



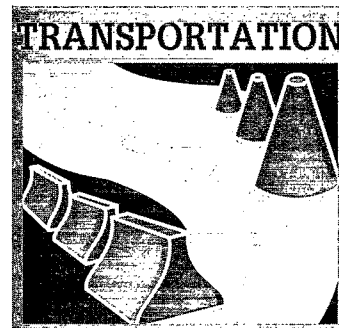
# 1997 Buy-Recycled Series Transportation Products



## PURCHASING

**T**he road is clear for buying recycled products, and many agencies are moving into high gear!

Transportation officials around the country are reporting that recycled safety cones, traffic barricades, traffic control devices, and parking stops deliver high performance and cut installation and maintenance costs, allowing these professionals to focus on the issue they value most—traffic safety.



To help you buy recycled, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) updates the Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (CPG) each year. Through the CPG, EPA designates items that must contain recycled content when purchased by federal, state, and local agencies or by government contractors using appropriated federal funds. Several transportation products are among these items. EPA's research shows that the items designated in the CPG are of high quality, widely available, and cost-competitive with virgin products. EPA also issues a non-regulatory companion piece—the Recovered Materials Advisory Notice (RMAN)—that recommends levels of recycled content for these items.

So whether you're working on a major highway or repairing a small local road, there's one way to ensure a smooth ride—buy recycled! When you buy recycled, you're doing more than supplying the road crew's needs; you're also helping to support recycling businesses and protect the environment.

EcoPurchasing means  
considering attributes  
such as

- ♦ recycled content
- toxicity
- reusability
- durability
- repairability

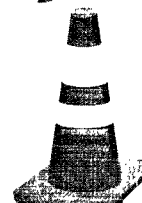
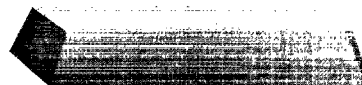
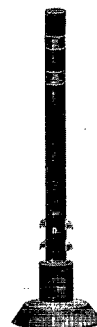
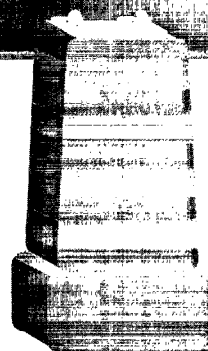
♦  
before you buy  
a product.



## How Do I Purchase Recycled-Content Transportation Products (Continued)

### Key Terms

- **Channelizers:** Channelizers are barrels or drums that direct traffic around areas of road repair and construction. Street maintenance agencies and construction contractors use channelizers on construction sites, medians, on/off ramps, mountainous terrain, and areas where fog and haze are common. Channelizers are designed and colored to be highly visible and can be constructed from recovered HDPE and rubber. The bases of the drums are weighted to provide stability and are often made from used tires.
- **Delineators:** Delineators are temporary pavement markers that come in many shapes, sizes, and compositions. They are manufactured primarily from recovered and postconsumer HDPE. Delineator bases are either steel stakes that can be driven into the ground or rubber to support the delineator on the road surface.
- **Flexible Delineators:** These products come in the form of stakes and are driven into the ground. The product is flexible enough so that vehicles can strike them without causing damage to the vehicle or the delineator. They are used at golf courses, airports, military bases, shopping centers, and recreation areas.
- **Parking Stops:** Commonly found in parking lots, parking stops are used to mark parking spaces and keep vehicles from rolling beyond a designated parking area.
- **Traffic Barricades:** Traffic barricades can be used to redirect or restrict traffic in areas of highway construction or repair. They are typically made from wood, steel, plastic or a combination of these materials. Many manufacturers have switched to the use of recycled materials in both the supporting frame and rails of the barricades.
- **Traffic Cones:** Traffic cones may be used to mark a road hazard or to direct traffic. In general, both recovered- and postconsumer-content plastics are used in the upper component of the cones, and crumb rubber and/or plastics are used in the base.





## **Safer, Cheaper, and More Effective: Case Studies for Recycled-Content Transportation Products**

### **States Combine Efforts: Traffic Cones**

The states of Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Vermont, and Wisconsin are combining their resources to buy recycled-content traffic cones. Since 1993, they have bought approximately 50,000 cones per year, mostly for highway construction along roads and tunnels, as

well as for use at airports. In addition, many cities, counties, and universities across the United States purchase these recycled-content traffic control devices. For more information contact Ron Wachenheim of the New York Office of General Services at 518 474-1557.

