

# NEWS



## Manufacturers of Emission Controls Association

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### MECA Applauds U.S. EPA Clean Ports USA Initiative

**Washington, DC** – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on Friday posted on-line the proceedings of the January 26, 2005 Clean Ports USA Workshop at [www.cleanfleetsusa.net/cleanports](http://www.cleanfleetsusa.net/cleanports). As a kick-off event for the Clean Ports USA initiative, the workshop focused on identifying barriers and incentives surrounding diesel emission reduction strategies at U.S. ports. The Clean Ports USA initiative is part of EPA’s Voluntary Diesel Retrofit Program, a comprehensive effort to develop voluntary diesel emissions reduction programs that seek to reduce harmful emissions from diesel engines and equipment nationwide.

Hosted by EPA and the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) and held at the Port of Corpus Christi in Corpus Christi, Texas, the one-day Clean Ports USA Workshop brought together more than 40 environmental and operations representatives from U.S. public port authorities nationwide to provide their insights and input regarding how to best encourage ports to reduce emissions from diesel engines as EPA works to create a port-specific incentive program. Participants had the opportunity to learn about successful emissions reductions strategies and incentive programs already in place at U.S. ports and other sectors that could serve as a model for a federal Clean Ports USA program. Facilitators also led workshop participants through two interactive breakout sessions designed to identify barriers to voluntary action at ports and incentives to help overcome those barriers.

“MECA believes workshops, such as the Clean Ports USA Workshop, are invaluable to all stakeholders in getting the message out about what can be done to clean up on-road and off-road diesel vehicles. If we are truly going to achieve the goal of clean air, the emissions from these engines and equipment need to be addressed,” stated Dale McKinnon, Executive Director of the Manufacturers of Emission Controls Association (MECA). “MECA applauds EPA for undertaking innovative retrofit emission control initiatives for engines and equipment at ports and other sectors in the United States.”

[MORE]

*February 22, 2005*

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A number of diesel retrofit technologies are commercially available today that can provide significant reductions in particulate matter (PM), oxides of nitrogen (NOx), and hydrocarbon (HC) emissions. Many of these technologies have been verified by the EPA and/or California's Air Resources Board (ARB). "We hope the technology verification reciprocity agreement reached by EPA and ARB last summer will help make available a wider range of technology choices for end-users to clean up their fleets," remarked McKinnon.

The Clean Ports USA Workshop marks the first step of EPA's approach to creating a specific incentive program for ports to reduce emissions from existing diesel engines and equipment. This workshop follows the Agency's national conference on voluntary diesel reduction programs held in Washington, DC in June 2004. EPA's Clean Ports USA initiative seeks to build on the success of its Clean School Bus USA program, which in fiscal year 2005 will provide \$7.5 million to retrofit, refuel, re-power, and replace in-use diesel engines and reduce idling in school buses.

The Agency is pursuing similar approaches for the construction and freight sectors, with the ultimate goal of reducing emissions from the existing 11 million diesel engines nationwide by 2014.

For more information on EPA's Clean Ports USA initiative, go to: [www.epa.gov/otaq/retrofit/ports.htm](http://www.epa.gov/otaq/retrofit/ports.htm), or contact EPA's Trish Koman at (734) 214-4955 or [koman.trish@epa.gov](mailto:koman.trish@epa.gov). For more information on EPA's Voluntary Diesel Retrofit Program, go to: [www.epa.gov/otaq/retrofit/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/otaq/retrofit/index.htm).

Founded in 1976, MECA is a national association of companies that manufacture a variety of mobile source emission control equipment for automobiles, trucks, buses, and off-road vehicles and engines, as well as stationary internal combustion engines. For more information on exhaust emission control technology, please visit MECA's web site at: [www.meca.org](http://www.meca.org).

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