

Interagency Pollution Prevention Advisory Team (IPPAT)
Thursday, October 24, 2002

MEETING SUMMARY

Agenda

U.S. Army Reserves EMS Programs & Partnership Opportunities between Army Reserves and Minnesota
Upcoming Revisions to the State Contract for Cleaning Products
Employee Transit Benefits at Our Agencies
MnGREAT! Winners Project Descriptions

U.S. Army Reserves EMS Programs & Partnership Opportunities between Army Reserves and Minnesota

Steve Bragg, Minnesota State Environmental Manager, U.S. Army Reserves, 612/713-3802

The 88TH Regional Support Command of the U. S. Army Reserves will be employing an Environmental Management System (EMS) required by Executive Order 13148 Requirements. Executive Order 13148 (signed on April 22, 2000, by President Clinton) is titled "Greening the Government through Leadership in Environmental Management" states that Installations will develop an EMS and can use ISO14001 or EPA's Code of Environmental Management Principles (CEMP). The US Army has opted to use the ISO 14001 format. The US Army already has Strong Environmental Program with many EMS Elements already in place. The Regional Support Command is planning to begin implementation in fiscal year 2004 with a draft EMS in place by December 31, 2005, pending funding is provided. Full conformance is required by fiscal year 2009. Third Party Registration is optional.

The EMS elements contain a statement of policy - what the organization is committing to do - approved and signed by the Commander.

In the planning section, the EMS considers the environmental character of the organization, legal and other requirements (laws and regulations that apply), and objectives and targets (improvement goals).

The implementation and operations section of the EMS outlines the structure and responsibility (developing the System) and how the organization plans to train and develop competence. It also provides a plan for EMS documentation and operational control, providing ongoing control of significant aspects of operation. It contains an emergency planning and response plan for unexpected occurrences and provides guidelines for communication.

The checking and corrective actions section of the EMS provides for monitoring and measurement, part of an ongoing evaluation of the system and the legal compliance of the organization. It includes conformances, corrective and preventive actions (fixing the system), keeping records, conducting EMS audits (periodic spot checks of the system), with third party certification when indicated. The measurements are followed by a management review, which involves fixing any problems and providing continual improvement.

One of the elements of an EMS is monitoring and measuring the performance of the program. The US Army Reserves conducts these evaluations using their Environmental Compliance Assessment System (ECAS). An ECAS consists of 13 Protocols:

- Air Emissions Management
- Cultural Resources Management
- Hazardous Materials Management
- Hazardous Waste Management
- Natural Resources Management
- Other Environmental Issues (NEPA, Noise and P2)
- Pesticide Management
- Petroleum, Oil and Lubricant Management
- Solid Waste Management
- Storage Tank Management
- Toxic Substances Management
- Waste Water Management
- Water Quality Management

External ECASs are conducted every four years, with internal ones conducted on the off years. The ECAS follows a standard inspection checklist, and all findings are reported. Corrective actions are required for all findings, and completion of

corrective actions must be reported, with all reports are reviewed by Management They will have a web-based reporting system in the near future which will improve the process.

P2 Partnerships

P2 partnership opportunities between the Federal Government and The Great State of Minnesota are available and have a number of benefits.

The 88th RSC have formalized Partnerships in five of the six states in their operating region. Formal agreements exist between the federal government and Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin. The participants of these agreements are the state environmental agency, the USEPA, and the Department of Defense.

The participants have established a charter with a vision statement, a mission statement, and goals. They hold quarterly meetings, hosted by different members of the partnership at different locations. Minutes are provided to members after each meeting. Benefits to all of us living in the same yard are that such a partnership provides a better understanding and insight into each organization and allows technology and information exchange, and it fosters and maintains the working relationship among the different organizations.

