

## **Dallas Love Field Airport expands partnership with EPA to reduce pollution** *Airport pledges additional pounds of chemicals as part of national program*

(Dallas, Texas – February \_\_, 2008) Dallas Love Field Airport (DAL) is furthering their commitment to a national effort led by the Environmental Protection Agency to reduce harmful chemicals.

Love Field is already a member of the National Partnership for Environmental Priorities, having received recognition for replacing 4000 pounds of PCBs found in light ballasts in November. Now the airport is continuing their commitment to environmental responsibility with a pledge to reduce an additional 1,000 pounds of PCBs found in light ballasts. Love Field is also taking the National Partnership for Environmental Priorities “Mercury Challenge” and recycling or removing 50 pounds of mercury from light bulbs, thermometers, thermostats and other equipment.

**“Reducing hazardous materials is both a good environmental and smart business strategy,” said EPA Regional Administrator Richard E. Greene. “By joining this program, Merisol is protecting the environment and reducing the high business costs that come with managing hazardous chemicals.”**

The National Partnership for Environmental Priorities promotes the voluntary reduction of 31 priority chemicals. Through work with the EPA, both public and private organizations identify activities that will reduce the use of these chemicals preventing their ability to accumulate in the environment, potentially causing harm to humans and the ecosystem. Having identified mercury as a chemical of concern, The Mercury Challenge was developed to promote the voluntary, systematic elimination of mercury-containing equipment.

The airport will replace the ballasts and mercury containing instrumentation with modern non-priority chemical containing equipment. Love Field will also be recycling mercury containing light bulbs.

**“Partnering with the U.S. EPA and other regulatory agencies is a testimony of Merisol's values and how we choose to do business,” said Merisol Plant Manager Pieter Potgieter. “It demonstrates our commitment to the environment and our community, and it just makes good business sense. These kind of voluntary programs are proactive steps in reducing environmental impacts and thereby improving the long term sustainability of our business.”**

The National Partnership for Environmental Priorities program now has over 150 members nationwide and has set a goal to work with industry and the public to reduce the use or release of four million pounds of priority chemicals by 2011. Love Field is one of only four airports nationwide to join the NPEP program and the first to add additional goals to their original commitment.

Additional information on the National Partnership for Environmental Priorities is available by contacting Rob Lushek at (214) 665-2247 or visiting <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/minimize/npep/index.htm>

To learn more about activities in EPA Region 6, go to [www.epa.gov/region6](http://www.epa.gov/region6).

**\*\*\* The Quote by Richard E. Greene is only an example of what can be expected. A quote for this particular release will be provided at a later date.**

## **Example of quotes from other NPEP members**

Quote from Toby Gerhold, Vice President and General Manager of Rubicon:

“Rubicon is honored to be chosen as a partner in the EPA National Partnership for Environmental Priorities program. We are committed to operating effectively with waste minimization and energy efficiency goals that are advantageous to both the company and the community.”

Quote from Dr. Ben Raimer, UTMB Vice President of Community Health Services and Campus Conservation Spokesperson:

“Our location on the Texas Gulf Coast has made the University of Texas Medical Branch especially cognizant of lessening the number of mercury-bearing instruments we use in our hospitals, clinics and laboratories. The great amount of damage mercury can cause not only to our marine life but also any of our fellow citizens who ingest contaminated fish cause us considerable concern. UTMB is here for the health of all Texans, whether they dwell on land or at sea. Reducing the amount of mercury we use in our clinical and research enterprises helps to improve the health of Texans”

Quote from Mike Peters, Vice President and Manager Environment of CMC Steel Texas

“CMC Steel Group is pleased to participate in a program such as this. The act of replacing our fluorescent lamps with a non-hazardous alternative at our Texas steel mill takes on new significance when added to the efforts of others across the United States.”