

The Program

The Hazardous Substances Technical Liaison (HSTL) Program was created to:

- Station an ORD Hazardous Substances Technical Liaison (HSTL) in each region to facilitate access to ORD laboratories, national centers, and ORD Headquarters.
- Provide and facilitate ORD's technical support programs in regional Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) programs.
- Promote the use of sound science and engineering in regional decision making in the OSWER programs.

The program was created jointly by ORD, OSWER, and the Regional offices in 1990 to expand the technical support available to Regional staff. It is managed within ORD's Office of Science Policy (OSP) in Headquarters.

Technical Liaisons are ORD senior scientists and engineers located in the regional Superfund offices. They interact on a daily basis with Superfund Remedial Project Managers (RPMs), On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs), Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Project Managers, Federal Facility Project Managers, Regional management, and other Regional scientists and engineers. The Technical Liaisons foster communication—especially the transfer of scientific and engineering products—between ORD laboratories and the Regions. They also provide direct assistance by applying their expertise in a variety of areas.

HSTL Program Goals

Goal 1—Facilitate the incorporation of sound science and technology into Regional environmental management decisions and actions.

Goal 2—Facilitate the planning and implementation of ORD's research and technical support programs to support and assist the OSWER programs.

Goal 3—Provide feedback to ORD Laboratories, ORD National Centers, and ORD Headquarters on how to improve Regional products and services.

Goal 4—Build ORD-supported technical capacity in the Regional OSWER programs.

Goal 5—Facilitate interactions with other organizations involved in environmental research.

OSP Regional Programs

OSP oversees the HSTLs and the Regional Science Liaison Program. HSTLs work with the Regional Science Liaisons on cross-program issues with the Regional Science Councils. These combined OSP programs strengthen scientific and technical cooperation among ORD, the Regions, and state and local governments.

Obtaining Technical Support

EPA Regional staff can access hazardous waste-related technical support by contacting the HSTL for their Region and providing a task description.

More Information

Questions or comments regarding the HSTL Program can be directed to the appropriate Regional HSTL or to:

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