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## Industry-Led Thermostat Recycling Plan Submitted to Manitoba

The Canadian Institute of Plumbing & Heating (CIPH) along with the Heating, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Institute of Canada (HRAI), and Summerhill Impact will be expanding the voluntary "Switch the Stat" program to meet Manitoba's extended producer responsibility regulations for mercury-containing thermostats by April 1, 2011.

The "Switch the Stat" program will collect and recycle all mercury-containing thermostats in accordance with the Manitoba Regulation 16/2010 and the Guideline for Household or Prescribed Household Material Stewardship Program.

This draft stewardship plan was submitted to the Pollution Prevention Branch at Manitoba Conservation as a mandated, responsible, manufacturer-funded program on August 12, 2010. Manitoba Conservation is currently reviewing the draft plan.

The plan calls for putting thermostat collection bins into the hands of installers, contractors, wholesalers, distributors, and retailers; i.e. anyone who may have contact with old mercury-containing thermostats.

For CIPH members, having a thermostat collection bin at your location will make it easier to support your local customers and participate in this program.

What this means to you:

- a. There will be no cost to the contractor, wholesaler or distributor to participate;
- b. Display the bin and your customers just have to put the old thermostats in it;
- c. A bin at your location will drive some traffic to you as you provide this service to the contractor;
- d. When the bin is full, simply call Purolator for a pre-paid courier pick-up;
- e. The responsibility ultimately falls to the thermostat manufacturers - they are funding the program to recycle old thermostats and divert them from landfills.

If you want to become part of the solution, please register for a recycling bin at your location at:

<http://www.summerhillgroup.ca/eng/impact/programs/switch-the-stat-signup.php>

CIPH members in Manitoba consist of over 80 plumbing and heating wholesale distribution locations that come into contact with hundreds of plumbing & heating contractors, hydronic installers, general contractors, and renovation professionals. Every single one of these professionals removes old thermostats off the wall at the jobsite.

For more information on the draft plan, please visit:

<http://www.summerhillgroup.ca/eng/impact/programs/switch-the-stat-mb-plan.php>

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The Canadian Institute of Plumbing & Heating is a not-for-profit trade association. Founded in 1933, the Institute is a vibrant organization committed to providing members with the tools for success in today's competitive environment. More than 250 companies are members of this influential Canadian industry association. They are the manufacturers, wholesaler distributors, master distributors, manufacturers' agents and allied companies who manufacture and distribute plumbing, hydronic heating, industrial, waterworks and other mechanical products. CIPH wholesalers operate more than 700 warehouses and showrooms across Canada. Total industry sales exceed \$5 billion annually.



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