

WRATT

WASTE REDUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER FOUNDATION

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The **WRATT Information Bulletin** is published periodically by the Waste Reduction & Technology Transfer Foundation as a free source of information on waste reduction and energy savings for our clients, contractors, and partners.

WasteTrade Continues Operations in 2006 with Expanded Territory

WasteTrade, the Appalachian Regional Commission-funded waste and surplus materials exchange operated by WRATT, will continue with expanded geographical operations in 2006. Originally established as an on-line regional exchange marketed in the 13 county area of northwest Alabama in 2005, **WasteTrade** has expanded into the following counties this year: Bibb, Hale, Pickens, Blount, DeKalb, Jackson, Jefferson, Marshall and Tuscaloosa.

The exchange, accessible at www.wastetrade.org, is based on the concept that waste or surplus materials in one organization may often be reused by other entities at low cost.

WasteTrade is a web-based, virtual exchange. It is Free, Confidential, and Non-Regulatory in nature. All that is required to set up a "Wanted" or "Available" listing is a phone call to the WRATT office at 800-516-6358

Categories for listings can include:

Automotive	Batteries
Computers/Electronics	Iron/Steel
Nonferrous Metals	Glass/Fiberglass
Plastics	Surplus Consumer Goods
Surplus Supplies	Paper/Cardboard
Tires/Rubber	Textiles/Leather
Food Waste	Liquids/Oils/Chemicals
Wood	Surplus/Used Equipment
Construction Materials	Surplus Commercial Goods

Recent new listings on the exchange include the following

Available:

9/27	Batteries
9/27	Hardwood sawdust
10/13	Used Forklift
10/31	Sulfuric Acid
12/1	Ground Asphalt Shingles
12/1	Fiberglass Mat

12/15	Used Computer equipment
12/21	4" check valve with counter weight

Wanted:

10/4	Paper materials
10/31	HDPE and PP recyclables

A recent trade was accomplished for computer and networking gear.

WasteTrade is promoted through presentations at trade shows, business and civic groups, press releases, advertisements, mail and phone marketing, and personal visits. A new brochure with more details about the exchange is available by contacting the WRATT office by phone or email.

Website links have been created to **WasteTrade** by supporting organizations including ADECA, EDPA, Auburn University's Grassroots Clearinghouse, and the City of Tuscaloosa's Environmental Services Department. These links help to bring more parties to the site.

Here are organization types that should be able to use **WasteTrade**:

Manufacturing Industries-possible outlets or sources for waste streams, byproducts, surplus inventories, raw materials, finished products, or equipment
Commercial businesses-outlets/sources for surplus products, supplies, or equipment
Governmental bodies and Institutions-outlet/sources for surplus supplies, or equipment

As of the end of 2005, 1634 unique visitors have accessed the **WasteTrade** website and reviewed 7384 pageloads of material.

Plans are to actively promote **WasteTrade** in the new counties in Alabama in 2006 via presentations, telephone contact, and personal visits, while continuing to keep the exchange visible in the original area of activity.

Lower Your Heating Costs By Using "The Tube"

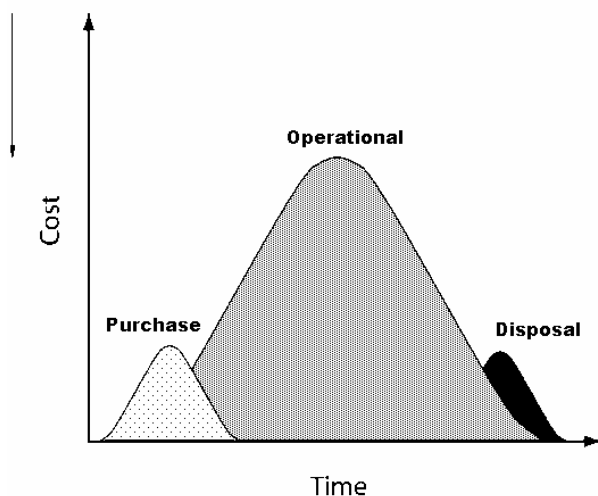
Gas-fired radiant tube heaters can achieve fuel savings of 30-50% compared to conventional forced air heaters. Savings of greater than 50% are not uncommon.

Conventional forced air heaters heat the entire working space, including people, objects, and all the air within the space. Radiant tube heaters use infrared energy to heat objects, people and surfaces. Because people feel the heat directly from radiant heaters, they are usually as comfortable with the thermostat set 4-5 degrees lower than with conventional forced air heaters. Since radiant heaters directly heat people and things, not air, drafts and dust movement is minimized. Also, vertical air temperature stratification (which wastes a great deal of energy and money) is substantially reduced.

Radiant tube heaters are most effective in relatively open areas with high ceilings where people are moving around, not seated for long periods. Examples include factories, warehouses, gymnasiums, loading docks, garages, service shops, and outdoor restaurants. For more information, conduct a "Google" search on the Internet using the phrase "radiant tube heaters", or contact your local gas company.

Are You Basing Acquisition Decisions on Purchase Costs?

If so, you may be trapping your organization into a pattern of unnecessarily high, but avoidable, expenses for years to come.



As can be seen in the graph above, purchase costs are not the only costs associated with acquisition decisions. When you buy a new piece of equipment,

select a type of architectural component (floor coverings, windows, etc.), or decide upon a new manufacturing process, the purchase costs of the item or system are usually only the tip of the iceberg. After purchase and installation, there will follow years of maintenance, energy usage, environmental, and labor/productivity costs. Finally, the item must be disposed of at its end-of-life, and this can often be more costly than anticipated (remember asbestos floor tiles?) The concept of acknowledging all the costs associated with buying, operating or using a thing, and finally disposing of it, is referred to as "Total Life Cycle Costing"

Operating and disposal costs can frequently be 2 to 20 times the purchase cost. Often, 65% of the total life cycle costs will be pre-determined when the item is purchased, even though only 10% of the expenditures have been made at that point.

As an example, a poorly-insulated hot food holding cabinet of the type used in restaurants and institutional kitchens may cost \$1000 less than a well-insulated one. Quite a difference in purchase costs! However, the well insulated cabinet may use \$4000 less electricity over the next 5 years than the 'cheaper' model!

Do You Have a Waste Reduction Plan?

You probably should! Waste in any form represents lost resources, money, and sometimes even labor.

A well-designed waste reduction plan reduces your operating costs, liability risks, and waste handling and disposal costs. An excellent guide to walk you through the process of establishing such a plan has been prepared by the Center for Industrial Services at the University of Tennessee. It may be downloaded at <http://www.cis.utk.edu/EHSP/wrplan.pdf>

This booklet will help you answer such questions as: 'What are my waste related costs?', 'What steps are involved in implementing various waste reduction practices?', and 'What specific waste reduction practices are businesses successfully using?'

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