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**NAS NORTH ISLAND - NAVY REGION SOUTHWEST**  
**NAVY ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

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**CONSERVATION****CAN CRUSHER/COMPACTOR AEROSOL CAN PUNCTURER****LEAD ACTIVITY**

Naval Aviation Depot (NADEP) North Island

**STATUS**

Completed

**MISSION**

Volume reduction of hazardous solid wastes

**DESCRIPTION**

Naval Aviation Depot (NADEP) North Island is using a can crusher/compactor to compact emptied 5-gallon metal containers before recycling. The crusher was configured to compact a variety of materials. NADEP also uses the crusher to compact contaminated solids such as rags, paper towels, and mixing cups to reduce the number of containers required for shipment of these hazardous wastes.

In addition, an aerosol can puncturer is being used to rupture the spent aerosol can to reduce the pressure to atmosphere before the can is disposed of as municipal waste. Spent aerosol cans are normally classified as hazardous waste due to the residue content under pressure.

A can crusher was also procured through the Chief of Naval Operation (CNO) centralized pollution prevention procurement program for the NAS North Island recycling program. The cost/benefit of the can crusher at NAS North Island will be evaluated under NELP, and findings will be exported when they become available.

**BENEFITS**

- Reduced the volume of the hazardous solid waste generated at NADEP
- Reduced the costs for solid waste disposal
- Facilitated recycling of 20,653 pounds of empty 5-gallon metal cans per year
- Allowed management of 1,928 pounds of aerosol cans generated at NADEP per year as municipal waste rather than hazardous waste
- Reduced the volume of 81,330 pounds of contaminated rags per year

*UPDATED: 01/23/02*