

Air Compliance News™

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From the Desk of...

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*Sales Associate
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Hello! I recently joined the Air Compliance Testing family as part of their sales team. I have been involved with air testing for more than 15 years. My experience was in consulting with stack testing firms and laboratories. My specialty niche was to provide the correct testing and analytical methods that were required for various air sampling projects—definitely a cozy office job.

Now that I am with Air Compliance Testing, I have gone through an extensive training program designed to help me understand our client's testing needs. I have been in the field every week since I came aboard. My fear of heights had to be overcome immediately. My first job was to perform EPA Method 5 for a compliance test at a steel plant. I was on a stack that was 25 feet high in 87-degree temperatures (*I definitely need to invest in more potent sunscreen*). It wasn't too bad for my first project.

As my training continued, the stacks got taller and taller. The last one I sampled was about 75 feet. I was shaking in my steel-toed boots. I have never seen dirt accumulate in so many strange areas—hint: *don't wear low-rise jeans in the field when you're sampling an incinerator*. I was also concerned I was missing my workouts being in the field so much. Well, from climbing those stacks and lifting equipment up and down the stack and installing monorails, to heck with those spinning classes. My glutes and pecks are killing me! I come home at night filthy and exhausted and my two young daughters won't even hug me until I've showered!

I now know how to sample for EPA Methods 1-5, 7E, 6C, 10, and 25A. I know the requirements of the sections of EPA Method 204. I can calibrate a dry gas meter and do recoveries without even blinking an eyelash. I probably need a bit more training on proper radio etiquette, however (*I assumed "okey-dokey" was the same as "copy" but apparently not*).

But here's what I've learned so far: Stack testers are hard workers who are rarely appreciated. They work very hard

under adverse conditions most of the time with no complaints. They work in hot weather, cold weather, rain, and or snow.

What is really amazing is that I have gotten only a fraction of the training that our testing team receives. But my training and field experience will help me prepare proposals for prospective clients. I understand the degree of difficulty involved in a scope of work. I really appreciate the value of what I am selling!

If you'd like to talk about a testing event, or even just to say hello, please call (1-800-372-2461 ext. 234) or send me an e-mail (michelle@aircomp.com). I'm looking forward to hearing from you!



You may meet Michelle in our booth at an upcoming conference. Many of you already know her associate, Jeremiah Hicks.

Ozone Action Days

It's that time of year - when hot summer days are often Ozone Action Days. The Ozone Action Day Program is dedicated to informing and increasing public awareness of the possible health risks and the environmental impacts of ground-level ozone.

There are websites you can visit to find out if today is an Ozone Action Day. If you are interested in Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, and Summit Counties, Ohio, go to <http://www.noaca.org/oad.html>. For other areas, go to <http://www.airnow.gov/>.

Greenhouse Gas Emission Regulations

Following a U.S. Supreme Court ruling in April, President Bush has ordered four federal agencies to take *"the first steps toward regulations"* to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles.

The President signed an executive order in May directing EPA and the departments of Transportation, Energy, and Agriculture to work together to find ways to reduce gasoline consumption and harmful emissions by the end of 2008. The agencies would use as a starting point the president's 20-in-10 plan as outlined in his State of the Union address.

Bush stressed that the agencies should weigh potential economic impacts in crafting regulation, and *"to listen to public input, to carefully consider safety, science, and available technologies, and evaluate the benefits and costs before they put forth the new regulation."*

To read the Executive Order from The White House, go to: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2007/05/20070514-1.html>

2007 ROE Released for Comment

The Science Advisory Board (SAB) has released the draft 2007 Report on the Environment Science Report (ROE) for public comment and external review. The draft report consists of two documents – one for the science community – the ROE Science Report; and a second for all citizens – Highlights of National Trends 2007. The information from both ROE 2007 documents will also be available on an interactive, searchable Web site called the "e-ROE."

The upcoming independent peer review by the Science Advisory Board will be open to the public and will be announced by the SAB in the Federal Register. Public comments may be submitted prior to the meeting, and both the SAB review and public comments will be used to revise the final report, which will be released this fall.

For more information or to view the draft, go to <http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/cfm/recordisplay.cfm?deid=140917>

EPA Launches Two New Web Sites

Chinese Language

On May 21 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) launched a new consolidated Chinese-language Web site as part of its ongoing effort to provide environmental information in English, Spanish and Chinese. Chinese is the third most widely-spoken language in the U.S., after English and Spanish. The new site compiles EPA Chinese-language materials on a wide variety of issues from lead poisoning prevention, energy efficiency, and clean water to proper management of pesticides.

The site serves as a valuable tool in delivering important health and environmental information to the Chinese-speaking community, both here in the U.S. and worldwide. EPA has a program of cooperation with several Chinese governmental bodies to address threats to human health and the environment. EPA also collaborates with China on research, policy development, and buildup of environmental enforcement capability.

