Results of the Informal Data collection effort to determine support for the Multimedia Initiative Conducted By Ron Dyer 11/05

Summary:

The purpose of this survey was to determine which states would be most receptive to the multimedia initiative and therefore be the ideal candidates for the initial National Compliance Advisory Panel (NCAP) efforts. The survey was conducted in November of 2005 and all state programs were given the opportunity to respond. Of these programs 20 took the initiative and provided their information. The information was then compared to the responses about State Compliance Advisory Panel (CAP) status to determine where CAPs could offer the most help. The results were that there were three states Michigan, Wyoming, and Wisconsin met the criteria of being in support of the effort and having an active CAP in their state.

Survey:

Ron Dyer conducted the survey effort and sent the questions out to all Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs. The questions were as follows:

For all states:

 Are you in favor of the NCAP working to generate support for the multimedia effort at the grassroots level and pursuing legislative approaches through Congress?

For states currently without legislative authority for multimedia assistance:

- 2. Would you be interested in pursuing multimedia assistance without direct or immediate EPA funding?
- 3. If you are interested, would you like the NCAP to work with your state to pursue multimedia assistance?
- 4. Is there support for multi-media assistance in your state? (indicate all that currently support it)
 - Management (e.g., Commissioner, Agency Head)
 - Trade associations
 - Small business community
 - State CAP

Response:

A total of 20 Programs out of 53 possible, about 38%, responded. The Bulk of these states reported the existence of some sort of Multimedia program and just 7 programs are 'Air Only'. Each respondent did not answer every question (see result).

Results:

Question #1: of the 20 respondents 19 said they would support the effort. The one hold out was West Virginia, which stated that they did not have the authority to answer the question.

Question #2: 16 Programs responded and 10 of those said they would be willing to go ahead with the program even without federal funding. Many of these programs already provide some sort of Multimedia Support and are actually seeking support to for improving their program.

Question #3: 18 programs responded and 11 of these said that they wanted the NCAP to help them in their states. Additionally, the data shows that of these 11 states that would like NCAP assistance 9¹ reported having active CAPs (2004 data). Only Michigan, Wyoming, and Wisconsin have active caps, wanted NCAP help, and reported that their state gave 'Air Only' compliance assistance.

Question #4: also had 18 respondents and 3 showed no support within the state for the initiative. The remaining 15 were broken out as follows:

| Management | Trade associations | Small business community | State CAP |
|------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| 9 | 1 | 12 | 12 |

Conclusions:

There seems to be enough general support to take action. Once the ball is rolling more states will show their support. There are three obvious programs to use to start this initiative off: Michigan, Wyoming, and Wisconsin. The results also highlight another unforeseen activity that would be supported by many programs i.e., lending the weight of the NCAP to the improvement of existing Multimedia Programs. There were 6 programs that have active CAPS and wanted that sort of assistance: Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri², Nebraska, and Ohio.

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¹ These states are Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Michigan, Nebraska, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

² A final interesting point, which came up in the results, is that Missouri's program is in danger of being completely and any support from the NCAP or CAP would be appreciated.