



# **ACRC Role in Mini-bulk Recycling**

**MACA Mini-bulk Recycling Summit**

**St. Louis, MO**

**November 11, 2009**



# ACRC Commitment to Role in Mini-bulk Recycling

- ACRC Executive Board (10/21/09)
  - Confirms commitment for involvement
  - Bylaw change proposed: Delete “*one-way*” from ACRC objective
  - Mini-bulk Task Force appointed to define ACRC role
  - Work closely with CLA government affairs and communications staff
  - Build on IFCA experience



# ACRC Mini-bulk Recycling Task Force

J D Fish (Bayer CropScience), Chair

Al Phalen (Chemtura)

Bill Spencer (Arysta LifeScience)

Clyde Rittel (Nufarm Americas)

Jim Jenkins (Syngenta)

Steve Hutton (Dow AgroSciences)

Barry Sak (Pretium Packaging)



# Mini-bulk Recycling Timeline

- 10/28- 1st Task Force meeting defines problem and business model criteria
- 11/11 –MACA Mini-bulk Summit: Obtain stakeholder input
- 11/12- 12/31 Task Force refine model & present recommendation to Executive Board
- 2010: One or more pilot programs in targeted states



# ACRC Background

- Incorporated in 1992
- Bylaws: *Facilitate and manage the recycling of one-way rigid plastic..... containers*
- ACRC Contractors
  - *Must collect containers up to 35 gallons in size*
  - *Up to 56 gallon at sole discretion*



# Rationale for Original “Limited” Service Scope

- Small containers
  - No recycling infrastructure in 1992
- Mini-bulks
  - Infrastructure existed as most companies (registrants) offered (and still do offer) their own programs



# ACRC Program Success

- Adopted equitable funding mechanism
- Identified qualified container recycling service providers
- Implemented statewide pilots in AR, MS and MN
- Refined business model and expanded program over time
- Now cover 41 states
- 100,000,000th lb recycled in 2008
- Plastic only goes to approved facilities & end uses



# The Current Mini-bulk Problem

- CLA estimates that:
  - ~50,000 containers may be obsolete under new Container & Containment Rules
  - ~ 100,000 containers are already currently out of service; i.e. “behind the barn”
- Product in containers left in the environment present a potential costly industry liability



# ACRC Participation Requirements

- Change in Bylaws
- Task Force development of business model
  - Controls costs
  - Benefits industry at large
- ACRC Executive Board approval



# Business Model Criteria

- Clear identification of responsibilities of state & local stakeholders
- Stewardship & controls same as for small containers
- Funding that is
  - Separate from the current ACRC program
  - Adequate to cover incremental resource and service costs
  - Equitable
- Support and input of CLA government affairs and communications expertise



# Program Components That Need to be Addressed

- Planning
- Contract development
- Promotion & container registration
- Container preparation
- Operations oversight
  - Disposal fee collection
  - Collection site development
  - Container delivery scheduling
  - Container inspection
  - Container collection/transport
  - Container volume reduction (Baling/grinding)
  - Container processing
  - Container end use
- Invoicing and bill payment



# Stakeholders

- Registrants
- Equipment suppliers
- Ag retailers
- Growers
- State regulatory agencies
- Regional & state agri-business associations
- National trade groups; e.g. ARA
- ACRC & CLA
- Service providers (contractors)
- Plastic processors (recyclers)
- Plastic end users





**Who, what, and how?**

***Your input please!***

***[rperkins@acrecycle.org](mailto:rperkins@acrecycle.org)***

***877 952-2272***



# ACRC Mini-bulk Recycling Task Force

J D Fish (Bayer CropScience), Chair

Al Phalen (Chemtura)

Bill Spencer (Arysta LifeScience)

Clyde Rittel (Nufarm Americas)

Jim Jenkins (Syngenta)

Steve Hutton (Dow AgroSciences)

Barry Sak (Pretium Packaging)