

CASE SUMMARY

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PMX

PMX Industries
Cedar Rapids, Iowa (Linn County)

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MAJOR: Biology
SCHOOL: St. Ambrose College

The Company

PMX Industries is a division of the Poongsan Corporation. The Poongsan Corporation has headquarters in Seoul, South Korea. PMX melts, casts, and rolls brass, copper, and copper nickel strip and sheets for decorative, electrical, and electronic, appliance, as well as automotive applications. The company is also the prime supplier of sheet stock, used for the manufacture of nickel, dime, quarter and dollar coins, to the U.S. Mint. The plant produces approximately 14,000,000 pounds of product per month.

Project Background

The project for PMX Industries, who is ISO (International Organization of Standardization) 9000 certified, involved working with the ISO 14001 team to identify, document, and implement ISO 14001 requirements.

Incentives to Change

PMX Industries has recognized the necessity for responsible environmental management and conservation of resources. PMX also recognizes the global nature of environmental matters and the importance of industry's constructive cooperation in achieving international environmental conservation.

Results

The purpose of the project was to aid in the planning and implementation of an Environmental Management System (EMS). The intern was involved in designing EMS procedures to act as a format or guide for planning, implementing, and maintaining the EMS. The EMS procedures:

- ◆ Define systems, assign authorities and responsibilities, and provide instructions for carrying out activities comprising the system.
- ◆ Contain operational procedures that explain the what, when, who, and how for each activity; define the relevant authorities and responsibilities; identify interfaces for the activity; and instruct who should be informed and how the results of the activity should be recorded.

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In addition to designing EMS Procedures, the intern created a questionnaire to help identify environmental aspects. Environmental Aspects are defined as an element of a companies activity, products or service that can interact with the environment. In the identification of environmental aspects, it was important to look closely at all inputs and outputs for each workstation.

A draft EMS manual with an Environmental Policy Statement was completed. The EMS Manual:

- ◆ States the company's general environmental policy and procedural policies pertaining to the main elements of the EMS.
- ◆ Defines and describes the EMS.
- ◆ Defines the authorities and responsibilities of management personnel involved in the EMS, and outlines general procedures for the main elements of the EMS, and references other related documentation.

Project Summary Table

EMS Project	Status
EMS Manual	Draft Complete
EMS Procedures	Draft Complete
Waste Stream Placement	Implemented
Gypsum Wastestream	Under Committee Review
Legal, Regulatory Requirements Identified	Recommended
Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan	Recommended