



EMS:

For Public Seaports

Environmental Management Systems

What is an EMS?

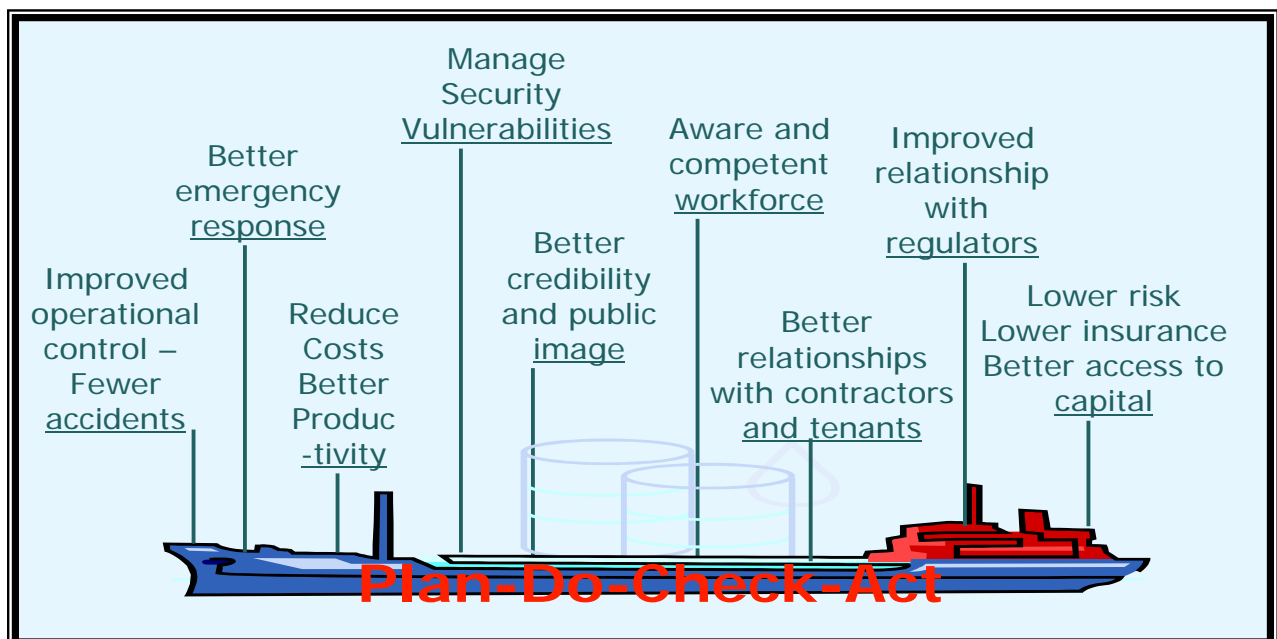
Public seaports today are challenged to provide a healthy environment for their citizens, as well as continuing to meet public demands and steady economic growth. An Environmental Management System (EMS) provides a systematic way to review and improve operations for better organizational performance. By incorporating environmental considerations into an organization's decision-making structure, an EMS introduces employees to their environmental responsibilities and more efficient business processes. Enhanced operational effectiveness and efficiency, coupled with environmental performance improvements, are compelling EMS benefits. Experience has proven that investment in an EMS means money saved, reduced insurance premiums, regulatory incentives, as well as improved management confidence in handling environmental issues.

“Developing a comprehensive EMS was the key to changing the way we think about and conduct our business. Already, our EMS has demonstrated substantial cost savings and reduced delays in working with regulatory agencies.”

Bill Wyatt, Executive Director
Port of Portland (OR)

Benefits of EMS

An EMS delivers big benefits – organizations that implement an EMS quickly discover that their investment of time and resources pays off. An EMS makes it easier to find and fix the root causes of potential environmental problems, providing your port with a structured approach for managing environmental responsibilities. Using an EMS, your port can incorporate strong operational controls and best management practices into existing job descriptions and work instructions.



Case Study Example

Based on its successful adoption of an EMS at its Barbours Cut Container Terminal and Central Maintenance Facility, the Port of Houston Authority is now expanding its management system approach to other operational and security applications. The benefits of the EMS have positioned the port as an international leader in environmental stewardship. Among the many benefits, include:

- Reduced NOx by 25% in crane and yard truck fleet
- Reduced 5,000 pounds of waste (58% reduction)
- 47% decrease in stormwater constituents
- Reduced absorbent disposal by 75%
- Eliminated the disposal of oily rags
- 20% reduction in insurance costs post 9/11 (investment of \$97,256)

“Our port has received strong support for our EMS from state and Federal regulatory agencies. This has translated directly into better working relationships on important port projects. We have even received substantial grant funding to demonstrate innovative practices.”

Tom Kornegay, Executive Director
Port of Houston Authority

An EMS is Easier and Cheaper than You Think

Once public entities decide to implement an EMS, many discover that nearly seventy percent of the elements are already in place. Resource commitments will vary depending on the size of the organization, the extent of operational activities, risks and impacts, and the gaps between how the organization currently manages its environmental issues. Several earlier EMS training efforts, including the Port EMS Assistance Project, have resulted in practical mentors, documents, and lessons learned to further enhance implementation. Based on data collected since 1997, the resources that public agencies involved in GETF-facilitated EMS pilot projects commit to EMSs are primarily direct labor costs, with no additional

employees or specialists needed on the workforce. Direct labor costs have averaged about eight to ten hours per employee per year to integrate EMS activities into their daily activities.

Average Resources Used* = \$95,275 (over 2 years)

Average Labor Hours* = 3,074 (over 2 years)

* based on data collected from 23 public entities

Port EMS Assistance Project - World Class Ports Selecting EMS

As participants in the Port EMS Assistance Project, nine ports and two federal agencies are implementing an EMS over a two-year project timeframe. The Global Environment & Technology Foundation (GETF) and the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) are partners in providing EMS training, mentoring and technical assistance.

Port of Houston Authority	Port of Los Angeles
Virginia Port Authority	Port of New Orleans
The Port Authority of New York/New Jersey	Port Everglades
Port of Portland	MARAD
Portland District Corps of Engineers	Port of Vancouver (WA)
Port of Corpus Christi Authority	



AAPA, the alliance of leading ports in the Western Hemisphere, protects and advances the common interests of its diverse membership of public port authorities from throughout the Western Hemisphere as they connect their communities with the global transportation system. Contact: Tom Chase, 703-706-4715, tchase@aapa-ports.org.

GETF is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit that provides EMS training and support to public entities. GETF (<http://www.getf.org>) manages the National Public Entity EMS Resource (PEER) Center, <http://www.peercenter.net>, which is a central clearinghouse of key EMS resources. Contact: Nick Martin, 703-379-2713, nmartin@getf.org.

