

From the Desk of John Lease, Sustainability Director

Adding Business Value Through Effective Implementation of an EHS Management System

Modern companies today face numerous international, national, and local regulatory requirements and standards related to Environment, Health, and Safety (EHS). Simple compliance with EHS laws and regulations is considered minimum performance; with companies required to demonstrate that they have adequate systems and programs in place to achieve this level of compliance. Additionally, international standards related to environmental sustainability, worker health and safety, community protection and engagement have become commonplace - creating business value by meeting them effectively and efficiently. With ongoing expansion of these standards, representing a company's 'license to operate' - implementation of focused, tailored, and structured EHS management systems with other business functions offers an effective and efficient solution toward meeting EHS demands and adding business value.

A comprehensive EHS management system begins with analysis of the company's operational EHS aspects, followed by an assessment of operational impacts. The designed evaluation process consists of a compilation of accurate and representative workplace and environmental monitoring/analysis data, and a thorough characterization of operational practices. Through preparation of a customized, focused, and efficient EHS management system, the organization is able to mitigate impacts and meet local/international standards while demonstrating control over those systems, programs, and procedures necessary to achieve conformance with worldwide legal and societal requirements. Moreover, this level of integration is often a fundamental requirement for companies to compete for business internationally.

The foundation of any management system is the Plan, Do, Check, Act cycle. For EHS, the analysis of aspects/impacts and subsequent management-system-design offers a cost-effective solution by prioritizing those key EHS impacts that require action and engagement with the necessary resources. EHS management systems can be established at the company level and cascaded across multiple operating facilities, thereby reducing duplication, enhancing standardization, and reducing costs. The recurring review of EHS management systems ensures that the company's environmental, health and safety programs remain current and effective. It also shows a superior level of responsiveness to the latest EHS requirements, standards, and norms.

Reddwall Solutions offers the EHS Management support services described herein and offers highly experienced EHS professionals to ensure that your operating facilities adhere to the standards which apply, while working with your team to keep workers, the workplace, and environments safe. Contact us today to learn more.