

Update on AMRL and SOM Activities

Robert Lutz

August 13, 2007

You're Not In Kansas Anymore



Robber disguised as tree hits N.H. bank

Sun Jul 8, 2:54 PM ET

- Leaf it to New Hampshire, where a bank branch was held up by a man disguised as a tree.
- Just as the Citizen Bank branch opened Saturday morning, a man walked in with leafy boughs duct-taped to his head and torso, and robbed the place.
- "He really went out on a limb," police Sgt. Ernie Goodno said Sunday.
- Police said the leafy man didn't saying anything about having a weapon, just demanded cash, and was given an undisclosed amount.
- Although the branches and leaves obscured much of the man's face, someone who saw images from the bank's security camera recognized the robber and called police.
- Officers said James Coldwell, 49, was arrested early Sunday at his Manchester home and charged with robbery. Arraignment was not expected until Monday.



CFG - NH-465 N. Elm Street 07/07/2007 09:01:44.22
8 Exit View Right 88

TODAY

- NTPEP-AMRL Evaluations of Plastic Pipe and Rebar Manufacturers
- Mercury Restrictions

New Evaluation Program



- NTPEP + AMRL + SOM
- Annual evaluations of manufacturing plants producing HDPE thermoplastic pipe and steel reinforcing bar
- Quality system reviews and on-site evaluations to be conducted by AMRL
- Reports to be posted on the NTPEP website
- This program intended to replace or supplement existing evaluation programs such as ESC, PPI, and DOTs

Timeline

- AMRL currently preparing documents and training staff
- Invitations to participate in program sent
- Begin evaluations in January 2008



STAFF



- Rob Brimmeier
Auditor
- Kathy Koretz
Supervisor

Pipe comes in different sizes...



and so do
Auditors.



Mercury Rising

Mercury Rising

- Legal and technical issues related to replacing mercury products and mercury thermometers in AASHTO standards



Legal Issues: How Did It Start?

- The Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NEWMOA)
- CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT
- Established to coordinate interstate hazardous and solid waste
- Formally recognized by EPA in 1986
- www.newmoa.org

Legal Issues: How Did It Start?

- In 2001 NEWMOA established the Interstate Mercury Education & Reduction Clearinghouse
- Includes the NEWMOA states and CA, IL, MN, NC, and WA
- State laws regarding mercury restrictions came out of this clearinghouse

Just A Few Examples

- **Maine:** “A person shall not sell or offer to sell or distribute...mercury-added products.”
- **Massachusetts:** “Manufacturers...must establish a system of collecting them at the end of their useful lives.”
- **Nebraska:** “No liquid mercury thermometer containing elemental mercury shall be sold, given away, or otherwise distributed in this state.”

Mercury: Technical Issues

- Most AASHTO standards either require or allow the use of mercury thermometers.
- Most AASHTO standards do not adequately specify alternative devices except to say “any other device of equal accuracy.”
- Requiring “equivalent thermal response time” is not enough additional information.

Mercury: Technical Issues cont'd.

Thermometer Choices

- Standard Platinum Resistance Thermometers (SPRTs)
 - Wide temp. range, calibration uncertainty less than 0.001°C
 - Susceptible to shock, VERY expensive
- Industrial Platinum Resistance Thermometers (IPRTs)
 - Wide range
 - Calibration uncertainty less than 0.01°C

Mercury: Technical Issues cont'd.

Thermometer Types

- Thermistors
 - -10°C to 100°C
 - Calibration uncertainty less than 0.005°C
- Liquid-in-Glass Thermometers
 - -150°C to 400°C
 - Calibration uncertainty between 0.02 and 0.5°C
- Thermocouples
 - -196°C to 2100°C
 - Calibration uncertainty between 0.3 and 1°C

THE END
