

The Lamp Standard

Take Back the Light Quarterly Newsletter



Dear Jodi,

Welcome to Take Back the Light's (TBTL) Quarterly Newsletter, **The Lamp Standard**.

This newsletter is your source of information for program developments, relevant lamp recycling news, and policy updates.

The TBTL program is a **simple, low-cost, solution** for businesses and organizations of any size **to divert mercury-containing lamps** from the waste stream and recycle them responsibly.

If you and your organization would like to participate in TBTL, please visit our [website](#) or email sarah@rco.on.ca to find out how this successful lamp recycling program can work for you.

As always, **we want to hear from you!** If you have any questions, comments, or would like to share your exciting news, please **reply to this message** with your suggestions.

We look forward to working with you in 2011. Have a safe and happy holiday. All the best in the new year!

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Recycling
Council of
Ontario

Participant Spot
Light

OSSO
ELECTRIC SUPPLIES
Division of Sonepar Canada Inc.

[Osso Electric](#) shares your concerns about operating an environmentally responsible business. From lighting solutions to recycling programs, we have the products and services to make your business greener and more profitable. We are proud to partner with Take Back The Light in diverting lamps and mercury from our landfills.

Since joining the program in March 2009, Osso has successfully recycled **574,829** lamps!

Quick Tip

According to the Cone 2010 Shared Responsibility Study, **89% of people surveyed expect new products/services that help solve social/environmental issues.**

Take Back the Light is an

Program News

Upcoming Webinar



We are excited to host our first online seminar on February 2, 2011 at 10:30am. The purpose of this webinar is:

- to provide a forum for new and current participants to get a "refresher" of the program, ask questions, and make suggestions on how to improve the program;
- introduce Take Back the Light as a tool to help Waste Minimization Awards participants enhance their level of sustainability; and,
- introduce Take Back the Light as a tool to achieve Waste Diversion Certification.

If you have any questions or would like to register for the webinar, please email Jodi Frye, Program Coordinator - jodi@rco.on.ca

The webinar is **free**. Deadline for registration is **Friday, January 28, 2011**

Giving more to your clients

For those of you on the seller/distributor side of Take Back the Light, you are able, through the program, to offer your clients several value-added services.

Once such service is the ability to offer your clients recognition of their lamp recycling/mercury diversion efforts through the program. We can profile them here www.takebackthelight.ca/buyers-users with their logo, a write-up about their environmental efforts, a link to their website, as well as a count of the number of lamps they have recycled. We can also provide them with a Participant Certificate. Furthermore, we profile one TBTL participant in each newsletter so they have the opportunity to be profiled there also.

Recognition - A feature you can actually provide for some or all your clients. It's up to you! A win for you and a win for them.

Updated Profiles



TBTL would like to congratulate you for your continued efforts in making sure all fluorescent lamps are recycled properly!

Together we have recycled over **2 MILLION lamps!**

Because of you, we are keeping mercury out of our landfills, streams, air and food chain!

We have recently updated your lamp count. Please check your profile online.

Also note, we will be updating your count on a monthly basis. So, please check back regularly.

excellent program that does just that!

Quick Links

[Register Now](#)

[Why Take Back the Light](#)

[More On Us](#)

Industry News

UN calls time on Edison's inefficient lightbulbs

The United Nations Environment Programme ([UNEP](#)) has urged every country in the world to ditch inefficient incandescent lightbulbs as a "quick-win" way of slashing greenhouse gas emissions.

UNEP yesterday used an event on the sidelines of the Cancun Summit to release a detailed assessment of the environmental and economic impact of a switch to compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) in [100 countries](#). It concluded that a global transition to more efficient lighting technologies represents one of the easiest methods for delivering deep cuts in emissions and generating the momentum needed to deliver CO2 reductions in other sectors

Read More [Here](#)

Group vows to reduce mercury in CFLs

Lamp producers in the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) have vowed to lower the amount of mercury used in compact fluorescent lamps. The association said residential use CFLs will now contain up to 20% less mercury. The voluntary commitment sets the cap for mercury content in CFLs of less than 25 watts at 4 mg per unit. The total mercury content of CFLs that use 25 to 40 watts of electricity will be capped at 5 mg per unit. Under the previous 2007 agreement, mercury content had been capped at 5 and 6 mg, depending on the power of the bulb.

Companies making the new commitment are listed at www.cfl-mercury.org. Companies that made the commitment at the March 2007 levels are listed at www.cfl-mercury.org/2007.

