

Environmental Management Systems and Electronic Management Tools - Facilitating Organizational Change (How to have people change even when they don't want to)

Presenter(s)

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Abstract Text

Implementing organizational change can be challenging, especially when change involves reassigning accountability to various departments. A well designed Environmental Health and Safety Management system can:

- Clarify roles and responsibilities;
- Improve an institution's performance and ability to address situations and issues; and
- Facilitate effective auditing, training, and emergency response and preparedness programs.

Electronic compliance information management tools can be designed and equipped to ensure that regulatory and institution specific compliance requirements are never missed and mandatory records are automatically generated. A well designed electronic tool can also:

- Memorialize accountability for tasks and deadlines;
- Facilitate effective communication of information;
- Identify/assign accountability; and
- Serve as the mechanism for a proactive approach to managing compliance obligations.

Presenter Bio(s)

Dan Winograd is a project manager and a Vice-President at Woodard & Curran, with 18 years of experience in environmental law and regulatory compliance. He served 11 years as a senior attorney for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency from 1989 to 2001, and from 2001 to 2004 was environmental counsel at MIT. While at MIT, he had a leading role in designing and implementing major portions of the environmental health and safety management system for the entire MIT campus, including developing the management system organizational structure that addressed the key system roles and responsibilities; an accountability and incentive framework; a process for identifying potential hazards; and an inspection/audit program of MIT laboratories and other facilities.

Dan currently works with the Woodard & Curran compliance group focusing on environmental management systems, environmental compliance audits, regulatory assistance and training, and environmental permitting projects for colleges and universities and medical facilities. He has assisted a major medical network in evaluating

its EMS and identifying needs for enhancements and improvements, and has assisted a major research facility in preparing to obtain ISO 14001 certification. He has also worked to develop an on-line electronic training program for universities and other research facilities that includes on-line hazardous waste and biomedical waste training courses and on-line tests.