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**How Much Mercury in 135,000 Thermostats?**

*Thermostat Recycling Corporation recovered over 135,000 mercury thermostats in 2008*

**June 25, 2009** – The Thermostat Recycling Corporation (TRC) according to its collection data collected over 135,000 mercury-switch thermostats in its national program in 2008, a **19 percent increase** over 2007. TRC diverted almost **1300 pounds** of mercury from solid waste last year. “By supporting the collection of mercury thermostats, the manufacturers are taking an important step to reduce the environmental impact of mercury in the United States,” said TRC Executive Director Mark Tibbetts.

“TRC collections have now exceeded 100,000 thermostats per year for three years running,” continued Tibbetts. “Growth of this magnitude is a tremendous testament to the efforts of TRC members to increase collections through the program.”

The TRC is a not-for-profit corporation founded in 1997 by thermostat manufacturers to collect and properly dispose of mercury-switch thermostats removed from service. TRC provides HVAC contractors and consumers a no-cost solution for properly disposing mercury-switch thermostats. HVAC wholesalers, HVAC contractors, municipal household hazardous waste collection programs and retailers can participate in the TRC program as collection sites for a nominal one-time fee. Nationally, TRC has over 3,000 collection containers in 48 states.

TRC currently represents nearly 30 manufacturers that branded and distributed mercury-switch thermostats in the United States.

The complete 2008 Annual report is posted on TRC’s website at [www.thermostat-recycle.org](http://www.thermostat-recycle.org).

For more information about the TRC program, contact Executive Director Mark Tibbetts at (703) 841-3246 or [Mark\\_Tibbetts@nema.org](mailto:Mark_Tibbetts@nema.org). The complete 2008 Annual report is posted on TRC’s website at [www.thermostat-recycle.org](http://www.thermostat-recycle.org).

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