

**STRATEGY FOR COORDINATED EPA/OSHA IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE CHEMICAL ACCIDENT PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS
OF THE CLEAN AIR ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1990**

Plans for Coordination

The purpose of this document is to record plans for coordination of activities between the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) of the Department of Labor on the prevention of accidental chemical releases that may affect workers, the public or the environment.

The Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (the Amendments) place responsibility for the prevention of accidental chemical releases on both OSHA and EPA. OSHA has responsibility for the protection of workers from accidental chemical releases under section 304 of the Amendments and has promulgated the Process Safety Management Standard (29 *CFR* 1910.119) to satisfy this requirement. EPA has responsibility for protection of the general public and the environment from accidental chemical releases under section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act, which was enacted as part of the Amendments. EPA is promulgating the Risk Management Program rule (40 *CFR* 68) to satisfy this requirement. EPA believes that one chemical accident prevention program can serve to protect workers, the public and the environment and has consequently incorporated the OSHA Process Safety Management Standard as the chemical accident prevention program for certain facilities subject to both rules. Because both OSHA and EPA are responsible for chemical accident prevention, EPA and OSHA plan to work as closely as possible to coordinate the development of consistent policies for:

- compliance assistance to the regulated community;
- regulatory interpretations and guidance;
- enforcement and compliance strategies and actions; and
- information sharing mechanisms.

The goal of this strategy for coordinated implementation is to ensure effective integration of both EPA's and OSHA's chemical accident prevention activities while recognizing each Agency's historical expertise and mission: OSHA's in protecting worker safety and health and EPA's in protecting public health and the environment. The strategy will leverage the expertise of both Agencies without expanding each Agency's activities into areas historically within the other agency's purview. OSHA and EPA will use appropriate agreement mechanisms (such as Memoranda of Understanding) to make these policies publicly available.

Signed:

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