

# News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Media Contact:**

Jeannine Addams, Kristin Wohlleben  
J. Addams & Partners, Inc.  
404.231.1132 office  
[jfaddams@jaddams.com](mailto:jfaddams@jaddams.com)  
[kwohlleben@jaddams.com](mailto:kwohlleben@jaddams.com)

**PULL-A-PART CAPTURES RECORD NUMBER  
OF MERCURY SWITCHES FROM OLD VEHICLES**  
***Prevents Potential Pollution of 33.6 Billion Gallons of Water***

**Atlanta, Georgia – October 16, 2014** – Pull-A-Part, ([www.pullapart.com](http://www.pullapart.com)) the award-winning family business serving the do-it-yourself, used auto parts market, has achieved a milestone in the national effort to prevent mercury contamination in the environment caused by mercury switches in old cars. At its 28 used auto parts superstores in 12 states, the company has captured more than 255,178 mercury switches from old cars before making the vehicles available to consumers to pull and purchase used auto parts.

Mercury switches can release a significant amount of mercury into the environment if they're not removed from old cars before the vehicles are crushed and shredded for recycling. Each switch, about the size of an acorn, contains enough mercury to contaminate 132,000 gallons of water above U.S. EPA drinking water standards. The mercury switches collected by Pull-A-Part contain 561 pounds of mercury, preventing the pollution of more than 33.6 billion gallons of water, enough to fill a 1,034-acre lake 100 feet deep.

Many vehicles produced before 2003 included mercury switches – devices that control the convenience lighting in hoods and trunks and in some anti-lock braking systems. While the switches are not used in today's new cars, many vehicles with mercury switches still are on the road or headed into used auto parts businesses.

Pull-A-Part operates a network of do-it-yourself used auto part superstores while providing high quality scrap metal, fluids and plastics for recycling. Automobiles are the leading recycled product in the United States, and Pull-A-Part developed an innovative reclamation and recycling process that reduces the amount of waste from each end-of-life car by 21 percent when compared to typical shredded vehicles.

The company has served on the Steering Committee of the National Vehicle Mercury Switch Recovery Program (NVMSRP) <http://www.epa.gov/earlink1/mercury/archive/switch/index.html> since the program was established in 2006. The NVMSRP was designed to recover an estimated 40 million mercury-containing switches from scrap vehicles that are melted to make new steel, with the goal of collecting 80 to 90 percent of available mercury switches by 2017.

In 2008, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency National Partnership for Environmental Priorities (NPEP) selected Pull-A-Part as the only company in the country to be awarded with the Achievement Award for Recycling Mercury Switches, acknowledging the company for its leadership in the industry and for exceeding its goals for mercury reduction. The EPA also

selected an Atlanta Pull-A-Part superstore to be the site where mercury switch #1,000,000 in the NVMSRP program was pulled from an old car.

“Our success in capturing mercury switches for recycling stems from the intentional commitment of Pull-A-Part to set the standard for handling and recycling end-of-life vehicles, and Pull-A-Part will maintain its active participation in the NVMSRP until the program achieves its goals,” said Ross Kogon, President and Chief Executive Officer of Pull-A-Part. “The management of end-of-life vehicles directly affects air quality, water purity and the volume of waste sent to landfills, and the rigorous Pull-A-Part reclamation and recycling process prevents water pollution and reduces waste sent to landfills while conserving resources.”

#

**Editor’s Note:**

Pull-A-Part, with headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, is an award-winning family business serving the do-it-yourself, used auto parts market. By developing a unique operating system based on customer service and environmental responsibility, Pull-A-Part has transformed what was once thought of as the junkyard into a sustainable recycling business. Founded in 1997, Pull-A-Part operates a network of 28 used auto parts superstores in 12 states. The company has been acclaimed for outstanding corporate citizenship by federal, state and local organizations.

The company has made an exceptional commitment to resource conservation, waste reduction and pollution prevention. This orientation allows Pull-A-Part to provide affordable used auto parts to do-it-yourself consumers, while providing high quality scrap metal, fluids and plastics for recycling. Recycling diverts these materials from the waste stream and helps protect the air, water and soil from pollution.

More information is available at: [www.pullapart.com](http://www.pullapart.com), [www.facebook.com/pullapartauto](https://www.facebook.com/pullapartauto). and [www.twitter.com/pullapartauto](https://www.twitter.com/pullapartauto).