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bq report

buy quiet
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Service Bulletin

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National Institute of Governmental Purchasing 1735 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Arlington-VA 22202 (703) 920-4020

West Virginia Claims First Scholarship

The State of West Virginia, Purchasing Division, has earned a \$1500 professional development scholarship as a result of its active participation in the Buy Quiet Program.

As an article in the January 1981 "bq report" pointed out, NIGP is awarding a total of \$10,000 in professional development scholarships to the first ten governmental units to submit documentation that they have earned twelve or more points based on a scoring system established by the Institute. The first four governments to accumulate twelve points are to earn \$1500 scholarships; the next four, \$750 scholarships; and, the next two, \$500 scholarships. The scholarships, which are awarded in the form of "credit", can be used to waive NIGP seminar and annual conference fees and to defray the travel and subsistence costs associated with participation in either the seminars or the annual conference.

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Neighborhood Organizations Can Benefit from "Buy Quiet" Programs Started by Local Governments

FOR YOUR INFORMATION... Lest you get the idea that NIGP and NLC are the only organizations "pushing" the Buy Quiet Program, we have reprinted below, in its entirety, an article scheduled to appear in an upcoming newsletter of the National Association of Neighborhoods (NAN). NAN, founded in 1975, is an association of urban and rural organizations and coalitions working to strengthen neighborhood rights and responsibilities.

Editor's Note

Neighborhood organizations can do much to bring about quiet in their neighborhoods. One action is getting involved in city, county or state "Buy Quiet" programs. Buy Quiet programs are established when cities start buying quieter models of products and equipment and start specifying quiet in their contracted services. As many governments are discovering, quieter products are

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available that do not necessarily cost more.

When you think about it, city owned, operated, or contracted products and services often contribute greatly to the noise we're in. Garbage trucks and construction equipment are two examples. If quieter products are available that cost no more, why shouldn't they be purchased instead? Your neighborhood has a "right" to quiet. Perhaps your neighborhood organization may wish to contact the city and find out if they're "buying quiet."

Getting the city to "buy quiet" will not solve all the noise problems in your neighborhood, but it can begin the process through which your neighborhood can work with your local government to quiet things down. This is because by its nature "Buy Quiet" has important "educational" benefits. Once governments have tried "buy quiet," local officials are usually much more interested in and sensitive to community noise problems.

In this time of tight budget constraints on all neighborhood organizations and on all governments, why, you might ask, would governments be motivated to "buy quiet" in the first place. Because it is in their interest to do so. Here is something they can do now to show you the public that they are beginning to be sensitive in solving noise problems and will cost very little -- perhaps nothing extra! Some cities, such as Brookline, MA, therefore, have even sought out neighborhood residents to demonstrate quiet equipment to them.

Buy Quiet not only is good "PR" for governments, it is "good business" because it:

- costs little or nothing extra; Quieter products of all types are available at competitive prices. Many governments have discovered this.

- requires little additional effort; Information needed to Buy Quiet has been developed and is available through the

National Institute of Governmental Purchasing. It is easily incorporated in city purchasing practices.

- usually saves energy and money. Quieter products tend to be better engineered. Consequently, they are usually more energy efficient, require less repairs, and last longer.

The many organizations working cooperatively to promote "buy quiet" include the National League of Cities, an organization of local elected city officials, and the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP), an organization of governmental purchasing agencies and officials. NAN strongly supports it and later this year will be sponsoring a series of workshops featuring Buy Quiet.

Buy Quiet programs have already been established in such major cities as New York City, St. Paul, MN, New Orleans, LA, and Austin, TX. These and dozens of other governments are buying quieter models of such products as chainsaws, garbage trucks, lawnmowers, and tractors. As more and more governments begin to "buy quiet," product noise levels of many products will begin to come down and neighborhoods will be quieter.

Because "Buy Quiet" works to the benefit of everyone - the city, the neighborhood and the manufacturer - it is something that people will want to talk about. Thus, it can be an excellent vehicle for fostering closer communication between the neighborhood and the city on noise and on other matters. In addition, some of these quieter products may be the consumer type which you or your neighborhood organization may wish to consider purchasing. Therefore, even if your city has established a Buy Quiet program, you may want to find out what is going on. If your city has not established a program, perhaps you can "make it happen".

For brochures and further information on Buy Quiet contact: NIGP, 1735 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202

Atlanta Workshop Held July 17

Purchasing agents and other officials of governments in Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Florida participated in the "Workshop on Purchasing Quieter Products and Services" conducted at Atlanta, Georgia on July 17.

Speakers included Raymond Hughes, CPPPO, (Shelby County, TN), Don Carte, CPPPO, (State of West Virginia), Dennis Wile, (State of Florida, Department of Environmental Affairs), John Sweet, (Councilman, City of Atlanta), Donna Dickman, (Washington, DC, Metropolitan COG), Lisa Wogan, (National League of Cities), and Steve Gordon (NIGP).

