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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 18, 2006

Contact: Ian Michaels (718) 595-6600

PRESS ADVISORY

New York City Department of Environmental Protection and Queens Economic Development Corporation Introduce Incentives For Auto Body Shops to Use Pollution-Reducing Dust-Free Sanding **Equipment and High Volume Low Pressure Paint Spray Guns**

Event:	DEP and the QEDC will hold a kick-off meeting to introduce a pollution prevention rebate program for auto body refinishing shops in Community Board 1 in western Queens who purchase dust-free sanding (DFS) equipment and High Volume Low Pressure (HVLP) spray guns.
Date/Time:	Thursday, August 24, 2006at 6:45 pm
Location:	Con Edison Learning Center 43-82 Vernon Boulevard, Long Island City
Background:	Auto body shop owners will be encouraged to use dust-free sanding devices that will reduce particulate emissions and sanded-wastes into the air by as much as 90% and High Volume Low Pressure (HLVP) spray paint guns that use approximately 25% less paint, emit close to 50% fewer particulates, and 25% fewer volatile organic compounds (VOCs) into the atmosphere. Auto body shops eligible to participate in the program can receive rebates of up to 50% of the cost of each approved dust-free sanding system, and up to 100% of the cost of each approved spray gun. A similar rebate program for HVLP spray guns was successfully launched by DEP and the Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation in 2004 that resulted in significant reductions of VOCs. (A final report will be available in the fall.) The Program is being sponsored by Keyspan and the New York City Economic Development Corporation. It is administered by QEDC and DEP's Environmental Economic Development Assistance Unit (EEDAU). EEDAU's mission is to foster sustainable economic development and
	to foster sustainable economic development and environmental protection assistance to New York City businesses and organizations in areas that include

MORE INFORMATION

06-42

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Construction, Demolition & Abatement

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compliance, regulatory reform and pollution prevention. The Program's advisory group includes the Queens Borough President's Office, the 14th Congressional District, the 22nd City Council District, the14th State Senate District, and the 36th Assembly District, as well as Queens Community Board 1, Keyspan and NYCEDC. The facility and amenities for the kick-off meeting are being provided by Con Edison.

Invitations to the meeting have been sent to auto body shops in the CB1 area. Two training sessions on how to use the pollution prevention equipment will be scheduled in the fall.

For Further information contact Bruce Macdonald, Deputy Director EEDAU, (718) 595 4454 or call 311.

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