



SIGMA-ALDRICH

3050 Spruce Street
Saint Louis, Missouri 63103 USA
Telephone 800-521-8956 • (314) 771-5765
Fax 800-325-5052 • (314) 771-5757
sigma-aldrich.com

Sigma-Aldrich's chemical plants in St. Louis, Missouri use a large volume of solvents (i.e., acetone, ethanol and methanol) in our chemical processing operations. In 1994, approximately 960,000 gallons of spent solvent was sent off-site for disposal. Of the 960,000 gallons, approximately 91% was sent to an EPA-approved incinerator. Since 1994, Sigma-Aldrich has continually investigated better alternatives to incinerating our spent solvents. During the last decade, the following listed alternatives have been most beneficial:

- (1) High-BTU value spent solvents are sent to an EPA-approved cement kiln for use as fuel.
- (2) Third-party direct reuse of spent methanol in windshield wiper fluid and as a "feed product" for bio-organisms used in wastewater treatment plants.
- (3) Third-party reclamation and re-use of spent industrial ethanol in the production of "gasohol", a more environmentally friendly fuel.

In 2005, of the 627,425 gallons of spent solvent shipped off-site, 99.8% were handled through reuse/recycle/substitution technologies in lieu of incineration. Going forward, Sigma-Aldrich commits to continuing to evaluate even more environmentally friendly technologies for all of our wastes.