



PRESS INFORMATION

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Antaya can help remove nearly 100 tons of lead annually from vehicles worldwide

Cranston, Rhode Island: Antaya Technologies is joining forces with glass makers and vehicle manufacturers to reduce the amount of lead in cars. Working with glass makers Vitro, PPG, Guardian, and Magna Donnelly, the Rhode Island Company is helping one major US automaker lead the field by switching from leaded to entirely lead free connectors and terminals on glass. Other automotive glass manufacturers are expected to do the same.

Antaya Technologies is the only company in the world to have developed a proven lead free solution for soldering electrical connectors to automotive glass. Using its patented lead free solder for pre-soldered, pre-fluxed connectors, the Company is working closely with US glass suppliers to replace existing leaded connectors on several model ranges by as early as this spring.

In the US, one of the Big 3 automakers issued notice to its suppliers in May 2007 that lead is to be removed from all its on-glass connectors commencing with the 2009 model year.

Lead Free Solder began as a European initiative when the EC passed the so-called ELV Directive 2000/53/EC mandating the removal of all hazardous material including lead. However, North America has taken the lead in voluntarily promoting environmentally sensitive practices.

One of the last remaining areas where lead continues to be used in automotive applications throughout the world is in the solder alloy used for tiny, yet functionally critical, on-glass electrical connectors. These connectors are soldered to front windshields, backlights, and quarter windows to provide power for the defrosters and signals for AM/FM, remote keyless entry, glass breakage sensors, remote start and other on glass signal and power applications.

Increasing levels of on-board technology have led to a dramatic increase in the need for on-glass electrical and signal connectors, with every car and light truck produced in the US currently having an average of 4 such connectors. Antaya Technologies of Cranston, Rhode Island, supplies the vast majority of these connectors, commanding over 80 percent of the US market.

As a result of this increase, Antaya projects that nearly 100 tons of lead can be removed from vehicles annually.

“Our customers are deeply committed to environmentally friendly practices and we are pleased to be able to facilitate their initiatives. Our employees are happy not to have to handle lead,” comments Stephen Antaya, Vice President Marketing for Antaya Technologies. “We are glad to see this being addressed in the United States and we are confident our customers in Europe will follow suit.”

About Antaya Technologies

Antaya Technologies Corporation, based in Cranston, Rhode Island, USA, was founded in 1987. The principal activities of the company in the 80's and early 90's focused on development work for Ford Motor Company in the area of manufacture and solderability of electrical connectors for heated glass and on-glass antennas. The company has grown significantly and is now the leading manufacturer and supplier of pre-soldered, pre-fluxed electrical connectors and controlled soldering equipment for automotive glass, electro chromic glass and solar panels. The company manufactures proprietary solders and specialty clad materials.

Since initial work with Ford, Antaya has expanded globally to supply all major glass manufacturers and OEMs in all markets. Customers include: Pilkington, Saint-Gobain, Asahi Glass, PPG Industries, Guardian, Nippon Sheet Glass, Central Glass, Visteon, Omron, Lear, Magna Donnelly and Vitro, with products that can be found on vehicles produced by Ford, DaimlerChrysler, GM, BMW, Nissan, Honda, Toyota, Subaru, Opel, VW, Mazda, Volvo and PSA.

Antaya currently has around 150 employees with three manufacturing facilities in Rhode Island and sales engineering offices in Hong Kong, Germany, the UK, Mexico, and Chicago. Antaya has recently reached an agreement to open its own manufacturing facility in mainland China.

The company is privately owned with institutional financial backing.

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