Industry participants included representatives of The Hiel Company, (trash compactor trucks), LeRoi/Dresser, (portable air compressors), the Allied Lawn Mower Company, and OMC/Lawn Boy.

Councilman Sweet was the sponsor of the City of Atlanta's "Buy Quiet" ordinance (see "bq report" no. 2, February 1981).

Portable Air Compressor Spec Ready

The NIGP/Buy Quiet suggested specification for quieter portable air compressors, which was prepared at a June 26 government-industry conference in Newark, New Jersey, has been finalized and is available upon request. The specification includes a maximum noise level of 79 decibels (A Scale), based on the U.S. EPA Air Compressor Noise Test Procedure, and provides an incentive to bidders for offering models that are even quieter.

As pointed out in the May/June 1981 issue of the "bq report", companies represented in the Newark conference included Ingersoll-Rand, LeRoi/Dresser, Grimmer Schmidt, Atlas Copco, and Sullair. These companies, in cooperation with the Compressed Air and Gas Institute, are now developing (as a result of the conference)

a fuel efficiency measurement procedure which can be used as a basis for including energy costs, along with noise levels and price, in competitive bid evaluation formulas. We will keep you posted on their progress in this important area.

Copies of the specification prepared at the June 26 conference may be obtained from the Buy Quiet Program, c/o NIGP, 1735 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 101, Arlington, VA 22202. Tel. (703) 920-4020.

Buy Quiet Activity in New England Gains Strong Boost

We are pleased to report that the New England Municipal Center (NEMC), a regional government resource agency, is preparing an active campaign to promote the Buy-Quiet Program throughout New England. With funding support provided by EPA, NEMC will be working closely with NIGP to conduct workshops and conferences, provide technical assistance, and prepare information for interested government officials in that area of the United States.

NEMC is a private non-profit agency that was established in 1971 through the combined efforts of the six New England state municipal leagues: Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, Maine Municipal Association, Massachusetts Municipal Association, New Hampshire Municipal Association, Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns and the Vermont League of Cities and Towns.

NEMC's general purposes are to improve the intergovernmental support system to municipal governments and to assist governments in gaining resources, enhancing their decision making capabilities, and interacting with non-governmental agencies.

NEMC will also be working with NIGP in other areas, including seminars and professional certification.

Inglewood Hosts "Buy Quiet" Workshop

The City Hall of Inglewood, California, was the site of a June 19 "Workshop on Purchasing Quieter Products and Services" attended by purchasers from Southern California and co-sponsored by the California Association of Public Purchasing Officers (CAPPPO).

The workshop staff included Cliff Asai (Purchasing & Services Manager, City of Inglewood), Don Carte, CPPPO, (Chief of Standards and Specifications, State of West Virginia), Lisa Wogan (Urban Noise Programs, National League of Cities), Jim Dukes (Noise Abatement and Control Administrator, City of San Diego), Guy McFadden, CPPPO, (Purchasing Energy Management Coordinator, State of Washington), Ed Hyka, CPPPO, (Retired Purchasing Agent, City of Long Beach), and Steve Gordon (Buy Quiet Program Director, NIGP).

Mayor Lee Weinstein of Inglewood "kicked off" the workshop with an informative talk on the importance of Buy Quiet purchase actions to a city's overall noise abatement and control efforts.

Our thanks go to Cliff Asai and his staff for a super effort in hosting the workshop.

WV - First Scholarship (Cont. from p. 11)
West Virginia earned its twelve points through two purchases, both of which involved a maximum noise level, the "Buy Quiet" method of bid evaluation, and cooperative purchasing by political subdivisions of the State. The items bought were lawnmowers and chain saws.

If you want to attend a seminar or the annual conference, but you don't have the funds, keep these scholarships in mind. There's plenty of credit left - for now, anyway.

Congratulations West Virginia!

Work on Trash Compactor Spec Initiated at Skokie

The efforts of NIGP to develop a "suggested" specification for the purchase of quieter rear-loading trash compactor trucks began with a bang at a government-industry conference conducted at the Skokie, Illinois Village Hall on July 31, 1981. Several important issues, including noise-performance-cost tradeoffs and various considerations associated with purchasing the chassis and body separately, were raised.

The Chicagoland Chapter of NIGP, which co-sponsored the conference, is addressing these and other issues and will submit its recommendations to the NIGP national office.

A second government-industry conference will probably be conducted to finalize the specification.

Buy Quiet Calendar Update

Workshop on Purchasing Quieter Products and Services
September 17, 1981 - Bittendorf, Iowa

Specification Development Conference
Front-end Loader/Backhoe/Tractor Combinations
September 18, 1981 - Davenport, Iowa

Workshops on Purchasing Quieter Products and Services are pending for:
Columbia, South Carolina;
Phoenix, Arizona;
Salt Lake City, Utah;
Olympia, Washington;
Tallahassee, Florida;
Northern New England; and
Southern New England.

 **Buy Quiet**