

GAIL M. BACKUS, CHMM
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STRENGTHS

Main areas of expertise are environmental, health and safety (EHS) reporting, EHS compliance & training, and ISO/OHSAS/RC management systems. Work experience includes the chemical manufacturing, military contracts, cosmetic / pharmaceutical, automotive industries, union/non-union facilities, warehousing and consulting. Experience in managing projects, staff and programs in a diverse and changing world of EHS compliance for over 18 years with 4 years or more direct managing experience.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Management Experience

Manage all aspects of EHS and Regulatory Compliance for a chemical blending facility that includes over a million-gallon tank farm, warehouse operations and filling lines. Ensuring employees are working safely and updating safety programs that will work in a growing company. Reviewing need for PSM/RMP programs and implementing behavior based safety. Working with contractors and managing EHS oversight as new facility is under construction.

Director of EHS for DCT, Inc. and Subsidiaries, including 6 manufacturing facilities. Responsible for all EHS requirements, customer and regulatory. Working diligently to update the systems using leading EHS indicators instead of being reactive to problematic situations. Implementing key components of the Behavior Based Safety Process. Managed staff of 1.

Managed the EHS Departments / Group for multi-plant and single plants (at most 13 plants) in various countries. Most included dotted line reporting for site EHS staff and others direct reports. Ensured EHS compliance while working to reduce the injury rates, workers comp claims and reducing overhead costs. Reporting regular status updates to plant and corporate management. Dotted line management of 8 employees.

Directed EHS staffs for various companies, conducting reviews, mentoring, scheduling and working together to meet company EHS goals and objectives.

Regional EHS Lead for 4-6 plants at GDLS working closely with site EHS staff and plant management to obtain regulatory compliance and meet corporate EHS Metrics. Ensure safety RIR, frequency and severity rates were within company standards. Implemented key safety programs to reduce injuries in these facilities.

Team Leader / Project Manager (Weston) with 4 direct reports to work with one of the nation's largest municipalities conducting health and safety audits, Industrial Hygiene monitoring and confined space evaluations similar to an OSHA or MIOSHA inspection at 49 facilities.

Project Lead (Weston) for a multi-billion-dollar firm with over 110 facilities. Assisted clients with ISO 14001 implementations and Environmental Management Systems development of procedures, work instructions, policies, and showed them how to save hundreds of thousands of dollars by implementing a value added system

Regional Safety Officer at Weston (September 2001 – May 2003) responsible for managing the safety and health of approximately 45 employees working in Michigan. Job responsibilities included training employees, maintaining employee records, IH monitoring, conducting medical monitoring, respirator fit tests, and conducting health and safety audits of current. Worked closely to manage the RIR, frequency and severity rates of any injuries in Michigan and to manage the OSHA recordable rates.

Managed GDLS Diversity and Inclusion Council Activities Program and budget from 2008 to present

Management Systems & Auditing Experience

Created and Implemented RC14001 campus certification system in less than a year.

Hired at 2 large manufacturing companies to implement, obtain and maintain the ISO 14001 and/or OHSAS 18001 registration after several failures.

Implemented and maintained the corporate ISO 14001/RC14001 umbrella certification for up to 13 sites in 3 different countries at Oxford and at DCT, Inc.'s 4 manufacturing divisions.

Team member that integrated GMP programs into the ISO 14001/ISO 9001 systems at Davlyn and Shiseido Facilities.

Compliance Experience

Update and implemented safety programs to best protect employees and liability of the various companies. Key programs are permit required confined spaces, fork lifts, lockout/tagout, emergency response programs, respiratory protection, hearing conservation and chemical exposure. Programs include preparing and training all affected employees.

Manage product SDS and container labeling for OSHA, DOT, IMDG and IATA requirements. Review and prepare proper paper work, labels and other markings. Work closely with S&R to ensure requirements are met. Implementing labeling per the Commercial Product Safety Commission and OSHA's GHS.

Work to establish programs based on leading EHS indicators to reduce EHS incidents and accidents to obtain cost savings to the company ultimately reducing workers comp costs. Includes implementing behavior based safety ideas to engage employees.

Manage FIFRA pesticide registration, renewal and reporting processes throughout the US using ALSTAR and Kelly systems to ensure products can be sold by large customers throughout the US.

Manage and implement minor source air permit conditions in a non-attainment area utilizing an electronic EHS management system. Includes Emissions Inventory, MSS requirements and Form R annual reporting.

Managed chemical and waste programs at various companies, including hazardous and radioactive materials per the OSHA, EPA, NRC, FIFRA and location/state regulations. Responsibilities included finding safe chemicals and reducing waste streams to implement cost savings for facilities. Worked to find a less hazardous metal preparation process to reduce hazardous waste and eliminate process waste water discharges. Reduced waste costs by approximately 30%.

Manage product registration via various customer requirements. Examples are IMDS and WERCS systems. Programs include various reporting, inspections/audits and communications

WORK EXPERIENCE

Power Service Products, Inc., Weatherford, TX, EHS Manager – June 2013 – Present

Diversified Chemical Technologies, Inc., Detroit, MI, Corporate EHS Director - February 2012 – June 2013

General Dynamics Land Systems Division, Sterling Heights, MI, EHS Specialist / Regional Lead – January 2005 – February 2012 (left for greater experience and promotion)

Oxford Automotive, Troy MI, EMS Manager North American Operations – June 2003 to January 2005 (company closed to bankruptcy)

Weston Solutions, Inc., Detroit, MI, EHS Compliance Specialist – May 2001 to June 2003 (lost City of Detroit contract)

Davlyn Industries, Inc., Monroe Township, NJ, Environmental Quality Supervisor – April 2000 to April 2001 (husbands relocation)

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION

Illinois Institute of Technology; Chicago, IL
ME Environmental Engineering, December 1997

Oakland University; Rochester, MI
BS Engineering Chemistry, April 1993

Ability to obtain Certified Safety Professional Certification in 12-18 months