

EMS PORTS PARTICIPANTS BENEFITS

PROGRAM SUMMARY

As participants in the Ports II Environmental Management System (EMS) Assistance Project, four world class ports developed and implemented an EMS based on the ISO 14001 International Standards. Over a two year timeframe each participant received training and technical assistance through a four-phased development and implementation approach. The Global Environment & Technology Foundation (GETF) and the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) partnered to provide EMS training, mentoring, and technical assistance to the member ports. Participants were selected based on top management commitment, organizational support, and the willingness to share their experiences with peers, the port community, and affiliated organizations.







The Port of Long Beach improved operational procedures, which will reduce the risk of stormwater runoff from construction projects impacting water quality. These operational procedures have brought increased consistency and efficiency to the department.

WHAT IS AN EMS?

An EMS is a set of management processes and procedures, based upon the ISO 14001 international standard that allows an organization to analyze, control, and improve the environmental consequences of its activities. An EMS makes it easier to find and fix the root causes of potential environmental problems, providing ports with a structured approach for managing environmental responsibilities. Using an EMS, organizations can incorporate strong operational controls and best management practices into existing job descriptions and work instructions. An EMS delivers big benefits – organizations that implement an EMS quickly discover that their investment of time and resources pays off.

PARTICIPANTS:




-  Maryland Port Administration – Baltimore, MD - <http://www.marylandports.com/>
-  Port of Cleveland – Cleveland, OH - <http://www.portofcleveland.com/>
-  Port of Everett – Everett, WA - <http://www.portofeverett.com/home/index.asp>
-  Port of Long Beach – Long Beach, CA - <http://www.polb.com/>

BENEFITS OF ADOPTING AN EMS

Below are some examples of the benefits each port realized, but for a more complete description of benefits, barriers, costs and lessons learned, see individual case studies at www.peercenter.net.

PORT OF EVERETT

The Port of Everett is making great progress in its implementation of the EMS program. The core team has identified some immediate benefits of participating in the EMS program, and continues to look for opportunities to enhance and expand the presence of EMS in our overall operations. Some initial benefits identified include:

-  The EMS has been the focal point for addressing environmental concerns. The Port of Everett uses the EMS program as a platform to enhance employees' awareness of incorporating environmental stewardship into its daily operations.
-  Complying with the environmental regulations as they relate to the EMS programs and our environmental policy is a high priority for the Port of Everett.
-  The Port has established a system for recording and reporting environmental issues that require action from the identified EMS core team.



The EMS has broadcast the Port of Everett's environmental stewardship goals to the public, vendors, and tenants of the Port. The emphasis of the EMS has reinforced the value placed on environmental quality.

PORT OF CLEVELAND



The process of implementing an EMS has helped improve internal communication between staff levels by creating awareness of EMS at all levels of the port staff in order to have acceptance that procedures can be implemented agency-wide.

The Environmental Management System ultimately will be implemented port-wide with a major emphasis on the ongoing study to relocate all port operations to a future USACE confined disposal facility (CDF) site and a Trans-Erie Ferry Terminal. In addition, the EMS serves as a resource for the staff and potentially local interests regarding environmental issues.

PORT OF LONG BEACH



The Port of Long Beach (POLB) developed an EMS with a fenceline of purchasing and procurement within the Engineering Bureau, and in doing so, demonstrated that a procedural-based EMS can be effective in meeting the needs of the Bureau and the overall goals of the Port. The EMS is being used as a tool to integrate the Port's commitment to sustainability into engineering business practices.

Narrowing in on the procurement of construction services, the EMS Core Team evaluated standard operations and eventually identified procedures that could impact storm water control on construction sites. This exercise not only pinpointed efforts to strengthen current procedures, but resulted in the clarification of roles and responsibilities. Another benefit was the opportunity created for communication and greater collaboration between divisions and bureaus.

The tangible benefits of the POLB Engineering Bureau EMS will be measured in such ways as reduced risk of negative impacts, improved standard operating procedures, and centralized documentation of storm water controls on construction sites. A commitment to continual improvement will result in constant assessment and progress in the design, program management, and construction management services at the Port of Long Beach.

MARYLAND PORT ADMINISTRATION

MPA staff from various program areas is sharing ideas and reaching out to port users and stakeholders. This outreach has been particularly effective in the area of stormwater management. Port users are more aware of the requirements and are taking steps to improve their management of stormwater. This outreach model will be used in the future to communicate other environmental initiatives.

Implementing an EMS has provided MPA employees with an increased awareness of environmental issues and stewardship opportunities. All employees are required to undergo basic environmental awareness training, which has resulted in employees being more proactive in identifying and reporting potential environmental concerns.

The EMS development process has led to shared ownership and improved communication on environmental issues and opportunities. The EMS initiative has also engendered an increased sense of community among MPA staff, as everyone recognizes and appreciates that they are all working towards a common goal.



Proactive outreach to MPA tenants, such as providing them with information on regulatory requirements and compliance assistance, has resulted in greater awareness of the potential environmental impacts of tenant operations.



