



# A Chemical Industry View through an EHS&S Lens

An Environment, Health, Safety and Sustainability Market Update by Antea™ Group | July 2012



In an effort to bring additional value to The Chemical Company network, Antea Group will provide monthly contributions to “View from Jamestown” focused on topical and industry current environment, health, safety and sustainability (EHS&S) issues. In this edition, we will explore how companies can accurately measure the value of their business’s social and environmental initiatives and drive future business decisions with reliable data.

## About the Author

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## About Antea Group

Antea Group is an international engineering and environmental consulting firm specializing in full-service solutions in the fields of environment, infrastructure, urban planning and water.

By combining strategic thinking and multidisciplinary perspectives with technical expertise and pragmatic action, we do more than effectively solve client challenges; we deliver sustainable results for a better future.

With more than 3,000 employees in over 100 offices around the world, we serve clients ranging from global energy companies and manufacturers to national governments and local municipalities.

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So many professions have their go-to tools. For the carpenter, it’s a favorite hammer; for the doctor, a trusted stethoscope. But what about our profession? What tools are a must for the Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) professional? Being a consultant, we get to see what works and probably, more importantly, what doesn’t. Taking that knowledge, here is our list of the top five tools that every EHS professional needs:

1. Legal Register – Consider yourself a professional driver (a driver of EHS programs) trying to get from point A to Z. So, you need a map. A legal register is that map for an EHS professional, a comprehensive list of all applicable rules and regulations for your facility. It is a must to ensure that you are focusing your resources, budget and energy in the right direction.
2. Compliance Calendar – Now that you know what applies, you need to determine how to meet these rules and regulations and when you need to do it. From annual emission reports, to weekly inspections, there are a myriad of EHS tasks that need to be completed and submitted on time. A good compliance calendar lays out for you what needs to be done when.
3. Audit Program – Be it internally or externally driven, a process is needed to determine and monitor how your programs/processes are performing. An audit program provides a tool to systematically and objectively review your operations to identify gaps and ensure continuous improvement. EHS touches so many different departments and people in an organization, a consistent audit process will provide the assurance that requirements are being met.
4. Corrective Action Program – Now that you have identified your gaps, you need a tool to ensure that the issues are fixed. From a spreadsheet to an interactive on-line system, the key here is to track till closure. Why spend the time identifying these gaps if you are not going to close them? The best in class corrective action programs assign a responsible party with a due date and has a defined level of the objective evidence that is required to prove that this item has been closed properly along with a method to manage this data.
5. Influencing Skills – Everyday, you need to influence someone to support your given EHS programs. Today’s EHS professional not only has to have the tools to influence compliance, but sell complex strategic programs like energy projects, sustainability report development, and resource conservation. You must be able to understand what is important to your given audience to be an effective influencer. Do you have the tools to prepare and present the return of investment of a project? Take the time for a self evaluation of these skills and enhance the tools you need to be successful.