

**California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
P2 E-News, Volume 2, Number 10
October 2007**

Welcome to P2 E-News!

In this issue of P2 E-News we include announcements for several upcoming conferences, workshops and symposia, Green Business information, and more!

As always, please feel free to tell your friends and associates about P2 E-News! Anyone interested in receiving P2 E-News is welcome to subscribe using the DTSC Listserv webpage at <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Listservs/dtsc/> (scroll down to DTSC P2 E-News and click on Subscribe).

Pollution Prevention (P2) - Changing the way we think and act so we can reduce or eliminate the creation of waste and pollution.

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**California Green Chemistry Initiative News**

**Green Chemistry Initiative Emerging Options**

The latest update to the Green Chemistry Initiative Emerging Options document is now posted on Department of Toxic Substances Control's web site and can be accessed at:

<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/GreenChemistryInitiative/index.cfm>. You can clarify and continue to add new comments using the four discussion areas in our Conversation with California Journal/Blog Space. Participants are continuing to take the opportunity to share their thoughts about Green Chemistry topics on the blog. Visit the Blog site and see!

**Stakeholder Participation**

**November Stakeholder meeting - November 14, 2007**

We hope you will be able to join us for our next Green Chemistry Initiative public stakeholder meeting in Los Angeles on November 14th. The topic and speakers are still being developed, so check our Green Chemistry Initiative calendar at <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/GreenChemistryInitiative/Calendar.cfm> for the latest Stakeholder meeting news. Or better yet, subscribe to the Green Chemistry Newsletter for timely updates of all the Green Chemistry Initiative events: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Listservs/dtsc/ListSubscribe.asp?LID=64>

Location: Los Angeles Metropolitan Water District Offices  
700 North Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, CA

Date, Time: November 14, 2007, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm.

## **Green Chemistry Initiative Workshops, Events and Symposia**

### **Green Chemistry Symposium III: "Synthesis of Success" - October 30, 2007**

The third Green Chemistry Symposium, "Synthesis of Success," will be a great opportunity to explore "leading edge" and "practical" aspects of sustainable chemistry and the contributions those concepts can make to a broad spectrum of applications and products. An engaging panel of industry, business, and nongovernmental organizations has been assembled and will demonstrate the environmental and economic benefits of Green Chemistry fostered by their processes, tools, and practices. See the Green Chemistry calendar for agenda: <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/GreenChemistryInitiative/Calendar.cfm>. Register electronically, via FAX, or by mail. Registration is required for on-site attendance, and closes October 26 or earlier if room capacity is reached. The symposium will be web cast, so be sure to mark whether you plan to attend in person or over the Web. Web cast attendees are encouraged to register in order to receive notification of future symposia. If you have any questions or have difficulty registering, please contact either Sharon Kipp at (916) 324-2998 or Janice Denning at (916) 255-4326.

Location: Cal/EPA Headquarters Building  
Byron Sher Auditorium  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA

Date, Time: October 30, 2007, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm  
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### **Additions to DTSC Technical Resource Center in the Cal/EPA Library**

Did you know that DTSC has a Technical Resource Center in the Cal/EPA Library that is open to the public? The DTSC Technical Reference Center serves as a source of information on a wide variety of topics in the field of hazardous waste, such as: pollution prevention, source reduction, new technologies, contaminated groundwater, soil remediation, life-cycle assessment, and hazardous waste management. Materials available include commercial publications, government reports, videos, and various electronic documents. For more information on library hours, location and contacts, visit the Cal/EPA Library webpage at: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/library/contacts.htm>.  
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## **Conferences, Symposia and Seminars**

### **2007 Western Regional Pollution Prevention Conference October 23-25, 2007**

The Western Region Pollution Prevention Network (WRPPN) and the Pacific Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center (PPRC) will jointly hold the 2007 Annual Conference from October 23-25, 2007 at the Bahia Hotel in San Diego. This event is packed with top-quality pollution prevention (P2) information and offers excellent networking opportunities with environmental professionals from USEPA Regions 9 and 10.

DTSC Director Maureen Gorsen will address attendees at the 2007 Western U.S. Pollution Prevention Conference on **October 24, 2007** during a session on the Green

Chemistry Initiative from 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm at the Bahia Resort Hotel. She will begin with a brief overview of the Green Chemistry Initiative and follow with small group breakout sessions to brainstorm on the four options: Cradle to Cradle, Green Chemistry, Toxics in Products by Design, and Toxics in Products by Accident.

If you are interested in attending or learning more about this conference, please visit: <http://www.wrppn.org/Conf07/home.cfm>

### **6th Annual Environmental and Regulatory Issues Conference & Exposition "The Greening of California Businesses" November 8-9, 2007**

The Industrial Environmental Association/California Manufacturers Association 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference is titled "The Greening of California Businesses."

Conference welcome:

"The State of California is out front in environmental leadership. Our state's businesses are at a critical juncture with a profound shift in the way they conduct their operations. This is a time of unprecedented challenges ranging from global climate change, new water quality and conservation mandates, managing the supply chain, cutting waste and managing use of industrial chemicals. Companies are dedicated to achieving operational and process improvements to reduce the facility footprint, maintain the highest level of environmental performance and compliance and adopt best practices for sustainable business growth.

These are some of the many the issues that will be examined in-depth as we look at the science, the policy and the politics of the environment at our 6<sup>th</sup> annual conference.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn the latest from the state's top public regulatory officials and state-of-the art business strategies from California industry leaders and environmental experts. We welcome your attendance and participation in the State of California's only Environmental and Regulatory Conference in learning how you can turn business risks into business opportunities."