Excerpted from October 5, [Waste & Recycling News](#). Contact Waste & Recycling News reporter Amanda Smith-Teutsch at 330-865-6166 or asmith-teutsch@crain.com

The Phase-Out of Incandescent Light Bulbs: What You Need To Know

The incandescent bulb hasn't changed much since Thomas Edison patented it in 1879. More than one hundred years later, the familiar bulbs still push electricity through a wire filament - and still waste a whole lot of energy. Ninety percent of the energy pumped through an incandescent light bulb is wasted as heat; that's why traditional bulbs are so hot to the touch. However, thanks to a piece of 2007 legislation, traditional incandescent bulbs will soon become a thing of the past.

[More from the article at Earth911.com](#)

It is important to note that Canada has also legislated the phase out of incandescent bulbs by 2012!

GE: Hybrid light bulb solves CFL issues

In October, General Electric unveiled a halogen compact fluorescent light bulb that promises the efficiency of a CFL without the annoying warm-up period.



(Photo Credit: GE)

Unlike typical compact fluorescents (CFLs), the new GE Reveal and GE Energy Smart Soft White hybrid light bulbs will not take time to heat up in order to reach full luminescence.

The bulb is actually two bulbs in one. A halogen light nestled within the bulb turns on almost instantly (half a second), then shuts off once the CFL has reached its full brightness, according to GE. GE says its new hybrid bulb only contains 1 milligram of mercury.

Pricing has not yet been announced but the 15-watt (60-watt incandescent equivalent) and 20-watt (75-watt equivalent) versions of the hybrid halogen-CFL bulbs will be available as of 2011, with other sizes to become available later.

At 8,000 hours of use, the hybrid light bulb has the same lifespan as GE's Soft White 14-watt CFL. The average incandescent bulb has a 1,000-hour lifespan.

[Read more](#)

Quebec to dissolve Recyc-Québec

The Quebec government is planning to introduce legislation to abolish Recyc-Québec, a non-crown multi-stakeholder organization that is responsible for coordinating waste diversion in the province.

This decision is part of the government's 2010-2014 Action Plan for expense reduction and control, which sets out plans to abolish or restructure about 20 public funds and organizations.

In response to this announcement, Usman Valiante, a senior policy analyst with Corporate Policy Group, made the following comments:

"The repatriation of the environmental oversight and environmental standard setting functions of Recyc-Québec into Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs represents the next evolutionary step in EPR in Quebec.

Between the Government's role of setting and overseeing clear environmental standards and diversion targets for the recovery, reuse and recycling of product and packaging wastes and producers discharging their end-of-life responsibilities against those standards and targets through market-based programs, the purpose and role of intermediary "stewardship" organizations such as Recyc-Québec and Waste Diversion Ontario (perhaps much more so) is becoming more unclear.

What is clear is that for market-based solutions like EPR to work, the roles between regulator and regulated need to be sharply defined and the oversight of producer driven programs has to be governed through simple and clear rules that are fair and easy to navigate.

Quebec's move must be providing Ontario policy makers with some food for thought."

The original article can be found in [Solid Waste & Recycling Magazine](#)

IKEA Canada to Phase Out Incandescent Lighting by January 2011

[IKEA To Be The First Canadian Retailer To Phase Out Incandescent Bulbs](#)

BURLINGTON, ON, June 15 /CNW/ - Switch On. Switch Off. Switch Over. Starting August 1, 2010, IKEA Canada will begin to phase out all incandescent light bulbs in their Canadian stores. This recent IKEA environmental initiative has a target date of incandescent bulb elimination by January 1, 2011, which is ahead of the federal government ban set to take effect in 2012. IKEA will be the first Canadian retailer to completely phase out incandescent light bulbs, further illustrating the company's on-going environmental commitment to helping Canadians live a more sustainable life at home.

"As the leaders of life at home, IKEA is committed to continually offering our customers environmentally responsible solutions to live a more sustainable life at home," says Kerri Molinaro, President of IKEA Canada. "Eliminating incandescent bulbs is another simple step IKEA is taking to help our customers save energy, and reduce emissions. It's a small step, with a big impact."

[Read More](#)

About RCO

The Recycling Council of Ontario (RCO) is a not-for-profit, membership-based organization involved in policy, education and project work around the issues of consumption, waste generation, reduction and diversion, and recycling.

The RCO believes that society must minimize its impact on the environment by eliminating waste. To that end, our mission is to inform and educate all members of society about the generation of waste, the avoidance of waste, the more efficient use of resources and the benefits and/or consequences of these activities.

Sincerely,

Sarah Mills,
Program Manager