operational expenses, making environmental sustainability a component of sound business practices. Through its pollution prevention technical assistance services and outreach programs, KPPC has had a measurable impact on the state's environmental and economic performance.

[Download the newly-published 2011-2012 report](#) [9.2 MB PDF] to see how KPPC is helping facilities around the Commonwealth achieve improved environmental sustainability through organizational behavioral change.

- Energy
Workforce:
"Preparing for
Tomorrow,"
November 28,
8:30 a.m. - 4:30
p.m. ET,
Frankfort

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EPA's Challenge for Safe Management of Used Electronics



Sustainable Materials Management

Electronics Challenge



CHANGING HOW WE THINK ABOUT OUR RESOURCES FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

This month, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency launched its [Sustainable Materials Management](#) (SMM) Electronics Challenge, an initiative to make protective electronics refurbishing and recycling practices the industry standard. EPA Deputy Assistant Administrator for Solid Waste and Emergency Response Lisa Feldt, joined by leaders from Best Buy, LG Electronics, Panasonic, Samsung, Sharp, Sprint and Staples, made the announcement at Vintage Tech Recyclers, a certified electronics recycling facility in Romeoville, Illinois.

As the volume of used electronics continues to grow in the U.S. and the world, so has the importance of safely managing and recycling used electronics. Electronics are made of valuable resources such as precious metals, copper, plastic and glass – all of which require energy to mine and manufacture. Recycling or reusing these electronics conserves these materials and prevents greenhouse gas emissions and other pollution. By participating in the SMM Electronics Challenge, leaders in the electronics industry are committing to send 100 percent of the used electronics that they collect to third-party certified refurbishers and recyclers and to increase the amount of used electronics they collect. Through this challenge, EPA is providing a transparent and measurable way for electronic companies to commit to safe and environmentally protective practices for the refurbishment and recycling of used electronics, and publically show progress toward recycling goals.

In order to be certified, recyclers must demonstrate to an accredited, independent auditor that they meet specific standards to safely recycle and manage used electronics. Third-party recyclers, including Vintage Tech Recyclers, are expanding to meet growing demand for this accreditation. Vintage Tech Recyclers attributes 80 percent of new jobs added in the last two years to their third-party certification.

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Newsbits

■ Study Shows Workers at "Green" Companies are More Productive

From Environmental News Network. Apparently, environmentalism and economic growth really can go hand in hand. According to a new UCLA study, companies need not fear being hampered down by adopting green practices and standards. Workers in companies that do so are found to be 16 percent more productive than the average. The increased worker motivation stems from their appreciation for their workplace. This conclusion was obtained through a series of employee surveys at various companies. They found that green companies also had more advanced employee training than other companies, as well as greater interaction between coworkers.

The study was led by UCLA researcher, Professor Magali Delmas, and Sanja Pekovic from France's University Paris-Dauphine. It is titled "Environmental Standards and Labor Productivity: Understanding the Mechanisms That Sustain Sustainability," and published in the *Journal of Organizational Behavior*. "Adopting green practices isn't just good for the environment," Delmas said. "It's good for your employees and it's good for your bottom line. Employees in such green firms are more motivated, receive more training and benefit from better interpersonal relationships. The employees at green companies are therefore more productive than employees in more conventional firms."

Productivity was determined by taking a company's value added (aka profits), divided by the number of

employees. This produced the average value of production per employee. After using this logarithm, they discovered a difference of one standard deviation, corresponding to 16 percent higher-than-average labor productivity in green companies. Tools used by managers of these companies include green certification. Sometimes this symbolic gesture for a workplace can be a boost to morale and productivity. The certification can also be used as a marketing tool and shown off to investors as an indicator of good management practices.

■ **A Close Look at Product Stewardship**

From Resource Recycling. The idea that companies should be responsible for end-of-life management of their products has steadily picked up steam as more states adopt producer responsibility laws and industries launch initiatives to recover



their wares at the end of their useful lives. But any of these plans has many moving parts that sometimes collide with each other. A panel of individuals on the frontlines of this issue shed some light on what might lay ahead during a recent Resource Recycling Conference in Austin, Texas.

Dave Galvin, hazardous waste program manager at Washington state's King County and the board president of the Product Stewardship Institute, kicked off the session by asking if a mandatory approach to product stewardship better than a voluntary. He then asked another question: "Is this the right question to be asking, or should we really be focusing on results?" he said.

Carl Smith, CEO of the battery recycling organization Call2Recycle, came down more on the side of voluntary programs. Call2Recycle was formed in 1994 by battery companies seeking to pre-empt emerging state and federal regulation of spent re-chargeable batteries. Eighteen years later, Call2Recycle has 30,000 collection points in the U.S, handles tens of millions of pounds of batteries annually and has been largely successful in staving off state mandates.

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Upcoming Training, Events and Conferences

■ **Join U.S. EPA's Energy Star Program for these free webinars in October:**

- For Professional Engineers & Registered Architects: How to Verify Applications for ENERGY STAR Certification, October 16, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. ET
- The Basics of Benchmarking in Portfolio Manager, October 23, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. ET
- The Federal Guiding Principles Checklist in ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager, October 25, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. ET



[Visit the Energy Star Training Center for more information.](#)

■ **Governor's Conference on Energy & the Environment October 8-9, Louisville**

The goal of the conference is to create a conversation among government, business and community leaders on how to take advantage of opportunities and tackle the energy and environmental challenges presented in today's global economy. See the Energy and Environment Cabinet website for [details and registration information](#).



■ **Energy Workforce: "Preparing for Tomorrow"**

November 28, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. ET, Frankfort

Join the Kentucky Energy Workforce Development Consortium and the Kentucky State Energy Sector Partnership Sub-Grantees for their 3rd annual conference. Ann Randazzo, Executive Director, Center for Energy Workforce Development will share the "Energy Industry Competency Model" which is designed to provide a consistent definition of the competencies required to work in the industry. The model builds from basic fundamentals to more industry and career specific competencies.

Utility industry members, local workforce investment areas, local chambers, economic development groups and other governmental agencies will focus on the future workforce needs in the area of generation, transmission and distribution sectors in the energy industry. The day will include panels focused on Workforce Planning, Skills and Training, and National Career Readiness Certificate. A discussion will be held around the completion of an asset inventory of the utility industry, regarding education and training programs which are available with educational providers in Kentucky.

Register for this free conference by October 22, 2012. Continental breakfast and lunch will be served for those registered. Please contact karenc.jones@ky.gov if you have any questions regarding the registration or conference.