



A&WMA

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Ohio Air Pollution Research Online Database and Ohio Air Pollution Research Symposium



By Ashok Kumar, Ph.D.
Dept. of Civil Engineering
The University of Toledo

Currently, research in air pollution is being carried out in Ohio's colleges and universities at various levels. But there is a lack of communication among researchers. The objectives of the project described in this article were: i) to develop a website for Ohio's environmental researchers, and ii) to bring Ohio's researchers together in a symposium. Because of the communication potential, both the Internet and the symposium offer excellent means to access one another.

The major benefit of this project would be the creation of a single document on the Internet, which deals with researchers in air pollution and related areas in Ohio. Although search methods on the Internet are being improved constantly, it often takes a great deal of time to find about Ohio's researchers. A comprehensive webpage that is open to all could greatly improve the accessibility to Ohio's researchers. The site would provide information on researchers, their interests and e-mail addresses in an easily accessible, accurate and current format. The creation of this tool would enhance awareness of air pollution research in Ohio. The community would profit not only from the content of the page, but also by its exposure to, and active use of, modern communication media. Ohio universities would also benefit from this project since their graduate and

undergraduate students would be using the material developed.

A symposium on air pollution and related research would provide an excellent platform for bringing together researchers and professionals from academia and industry in Ohio. It would promote interaction and exchange of information and give an impetus to the pursuit of air pollution research in Ohio.

This article presents the effective use of computer technology for developing a research database and for organizing conferences in an area of research.

Development of Ohio Air Pollution Research Online Database

A list of researchers working on air quality and related areas in Ohio was developed by use of the Internet. Websites accessed included those of various universities in Ohio, the U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA, the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Community of Science (COS). Details of air pollution researchers and their projects were obtained from the Ohio Super Computer. Information was also obtained from the U.S. EPA National Risk Management Research Laboratory (NRMRL) in Cincinnati, the Ohio Coal Development Office and the Ohio Coal Research Consortium, and the Ohio Aerospace Institute (OAI). Search on the Internet was also conducted using popular search engines with emphasis on air pollution and related fields.

In addition to the Web search, other methods to collect information included letters to the Vice Presidents of Research in several of Ohio's universities announcing this effort and requesting their assistance and phone calls and e-mails to the appropriate department chairs and scientists to recruit involvement.

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The air and waste management landscape is changing rapidly. Environmental professionals in Ohio can expect to see new air permitting and hazardous waste management rules in 2004. And DOT security plans were to be in place back in September.

Overwhelmed? Confused? Or just looking for some practical advice on implementation?

Get the information you need at this year's NOC-AWMA Spring Technical Conference. Experts from Ohio EPA, industry and the Permit Process Efficiency Committee will present the latest on a variety of air and waste topics important to Ohio businesses and consultants. In fact, we've expanded this year's conference to a full day to bring you as much useful information as possible.

A small investment now could bring big dividends in the very near future. NOC-AWMA looks forward to seeing you at the 2004 Spring Technical Conference!.

See back for details!

Message from the Chairman by Herb Mausser

“Collaborator” is not a dirty word!

Perhaps you're old enough to remember the '60s, turning on the black-and-white TV set Saturday afternoons or, more likely, still sitting in front of the TV after a full morning of cartoons. World War II movies were standard afternoon fare in those days of *The Red Menace* and *The Bomb and Viet Nam*. I guess those movies, in at least a small way, helped support the morale of a nation beset by some pretty tough challenges. The plots were formulaic and even an 8-year old could rattle off the predictable cast of characters; the American heroes, the Nazi villains and ... the collaborator.

The collaborator! He (occasionally she) was the worst! To be a collaborator was to be the scum of the earth (think "Peter Lorre" for an immediate visceral reaction). This term carries enough baggage that the secondary definition of "collaborate" in my Office Edition of the American Heritage Dictionary Third Edition is "to cooperate treasonably". Not a warm, fuzzy concept!

My little journey into childhood memories was sparked by the EH&S Networking Social on February 26. Co-sponsored by Northern Ohio Chapter of

A&WMA, Northeast Ohio Chapter of Hazardous Materials Managers and Northern Ohio Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers, it attracted 66 EH&S professionals, students intent on entering the EH&S field, and a few other interested persons. The feedback I got during and after the event was overwhelmingly positive. A week later, I still get a great feeling inside when I think how the executive committees of the three organizations successfully collaborated on this evening of good fellowship.

