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Lane Regional Air Protection Agency Wins US EPA Environmental Excellence Award

Award Recipient's Efforts to Reduce Emissions Improve the Environment along the I-5 Corridor

The Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA) and Cascade Sierra Solutions (CSS) received a joint Environmental Excellence Award from the US EPA SmartWaySM Transport Partnership for their impressive achievements and leadership in reducing emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases resulting from their innovative programs. The awards were announced at the 14th Annual National Association of Environmental Management Forum, held Oct 25-27, in Savannah, GA.

LRAPA and CSS were two of 24 companies, from among the Partnerships' more than 400 Partners, to receive this distinction. LRAPA'S "Everybody Wins" program, which uses loan money available from the Oregon Department of Energy, provides low-cost lease-to-own arrangements on Auxiliary Power Units (APUs) for truckers who spend a majority of their idling time on the I-5 corridor in Oregon. Through the Everybody Wins program, LRAPA has installed 350 APUs. The success of Everybody Wins led to the development of the new non-profit organization, Cascade Sierra Solutions. CSS will have showcase centers along the I-5 corridor that offer one-stop shopping for all SmartWay fuel saving and diesel retrofit technology. "Our partnership with SmartWay Transport proves that, regardless of size, companies can save money while they help the environment. We urge everyone in the freight industry to join this worthwhile effort," said Sharon Banks, who will head CSS.

SmartWay Transport Partners include businesses and organizations of all sizes, from Fortune 500 companies to family-owned businesses, each working to improve their environmental performance. "Even simple changes really make a noticeable difference," said Banks. "The Everybody Wins program helped us break through the barriers to the trucking industry. Through CSS, we are motivated to do even more."

"EPA is pleased to recognize Partners with SmartWay Excellence Awards. The award winners are leading the way toward a cleaner, more efficient transportation future with strategies that reduce emissions and increase profits." said Margo Oge, Director of EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality.

SmartWay was introduced by EPA and a select group of fifteen shipping and business leaders in 2004 as an innovative, market-based partnership to reduce fuel use, greenhouse gas emissions, and air pollutants from the freight sector. In just two years, by employing straightforward strategies for reducing truck and rail emissions, Partner companies have essentially reduced emissions equivalent to 500,000 cars.

Despite record-breaking diesel prices, more than 400 freight industry companies are on track to save over \$1.2 billion on fuel and remove more than 4 million tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from the air by 2007 as part of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) innovative SmartWaySM Transport Partnership.

By 2012, the SmartWay program, with full industry participation, estimates nationwide annual fuel savings of 3.3 to 6.6 billion gallons of diesel fuel, eliminating 66 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions and up to 200,000 tons of nitrogen oxide emissions –the equivalent to emissions of 12 million cars!

For more information about SmartWay visit: www.epa.gov/smartway or call (734) 214-4767.

For more information about the SmartWay Award recipients, visit: www.epa.gov/awards

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