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# *Going for the Gold*

**Department of Veterans Affairs  
Federal Electronics Stewardship  
Conference  
February 6, 2007**





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# Background

- Early commitment to end-of-life aspects of electronics management
- Senior management engagement
- Charter signatory to Memorandum of Understanding on Promoting Sustainable Environmental Stewardship of Federal Electronic Assets
- Team building



# Building on Bronze: End-of-Life Activities

- Signed MOU with Federal Prison Industries (UNICOR)
  - 1,387,392 pounds of electronics recycled in FY05
- Donated computers to authorized schools
  - 1,751 computers donated through GSA's Computers for Learning (CFL) Program in FY05
- Partnered with stakeholders in electronics collection events
  - Earth Day
  - America Recycles Day



# Moving to Silver: Operations and Maintenance

- Maximized useful life of electronics
  - Average lifespan 4 years
  - Energy Star stand-by power function enabled on an average 98% of computer monitors
- Promoted reuse of electronics through internal agency transfers
- Developed media sanitization procedures designed to “foster reutilization”
- Issued Intranet Broadcast System notice to turn off computer monitors at end of day



# Going for Gold: Acquisition and Procurement

- VA Directive 0052, Affirmative Procurement, Recycling and Waste/Pollution Prevention Programs
- Early EPEAT Supporter
  - Beta tested EPEAT database
  - Balloted to approve EPEAT Standard (IEEE 1680)
  - EPEAT Board of Advisors
- Procurement of Computer Hardware and Software-2 (PCHS-2) environmental requirements
  - Energy Star enabled
  - Options for equipment take-back and recycling
- PCHS-3
  - EPEAT included in draft RFP issued July 2005



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# Going for Gold: Mentoring, Education and Outreach

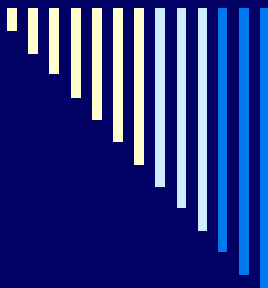
- ❑ Veterans Health Administration Central Office  
FEC Point of Contact
- ❑ VA PCHS-3 Team and Contracting Officer's  
Technical Representative
- ❑ Green Environmental Management System  
(GEMS) Coordinators
- ❑ Earth Day 2005 announcement by Secretary of  
Veterans Affairs
- ❑ Policy Memorandum from VA Chief  
Management Officer promoting VA-wide  
participation in FEC



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# Going for Gold: Mentoring, Education and Outreach (cont.)

- ❑ National conference calls
- ❑ Electronic mail messages
- ❑ Internal newsletter (*Materiel Dispatch*)
- ❑ Case study - White House *Closing the Circle News* special edition on electronics
- ❑ New electronics stewardship Web page
- ❑ Participation in video featuring UNICOR electronics recycling/reconditioning operations
- ❑ Active participation on Federal Environmental Stewardship Workgroup
- ❑ FEC Steering Committee member presentations at VA environmental events



# VA Federal Electronics Challenge (FEC) Team

## □ National Level

- Barbara Matos, Environmental Program Manager (VA FEC Point of Contact)
- Freddie Martinez, Chief, Materiel, Policy, Training and Operations Staff
- Jim Teal, Personal Property Manager
- Linnie Baker, Inventory Management Specialist
- Chris Matos, Traffic Management Specialist (transportation)
- Steve Garber, Computer Specialist

# Achieving Gold

- June 12, 2006 White House Ceremony
  - Gold Level FEC Partner
  - Closing the Circle Award for Leadership in Electronics Stewardship



## ***Making History***

History was made when all three Federal Environmental Executives appointed since 1993 by Presidents Clinton and Bush gathered to present the 2006 White House Closing the Circle Awards. Pictured with VA Federal Electronics Challenge Team members are Fran McPoland, John Howard, and Ed Pinero.

# Summary

- Enlist management support
- Establish/utilize inter-disciplinary team
- Promote/educate continually
- Identify activities in all three life-cycle phases and ***Go for the Gold!***



FOR MORE INFO...

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[http://www1.va.gov/oamm/recycle/ea\\_FEC.cfm](http://www1.va.gov/oamm/recycle/ea_FEC.cfm)