There's that word again! However, this time, no treason was involved! Instead, our collaboration could be better described by the primary definition in my dictionary: "to work together, esp. in a joint intellectual effort". Now, I'm not sure how intellectual a Networking Social at Jillian's Billiard Café can be, but the underlying feel of the definition is certainly appropriate to the event.

I'm hopeful that the Networking Social is just the first of many collaborative events sponsored by as many area professional organizations, directly or indirectly involved

in EH&S issues, as possible. I've been trying to think of a downside to collaboration, and I just can't think of anything significant. On the other hand, collaboration multiplies the financial "oomph" of the organizations (e.g., the Networking Social was free to attendees because each organization contributed a modest sum for munchies and pool tables); it pulls from a much larger pool of potential participants, so "specialty" conferences and seminars, important to many area professionals, become more viable; and it provides greater opportunity for the basic cross-interaction among EH&S practitioners that leads to broadening of expertise and better practices in the industry.

I encourage you to jump on the collaborator bandwagon. If you belong to multiple EH&S professional organizations, let them know that you'd like to see collaboration between them. Even if you only belong to NOC-AWMA, let us know about other groups of which you're aware who have similar goals and who might enjoy collaborating with us. Remember – "collaborator" is not a dirty word!

Ohio EPA Regulatory Roundup

NOC-AWMA thanks Ohio EPA for the following updates. Further information about these items can be obtained from the Ohio EPA Web page (www.epa.state.oh.us) or by calling the Northeast District office at (800) 686-6330.

Rulemaking Takes Thousands of Staff Hours

Improving the environment and enforcing environmental laws requires very specific rules – hundreds of them. Even as new rules are written, others have to be reviewed on a regular basis and many of those are then amended or rescinded.

In 2003, Ohio EPA had 96 rules filing actions with the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR), a 10-member group of state legislators who make sure new, rescinded and amended rules uphold the intent of the statutes under which they are being promulgated. Included in the filings with JCARR were 772 individual rules; 474 were original filings of new, amended, no change or rescinded rules.

According to Ed Kitchen, Ohio EPA rules coordinator, "If we don't have the needed rules, have them correct and updated, then we can't effectively enforce the laws."

To put the process into perspective, Kitchen noted that there were more than 3,700 hours coded to rules development by 107 employees just in the last three months of 2003.

Kitchen said he tells people to plan for an 18-month process from start to finish when writing new rules or making changes. "It's a six-month average just to get a rule through the process once a rule is sent out for interested party review," he noted.

2003 marked a couple of milestones in rulemaking. One is the move to total electronic filing. The last of the paper filings was completed last year and the process will be fully electronic from this point forward. Also, state law requires a review of state agency rules every five years. Ohio EPA was the only major state agency to meet the March 25, 2002 deadline for the five-year review. This is a major accomplishment

since Ohio EPA has more rules than all but one agency – the Department of Jobs and Family Services.

Kitchen said Ohio EPA has about 1,500 rules and about half of those are reviewable under the five-year rule. A few rules are 30 pages or more, although most are a lot shorter.

Electronic filing saves money related to paper costs. Another cost-saving measure is using the Register of Ohio to post public notices on rules filings when notices are required. Ohio EPA used to buy public notice advertisements in the state's 12 largest newspapers. Using the register saved the cost of 888 newspaper public notices during 2003.

Hazardous Waste Incinerator Moratorium Continued

The State of Ohio will continue to prohibit issuing permits for new hazardous waste incinerators for three more years, according to a determination made by the Agency to comply with House Bill 604.

House Bill 604, passed by the General Assembly in 1993, prohibited Ohio EPA from issuing permits for new hazardous waste incinerators for three years. It requires

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Ohio Air Pollution Research Online Database and Ohio Air Pollution Research Symposium

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With these efforts, approximately 80 Ohio air pollution researchers and about 90 Ohio research projects were identified. Website links, research activity links and e-mail addresses were obtained for all the researchers, who were contacted to verify the information. Links were checked, approvals of researchers obtained wherever possible, and collected information was revised based on responses from the researchers.

