

OZONews

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1- Nobel Laureate Lectures on Ozone Layer (Korea)

"The hole in the ozone layer, the worst disaster to hit the global environment, will not disappear within the next 50 years and will take another 100 years or more to return to its original condition," according to Paul Crutzen, winner of the 1995 Nobel Prize for Chemistry, publically issuing a challenge on the problem of the destruction of the ozone layer. Professor Crutzen of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California said the recent satellite picture in which the ozone hole over the Antarctic looked slightly smaller was an exceptional phenomenon due to a change of temperature and it was considered to be not shrinking but persisting. Crutzen will visit Seoul to give a lecture on the hole in the ozone layer at Seoul National University on next Tuesday at the invitation of the university earth science Brain Korea 21 project ... Crutzen puts emphasis on the seriousness of destroying the ozone layer, noting it has caused plankton on the Antarctic coast to decrease by 10 percent, an example of damage in ecosystem. Recently his area of interest is the "Asian Brown Cloud," hovering over South West Asia, which also poses a global threat. "The cloud is highly likely to influence South Korea as well as China, he said, "now is the time for South Korean scientists to participate in research."

Article @: <http://english.chosun.com/w21data/html/news/200210/200210040035.html>

Source: The Chosun Ilbo, 4 October 2002, By Choi Won-seok

2- Malta Closes Environment Chapter

Malta closed negotiations with the European Union regarding the chapter on Environment ... With regards to methyl bromide and HCFCs, Malta had asked for a transition period until the end of 2008 to phase out methyl bromide and a special arrangement with regards to HCFCs. However the request was withdrawn, with the EU saying that Methyl Bromide will be phased out by end of 2005.

Article @: <http://www.di-ve.com/dive/portal/portal.jhtml?id=68283&pid=1>

Source: DI-VE News, 01 October 2002

3- Recycling Effort Leads to Cool Savings (USA)

... In a program lauded for its environmental stewardship, the city of Fairhope recently started recycling Freon from unwanted refrigerators, reusing it to cool municipal vehicles. Federal law requires anyone handling Freon -- a chlorofluorocarbon known to damage the earth's ozone layer -- to recycle the substance or have it removed through a certified dealer ... The city picks up appliances once a week with a couple of city garbage trucks equipped for that purpose. But city workers only remove the Freon when a large number of the appliances are stored, said Jensen, a street crew foreman whose idea it was to start recycling the Freon ... City workers can tell whether the discarded refrigerators contain the kind of Freon they can recycle, said Smith. Three city workers who are certified to remove Freon from the appliances look for R-12 Freon found in most older refrigerators, she said. "Most refrigerators we get are 7 to 8 years old or more," she said. "Each fridge has a tag with a serial number and the type of Freon." After the Freon is extracted from the refrigerators, it is cleaned on site and put into the air-conditioning systems of city vehicles built before 1994, Smith said. The city owns as many as 15 cars, service trucks, dump trucks and garbage trucks that qualify, she added. Smith said she also drives a pre-1994 vehicle. Some of the very old refrigerators contain R-22 Freon, which the city does not recycle but instead captures and keeps in another tank for proper disposal ...

Article @: http://www.al.com/news/mobileregister/index.ssf?/xml/story.ssf/html_standard.xsl?/base/news/1033982140145910.xml

Source: The Huntsville Times, al.com, 10/07/02, By Lesly Farrey Pacey

OzoNews is available on the OzonAction Programme web site @:

<http://www.uneptie.org/ozonaction/compliance/ozonews/main.html>

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