



Communiqué

Green Lead Workshop II, London 27th to 28th April 2005

Substantial progress has been made on the development of the Green Lead project.

The second Green Lead workshop, initiated by the global lead industry to advance thinking on a mechanism for assuring the safe use of lead in the manufacture and use of the lead acid battery, has been successfully concluded. The workshop was held at the Australian High Commission in London on April 27th and 28th

Financial support for the development workshop was received from the lead industry as well as from the Common Fund for Commodities.

The Common Fund for Commodities is an intergovernmental financial institution established by the United Nations. The main objective of the Fund is to assist Developing Countries, which are dependent on the production and export of primary commodities. The main target groups are commodity producers in Least Developed Countries and the poorer strata of the population in other Developing Countries. The Common Fund is headquartered in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

People representing a broad range of interests in lead and its uses attended the workshop - these interests included lead miners, smelters, battery manufacturers, recyclers, environment NGOs, environment auditors, secretariat of multilateral environmental agreement, government, intergovernmental and non-government bodies with a focus on lead. Delegates attending the workshop came from a diverse range of both OECD and non-OECD countries including: Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Germany, Iran, Italy, Mexico, Philippines, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America and Venezuela. The Secretary General of International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) chaired the workshop.

The Green Lead project is aimed at defining a global standard and audit system for the third party certification of companies in the lead acid battery lifecycle in order to provide high levels of assurance that the production, use and recycling of lead in batteries can be achieved under conditions that ensure the highest levels of safety to people and the environment. The proposed standard and audit system would be supportive of the concept of the environmentally sound management of used lead acid batteries as defined by the Basel Convention. Details of the concept are to found at www.greenlead.com. The lifecycle of batteries has been initially targeted because this application now constitutes approximately 80% of lead use globally. Expansion of the principles developed in the Green Lead project to other lead applications will be considered after the completion of the development phases of the lead battery program.

The workshop agreed on the following work program for Phase 2 of the Green Lead Project:

- Preparation of working papers resulting from workshop breakout groups and the workshop outcomes to be posted at www.greenlead.com
- Finalise the green lead standards for the pilot phase
- Agree on the number and location of sites to pilot the application of the standards
- Establish pilot assessment teams
- Commence first pilot program
- Acquire additional funding from both industry and other sources to enable completion of Phase 2
- Establish a management group comprising project funders that will provide oversight to the Green Lead Working Group
- Identify potential partners (including a broader range of non government organisations) and establish strategic partnerships that will facilitate the completion of Phase 2

It was agreed that a third Green Lead workshop be held in April 2006 to report back on the progress of the Phase 2 pilot program, which is scheduled to commence in June 2005 and to be completed in October 2006.

Paul Mitchell
Chairman
The Second Green Lead Workshop

For more information about the workshop, visit the website www.greenlead.com or contact the Green Lead Project Secretariat:
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