

Waste Isolation Pilot Plant  
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## Washington TRU Solutions News

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### **WIPP Earns Award for Recycling**

**CARLSBAD, N.M., April 26, 2006** – The U.S. Department of Energy’s Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) was recently selected as one of the 2006 “Federal Electronics Recycling and Reuse Challenge” winners. WIPP competed in the South Region, Civilian Category of medium facilities with 151 to 1,000 employees.

The Challenge is designed to encourage federal facilities and agencies to recycle electronic equipment such as computers, printers and monitors. Winners are selected based on the total pounds of equipment recycled between November 15, 2005 and April 22, 2006. During this five-month period, Washington TRU Solutions (WTS), the Energy Department’s management and operating contractor at WIPP, recycled more than 15,000 pounds of electronic equipment.

A representative from the WTS property management section attended award ceremonies at the White House on April 21 to accept the award on behalf of the WIPP project.

“Through the diligent efforts of the WTS property management team, electronic equipment that may have otherwise ended up in a scrap pile or landfill will now be reused in a very positive way on another government project,” said Diane Snow, administrative specialist for the Department of Energy’s Carlsbad Field Office, who managed the government property transfer. “This award is a credit to WTS and the entire facility for the dedication and importance placed on the recycling program at WIPP.”

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The Carlsbad Field Office entered into a memorandum of understanding with UNICOR Federal Prison Industries, Inc. in December 2005. Shipments are picked up and recycled by UNICOR at no cost to WIPP. UNICOR employs federal prison inmates to rebuild the equipment, while at the same time teaching inmates valuable skills.

WIPP, a cornerstone of DOE's cleanup effort, is the world's first repository for the permanent disposal of defense-generated transuranic radioactive waste left from research and production of nuclear weapons. WTS has managed WIPP for the U.S. Department of Energy for more than 20 years.