GETF (www.getf.org) is a Virginia-based 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization dedicated to building the infrastructure for sustainable development. A central component of GETF's mission is to promote the use management system approaches. Additional information is available at www.peercenter.net. Contact: Noleen Tillman, 760-944-9398, ntillman@getf.org.



AAPA (www.aapa-ports.org), the alliance of leading ports in the Western Hemisphere, protects and advances the common interests of its diverse membership of public port authorities from throughout the Western Hemisphere as they connect their communities with the global transportation system. Contact: Meredith Martino, AAPA 703-684-5700, mmartino@aapa-ports.org.

SMS PORTS PARTICIPANTS BENEFITS

PROGRAM SUMMARY

As participants in the Ports II Security Management System (SMS) Assistance Project, three world class ports developed and implemented an SMS based on the ISO 28000 International Standards for security of the supply chain. Over a two year timeframe each participant received training and technical assistance through a four-phased development and implementation approach. The Global Environment & Technology Foundation (GETF) and the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) partnered to provide SMS training, mentoring, and technical assistance. Participants were selected based on top management commitment, organizational support, and the willingness to share their experiences with peers, the port community, and affiliated organizations.

WHAT IS AN SMS?

An SMS is a set of Best Management Practices arranged in an easy to follow plan-do-check-act approach. It is similar in structure to Environmental Management Systems, Quality Management Systems, Six Sigma, and CERES Principals. This approach helps ports identify and prioritize their security risks and legal requirements and establish action plans that support their individual Facility Security Plans. The SMS also includes monitoring, measuring and continual improvement opportunities – all done in coordination with the Port’s strategic objectives and legal requirements (e.g., Marine Transportation Act, 33 CFR). The system helps to control and coordinate all related security / police documents and reduce inconsistencies and repetition.



Developing an SMS challenges security managers and staffs to look beyond the physical boundaries of Port property and their responsibilities to evaluate supply-chain, potential business partner risks, and external influences on the Port.

PARTICIPANTS:

- ⚓ Port of Corpus Christi Authority – Corpus Christi, TX - <http://www.portofcorpuschristi.com/>
- ⚓ Port of Long Beach – Long Beach, TX - <http://www.polb.com/>
- ⚓ Port of Portland – Portland, OR - <http://www.portofportland.com/>

BENEFITS OF ADOPTING AN SMS

Below are some examples of the benefits each port realized, but for a more complete description of benefits, barriers, costs, and lessons learned, see individual case studies at www.peercenter.net.



Port security is a dynamic process. Today’s “what-if” scenarios are different than ever before and as we learn more about our risks we find the SMS has been extremely valuable to keep track of decisions that are made at a tremendous rate and to account for the changes in operations that they generate.

PORT OF CORPUS CHRISTI

Documenting policies and procedures where none previously existed helps to establish a chain of approval so that existing decisions are evaluated by the right team of decision makers and efficiently become part of daily business practices.

Port of Corpus Christi’s systematic review of security risks and threats and the operational controls and staff training really help to avoid incidents. A thorough review of our security practices helped POCCA to identify where improvements were needed and where simple changes could be made immediately.

Using SMS monitoring and measuring practices regularly in field audits of police and security staff, helps POCCA verify that our operational controls are being carried out in accordance with Best Management Practices and with our Facility Security Plan.

Corpus Christi has developed a reference handbook for use at gates to quickly ensure Facility Security Plan compliance.

PORT OF LONG BEACH

The Port of Long Beach (POLB) benefited from the valuable communication channels that the SMS Program provided, giving the Port an opportunity to share similar situations and keys to success and collaborate on problem solving with others going through the same process.

The SMS Program encouraged the involvement of line officers and supervisors. The project gave Harbor Patrol Sergeants and Officers critical input into procedures and processes which both engaged and energized them around these sometimes mundane tasks.

POLB benefited from the first hand experience of on-site workshops and demonstration of how other Ports applied the SMS program to their security organization. Program workshops give participants insight into how other ports address problems common to all.

Overall, the SMS project brought a sense of process analysis and continuous improvement to the forefront in Harbor Patrol. The main tenets of the program can be used moving forward to create, maintain, and audit procedures and policies throughout the division. The elements of regular measurement, review and updating of procedures, crucial for a security organization, were much improved by this training.



The structure of the Program, especially the Core Team function, brought together management, administrative staff, and officers in a way that few other projects have and encouraged regular, cross-functional communication. Working together, the group has tackled a number of organizational issues, putting together procedures and developing policy for the Division, including setting up a change board through new document control procedures.

PORT OF PORTLAND



The newly implemented SMS manual supports the Port of Portland's Marine and Aviation strategic objectives of compliance with federal, state, and local regulatory requirements, allowing the Port to quickly make necessary operational changes for compliance.

Through the SMS Program, Portland implemented a formal process for proactively managing security threats and risks and compliance with legal & regulatory requirements that ensures continuous improvement and audit cycle while monitoring and measuring the performance.

By integrating security issues with operations and development decisions, Port staff enhanced communication channels and understanding of departmental duties and responsibilities.

Developing an SMS challenges security managers and staffs to look beyond the physical boundaries of Port property and their responsibilities to evaluate supply-chain, potential business partner risks, and external influences on the Port.



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