$31,000 Settlement Reached with ARC International Corporation

Los Angeles – The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) announced it has reached settlement with ARC International Corporation (ARC) for hazardous waste violations at its 911 South Bixby Drive facility in City of Industry. Under the terms of the settlement, ARC will pay a penalty of $15,000 and donate $19,530 of refurbished computer equipment to local schools.

Specifically, ARC will donate 98 personal computers, 94 cathode ray tube (CRT) monitors and 29 printers to the following local schools: Caroldale Elementary and Broadous Elementary of Los Angeles Unified School District, Nativity School and St. Martha’s School of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, and Career Partners working in conjunction with Gabrielino High School of the San Gabriel Unified School District.

ARC is authorized by DTSC to handle and recycle waste electronic devices and is an approved handler of electronic waste under the Covered Electronic Waste Recovery and Recycling Payment System administered by the Integrated Waste Management Board. In addition, ARC uses discarded electronic components of electronic equipment diverted from landfills to remanufacture and refurbish computers for resale to the public.

California has adopted regulations for handling and transporting certain widely-generated, relatively low risk hazardous wastes including televisions, computer monitors, computers and other electronic wastes. After these products reach the end of their useful lives or become obsolete, they are required to be managed as hazardous wastes because they contain hazardous substances.

Hazardous waste may not be discarded with other municipal trash. Instead, it must be sent to a facility that has a permit for hazardous waste treatment (including recycling), storage, or disposal.

The settlement stems from violations observed by DTSC inspectors during an inspection at the facility conducted on December 14, 2004. The violations noted were:
• Failing to submit to DTSC a cost estimate for closure of its facility no later than 30 days prior to recycling or treating any CRT or Universal Waste Electronic Device (UWED) materials.
• Failing to submit to DTSC documentation demonstrating financial responsibility for liability and financial assurance for closure of its facility no later than 30 days prior to recycling or treating any CRT or UWED materials.

ARC has corrected all violations noted during the inspections.

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control’s mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.