Since this website development project was relatively small in size, generic software tools were chosen to create the site. Netscape Composer, Microsoft Front Page and Excel, and Corel Web Graphics Suite were used to develop the website. "WS_FTP@" software is used to transfer the HTML files to and from the host server.

Finally, the Ohio Air Pollution Research Database website (<http://www.eng.utoledo.edu/~akumar/OAQDA/Home.htm>) was uploaded to the University of Toledo's server. All collected information was organized categorically and included in the site.

The "Research Database" page, accessed from a link on the home page, (<http://www.eng.utoledo.edu/~akumar/OAQDA/ResearchProjects.htm>) has separate links for U.S. EPA projects; NSF projects; Ohio State Agency projects; Theses/Dissertations in Ohio; other Ohio projects; and Researchers in Ohio. Each of these web pages is organized with further links, giving information on specific items. The U.S. EPA projects are categorized as Science To Achieve Results (STAR) projects; NRMRL projects; and U.S. EPA projects in Ohio. Theses/Dissertations are listed under each Ohio university and researchers in Ohio are categorized by universities, government agencies and other organizations.

Other links from the home page include universities offering graduate and undergraduate programs in air pollution and related fields in Ohio; private organizations in Ohio; and government agencies in Ohio.

At present, the website is updated on a regular basis with current information and based on feedback from the visitors of the site and the sponsoring agency of the project.

Organization of Ohio Air Pollution Research Symposium

A Symposium Committee comprising selected prominent air pollution professionals was formed. The sponsoring

agency, the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA), was represented on this committee. The task of the committee was to guide the Program Chair in selecting topics and researchers for the symposium. The committee members also acted as reviewers for the abstracts.

A website (<http://www.eng.utoledo.edu/~akumar/apsymposium/sympdet.html>) was established to coordinate and provide information on the symposium, including:

1. a home page providing basic details of the symposium including the conference program;
2. a web page detailing registration information for the symposium along with registration forms;
3. a web page providing details of location and accommodation;
4. web pages on the call for papers and guidelines for submission of abstracts, papers and posters.

A Public Relations Committee for coordinating the outreach and public relations for the event was formed. Marketing consultants from OAQDA helped in this endeavor. Information was sent to various environmental groups in Ohio. The Northern Ohio Chapter, A&WMA published information about the symposium in early October 2003 in their Newsletter.

A call for abstracts from researchers was sent out via e-mail in the second week of July, 2003. Graduate students were encouraged to participate with the help of faculty advisors. Special efforts were made to encourage researchers to submit papers. Abstract submission was via e-mail only. Drafts posted on the site were reviewed by the committee members. The Program Chair, with the help of the reviewers, selected 16 presentations, 2 professional posters, and 10 student posters.

The University of Toledo Student Chapter of the A&WMA, with the help of Ms. Charanya Varadarajan was actively involved in conference planning. They communicated with the presenters via email to update them on the conference's progress; publicized the conference at the college campus; helped the organizing committee develop the symposium schedule; and made hundreds of CD-ROMs for distribution at the conference venue.

With all the abstracts received, the symposium schedule was fixed and an abstract book was prepared, which was distributed as a printed copy and on a CD-ROM. Other arrangements included set up the symposium venue and ordering of meals that were done through third-party contractors.

The symposium was successfully held on October 29, 2003. The full technical program was presented and more than 72 professionals participated in the symposium.

The symposium hosted four Paper Presentation Sessions: Fine Particulate and Ozone in Ohio (Session Chair: William Garber); New Studies Related to Emissions and Air Quality (Session chair: Kevin Crist); Ohio Coal and Air Pollution Control (Session Chair: Robert Brown); and Miscellaneous Air Quality Studies (Session Chair: Douglas Rider). Two Poster Sessions covered a wide variety of topics from pollution prevention to state of the art technological advances in the field of air quality. All the student poster presenters received a gift and the four best posters were given awards during lunch.

The symposium website was updated with the abstract book after the symposium. The presenters were requested to turn in manuscripts of their presentations and required to sign the transfer of copyrights form (downloadable from the site) in order to post their manuscripts on the website. Even student poster presenters were encouraged to submit their manuscripts with the approval of their advisors. A web page for the Proceedings, linked to the symposium homepage, was created and several manuscripts have been posted so far.

