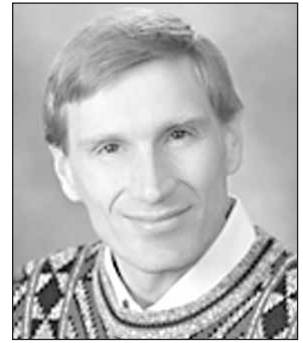


Free On-Site Waste Management Review

By Tom Junge, Iowa Field Director



Tom Junge

Recently, a member informed me that they had an EPA audit at all of their three locations. From what I learned, many of the issues (waste oil storage, floor drain sludge, disposal of waste oil, battery storage, etc.) could have been addressed in a more positive, proactive manner if the dealer would have used a free service from the Iowa Waste Reduction Center (IWRC). The outcome of the EPA audit is pending.

An on-site review from the IWRC is free, confidential and non-regulatory. Small businesses requesting in-depth assistance from the IWRC receive an on-site visit from one of the IWRC's waste reduction professionals. During the visit, the IWRC staff member will tour the facility and learn about the company's operations and current waste management practices.

Once the visit is complete, the staff member will prepare a report within four weeks, reviewing the relevant regulations and identifying pollution prevention opportunities. The report is confidential and provided only to the business. Shortly thereafter, the client receives an evaluation form to rate the IWRC services. Six months later, the client receives a follow-up phone call to ask about implementation of IWRC's recommendations and if any additional assistance is desired. Since their inception, the IWRC has conducted over 2,953 on-site reviews at diverse business types in all 99 Iowa counties.

Vendor Database and Regulatory Summaries

The IWRC has also developed easy-to-use small business tools, accessed through their website, to help small business owners meet their waste management goals. By visiting www.iwrc.org/tools/tools.cfm or selecting the *Small Business Tools* from the IWRC home page, small business owners can take advantage of two helpful resources. This site includes a collection of regulatory summaries providing plain English explanations of environmental

regulations and a vendor database that includes a listing of businesses providing waste management services.

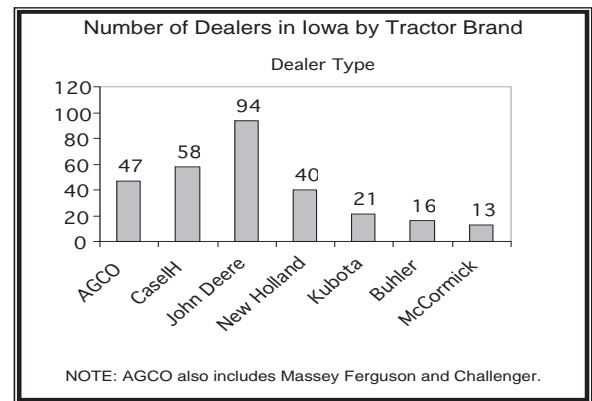
The vendor database is designed to provide business contacts for waste management and recycling products and services available in the state of Iowa. To use this database, click on the link for the vendor database. A type of service (such as tire disposal) must first be selected. After selecting a class, a subclass should be selected to more specifically define the type of vendor and the issue needing addressed (such as licensed tire haulers in Iowa). Then view the report to see a list of vendors specific to the needs identified.

A collection of regulatory summaries is also available at the small business tools site.

These summaries are written to simplify environmental regulations enforced by the EPA and DNR. They are divided into regulatory categories such as air or hazardous waste, and are designed to answer the most frequently asked questions dealing with a specific regulation.

IWRC can supply you with the necessary information to obtain and maintain regulatory compliance, avoid penalties and fines, reduce material waste, and possibly save

your business time and money. They are located on the University of Northern Iowa campus and can be reached at 319-273-8905. ■



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