

PreKote®

Surface Pretreatment



Delta Air Lines Accepts EPA Award for Use of Nontoxic Materials on Aircraft
Airline leads way in reducing toxins in aircraft painting process

ATLANTA, May 15, 2008 -- Delta Air Lines (NYSE: DAL) today was presented an award by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Design for the Environment (DFE) program for the airline's use of PreKote, an environmentally friendly, non-chromium surface pretreatment on its aircraft.

PreKote Surface Pretreatment is a Pantheon Chemical product and replaces hazardous chemicals traditionally used to improve paint adhesion and prevent corrosion. In addition, PreKote reduces water usage by two-thirds, significantly reduces wastewater treatment and cuts process time.

"The PreKote product has resulted in better and more consistent paint adhesion, which combined with a more efficient process is a win-win for Delta TechOps," said Joseph McDermott, director of Base Maintenance for Delta TechOps.

The environmentally friendly product is also improving Delta's bottom-line by putting aircraft back in the air sooner. With time improvement of eight to 10 percent, Delta estimates it will save more than \$1 million annually by reducing the overall turn time for painting aircraft.

"EPA is pleased to recognize Delta Air Lines for implementing environmentally friendly practices in the pretreatment of its aircraft," said EPA Air, Pesticides and Toxics Regional Division Director Beverly Banister. "Delta's actions demonstrate their leadership in environmental stewardship."

"We are pleased to be partnering with Delta TechOps to help reduce water usage and improve their painting processes," said Pantheon Chemical CEO, Laura Roberts. "This is an important step in the aerospace industry's efforts to eliminate toxins in the painting of aircraft."

The use of PreKote is part of Delta's company-wide commitment to the environment and worker safety.



From Left to Right: **Tony Charaf** (President, Delta Tech Ops), **Beverly Houston Banister** (Director, EPA), **Laura Roberts** (CEO, Pantheon Chemical), **Russell Ragsdale** (Lead Engineer, Delta Airlines), **Mike Luff** (Manager-Base Maintenance, Delta Airlines), **Tommy Vinci** (Foreman – Aircraft Refinishing, Delta Airlines).

