

WindSensor P2546A Anemometer Mercury (Hg) Regulatory Requirements

ISSUE

The WindSensor P2546A anemometer utilizes an electrical reed switch containing the element mercury (Hg).

FACTS

- 1. The WindSensor P2546A anemometer utilizes an integrated electrical reed switch which contains a small amount (40mg) of mercury (Hg).
- 2. The mercury (Hg) is safely sealed within the WindSensor P2546A anemometer and will not be released into the environment under normal operating conditions.
- 3. The mercury-containing electrical reed switch is manufactured by <u>Comus International</u>, switch model MH4.



REGULATIONS

- 1. Mercury is regulated by both United States Federal and some State regulations.
- 2. The Federal regulations pertain to Hazardous Waste. Mercury-containing equipment is classified as a Universal Waste. The regulation states, "Handlers of this universal waste must prevent mercury releases by using specific containers that will not release any mercury. Final disposal and recycling requirements remain the same as those of other federally regulated hazardous waste."
- 3. Regulations vary state by state. A review of state regulations was made on the <u>Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NEWMOA)</u>, <u>Interstate Mercury Education and Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC)</u> and a number of state websites.
- 4. A few states ban the sale of mercury switches.
- 5. Some states require mercury containing devices to be specifically labeled.
- 6. There is no distinction between manufacturing mercury devices, importing devices or selling devices in most of the state regulations.
- 7. The following states ban selling mercury switches:
 - California (CA)
 - Illinois (IL)
 - Maine (ME)
 - Massachusetts (MA)
 - Minnesota (ME)
 - New York (NY)
 - Vermont (VT)
- 8. More states are expected to adopt mercury bans.
- 9. NRG Systems labels the WindSensor P2546A anemometer and its packaging in accordance with Federal and State regulations.

RECYCLING

- The WindSensor P2546A anemometer **MUST NOT** be disposed of in normal trash/waste streams. The mercury-containing reed switch requires it be considered Hazardous Waste.
- NRG Systems has a process in place to help our customers dispose of the WindSensor P2546A anemometer by recycling the mercury (Hg). This process is in accordance with Federal and State regulations.
- NRG Systems provides recycling of the WindSensor P2546A anemometer free of charge through our standard RMA process.
- Please contact our <u>Technical Support Team</u> to begin the RMA/recycling process.