

A weekly electronic news service on ozone protection & implementation of the Montreal Protocol provided by:

UNEP DTIE OzonAction Programme, Paris

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1- The Inside Story of the Montreal Protocol

Protecting the Ozone Layer, The United Nations History, by Stephen O. Andersen and K. Madhava Sarma, tells the remarkable story of the Montreal Protocol now recognized as a unique example of international cooperation on environmental issues. Mr Andersen and Mr Sarma were initiators of some key aspects of the Montreal Protocol, have been active players in others, and have remained involved and committed throughout its development. They are therefore uniquely placed to provide a fascinating insider perspective on the history of science, diplomacy, technology, implementation and compliance, and on the involvement of NGOs and media in the making of this historic agreement. The chapters of the book are interspersed with lively personal perspectives from nearly 60 high-level participants from around the world and, in a final chapter, the authors draw on their experience to summarize the lessons of the successful global efforts to protect the stratospheric ozone layer. Protecting the Ozone layer, The United NationsHistory.

Available from Earthscan Publishing @ www.earthscan.co.uk Or UNEP bookshop @ www.earthprint.com

2- Chinese Solvent Makers Receive Training on Ozone Protection

BEIJING, More than 100 Chinese solvent makers started a three-day training program Wednesday on protection for the ozone layer. The program in Xi'an, capital city of northwestern Shaanxi Province, is organized by the State Environmental Protection Administration, said Thursday's China Daily. Experts from United Nations Development Program and solvent giants such as Micro Care and Ultronix are scheduled to lecture on substitutes for ozone-depleting substances. The workshop is another substantial step in the Chinese government's realizing its promise to protect the damaged ozone layer, an official from the administration was quoted as saying. China started a nine-year program in 2000 to phase out the use of ozone-depleting substances as cleaning agents. Carbon tetrachloride (CTC) use will ban banned after 2004. The international community also backs China's move. To date, China has received 700 million US dollars for this endeavor from the Montreal Protocol's Multilateral Fund. Some of the Chinese companies attending the workshop have received international grants to improve their equipment. About half of Chinese enterprises that use ozone-depleting substances come from industries including aerospace, aviation, electronics, machinery, medical appliances, motor manufacturing, post and telecommunications, precision instruments and textiles.

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Source: XINHUA News Agency, 14 August 2002

3- Truck Trains to Fight Own Fires

By the end of the year, trains shuttling trucks through the Channel Tunnel will carry a novel water misting system that can automatically extinguish any fires that break out. The system, the first in Europe, is designed to prevent a catastrophic fire like the one that broke out in November 1996 on a train carrying trucks through the tunnel. Putting out the fire took nearly seven hours, endangering the lives of dozens of firefighters and truck drivers and severely damaging the tunnel ... A new analysis of the fire by consultant engineer Colin Kirkland, who was in charge of building the Channel Tunnel between 1986 and 1993, discloses details about the fire that were largely overlooked by the official report ... "There were lots of problems," says Kirkland. He says that one of key lessons to be learned from the incident was that there should be some way of controlling fires on trains carrying trucks, as there is for car shuttle trains. On these trains halon gas floods carriages once passengers have been evacuated. The official report made no such recommendation for truck shuttles" ... The new water mist system will suppress the fire for long enough for the British and French firefighters to arrive. Eurotunnel carried out tests of a water mist system last year in a mock-up of

the Channel Tunnel near Stockton-on-Tees. The tests showed that a spray of droplets 90-micrometres across could cut the temperature of a fire raging at more than 800 deg. C to around 50 deg. C in five minutes, leaving only minor smouldering ...

Article @: http://www.manufacturing.net/?layout=articlePortal_V2&articleId=LN46DV-5SW0-0025-81BV-00000-

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Source: New Scientist, Reed Business Information, 3 August 2002

OzoNews is available on the OzonAction Programme web site @:

http://www.uneptie.org/ozonaction/compliance/ozonews/main.html

United Nations Environment Programme Division of Technology, Industry, and Economics (UNEP DTIE) OzonAction Programme provides OzoNews as a free service to help keep readers informed about current news relating to ozone depletion and the implementation of the Montreal Protocol. The goal of OzoNews is to provide information, stimulate discussion and promote cooperation in support of compliance with the Montreal Protocol. With the exception of items written by UNEP and occasional contributions solicited from other organizations, the news is sourced from on-line newspapers, journals and websites. The views expressed in articles written by external authors are solely the viewpoints of those authors and do not represent the policy or viewpoint of UNEP. While UNEP strives to avoid inclusion of misleading or inaccurate information, it is ultimately the responsibility of the reader to evaluate the accuracy of any news article in OzoNews. The citing of commercial technologies, products or services does not constitute endorsement of those items by UNEP.

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