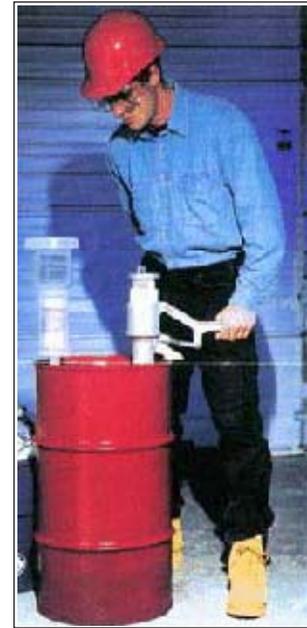




# Do you dispose of aerosol cans as solid or hazardous waste?

## Would you like to improve this process in the following areas?

- **Meeting environmental compliance regulations** -- Eliminate hazardous waste disposal and air emissions. Regulatory areas include RCRA.
- **Improving workers' safety and health** -- Reduce exposure to solvents and paints.
- **Increasing productivity** -- No change from current operations.
- **Saving money** -- Eliminate disposal of aerosol cans as a hazardous waste. Revenue can be generated when crushed cans are sold to recyclers.



Aerosol Can Puncturer

Aerosol can puncturing and crushing is a cost-effective alternative to disposal of aerosol cans as hazardous waste. The units range from manually operated single can puncturers to more sophisticated puncturers/crushers with pre-loaders. The devices puncture and empty cans in compliance with EPA requirements and also collect or filter propellants to meet most state air emission standards. Aerosol can residues are mainly divided into paints and lubricants, with dedicated 55-gallon drums for each. Propellant filters must be changed periodically depending on the unit. Savings in disposal costs are significant as empty steel cans can be sold for scrap. Operators must be trained in safety considerations and some state permits may have to be obtained. The cost-savings and environmental advantages far outweigh these requirements. Several of these units are being used successfully at Navy installations such as NAVSTA Everett, MCAS Miramar, and the U.S. Naval Academy. **This equipment is available through the Navy Pollution Prevention Equipment Program (PPEP).**

## How can you achieve these improvements?

Implement Aerosol Can Puncturing and Crushing Equipment.

## How does this equipment work?

The unit punctures the aerosol can, filters the propellant and drains the residue, if any, to an attached 55-gallon drum. In more sophisticated units a piston then crushes the can into a wafer for recycling.

## How will this equipment save you money?

The waste volume is reduced and the crushed cans can be sold for profit. The cost to implement varies from \$495 to \$775 and the equipment typically pays for itself in less than two years. For a complete cost analysis refer to the Joint Service P2 Opportunity Handbook Data Sheet 7-25.



## Typical Process Flow Diagram



How can this technology eliminate or reduce pollution?

When implemented, this technology can result in the following pollution reductions:

- Eliminate disposal of used aerosol cans as hazardous waste.

Which shops can benefit most from this technology?

This technology can be used in shops that use aerosol spray paints and lubricants. Typical shops include:

- Automotive & Aircraft Maintenance
- Public Works Shops
- Paint Shops
- Shipboard Operations

Take action: How can you implement this technology?

- **Activity Shop & Work Center Personnel.** Contact your Pollution Prevention Program Manager. The P2 Program Manager can provide more information and conduct a more detailed analysis, and may be able to provide this equipment at no cost to a Shop or Work Center.

- **Activity Pollution Prevention Manager.** Request this equipment through the Navy P2 Equipment Program (PPEP). Depending on the application, the Environmental Program Requirements Cookbook may contain project submission information for annual budget requests sent to your claimant.

- **For Additional Technical Information.** More information about this technology can be found on Joint Service P2 Opportunity Handbook Data Sheet 7\_III\_3 (Web: [http://p2library.nfesc.navy.mil/P2\\_Opportunity\\_Handbook/7\\_III\\_3.html](http://p2library.nfesc.navy.mil/P2_Opportunity_Handbook/7_III_3.html)) or in the PPEP Book (Web: <http://www.lakehurst.navy.mil/p2/index.htm>).

### Achieving Environmental Compliance Through Pollution Prevention

Every day the Navy faces the challenge of operating and maintaining the fleet while complying with environmental regulations. This burden can be reduced by implementing pollution prevention technologies and methods to reduce compliance requirements. This Fact Sheet is one in a series designed to encourage activities to implement pollution prevention technologies and methods. The overall goal of this series is to promote sustained environmental compliance at the lowest life-cycle cost.

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