Conclusion

This article presents the application of Web technology on the development of an online database for air pollution research in Ohio and the organization of a symposium on air pollution. Information about Ohio's researchers and their research projects were collected from various sources and organized on a website. Government agencies, private organizations and academic institutions actively involved in air pollution research and related fields were also included in the database. The symposium included technical paper presentations, poster presentations and panel discussions. Both these activities have helped in enhancing the interaction among researchers working in the field of air pollution in Ohio. With the success of the 2002 and 2003 symposia, efforts are underway to turn this into an annual event.

Acknowledgement:

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Ohio EPA Regulatory

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the Ohio EPA director to publish an assessment of commercial hazardous waste incinerator capacity every three years, beginning after April 15, 1996.

The moratorium affects new commercial hazardous waste incinerators and existing commercial hazardous waste incinerators that want to modify existing permits to increase treatment capacity or the quantity of hazardous waste they are authorized to treat. If a company wanted to build an on-site hazardous waste incinerator and treat only that company's waste, the moratorium would not affect it.

Ohio EPA based its determination to extend the moratorium on several factors, including a capacity assessment that the Agency released on Feb. 4, 2003. The following six factors also were taken into consideration before a decision was made.

- An evaluation to determine the state's capability to respond to the types and frequencies of releases of hazardous waste that are likely to occur at commercial hazardous waste incinerators;
- The effect a new commercial hazardous waste incinerator may have on outdoor air quality;
- A review of health studies, risk assessments and other impacts of commercial hazardous waste incinerators on human health and the environment;
- A review of the operational records of commercial hazardous waste incinerators currently operating in Ohio;
- The monetary and time commitments necessary to construct a new commercial hazardous waste incinerator, the amount of long-term capital investments available to fund the building of a commercial hazardous waste incinerator in Ohio and hazardous waste generators' efforts to reduce the amount of hazardous waste generated that would be sent to commercial hazardous waste incinerators; and
- Regulatory and legislative concerns.

USEPA No Longer Approving Coating Exemptions

A facility installing a new surface coating line must comply with the requirements in OAC 21-09(U). In the past, facilities that could not comply with the requirement could obtain an exemption from OAC 21-09(U) by demonstrating best available technology to the Director of Ohio EPA, as long as USEPA informed Ohio EPA that there was no

objection to the Director's action. Recently, Ohio EPA was informed that USEPA will no longer approve these exemptions. USEPA has said, however, that these exemptions may be granted if and only if they are done through a SIP revision.

Old PTI Application No Longer Accepted After April 1, 2004

Ohio EPA's Division of Air Pollution Control (DAPC) has developed a new permit-to-install (PTI) application and new Emissions Activity Category (EAC) forms and instructions. The new forms have been revised to eliminate redundancy, reduce the number of requests for further information and to make the forms more user-friendly. The new PTI application requests more specific contact and facility information so the Agency can more accurately manage the environmental data.

The PTI application and instructions are available in WordPerfect 8 (WP8), Microsoft

Word (MSWord) and PDF formats. The EAC forms are currently available in WP8 and PDF. The conversion of EAC forms to MSWord will be completed over the next six months. All of the new forms can be accessed from DAPC's Web page by selecting Files to Download.

The new EAC forms will not be available in STARShip until STARShip2 is developed. For now, Title V facilities may continue to use the old forms. The new forms can be attached to the applications as "flat" EAC forms. See the last section in Chapter 5 of the STARShip Users Manual for instructions.

Ohio EPA will continue to accept the old PTI applications through April 1, 2004. The old EAC forms will continue to be accepted until STARShip2 is developed. Questions or comments about the new forms should be e-mailed to linda.ours@epa.state.oh.us.



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2004 Northeast Ohio Science & Engineering Fair



NOC-AWMA First Place Winner Rathna Shenoy

The annual Northeast Ohio Science and Engineering Fair at Cleveland State University was held on March 15-18 this year. NOC-AWMA again participated as a "special prize" awarder on March 16, presenting first, second and third place prizes (\$150, \$100, & \$50 U.S. Savings Bonds, respectively) in the environmental science projects category.