### **Kentucky Department of Highways: Flexible Delineators**

In 1994, the Kentucky Department of Highways purchased a sample supply of flexible delineators made from recovered plastic. Based on their successful performance, the department has purchased more than 3,000 flexible delineator posts made from recovered plastic for a number of projects along Kentucky's interstate highways. A project on interstate highway 65, for example, used flexible delineator posts every 500 feet

along a 50 mile stretch. According to department officials, the durability of recycled plastic flexible delineators has reduced replacement and maintenance costs. The delineators also have increased traffic safety, because they bend on impact, reducing the chance of damage to vehicles or injury to their occupants. For more information, contact Janet Coffee of the Kentucky Department of Highways at 502 564-4556.

### **U.S. Postal Service: Parking Stops**

A U.S. Postal Service (USPS) Mail Transport Equipment Warehouse in Henderson, Colorado, installed six recovered plastic parking stops in 1996. While the USPS had no specifications requiring the use of recovered materials in this product at the time, employees were encouraged to buy recycled products through procurement training and printed promotional materials. The facility has experienced no performance problems with the 100 percent postconsumer plastic parking stops, which were purchased from a

local manufacturer. USPS found maintenance and installation costs to be lower than those for conventional concrete stops because of the product's durability and light weight, as well as the fact that it came with mounting hardware. The facility received the White House Closing the Circle Award for its success with waste prevention, recycling, and affirmative procurement of recovered-content products. For more information, contact Elaine May of USPS at 303 289-7196.

### **Texas Department of Transportation: Channelizers**

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has used recycled products in highway operations for the last several years. Based on their experience and field evaluations, TxDOT is revising their procurement standards to encourage expanded use of recovered-content traffic control devices. Currently, TxDOT is using recycled-content channelizers in highway projects across the state. The channelizers' light weight

and flexibility boosts highway and work zone safety, since less damage is caused when vehicles strike them. The strength of the channelizers also allows for long-term use and cost savings—not to mention new uses for discarded milk jugs and scrap tires. For more information, contact Greg Brinkmeyer of the TxDOT at 512 416-3120 or Dan Maupin at 512 416-3128.

# How Can I Get More Information?

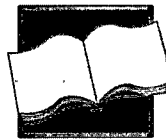


## Information Available From EPA

This fact sheet and the following publications on buying recycled products are available in electronic format on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure.htm>. Use Internet e-mail to order paper copies of documents. Include the requestor's name and mailing address on all orders. Address e-mail to: [rcra-docket@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:rcra-docket@epamail.epa.gov). Text of the following *Federal Register* notices can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/search.htm>. Search by specific day, by keywords, or by accessing the Government Printing Office database.

Paper copies also may be ordered by calling the RCRA Hotline. Callers within the Washington Metropolitan Area must dial 703 412-9810 or TDD 703 412-3323 (hearing impaired). Long-distance callers may call 800 424-9346 or TDD 800 553-7672. The RCRA Hotline operates weekdays, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., EST.

- ❖ **EPA Issues Comprehensive Procurement Guideline** (EPA530-F-95-010). This 4-page fact sheet provides general information about the CPG and the development of affirmative procurement programs.
- ❖ **Federal Register (FR)** notices promulgating CPG I (60 FR 21370/EPA530-Z-95-006) and RMAN I (60 FR 21386/EPA530-Z-95-007), May 1, 1995. *Federal Register* notices promulgating CPG II (62 FR 60961/EPA530-Z-97-009) and RMAN II (62 FR 60975/EPA530-Z-97-010), November 13, 1997.
- ❖ **Transportation Products Containing Recovered Materials** (EPA530-B-97-013). This list identifies manufacturers and suppliers of traffic cones, barricades, parking stops, and other traffic control devices containing recovered materials. (Each listing is based on information provided by the manufacturer and does not constitute an endorsement by EPA.)
- ❖ **A Study of State and Local Government Procurement Practices that Consider Environmental Performance of Goods and Services** (EPA742-R-96-007). This report provides important program elements and case studies of state and county agencies purchasing environmentally preferable products and services. For a copy of the report or more information on EPA's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) program, contact the Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse at 401 M Street, SW. (7409), Washington, DC 20460. Phone: 202 260-1023. Fax: 202 260-4659. Visit the EPP homepage at <http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/p2home>.



## Other Sources of Information

❖ **Buy Recycled Business Alliance.** The Alliance includes over 3,200 companies and organizations committed to increasing their use of recycled-content products and materials in their day-to-day operations. The Alliance offers educational materials, a quarterly newsletter, and product-specific guides. Public purchasing entities can join for free. For more information, contact Bonnie Fedchok, National Recycling Coalition, 1727 King Street, Suite 105, Alexandria, VA 22314-2720. Phone: 703 683-9025, Ext. 209. Fax: 703 683-9026.

