



GEMC ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS INC. NEWSLETTER

LET'S KEEP IT GREEN

FEBRUARY 2008 EDITION



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Regulations Amending the Contraventions Regulations - Her Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Justice, pursuant to section 8 (see footnote a) of the Contraventions Act (see footnote b), hereby makes the annexed Regulations Amending the Contraventions Regulations. [More from Canada Gazette»](#)

FINES IMPOSED FOR HYDROCARBON POLLUTION -

MONTREAL – Two separate investigations by Transport Canada recently led to charges in Penal and Criminal Court followed by an imposition of fines. The Italian-flag ship Crystal Rubino and the Canadian-flag ship Catherine Desgagné were both found guilty of hydrocarbon pollution. [More from Transport Canada's website»](#)

Bush administration being sued by 12 states -The Bush administration has ordered the EPA to ease rules requiring companies to report their inventory of toxic chemicals, prompting 12 states to sue the federal government. The states accuse President Bush of putting industrial welfare before public safety. For 20 years, companies have been required to report what chemicals they have and how much. That means when fire breaks out in warehouses or other industrial centers, public agencies can quickly look up what chemicals are stored and released at the facilities. The Bush administration is now proposing a dramatic reduction in the reporting requirements.

TRACKING/TRACING - China's Beidou navigational satellite system has been enhanced to enable the real-time monitoring of dangerous goods road shipments. Through the use of vehicle-mounted sensors, the system is not only capable of pinpointing the location of a vehicle but also monitoring road conditions and even whether the driver is operating under the influence of alcohol. In the event of an accident, the system is reportedly able to notify the land-based control centre within just 0.01 seconds of the event-taking place thus facilitating as prompt a response as possible by the emergency services.



Exposing The Dangers of

Carbon Monoxide - It's known as the silent killer - the poisonous gas that you can't see, smell, taste or touch. However what carbon monoxide (CO) lacks in personality, it makes up for in potency. CO poisoning is responsible for hundreds of deaths, and thousands of hospital visits every year in North America. A common and deadly hazard, CO results from the incomplete burning of natural gas and any other material containing carbon such as gasoline, kerosene, oil, propane, coal, or wood. Cigarette smoke and motor vehicle exhaust are also sources of CO. When we breathe in carbon monoxide, it interferes with the ability of red blood cells to carry oxygen to the heart, brain, and other vital organs. Exposure to very high concentrations can overcome a person in minutes with few or no warning signs and result in coma or death.

PHMSA/DOT Final Rule HM-218D Published

January 28, 2008—Final Rule [PHMSA-05-21812 \(HM-218D\)](#) will be effective October 10, 2008. PHMSA is amending the Hazardous Materials Regulations to update, clarify or provide relief from certain requirements governing the classification, packaging, or labeling of hazardous materials transported in commerce. Among other provisions, PHMSA is adopting a new proper shipping name and identification number for fuel blends composed of ethanol and gasoline. In addition, PHMSA is updating references to consensus standards, revising and clarifying certain hazard communication requirements, and clarifying transportation requirements applicable to dry ice, detonator assemblies, and explosives. PHMSA is also expanding exceptions from regulation for small quantities of hazardous materials.

GEMC PUBLICATIONS

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| WHMIS Poster | \$ 29.00 |
| WHMIS Regulations | \$ 109.00 |
| WHMIS Instructors Package | \$ 494.00 |
| IATA Regulations | \$ 198.50 |

If You Got It A Truck Brought It! - The old saying has never been truer than it is today. Presently about 90% of all consumer products and foodstuffs used and consumed in Ontario are shipped by truck at some point in the distribution chain.

OPEN-REGISTRATION AIR PROGRAMS –

Timmins – February 26, 27, 28 2008. Our popular air course has very limited seats, if you are interested please email or call our office to register.



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