

PLASTICS REMOVAL IN THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT

GSA Advantage!® icon:



Environmental Attribute: Alternatives to Plastic and Plastic Packaging

Program Summary: The U.S. Navy's Plastics Removal in the Marine Environment (PRIME) Program focuses on reducing consumable plastic commodities aboard its ships to decrease plastic waste handling and processing. The program was instituted to comply with U.S. Public Law and the Marine Pollution (MARPOL) Treaty which bans oceangoing vessels from disposing of plastics in the marine environment.

The U.S. Navy is pursuing numerous activities under the PRIME Program in order to minimize its plastic consumption. These efforts include: collaborating with other Services on Research and Development for making biodegradable materials, cooperating with other agencies to reduce excess plastic packaging through contract provisions, reviewing governing specifications and ordering data, investigating the commercial marketplace for new non-plastic materials and products, and identifying alternatives to plastics through the Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Publication 602 (<http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil/files/2010/10/PRIME1.pdf>).

Covered Products: PRIME includes the following shipboard commodities:

- Drink Bottles
- Candy Wrappers
- Shrink Wrap
- Packages
- Yogurt Cups and Lids
- Snack Bags and Wraps



Certification Process: Vendor self-declares.