Location: San Diego Mission Valley Marriott Hotel  
8757 Rio San Diego Drive  
San Diego, California 92108

Date: November 8-9, 2007

For Registration information, Phone: 619-544-9684 or email: [iea@iea.sdcoxmail.com](mailto:iea@iea.sdcoxmail.com)

### **Environmental Chemistry Laboratory Seminars**

The Environmental Chemistry Laboratory (ECL) is hosting the last of their 2007 seminars in October and November from 2-3 p.m. at the Environmental Chemistry Laboratory in Berkeley. The final presentations for 2007 are:

October 24, 2007: "Occupational exposure to hazardous substances in laboratories"

November 14, 2007: "Endocrine disrupting chemicals in consumer products"

View the complete schedule and presenters for 2007:

<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/AssessingRisk/upload/ECLSeminarMar2007.pdf>

For more information, please contact Dr. F. Reber Brown at [frbrown@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:frbrown@dtsc.ca.gov) and see DTSC's "Emerging Chemicals of Concern" webpage at: <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/AssessingRisk/EmergingContaminants.cfm>

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Other Articles of Interest

Nobel Prize in Chemistry for Pioneer of Modern Surface Chemistry

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry for 2007 is awarded to Gerhard Ertl of the Fritz Haber Institute of the Max Planck Society, Berlin, for groundbreaking studies in surface chemistry. This science is important for the chemical industry and can help us to understand such varied processes as why iron rusts, how fuel cells function and how the catalysts in our cars work. Chemical reactions on catalytic surfaces play a vital role in many industrial operations, such as the production of artificial fertilizers. Surface chemistry can even explain the destruction of the ozone layer, as vital steps in the reaction actually take place on the surfaces of small crystals of ice in the stratosphere. The semiconductor industry is yet another area that depends on knowledge of surface chemistry.

It was thanks to processes developed in the semiconductor industry that the modern science of surface chemistry began to emerge in the 1960s. Gerhard Ertl was one of the first to see the potential of these new techniques. Step by step he has created a methodology for surface chemistry by demonstrating how different experimental procedures can be used to provide a complete picture of a surface reaction. This science requires advanced high-vacuum experimental equipment as the aim is to observe how individual layers of atoms and molecules behave on the extremely pure surface of a metal, for instance. It must therefore be possible to determine exactly which element is admitted to the system. Contamination could jeopardize all the measurements. Acquiring a complete picture of the reaction requires great precision and a combination of many different experimental techniques.

Gerhard Ertl has founded an experimental school of thought by showing how reliable results can be attained in this difficult area of research. His insights have provided the scientific basis of modern surface chemistry: his methodology is used in both academic research and the industrial development of chemical processes. The approach developed by Ertl is based not least on his studies of the Haber-Bosch process, in which nitrogen is extracted from the air for inclusion in artificial fertilizers. This reaction, which functions using an iron surface as its catalyst, has enormous economic significance because the availability of nitrogen for growing plants is often restricted. Ertl has also studied the oxidation of carbon monoxide on platinum, a reaction that takes place in the catalyst of cars to clean exhaust emissions.

For more information about this and other Nobel Prize winners, go to http://nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/chemistry/laureates/2007/press.html

Biofuels Production Could Impact Harm Groundwater and Surface Runoff

Recent increases in oil prices in conjunction with subsidy policies have led to a dramatic expansion in corn ethanol production and high interest in further expansion over the next decade. Indeed, because of strong national interest in greater energy independence, in this year's State of the Union address, President Bush called for the production of 35 billion gallons of ethanol by 2017, which would equal about 15 percent of the U.S. liquid transportation fuels.

A new report from the National Research Council says that if projected increases in the use of corn for ethanol production occur, the harm to water quality from pesticide and fertilizer runoff could be considerable, and water supply problems at the regional and local levels could also arise. The committee that wrote the report examined policy options and identified opportunities for new agricultural techniques and technologies to help minimize effects of biofuel production on water resources. For more information about the report, go to the National Academies of Science's website at <http://www.nas.edu/morenews/20071010.html>.

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**California Green Business Program Network (CAGBN)**

**The California Green Business Program Network** is an association of 14 California counties and cities that operate Green Business programs. Statewide, over 1,100 small and medium sized businesses have undergone a rigorous certification/recognition program, which verifies, credits and recognizes their efforts in the fields of pollution prevention, water conservation, solid waste reduction & recycling, and energy conservation.

Current CAGBN Member counties and cities are: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Diego, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Santa Monica, Solano, and Sonoma. The City of Los Angeles and Santa Barbara County are also exploring the feasibility of starting programs in their municipalities.

If you live in one of the participating counties, follow the links below to find a list of Green Businesses in your area. If you have a business in one of these participating areas, and are interested in becoming certified, contact the local green business coordinator to find out how to become a Green Business. If you are in a county that does not have a green business program, make inquiries to your board of supervisors or chamber of commerce and express your desire to patronize certified green businesses.

- SF Bay area counties:** <http://www.greenbiz.ca.gov/>
- Monterey/Santa Cruz:** <http://montereybaygreenbusiness.org/index.html>
- Santa Monica:** <http://www.smgbc.org/>
- San Diego:** <http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/deh/hmd/greenbusiness.html>

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That's all for this month, folks!
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