Upcoming Revisions to the State Contract for Cleaning Products

Mike Liles, Office of Environmental Assistance, 651/215-0220

The current state contract for cleaning products Contract Release Number C-252 has been active since February 1998. For it vendors were asked to include information about environmental attributes for the first time. Products were evaluated and ranked according to criteria created by a workgroup. Products earned points for environmental criteria (0-90 points), and performance (0-90 points). The environmental criteria included

- Human health and safety,
- Ecological stressors,
- Packaging, and
- Synthetic dyes and fragrances

The environmental criteria were transformed into a certification form, and each question on form given point value. Products needed minimum of 60 points to pass environmental criteria and a minimum of 60 points to pass performance criteria. 33 product categories were listed on contract.

The upcoming state contract for cleaning products is a multi-state approach, coordinated by the Center for New American Dream. Partners include the states of Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, and Washington, King County, Washington, and the cities of Phoenix, Arizona, Santa Monica, California, and Seattle, Washington, and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. Green Seal provides much of the documentation for environmental criteria. **Green Seal is an independent, non-profit organization with no financial interest in the products that it certifies or recommends nor in any manufacturer or company. It uses state-of-the-art scientific evaluations using internationally accepted methodologies. Its primary research partner is the Center for Clean Products and Clean Technologies at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. More information is available at www.greenseal.org.**

The new request for proposals contains different specifications for different product categories. The specifications for Product Categories 1- 3 - General Purpose Cleaners, Bathroom Cleaners, and Glass Cleaners - have some mandatory health and environmental specifications. These include:

- ✓ Toxicity
- ✓ Carcinogens and reproductive toxins
- ✓ Skin and eye irritation
- ✓ Skin sensitization
- ✓ Combustibility
- ✓ Photochemical smog, tropospheric ozone production, and indoor air quality
- ✓ Aquatic Toxicity
- ✓ Eutrophication (nutrient loading)
- ✓ Aquatic biodegradability
- ✓ Whether the product comes as a concentrate
- ✓ Whether the product contains fragrances
- ✓ Whether the product contains any prohibited ingredients

Product Categories 4-5 have different criteria. They are disinfectants and sanitizers and floor care products (3 applications) - floor finishes, floor strippers, and maintenance products.

Disinfectants and sanitizers must meet the mandatory health and environmental specifications listed above except for biodegradability. They must exhibit a volatile organic compound (VOC) limit of less than 1% and must be registered by the

US EPA. Floor finishes must be free of heavy metals, and it is desirable that they contain no phthalates, glycol ethers or ammonia. Floor strippers must be free of heavy metals, and it's desirable that they have pH between 2.5 and 12, exhibit a VOC limit less than 1%, and contain no glycol ethers or ammonia. Maintenance products must be free of heavy metals, and it's desirable that they contain no phthalates. They should exhibit a VOC limit less than 1% and should not contain glycol ethers or ammonia.

For more information, contact Mike Liles, Environmentally Preferable Purchasing specialist for the Office of Environmental Assistance, 651-215-0220, or check the website www.moea.state.mn.us/lc/purchasing.

Employee Transit Benefits at Our Agencies

The Downtown Minneapolis Transportation Management Organization (TMO), Minnesotans for an Energy Efficient Economy, the St. Paul TMO, Metro Commuter Services, and Metro Transit received a MnGREAT! award for their promotion of employee transit benefits. This program resulted in a 30 percent increase in bus ridership at participating businesses, with an estimated annual reduction of over 1.6 million gallons of gasoline consumed. The reduced gasoline use in turn resulted in reductions in emissions of over 16,000 tons of carbon dioxide, along with over 1,000 tons of carbon monoxide and 310 tons of ground level ozone precursors. David Van Hattum from the Downtown Minneapolis TMO described their program and discussed how state agencies can take advantage of such programs.

