



# **Review of Product Stewardship Programs**

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# Overview

**Review based on subset of product stewardship programs:**

- **U.S. and international**
- **Voluntary and legislated**
- **Variety of product categories**



# Voluntary Programs

Program	Covered Products
Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE)	Carpet
End of Life Vehicle Solutions Corp. (ELVs)	Mercury automotive switches
Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corp. (RBRC)	Rechargeable batteries (Ni-Cd, Ni-MH, Li-ion, Ni-Zn, Pb) and cell phones
Thermostat Recycling Corp. (TRC)	Mercury thermostats



# Legislated Programs

Program	Covered Products
Oregon's Electronics Program	Desktops, laptops, monitors, and TVs
Washington's Electronics Program	Desktops, laptops, monitors, and TVs
Maine's Electronics Program	Laptops, monitors, TVs, portable DVD players, digital picture frames, printers, and video game consoles
Minnesota's Electronics Program	Desktops, laptops, monitors, TVs, printers, keyboards, fax machines, and DVD players



# Legislated Programs (cont.)

Program	Covered Products
Texas' Electronics Program	Desktops, laptops, and monitors
British Columbia's Product Stewardship Program	Electronics and electrical products; lead acid batteries; used lubricating oil, filters, and containers; pharmaceuticals; paint, solvents, and flammable liquids, pesticides, and gasoline; and tires



# Legislated Programs (cont.)

Program	Covered Products
Ontario's Product Stewardship Program	Blue box waste (consumer packaging and paper), municipal hazardous and special waste, used tires, and electrical and electronics equipment
Alberta's Product Stewardship Program	Electronics, paint, and tires
Oregon's Paint Program (pilot)	Oil-based and latex-based architectural paint
Maine's Mercury-Added Lamps Program	Mercury-added lamps



# Legislated Programs (cont.)

Program	Covered Products
California's Cell Phones Program	Cell phones
EU's Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive (WEEE)	Household appliances; IT and telecomm. equipment; consumer equipment; lighting equipment; electrical and electronic tools; toys, leisure, and sports equipment; medical devices; monitoring and control instruments; and automatic dispensers



# Categories

- **Producer-funded government administrative fee**
- **Financing**
- **Roles and responsibilities**
- **Convenience standards**



## Categories (cont.)

- Performance goals and measures
- Level playing field
- Lifecycle impacts/product design improvements
- Disposal ban



# Producer-Funded Gvt Admin Fee

Almost half of legislated programs.

Two types:

- Flat fee - paid by each individual producer or stewardship organization
- Sliding fee - paid by each individual producer (usually based on market share)



# *Flat Fee*

Program	Fee	Notes
Maine's Electronics Program	\$3,000	Each producer registers and pays fee annually
Minnesota's Electronics Program	\$2,500	Each producer registers and pays fee annually
Oregon's Paint Program	\$10,000	Stewardship organization pays fee annually



# *Sliding Fee*

Program	Fee	Notes
Washington's Electronics Program	\$8 to \$40,084	Seven tiers, based on market share
Oregon's Electronics Program	\$40 to \$15,000	Four tiers, based on market share



# Financing

- **Cost internalization**: costs of the system are incorporated into producer's cost of doing business; invisible to consumers and retailers
- **Eco fee**: producer-designated amount paid on each product by producer or retailer to a stewardship organization; may or may not be visible to consumers



# ***Cost Internalization***

- **Three/four voluntary programs: ELVs, RBRC, and TRC**
- **All U.S. electronics programs**
- **Maine's mercury lamp program**
- **California's cell phone program**



## *Eco-Fee*

- **Oregon's Paint Program**
  - Added to cost of paint sold to retailers; passed on to consumers
  - Stewardship org sets fee; approved by state
- **Alberta's Product Stewardship Program**
  - Collected by retailers for tires and paint; collected from first supplier for electronics
  - Regulations define max amount



# Roles and Responsibilities

**Focus on how divided among producers, retailers, and government:**

- **Collection, transportation, and recycling**
- **Program financing**
- **Registration**
- **Plans and reports**
- **Education and outreach to consumers**
- **Compliance and enforcement**



# *Producers*

- **Cost of transportation and recycling; also collection in many legislated programs**
- **Producer registration (government or stewardship org)**
- **Annual plan and report (submitted by producers or stewardship orgs)**



## ***Retailers***

- **Sell only compliant products**
- **Educate consumers**
- **Potential role as collection sites**



# *Government*

- Register producers (may also register collectors, transporters, and/or recyclers)
- Review and approve plans and annual reports
- Educate consumers
- Compliance and enforcement



# Convenience Standards

**No voluntary programs; over half of legislated programs.**

**Most common terms:**

- **Available**
- **Accessible**
- **Reasonable**
- **Open at adequate frequency**



# Performance Goals and Measurements

Half of voluntary programs and half of legislated programs.

Most common measures include collection targets:

- By sales
- Per capita
- By recovery rate



# Level Playing Field

**Two methods for legislated programs:**

- **Sales restrictions**
- **Fines for noncompliance**



# Lifecycle Impacts/ Design Improvements

**No voluntary programs; about half of legislated programs.**

**Most common provisions address:**

- **Reuse**
- **Toxics**
- **Design for reuse/recycling**



# Disposal Ban

- **Only Oregon's electronics program includes ban in same legislation**
- **Five legislated programs passed bans separately**
- **Six legislated programs do not have bans**
- **Bans in some states for covered products addressed in three of four voluntary programs**



## More Information

Refer to list of sources in white paper for:

- Links to program websites and laws
- Links to product stewardship reports

White paper available at:

[http://www.deq.state.or.us/lq/sw/  
prodstewardship/stakeholdermeetings.htm](http://www.deq.state.or.us/lq/sw/prodstewardship/stakeholdermeetings.htm)