

Tips for Finding Cost-Savings by Incorporating Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Principles into Purchasing and Procurement Documents

How “Green” Products Save Money

- ✓ Conserve resources (e.g. energy, water, fuel, and paper)
- ✓ Lower maintenance costs
- ✓ Extended product life
- ✓ Avoid disposal/clean up costs
- ✓ Offset environmental health program costs
- ✓ Sometimes less costly than virgin (e.g. paint, ink cartridges)

Cost Saving Examples

Remanufactured Toner and Ink Cartridges

- Costs 30-60% less per copy than “virgin” cartridges
- King County, WA saved \$250,000 in 2008 by buying 3,400 remanufactured toner cartridges for \$165,000 and returning emptied cartridges to their vendor

Recycled Paint

- Costs up to 50% less than virgin paint and performs to Master Painters Institute standards
- Two suppliers located in California – both “GS 43 Certified” (the Green Seal Standard for Recycled Content Latex Paint)

Re-refined Motor Oil

- Costs 25% less than comparable virgin motor oil
- Santa Monica purchases re-refined motor oil for all vehicles maintained by its Fleet Maintenance Division

Rechargeable Batteries

- Reduces replacement and disposal costs associated with single-use batteries
- Can be “re-charged” up to 1000 times

Additional Resources

For more information on:

- Product Stewardship and EPR, visit the California Product Stewardship Council website at www.calpsc.org
- Creating an EPP policy, visit <http://www.green.ca.gov/EPP/default.htm>
- Starting an environmental purchasing program, visit http://greenlacoalition.org/docs/10_Steps_GPI.doc
- Life Cycle Cost Assessment, visit www.green.ca.gov/EPP/Introduction/Develop.htm
- Environmentally preferable products available on State of California contracts, visit www.green.ca.gov/EPP/Introduction/default.htm



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