

Who Is PSI?

The Product Stewardship Institute (PSI) is a national non-profit membership-based organization located in Boston, Massachusetts. PSI works with state and local government agencies to partner with manufacturers, retailers, environmental groups, federal agencies, and other key stakeholders to reduce the health and environmental impacts of consumer products. The mission of PSI is to pursue initiatives to ensure that all those involved in the lifecycle of a product share responsibility for reducing its health and environmental impacts. PSI envisions a society in which products are responsibly manufactured, used, and managed after use to conserve resources and protect the environment and human health.

What We Do

Using the Principles of Product Stewardship as its guide, the Product Stewardship Institute is designed to provide:

- ⇒ **Policy Development Assistance** – promoting model product stewardship policies, programs, and legislation; researching technical issues; and helping agencies, organizations, and companies develop viable solutions.
- ⇒ **Coordination, Facilitation, and Mediation** – bringing key stakeholders together to reach voluntary negotiated agreements on specific products.
- ⇒ **Outreach and Education** - serving as a clearinghouse for information and as a network for product stewardship education, training, and development in the United States.

PSI Work Highlights

- After conducting three years of research and dialogues with key stakeholders, PSI developed a comprehensive mercury thermostat model program in 2007. The program, which has been used in the development and passage of legislation in four states, consists of a menu of strategy options focusing on banning new sales and increasing the collection and recycling of mercury thermostats.
- In April 2005, after only 4 meetings in 9 months, PSI mediated a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that has set the stage for the development of a nationally coordinated leftover paint management system. The MOU was signed or endorsed by over 60 entities, including paint companies representing over 95% of the paint sales in the United States, paint recyclers, retailers, painting contractors, and government agencies.
- In 2004, PSI conducted a pilot computer take-back program with Staples Inc. that led to a permanent national computer take-back program in 2007.
- The Institute is currently assisting the U.S. EPA to develop non-radioactive alternative technologies for industrial radioactive devices.

Other PSI initiatives include work on the following products: pharmaceuticals, medical sharps, gas cylinders, tires, phone books, and fluorescent lamps.

Find Out More

Check out the product stewardship book chapter excerpt written by PSI's Executive Director, Scott Cassel, available at: www.productstewardship.us/BookChapterExcerpt, or listen to Mr. Cassel's 2007 public radio interview, available at: www.productstewardship.us/PSIRadioInterview.