

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

PART II. VOLUNTARY PROGRAMS OF BROADER INTEREST TO THE SECTOR

CHEMALLIANCE

ChemAlliance is an EPA-supported Compliance Assistance Center, dedicated to helping chemical manufacturers develop cost-effective regulatory compliance strategies. Through a partnership with the Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturers Association (SOCMA), the American Chemistry Council (ACC), the National Association of Chemical Distributors (NACD), and the Consumer Specialty Products Association (CSPA), ChemAlliance serves as a gateway to sector-specific information resources and plain language compliance materials. Specialty-batch chemical companies and facilities can take advantage of ChemAlliance by using the information and tools on the program website (listed below).

Goals

Help chemical companies and facilities understand their environmental obligations, improve compliance, and find cost-effective ways to comply.

Program Components

- Up-to-date information on the regulations affecting the chemical sector.
- Industry-specific information on how to use pollution prevention and Environmental Management Systems as part of an effective compliance strategy.
- Regulatory and compliance tools for technical assistance providers and industry professionals.
- Recommendations for cost-effective compliance strategies.
- Regulatory and pollution prevention news, updated several times per week, is available on the web site or as an RSS feed.

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DESIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



EPA's Design for the Environment Program (DfE) promotes pollution prevention and risk reduction through cleaner technologies and safer chemical choices. The program partners with industry sectors, usually through industry leaders and trade association representatives, to assess the costs and benefits of alternative processes, formulations, and emerging technologies within a sector. Specialty-batch chemical manufacturers can participate by working with their trade associations to develop interest in a DfE partnership for their sector. They can also use the models and templates developed by the DfE Program on their own. Associations are encouraged to contact the DfE Program for information on how to either propose a partnership with EPA or initiate projects independently.

Goals

Provide decision-makers with information, tools, and incentives to make informed decisions that integrate environmental, performance, and cost concerns.

Program Components

- Identify risk reduction opportunities within the array of technologies, products, and processes that can be used to perform a particular function within an industry.
- Customize DfE approaches to evaluate the risk, performance, and cost tradeoffs of alternative technologies. DfE approaches include:
 - Cleaner technologies substitute assessments
 - Integrated environmental management systems
 - Life-cycle assessments
 - Best practices
 - Product reformulation
 - Other related tools
- Disseminate information through customized, user-friendly information products.

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GREEN CHEMISTRY



EPA's Green Chemistry program, an initiative under the Design for the Environment program, promotes environmentally conscious design of chemical products and processes. EPA encourages specialty-batch chemical manufacturers, trade associations and other relevant organizations to participate in the Green Chemistry Program by promoting the development of new, or the improvement of existing, chemical products and processes to make them less hazardous to human health and the environment.

Goals

Promote the research, development, and implementation of innovative chemical technologies that accomplish pollution prevention in a scientifically-sound and cost-effective manner.

Program Components

- Green Chemistry Research: Supports basic research in green chemistry in order to provide the tools and methods necessary to develop more environmentally-benign products and processes.
- Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge: Promotes pollution prevention and industrial ecology through high-level recognition in partnership with industry, trade associations, and professional scientific organizations.
- Green Chemistry Education Activities: Supports educational efforts, including the development of materials and courses to assist in the training of professional chemists in industry and the education of students in academia.
- Scientific Outreach: Communicates the concept and science of Green Chemistry through meetings and conferences; publications in trade journals; and computational tools and databases.

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SECTOR STRATEGIES PROGRAM



EPA's Sector Strategies Program works with selected manufacturing and service sectors to continuously improve their environmental performance. The program is currently working with 12 partner sectors, including the specialty-batch chemical sector. Specialty-batch chemical manufacturers benefit from this program by getting a stronger voice in EPA decisions. EPA and state regulators benefit by getting better cooperation, support and problem-solving ideas from industry.

GOALS

Improve the environmental performance of the specialty-batch chemical sector, and other participating sectors, while reducing regulatory burden.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Sector Point-of-Contact: Sector Strategies Program staff members become familiar with the operations and issues of the participating sectors and the EPA programs that affect them. These points-of-contact bring industry and government experts together to listen and learn from each other and take joint actions to improve environmental and economic outcomes.
- Overcoming Barriers to Performance Improvement: Sector teams work to identify and address the most significant barriers to better environmental performance.
- Performance Measurement: The Sector Strategies Program works with trade associations to develop methods to measure and report industry-wide environmental and economic progress using performance indicators, success stories, and other tools.
- Environmental Management Systems: The Sector Strategies Program works with trade associations and other assistance providers to deliver outreach, training resources, and support for increasing EMS use within the sector.

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