



Contact: Don Wall, 817-929-8368  
Jodi Jenkins, 817-584-0774

Rick Kiernan, 703-664-2687  
Vice President, Strategic Communications, MPRI  
David Biderman, 202-364-3743  
Safety Director, NSWMA

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**For immediate release**

**SIMULATION PROVIDES UNIQUE SAFETY TRAINING FOR TRUCK DRIVERS**

North Central Texas area truck drivers responsible for the collection of solid waste and recyclable materials on Wednesday (March 12, 2008) participated in a national state-of-the-art, simulator-based safety training program under a grant provided by the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Dallas was one of 12 cities nationwide selected for the tour.

**Safety is a top concern in the \$50 billion solid waste industry with waste collection frequently identified as a high hazard occupation. On any weekday, thousands of trash trucks are on the region's roadways.** Simulators are a valuable training tool, providing drivers the opportunity to practice complex driving scenarios in a risk free environment. Trainees experienced standard classroom and computer-based training, as well as hands-on driving time on MPRI's state-of-the-art TranSim VS IV driver simulator, the first to run software specifically tailored for refuse truck drivers.

The National Solid Wastes Management Association (NSWMA) selected MPRI to deliver the innovative training to drivers in 12 cities across the United States. MPRI is a global leader in vehicle and maritime simulator products headquartered in Alexandria, VA who recently expanded into the waste industry. Allied Waste Services is hosting the regional event in Hutchins, its south Dallas County location.

“Safety should be a top priority for every member of NSWMA. We believe this is the largest, most accessible driving training program available to date,” said David Biderman, NSWMA safety director. “We are confident that this program supports our goal to reduce accidents and injuries involving solid waste collection vehicles and employees.”

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NSWMA is a trade association representing for-profit companies in North America that provide municipal and industrial waste collection, recycling and disposal services as well as companies that provide professional and consulting services to the waste services industry.

“Every member of our collection teams receive on-going safety training,” said Jim Lattimore, Market Vice President, North Texas District. “Allied Waste values the hands-on training that simulation provides.”

Allied Waste Services is a d/b/a of Allied Waste Systems, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Allied Industries, Inc., the second largest, non-hazardous solid waste management company in the United States. Allied's annual revenues are over \$5 billion with assets of nearly \$14 billion.

The campaign kicked off in Louisville, Ky., on March 3, and continues throughout the month in Chicago, St. Louis, Dallas, Atlanta, Philadelphia, New York and Boston, as well as Memphis, Tenn.; Raleigh, N.C.; Tulsa, Okla.; and Washington, D.C.

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