- ❖ **General Services Administration (GSA).** GSA publishes various supply catalogs, guides, and schedules for recycled-content products available through the Federal Supply Service. For copies of the following documents and other information, contact GSA, Centralized Mailing List Service (7CAFL), 4900 Hemphill Street, P.O. Box 6477, Fort Worth, TX 76115. Phone: 817 334-5215. Fax: 817 334-5227. You can also access *GSA Advantage!*, GSA's Internet-based online ordering system, to order any GSA product at <https://www.fss.gsa.gov/cgi-bins/advwel>.
  - **Environmental Products Guide.** This GSA guide is designed to help procurement officials identify environmentally preferable products and services. It contains nearly 3,000 items, including many recycled-content products.
  - **New Item Introductory Schedule.** Lists parking stops that contain recovered rubber materials.
- ❖ **Greening the Government: A Guide to Implementing E.O. 12873.** This guide provides detailed information on establishing and implementing federal affirmative procurement plans. Updated in the summer of 1997, it is available without charge from the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive, 401 M Street SW. (Mail Code 1600), Washington, DC 20460. Phone: 202 260-1297. Fax: 202 401-9503. Homepage: <http://www.ofee.gov>.
- ❖ **National Association of Counties (NACo).** NACo can provide sample county procurement ordinances and distributes buy-recycled information. For more information, contact Naomi Friedman, Research Associate for Recycling, 440 First Street, NW., Washington, DC 20001. Phone: 202 942-4262. Fax: 202 737-0480 or 202 393-2630.

❖ **National Association of State Purchasing Officials (NASPO).** NASPO's Internet-based Database of Recycled Commodities (DRC) includes information from states on their recycled product procurement. Data include product distributors, manufacturers, brand names, recycled and postconsumer content, "Energy Star" rating, units purchased, unit of measurement, unit price, and type of procurement. Visit the site at [http://fcn.state.fl.us/bpsr/drc\\_notice.html](http://fcn.state.fl.us/bpsr/drc_notice.html). For more information, contact George C. Banks, DRC Coordinator, Florida Department of Management Services, 4050 Esplanade Way, Suite 335, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0950. Phone: 850 921-7852. Fax: 850 921-5979. E-mail: [banksg@dms.mail.ufl.edu](mailto:banksg@dms.mail.ufl.edu).

❖ **Official Recycled Products Guide.** This directory lists more than 5,000 manufacturers and distributors of recycled-content products, including those for traffic cones, traffic barricades, traffic control devices, and parking stops. For more information, contact the Recycling Data Management Corporation, P.O. Box 577, Ogdensburg, NY 13669. Phone: 800 267-0707. Fax: 315 471-3258.

❖ **Recycled Plastic Products Source Book.** This booklet lists more than 1,300 plastic products from approximately 300 manufacturers, including parking stops and traffic control devices. For more information, call the American Plastics Council (APC), 1801 K Street, NW., Suite 7010, Washington, DC 20006. Phone: 202 974-5400. Fax: 202 296-7119. Visit the APC homepage at <http://www.plasticsresource.com>.

## Internet Sites



### ❖ ASTM Website:

<http://www.astm.org/prodserv.html>. This site provides links to the American Standards for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards, the products and services offered by ASTM, and other news and information.

### ❖ California Recycled-Content Product Database:

<http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/mrt/rcp/rcp.htm>. This site contains information on why to buy recycled content products, how to procure them, and provides access to a database with information on products, as well as manufacturers, distributors, reprocessors, mills, and converters across the country who procure or produce these products.

### ❖ King County Recycled Product Procurement Program:

<http://www.metrokc.gov/oppis/recyclea.html>. This site describes the tools and techniques developed by King County, Washington, agencies for purchasing recycled products.

### ❖ The Procurement Assistance Jumpstation:

<http://www.fedmarket.com/procinet.html>. This site contains links to many sites containing procurement information.

### ❖ Reduce, Reuse, Recycle...Through Procurement:

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure.htm>. This site describes EPA's effort to facilitate the procurement of products containing recovered materials, including information on CPG, RMANS, and the Buy Recycled Series.

*In addition, contact your state solid waste management agency for information about local and regional businesses that produce or distribute recycled-content products.*



United States  
Environmental Protection Agency  
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Washington, DC 20460

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Penalty for Private Use  
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