

FISCAL YEAR 2009 PROJECT Assistance & Pollution Prevention

Assistance & Pollution Prevention Measures

Project Strategy: Help state P2 and compliance assistance programs to present comprehensive data on their activities and results to policy makers, agency managers, EPA, and others.

NEWMOA has been facilitating a regional project to help states implement a set of metrics for states to use in tracking their pollution prevention (P2) and compliance assistance (CA) activities for over ten years to:

- effectively communicate the activities and accomplishments of the state and local agencies to policy makers
- improve program management
- measure progress toward goals
- provide program funders with relevant activity and outcome information

The NEWMOA project began with formation of a P2 Metrics Workgroup, consisting of state P2 and CA program representatives, and development of a 1998 NEWMOA report, *Pollution Prevention Progress in the Northeast*, that documents the accomplishments and activities of 16 P2 and CA programs in the region from 1990 – 1996. Following publication of the report, NEWMOA worked with the P2 Metrics Workgroup to develop a menu of 40 activity and outcome environmental assistance and pollution prevention metrics. The NEWMOA Workgroup developed a common software program to support state implementation of the menu. NEWMOA developed a Microsoft Access-based database and issued Version 1.0 in 2002, Version 2.0 in 2003, Version 2.5 in 2004, and Version 2.75 in 2005. The *P2 and CA Metrics Software* contains four sections for program activities: client project; production of educational material; workshop/training event; and respond to information request. The database system tracks environmental, behavioral, and economic outcomes relating to these activities. NEWMOA has developed a data dictionary and a user's manual and trained state programs on the use of the database. In 2004 NEWMOA developed interactive reports to aggregate data from the database and trained users in how to input data, output reports, and manage the software. From 2004 – present, NEWMOA has helped initiate and co-chair a National P2 Results Task Force, a joint partnership of the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable (NPPR) and the Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx).

Starting in FY 2005, in a parallel track to the continued support and development of the Metrics Software, NEWMOA began working with the P2Rx Centers and the National P2 Results Task Force on the development and roll-out of the National P2 Results Data System. This system is designed to aggregate and present readily available data on waste reduction and resource efficiency efforts from public agencies nationally. The P2 Results Data System quantifies P2 progress related to air, water, waste, and energy resources. The System is designed to translate P2 progress into the context of such bigger-picture issues as climate change, habitat, and sustainability.

The National Pollution Prevention Results Data System is designed to assist pollution prevention programs by:

- Providing a data repository for their activity, behavioral change, and outcome measures
- Providing secure, aggregated program-level reports
- Providing regional reports aggregating pollution prevention results and showing improvements for each region
- Providing nationally aggregated results for the NPPR, U.S. EPA, and the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
- Demonstrating the value-added service provided by pollution prevention program efforts through the implementation of customized cost calculators

NEWMOA is a participant in this initiative as the Regional P2Rx Center for EPA Regions 1 and 2.

In FY 2009, NEWMOA took over as the lead for the National P2 Results Data System. NEWMOA will lead future development of the National P2 Results Data System, collect feedback from users of the system, and plan for future upgrades. NEWMOA will continue to support the National P2 Results Task Force, manage a regional module of the National P2 Results Data System on its website in coordination with the other P2Rx Centers, finish developing an updated version (3.0) of the NEWMOA P2 & CA Measurement Software and disseminate it.

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