

Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership Success Story

**VOLVO
PENTA**

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Hazardous Waste Source Reduction

The Member

Volvo Penta offers complete drive systems and service for leisure boats, workboats and industrial applications. By supplying technologically superior products focused on performance, operational reliability and environmental characteristics, Volvo Penta has developed a global leadership and one of the industry's strongest brands. Better performance or better environment? Volvo Penta customers don't have to choose. They get both. Our new engines are faster, stronger, more efficient, and better for the environment. It's the way we work. We invest large sums every year in new technology that boosts the performance of our products, while also reducing the impact on the environment. Environmental care in all operations is an integral part of Volvo Penta's commitment to customers and end users, employees and the community. Therefore, all functions are certified to ISO 14001.

The Story

Volvo Penta Marine Products produces stern drives systems for the marine industry worldwide. Due to our units being subjected to a corrosive environment, we had to use prime paint that contained chromate. We contacted our paint supplier (PPG) for alternate paint formulas that would give us the same performance as chromate paint. This project was started as one of our ISO 14001 Environmental Management Programs (EMP's) to reduce chromate waste. PPG formulated several non-chromate primers that had to be tested in the lab as well as in the production environment. Several paint formulas were tried

in the production environment, which required extensive employee training.



The Success

In late 2004 we made the switch to the new non-chromate paint in our Lexington, Tennessee facility. Since we had been using chromate-based paint in our operation for 20 years we had to strip the entire paint system to assure all traces of chromate were removed and disposed of. In December 2004 we shipped off the last roll-off of (D007) chromate paint waste. The waste is now classified by the State as non-hazardous special waste. This eliminated two hazardous waste streams and saved Volvo Penta Marine \$50,000 per year in disposal costs. The successful completion of this project also earned Volvo Penta's Lexington facility the 2005 Governor's Award for Hazardous Waste Management.

The Pollution Prevented

This project eliminated 10,000 pounds of hazardous material from being generated each year.

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