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Environmental Audit for Regulatory Compliance and Pollution Prevention



Our Objectives:

- Determine key compliance issues and liabilities
- Determine the best strategy for reduction
- Identify money saving opportunities through changes in material usage, industrial processes and practices
- Provide an action plan for addressing compliance problems and achieving pollution prevention

Benefits for You:

- Reduce liability and exposure
- Improve product quality and minimize waste
- Reduce operating costs and increase profit
- Reduce employee and public health risks
- Contribute to a clean environment and improve corporate image

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In today's highly complex regulatory setting, it can be difficult for industry to know all the applicable regulations to ensure compliance. There is an increasing trend towards strict environmental enforcement by regulatory agencies, sometimes including criminal prosecution.

All these problems create opportunities for progressive companies to take a fresh look at what they do and how they do it. The environmental audit can be a powerful tool for both determining compliance and identifying opportunities for waste minimization, source reduction, and pollution prevention.

WHAT THE AUDIT COVERS

Environmental audits cover a single facility or corporate environmental practice. During the preliminary audit of a facility, we consider all applicable regulations as well as evaluate how and why wastes are generated. A typical audit includes pre-audit preparation, facility inspection, interviews, file review, a debriefing and audit report preparation.

GEC'S METHOD

The first step in conducting an environmental audit is to perform a careful review of the facility. Depending on the timeframe, GEC may choose to target specific plant operations subject to the regulations promulgated by OSHA, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), and other state agencies. GEC audits include evaluations of operations and files regarding the following federal and state regulatory programs: air emissions, wastewater, stormwater, solid waste, hazardous waste, aboveground and underground storage tanks, transportation, chemical safety, emergency response, and general health and safety requirements. GEC also conducts a complete review of existing corporate pollution prevention policies in order to identify opportunities for improvement within the facility. Upon completion of the audit, GEC provides the client with a report discussing the findings along with recommendations for the specific facility. Working closely with your staff, GEC is able to identify options for improvement and assist with the implementation process.

GEC'S EXPERIENCE

GEC staff have completed environmental audits and pollution prevention assessments for a wide range of industries including printing, photo processing, metal plating and finishing, leather goods, paper mills, chemical manufacture, industrial laundries, hospitals, biotech, polymer manufacturing, and electronics.