EPA's Chinese site: <http://www.epa.gov/chinese>

EPA's Spanish site: <http://www.epa.gov/espanol>

EPA's English site: <http://www.epa.gov>

Environmental Stewardship

On May 2, EPA launched a Web site to help business, government and private citizens make intelligent choices on sustainable environmental benefits.

Simple everyday decisions by organizations and individuals on such issues as recycling, reuse or choice of fuel support pollution prevention and environmental stewardship. The Web site will enable users to find EPA partnership programs that best align with their needs and interests. Businesses can search for EPA programs based on their industrial category, environmental issue of interest, and geographic area. One specific Web site, for example, shows businesses how they can help employees reduce the environmental impacts of commuting.

The Web site also provides information links individuals can use to protect the environment in different settings, such as home, work, school, and shopping. One Web site shows citizens how they can use pesticides safely.

The environmental stewardship Web site can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/stewardship>



Ozone Redesignations

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 approved requests by the states of Michigan and Ohio to redesignate counties to attainment of the national health-based eight-hour outdoor air quality standard for ozone (smog).

The Michigan counties are:

- Kent and Ottawa in the Grand Rapids area;
- Calhoun, Kalamazoo, and Van Buren in the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek area;
- Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham in the East Lansing area;
- Genesee and Lapeer in the Flint area;
- Muskegon in the Muskegon area;
- Berrien in the Benton Harbor area; and
- Benzie, Cass, Huron, and Mason counties

The Agency also approved Michigan's plans to continue to meet the eight-hour health-based ozone standard through 2018 and approved motor vehicle emissions budgets for the areas.

The Ohio counties are:

- Washington in the Parkersburg-Marietta area,
- Stark in the Canton-Massillon area,
- Allen in the Lima area,
- Belmont in the Wheeling, W.Va., area and
- Jefferson in the Steubenville-Weirton, W.Va., area.

The redesignations become effective upon publication in the Federal Register.

Breath Easier Starting in June

Sulfur emissions from locomotives, most marine vessels, and land-based nonroad engines will be cut starting June 1 because of new standards for sulfur content in diesel fuel.

Under a 2004 clean-air regulation established by EPA, refineries must reduce sulfur from current levels of about 3,000 parts per million in nonroad diesel fuel to a maximum of 500 ppm, with few exceptions.

This is a step in EPA's campaign to clean up diesel fuel used in the United States. Last June, rules took effect requiring 80 percent of highway diesel to have an ultra-low sulfur level of 15 or fewer ppm.

Dispersion Modeling

Did you know that Air Compliance Testing offers Dispersion Modeling services?

Dispersion modeling uses mathematical formulations to characterize the atmospheric processes that disperse a pollutant emitted by a source. Based on emissions and meteorological inputs, a dispersion model can be used to predict concentrations at selected downwind receptor locations. These air quality models are used to determine compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), and other regulatory requirements such as New Source Review (NSR) and Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) regulations. These models are addressed in Appendix A of EPA's Guideline on Air Quality Models (*also published as Appendix W of 40 CFR Part 51*).

Dispersion Modeling can be used for a variety of applications:

- To verify that emissions from a new source will not exceed ambient air quality standards, or maximum ground level, fence line concentrations (*Air Toxics requirements*).
- To determine the appropriate stack configuration.
- To perform, Air Quality Impact Studies.
- To evaluate the effect of building downwash.
- To analyze deposition patterns.

Modeling can be a very cost-effective approach:

- When preliminary calculations indicate the need for excessively high stack heights that would be expensive to install;
- When multiple discharges from stacks and vents are present;
- When a better understanding of the impact of discharges is required.
- When management controls are needed to minimize odor impacts. Dispersion Modeling can determine the conditions under which odor complaints are likely to occur, which can be used to plan a mitigation strategy;
- When the impact of changes in emissions, emission controls or stack heights are being assessed. Potential changes can be input into the model to see the effect on the dispersion pattern.

For more information, please view, download, or print or Dispersion Modeling Technical Services Bulletin at www.aircomp.com/AirComplianceDispersionModeling.pdf



Air Compliance News™

Our Mission Statement:

To be a high quality provider in the Environmental Services Industry that is focused on growth and on diversification through new products and acquisitions.

Our Core Values:

Customer Satisfaction
Flexibility
Rigorous Attention to Detail
Employee Empowerment and Accountability
Continuous Improvement

Upcoming Events...

- **A&WMA 100th Anniversary Annual Conference and Exhibition.** June 26-29, 2007, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Go to www.awma.org for information. Stop by Booth 807 to see us there!
- **Manufacturer's Education Council 17th Annual Conference on Air & Water Permits Environmental Permitting in Ohio.** Thursday & Friday, July 26-27, 2007, Columbus, Ohio. Go to www.mecseminars.com/ for more information.

Air Compliance

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Excellence in Emission Testing

- ⇨ Source (Stack) Testing
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- ⇨ Dispersion Modeling
- ⇨ Ambient Air Monitoring

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