

Case Study

Toxics Use Reduction (TUR) Reporting, Planning and Data Gathering Solution

EHS-DASHBOARD™

Facilitates future reporting,
ensures brand equity and risk
reduction.

This client, who was subject to Toxics Use Reduction (TUR) reporting and planning, was facing a challenging situation. The method they had been using to determine which chemicals to report was based on hand-written records and calculations and was not effective nor efficient. The internal calculations and notes (over 300 pages of information), could not be shared with others easily and the method was proprietary (one person maintained the records, did the calculations, and handed the report to someone else to sign off).

Although this paperwork-based process worked, production staff who handled the chemicals were not included in the data gathering and analysis process, and the information included in the reports was not shared with them or others in the company. Therefore, those most-familiar with the chemical usage were not a part of the toxics use reduction planning or reporting process.

When CAPACCIO was brought in to help, our goal was to raise awareness, shift the culture, and improve the process surrounding TUR reporting. We wanted to help our client create a reproduceable reporting system to establish legacy and ensure the accuracy of future reporting.

CAPACCIO facilitated changing the culture by including and sharing chemical use and reporting information with those who were closest to the production process. When included in the planning process, those who worked with the chemicals were surprised to find out how much phosphoric acid, nitric acid, and sulfuric acid (together called "tri-acid") they were using and that it was possible to reduce the quantities. This was an "aha" moment.

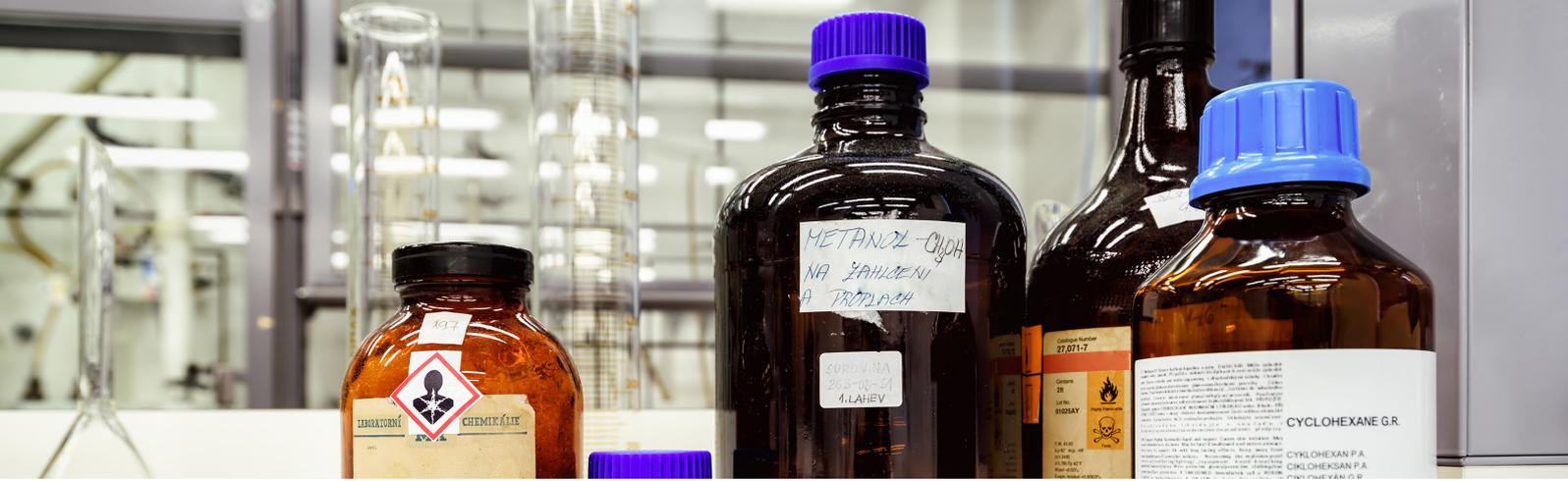
Outcomes

Data can now be manipulated electronically, which translates into the following positive outcomes:

- Shifts the culture by raising awareness
- Improves the TUR reporting process through a reproduceable reporting system
- Creates more robust and accurate recordkeeping system
- Ensures accuracy of future reporting
- Establishes legacy of the program

Enhancing the team effort raised the level of awareness of chemical use throughout the company. Elevating the task of filing reports to a higher level of authority facilitated asking tough questions during TUR Planning sessions about changing some processes and the potential benefits of doing so. Armed with more complete chemical use data, the client decided to investigate alternative less hazardous materials that could be substituted for the tri-acid. Additionally, the production staff benefited from improved understanding of chemical use and how reducing or substituting certain chemicals can positively impact other facility processes, such as reducing hazardous waste.

At the end of this project, the client's former hand-written paperwork process was replaced with more modern excel-based calculations, which CAPACCIO created. Data can now be manipulated electronically, which translates into a more robust and accurate recordkeeping system. Sharing chemical use and production analysis data through a modern methodology provides more opportunity for feedback, facilitates greater understanding company-wide, and the expedites the ability to reduce use of hazardous chemicals and improve production efficiency.



Facilitating Future Reporting with the EHS-Dashboard™

CAPACCIO went one step further and populated chemical usage data and calculations into CAPACCIO's EHS-Dashboard™ which will further facilitate future reporting. Providing a better understanding to staff of what TUR planning is and creating a reproduceable reporting system made this project successful. On a much higher level, this project also benefits the company by ensuring brand equity and overall risk reduction.

We are proud to have been a part of this success story!

To learn more about our comprehensive EHS Solutions or the EHS-Dashboard™, visit www.capaccio.com or contact us today!

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