

CHAPTER 1.

CREATING WASTE INVENTORY LISTS

Regulated wastes and emissions from manufacturing operations can include liquid and solid hazardous wastes, air emissions, and waste water. Manufacturers also produce non-hazardous solid waste. Figure 1 shows typical wastes from a manufacturing environment. Look around your business and consider how this figure applies to you.

Figure 1: Typical Wastes Encountered in Manufacturing

• Aerosol cans	• Hazardous Air Pollutants	• Process water	• Waste acids (hydrochloric, nitric, sulfuric, chromic, etc.)
• Cleaners	• Packaging waste	• Solvent still sludge	• Waste adhesives
• Cleanup sorbents (floor dry)	• Paint-related wastes (sludge, strippers, thinners, etc.)	• Spent hydraulic oil	• Waste batteries/battery fluids
• Contaminated antifreeze	• Paint chips and sandblast media	• Spent processing chemicals and rinsewater	• Waste solvent
• Contaminated fuel	• Parts washer sludge/solvent	• Surface coating materials	
• Contaminated used oil		• Tramp oils	
• Dirty shop towels		• Vehicle maintenance wastes	
• Empty chemical containers		• Volatile organic compound (VOC) air emissions	

Creating a list of all of the waste streams at your facility makes good business sense. An inventory of wastes will:

- Allow you to distinguish between wastes that are considered hazardous, air emissions or water pollutants and wastes that can be recycled or landfilled.
- Help you make changes in your operating practices as regulations change. Since you will know what wastes are considered hazardous and the quantities of these wastes, the impacts of regulations will be easy to identify.
- Guide you on controlling costs associated with meeting your environmental responsibilities.

Develop your own inventory list of hazardous waste streams, air emission sources and water wastes for the processes in your facility. Refer to Figure 1 for lists of common manufacturing wastes to help guide you in identifying the different waste streams your processes generate.

Next, make copies of the worksheets provided below. Fill out the worksheets to inventory your hazardous and solid wastes, air emissions and water pollution sources. Each worksheet

has different instructions, so be sure you record hazardous and solid wastes on the “*Hazardous/Solid Waste Inventory*” worksheet; record air emission sources on the “*Air Emission Sources Inventory*” worksheet; and record water wastes on the “*Water Pollution Sources Inventory*” worksheet. If you use a computer, you may prefer to create your own tables or spreadsheets and enter this information electronically to make calculating and manipulating of the data easier.

Obtain a MSDS for Each Waste on Your Inventory Lists

All businesses are required by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s Hazard Communication (Worker-Right-to-Know) rule to maintain an up-to-date collection of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) for all products used onsite that may affect employee safety or health. You should already be maintaining a full set of relevant MSDSs in a file that is accessible to all employees at your business.

The MSDSs will be used to complete the steps in this workbook. You will need to have a copy of the MSDS for each product that is part of a waste you list on the inventory worksheets. If your file is missing a specific MSDS, the best place to obtain a new one is from the product vendor. Vendors are required by law to generate MSDSs for their products and provide copies on demand to customers. If you are not able to get a MSDS you need from a vendor, other possible sources are specialized libraries or the Internet. Librarians at your state’s or county’s environmental agency or at a local college/university often will have MSDS databases. Check the local government section in your telephone book to find out if an environmental or chemistry library is available to you in a government agency or college. There are also several MSDS databases on the Internet (see to *Appendix A: Internet Resources*).

When you have completed each inventory list, check off these actions on the Checklist on page 2 and go on to the next action.

If you have questions or need help with your waste inventories, see *Appendix B: Contacts List*.

