

## Industry Offers Green Choices

By Jeffrey Bellant

Used Car News Staff Writer

Manheim Auto Auction's giant new reconditioning facility may dominate the landscape, but it is safer for the environment, too.

It's the latest effort by an automotive remarketer to address environmental concerns while improving service and facilities.

Keith Williams, general manager of Manheim Auto Auction, said the new 273-acre recon building was developed with the environment in mind.

"One of the big (benefits) of this facility is that it's very environmentally sensitive," Williams said.

For example, the paint department takes every step to cut down on harsh chemicals. It offers waterborne base-coat painting, which is very low in volatile organic compounds' emissions.

Paint is mixed as needed and the use of non-hazardous products and water treatment help make the facility even more environmentally friendly, Williams said.

The auction basically reuses 42,000 gallons of water per day. This is Manheim's most advanced wastewater treatment system, according to Charles McClung, Man-

heim's engineering director.

"Water is continuously recycled," he said, "so we are able to reduce our well water demand by 60 percent.

"That means the detail shop has also reduced the water going to the city treatment plant by 70 percent."

Like Manheim, ADESA Inc. is looking at ways to protect the environment.

Randy Miller, director of risk management, said the company is meeting the high environmental standards of recent years.

"Facilities built since 2000 meet the strictest U.S. storm water discharge limits for suspended particulate (sediment), thermal pollution and oil/grease," he said.

"We established best available control technology for auto body painting air pollution control for EPA Region 4 (Southeast) and Region 9 (Southwest), and the lowest achievable emission rate for the same at Region 9."

He said waste minimization is the company's present initiative.

Auctions aren't alone in their efforts to be environmentally sensitive.

CarMax Inc., the used-car superstore based in Richmond, Va., has received several honors recently for its environmentally friendly

headquarters built in 2005.

The company earned the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Certification Award from The United States Green Building Council (USGBC).

The USGBC, comprised of leaders from the building industry, works to "promote buildings which are environmentally responsible, profitable, and healthy places to live and work." LEED is USGBC's leading edge system for designing and constructing the world's greenest and most energy efficient buildings.

CarMax is the first company to construct a LEED-certified building in Virginia.

Tom Folliard, CarMax's CEO, said the environmentally friendly building just shows the company puts its associates first.

"We have provided an open and collaborative work environment," he said, "while also demonstrating our commitment to being a socially responsible company."

The building has also earned the 2006 Virginia Green Innovation Award from the Virginia Sustainable Building Network, and other awards for its environmentally friendly design.