The first place award went to a Westlake senior, Rathna Shenoy. Her project was titled "Oxygen Depletion Analysis of Lake Erie's Dead Zone". "Do Pollutants Affect the Growth of Nevada Lettuce (*Lactuca Sativa*) in the Garden?" won the second place award for Stephanie Andrus of Richmond Heights. Finally, Andrew Mironovich, Parma, placed third with "How Safe are all of those ELF's?" Both Andy and Stephanie were in the ENV 7-8 category. We can't wait until next year when Stephanie and Andy return to compete again.

This year's "Special Judges" were Joe Candio, Doug Rider and Scott Smith. Thanks again to the NEO-Science Fair Board for this opportunity. The networking opportunity at the judges social hour reception and dinner following the event was outstanding.

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Fall 2003 Joint Environmental Conference Probes "Lean Times"

On November 7, 2003, the Fourth Annual Joint Environmental Conference with NOC-AWMA, the Northeast Ohio Chapter of Hazardous Materials Managers (NEOCHMM) and the Environmental Section of the Cleveland Engineering Society (CES) was held at the new Trinity Commons, part of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, in downtown Cleveland. The theme was "Environmental Management in Lean Times".

About 60 people attended and heard a thought-provoking group of speakers discussing ways to keep EH&S management moving forward even when the economy is down. John Petkovsek with Lincoln Electric spoke on their initiative in "Doing More with Less in EHS" and their results. Dan Haggarty, CHMM, presented the next installment of the Rich Cartwright series of "Job Survival in Lean Times", emphasizing proactive and productive networking. Bill Skowronski with Ohio EPA NEDO was a hit as usual and his presentation was standing room only. Joe Warner of OSHA's Cleveland Area Office spoke on the hot OSHA topics that EH&S managers need to consider. Herb Mausser, CHMM with Cuyahoga Community College spoke on some of the basic EH&S Web-based resources that are available to small companies. Mark Messersmith with the USEPA spoke on "Workload Reduction through Voluntary USEPA Programs". Again, informative and thought provoking.

The keynote speaker at lunch was Wendell Robinson, the interim administrator of the Cleveland Green Building Coalition. He went over some of the initiatives that have been started here in Cleveland to construct green buildings and the successes that the buildings have achieved with pollution reduction. Relating this to the broader environment, Mr. Robinson noted that what we accept today as fact or as a required product (such as triple-pane, low-E insulated windows for new construction) might have been merely a pipe dream a generation ago. He believes that innovation breeds the next wave of products and services that eventually become commonplace. He encouraged those present to apply this innovative approach to their own profession.

Overall it was an interesting and informative event. Some of the attendees were able to tour the Trinity Commons renovation and new construction that included many green initiatives, such as geothermal heat.



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FROM THE EDITOR

The Northern Ohio Chapter Newsletter is published semiannually for members of A&WMA. Laura Lyden, newsletter editor, may be contacted at (330) 792-9999, lalyden@truenorth.org or TrueNorth Energy, 3711 LeHarps Rd., Youngstown, OH 44515. Membership dues include subscriptions to the newsletter. For membership information contact Cindy Ours at (440) 260-0225, or cynthiao@resourceinternational.com. The chapter may be contacted at www.nocawma.org.



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SCHEDULED SPEAKERS

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00 - 9:45 a.m.	<i>Air Permitting 101: How to apply for an air permit</i> Ed Fasko, Ohio EPA DAPC & Dave Marczely, Environmental Design Group
10:00 - 10:45 a.m.	<i>Industry's View of New Source Review Reform</i> William R. Miller III, Ph.D., General Motors, Saturn Corp.
11:00 - 11:45 p.m.	<i>Ohio EPA Regulatory Update: Air Permitting</i> Mike Hopkins, Ohio EPA DAPC
11:45 - 12:45pm	Lunch
12:45 - 1:30pm	<i>Electronics Recycling: Perspectives on Conducting a Regional Collection Event</i> Diane Bickett, Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District & Walt Grabowski, Environmental Recycling.
1:45 - 2:30pm	<i>Ohio EPA Regulatory Update: Hazardous and Universal Wastes</i> Karen Hale, Ohio EPA DHW
2:45 - 3:30pm	<i>Implementing DOT Security Plans in Multiple Manufacturing Facilities</i> Robert Sigal, Lottite/Henkel
3:30pm	<i>Final Remarks & Adjournment</i> Herb Mausser, NOC-AWMA Chairman

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