

**NON-REFILLABLE GAS CYLINDERS RECYCLING WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 8, 2009**

**Best Western Airport Hotel & Conference Center
Milwaukee, WI**

Sponsored by Worthington Cylinders

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On October 8, 2009, Worthington Cylinders and the Product Stewardship Institute (PSI) convened a day-long meeting to explore the feasibility of developing a pilot cylinder recycling project that could potentially be replicated nationwide. The meeting was attended by 30 participants, with another 10 participating via phone. The final participant list, agenda, meeting notes, and presentations are on the PSI meeting webpage at: www.productstewardship.us/gascylinders.

The presentations covered previous work by PSI on cylinder recycling, background information on gas cylinders, and ongoing efforts to find a safe and viable way to recycle cylinders. A representative from Blue Rhino provided an overview of his company's process for refurbishing or recycling 20-pound refillable cylinders, including its 43,000 retail locations and 14 production facilities across the country. Sadoff Iron and Metal, a scrap metal recycler, discussed the challenges in recycling small non-refillable cylinders, while Veolia and StewardEdge discussed their companies' experiences with gas cylinder recycling. Representatives of Associated Recyclers of Wisconsin discussed the cost burden on local governments to manage the cylinders and the need for a manufacturer solution. The National Park Service presented its successful pilot cylinder recycling program in Yellowstone. Government officials from the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources explained the regulations pertaining to cylinder management.

Representatives of Worthington Cylinder outlined the pros and cons of various potential cylinder collection options, as well as a scope for a proposed pilot project. The group came to a general consensus on the key issues regarding cylinder recycling, the goals for a gas cylinder recycling project, and the need to conduct the pilot. Worthington Cylinder will use the extensive feedback provided during the meeting to develop an internal draft design for a pilot project and share it with the stakeholder group for feedback. They expect to come back with a draft in 3 to 6 months.