

Plastics Removal In the Marine Environment (PRIME)

What Is PRIME?

The PRIME program focuses on reducing consumable plastic materials aboard U.S. Navy ships to decrease plastic waste handling and processing. The program was instituted to comply with U.S. Public Law and U.S. Navy policies that ban oceangoing vessels from disposing of plastics in the marine environment. In fact, U.S. Navy ships are prohibited to discharge any waste overboard.



Typical shipboard plastic waste materials include: drink bottles, candy wrappers, shrink wrap, packaging materials, yogurt cups and lids, and snack bags and wraps.

PRIME Program Highlights

- Conforms to U.S. Navy, international, federal, state and local environmental laws, regulations and policies which protect our natural resources
- Collaborates with other services on Research and Development (R&D) for developing biodegradable materials
- Cooperates with other agencies to reduce excess plastic packaging through contract provisions
- Reviews governing specifications and ordering data
- Investigates afloat waste reduction/minimization strategies such as bulk purchases vice individual servings, re-usable mugs, and containers
- Investigates the commercial marketplace for new non-plastic materials and products
- Identifies “green” purchasing alternatives through the Naval Supply Systems Command, DON Green Procurement Program, “Buy it Green” and “Contract it Green” guides, GSA PRIME green products for Sailors to purchase PRIME (plastic free) products.

PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Promotes ordering of non-plastic substitutes
- Minimizes plastics used in packaging, packing and marking material
- Decreases plastic waste
- Lowers disposal costs
- Protects the marine environment



Plastic Waste Processor (PWP)



NAVSUP Reusable Mug



Icon indicates material is biodegradable in the ocean

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