

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN



Date: September 24, 2008

**Contact: Christina Ragsdale, SMAQMD, 916-874-4810
David Orton, CSS, 541-953-5139**

NEW NATOMAS SHOWROOM FEATURES CLEAN AIR, FUEL-SAVING SOLUTIONS FOR TRUCKERS

SACRAMENTO, CA – The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District and Cascade Sierra Solutions, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the air quality and fuel economy of the nation's truck fleet, today celebrated the opening of a new showroom in Sacramento's Natomas community.

"We support this effort because it both reduces air emissions and saves fuel – which reduces global warming," said Larry Greene, Executive Director of the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District. "Diesel particulate matter is more carcinogenic than all other outdoor pollutants combined, so this is a priority for us. That's why we have worked with the Air Resources Board to obtain \$1 million in grant funds to Cascade Sierra Solutions for particulate matter filter retrofits for trucks operating in California."

The District provided \$200,000 in funding for construction of the Natomas showroom and facilitated an additional \$200,000 in Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) grant funding for showroom technology displays and outreach to the trucking community.

Cascade Sierra Solutions is a non-profit organization that was formed in 2006 to bring fuel-saving, cost-saving and environmentally beneficial technology to the heavy-duty diesel truck fleet in its own backyard. They do this by showcasing and installing equipment conforming to EPA's SmartWay guidelines which results in increases in efficiency and reductions in emissions through aerodynamics, weight reduction, fuel efficient tires and exhaust filtering. The Sacramento showroom is the third on the West Coast but the first in California.

"Cascade Sierra Solutions is leading the way by reaching out to thousands of truckers to help them save fuel, save money and save the environment," said Wayne Natri, the EPA's administrator for the Pacific Southwest region. "We are here to celebrate the opening of the first CSS outreach center in California that helps put cleaner trucks on the road and improves the air quality up and down the West Coast."

"Cascade Sierra's new center serves as an invaluable resource for operators to obtain information regarding state regulations, view the latest clean air and efficiency-improving technologies, and learn about the best overall operating practices," said ARB Executive Officer James Goldstene.

(more)

"The timing of this opening couldn't be better since two months from now ARB will vote on one of the most important measures ever taken to clean up diesel trucks. This center will go a long way in educating truckers on the clean air regulations they need to comply within California, while also informing them to the various technical and financial assistance programs available to meet those rules."

"Our goal is to retrofit or replace 30,000 heavy duty trucks by 2013 and save 1 billion gallons of diesel over the life of those trucks, which represents 18 times the cargo capacity of the Exxon Valdez in fuel savings," said Sharon Banks, CEO of Cascade Sierra Solutions.

The Center is located in the 49'er Travel Center at 2828 El Centro Road in Sacramento. The hours are Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 6:00 pm and Saturday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. Phone is 866-345-3390 Toll Free or 916-564-6611. Email is wayne@cascadesierrasolutions.org

#