

FISCAL YEAR 2009 PROJECT Assistance & Pollution Prevention

Energy & Materials Flow & Cost Tracker (EMFACT)

Project Strategy: develop and disseminate widespread training on an effective and easy-to-use materials use and profitability software tool.

For over 15 years since the passage of the Pollution Prevention Act, manufacturers and government agencies have consistently faced the challenge of poor information systems for evaluating pollution prevention (P2) opportunities. Successful pollution prevention is based on an entity's ability to understand and improve its choice and use of materials and the associated financial impacts. This project will build upon the current scientific and engineering applications of environmental management accounting as a critical aspect of sustainable production and P2. Short term success will be the development and dissemination of and widespread training on an effective and easy-to-use materials use and profitability software tool, called the Energy and Materials Flow and Cost Tracker (EMFACT). The long term success would be the widespread and routine adoption and utilization of the tool and associated improvements in efficiency and reductions in emissions and wastes among the users of the tool.

NEWMOA has been cooperating with the Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance (MA OTA) for Toxics Use Reduction on managing this project and pilot testing the tool. The primary beneficiaries of this project would be those companies and organizations that implement the materials use and profitability tool to aid them in setting P2 priorities, identifying value-added opportunities for sustainable production, and implementing other materials and energy efficiency improvements. The state and local environmental and technical assistance programs and private sector consultants would also be key beneficiaries because having the proposed tool would improve their effectiveness in helping companies identify P2 opportunities and in quantifying the benefits and costs of prevention programs and strategies for key policy makers. A key beneficiary would be the public that benefits from the pollution that is prevented through the use of the tool, including wastes and emissions that are reduced during manufacturing, transportation, and raw materials production. For more information on EMFACT, visit <http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/emfact/index.cfm>.

In FY 2009, NEWMOA will finish developing the proposed software tool, enable users to download it from the website, develop and conduct training workshops, and develop and launch an e-learning module on EMFACT.

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