Specific programs discussed by David included MetroPass, UPass, other employer discounted passes, pretax payroll deduction for transit passes, and van pools. There was discussion of how state agencies can implement these programs on their own or collectively. Upass has been extended for two years, and MetroPass will continue, also, although the costs of the program to the individual will increase. Ned Brooks noted that for a regular transit user, it still is a great deal, for the environment and for people getting to and from work. The Van pool program has established a cost break when purchasing the van. The Metropolitan Council pays half the cost of the van. Check the website <http://www.metrocommuterservice.org> for more information about all the programs.

Dave distributed a Transit Benefits Guide, which provides employers with easy instructions on taking advantage of transit benefits and other activities, such as commuter surveys, information fairs and seminars. With the variety of transit benefits promoted by the partnering organizations, both large and small employers have the opportunity to promote transit benefits to reduce air pollution.

MnGREAT! Winners Project Descriptions

Several MnGREAT! winners described their projects and received thanks from the IPPAT members. Ned Brooks described the Living Green Expo with all its challenges and successes. Although the weather on the day of the Expo was terrible, more than 5,000 people attended. Ned and the steering committee for the Expo won a MnGREAT! special recognition award.

Gene Christenson described the University of Minnesota programs in the Facilities Management Department that won a MnGREAT! award for its continuous improvement approach to all departments and operations, including energy conservation, environmentally preferable purchasing, mercury reduction, and the adoption of green architectural principles. He said that they plan to use oat hulls in their power plant to eliminate mercury emissions from the coal they have been using.

Dan Bryant described the way the Department of Natural Resources Facilities and Operation Support Bureau had employed the principles of sustainable architecture, as stated in the Minnesota Sustainable Design Guide, when designing DNR regional office buildings in Tower and Windom. The integrated approach they used included land use, site design, indoor air quality, and materials selection, along with water, energy, and waste considerations. He said that the DNR has learned a lot by using the sustainable design guide. They co-located offices to serve the public in a more integrated way.

Gloria Sonnen described how the Department of Administration Materials Management Division and its electronics contracts committee had put in place an electronics disposal contract that specifies that no component materials from used electronics are exported overseas for management. She said that other states are contacting her for advice on language that they can use in their contracts, also, to prevent improper disposal abroad. Contact Gloria for a copy.

Bill Hill described the education programs about waste reduction that The Department of Administration's Resource Recovery Office uses and talked about how they are promoting the reuse of office supplies from the state recycling center. That promotion resulted in 13 agencies obtaining free supplies 91 times from the facility, and since the award, there have been requests for a lot more reused supplies.

Sandy Dunn described the project The Department of Agriculture's Dairy and Food Inspection Division implemented to remove and replace all the mercury manometers in Minnesota dairy barns. This project removed more than a half-ton of mercury from the environment.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the IPPAT will be on the fourth Wednesday of January, which is **January 23, 2003**. We will begin sharing our pollution prevention summary reports for 2002.

Attendees

Gene Christenson, University of Minnesota 612/626-1590
John Bryan, Metropolitan Transit 612/349-7680
Gordon Specht, Department of Administration 651/215-0418
Lynne Markus, Department of Administration 651/296-9084
Mary Krugerud, Department of Administration 651/282-6640
Gloria Sonnen, Department of Administration 651/297-2954
Ed Chromey, Department of Agriculture 651/297-8052
Sandra Dunn, Department of Agriculture 651/297-2133
Steven Bragg, U.S. Army Reserves 612/713-3802
Mark Vogel, Department of Transportation 651/284-3790
Mark Koetke, Department of Corrections 651/642-0277
Dan Bryant, Department of Natural Resources 651/297-1365
Al Innes, Pollution Control Agency 651/296-7330
Gordy Dormanen, Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Agency 218-254-7967
Mike Nevala, Metropolitan Council Environmental Services 651/602-1065
David Cera, Office of Environmental Assistance 651/215-0240
John Gilkeson, Office of Environmental Assistance 651/215-0199
Mike Liles, Office of Environmental Assistance 651/215-0220
Emily Moore, Office of Environmental Assistance 651/215-0201