Labeling Standard for Non-Mercury Automotive Hood and Trunk Lid Lighting Assemblies

Objective:

To enable the identification of automotive lighting assemblies that have had mercury switches replaced with non-mercury switches.

Why label lighting assemblies?

The green dot label will allow end-of-life processors of the vehicles to spot lighting assemblies that do not need to be removed from the vehicle. This will eliminate confusion about which vehicles have had mercury switches replaced by in-use programs designed to capture mercury before end-of-life processing.

Who will do the labeling?

Anyone doing the work of replacing a mercury switch in an automotive hood or trunk lid lighting assembly, as part of an in-use replacement program, will be responsible for marking the re-assembled unit containing a non-toxic ball-bearing switch with the green dot.

Where will the label be placed?

The green dot will be placed directly on the lighting assembly directly after the mercury switch has been replaced and will be positioned to allow ease of viewing when a vehicle trunk or hood lid is open. The placement of the green dot on trunk lid assemblies that are recessed in cavities to the right or left of the trunk lid latch will be on one of the two hex bolts that secures the lighting assembly to the trunk lid.

What will the standard label look like?

The label will be a green dot that will be between 1/8th and 3/8ths of an inch in diameter and the color of green will be any shade of green lighter than Kelly green. The green dot will be a painted on material and should have the qualities of good adherence and durability.

Examples:

The types of automotive lighting assemblies that are amenable to replacement are limited to a few types that are found in Chrysler, GM, and Ford vehicles. It is estimated that 20-40% of automotive lighting assemblies found in Chrysler, GM, and Ford vehicles (1950 - 2001, Chrysler ending in 1997) contain mercury switches that can be replaced without destroying the assembly. Some of the common types that can be replaced are included in the following examples.
GM HOOD 1970 - 2001

GM HOOD 1980 - 2001 (Mostly Chevrolet Caprice and Lumina)
FORD HOOD & TRUNK 1960? - 2001

CHRYSLER HOOD 1980 - 1996