

ABS Consulting

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OSHA Combustible Dust National Emphasis Program (NEP)

OSHA reissued the Combustible Dust National Emphasis Program (NEP) in March 2008. Applicable NFPA standards (e.g. NFPA 61 and 654) are incorporated into the dust NEP. The regulatory mandate is for each of the 80 area offices to inspect four facilities per year. To date, hundreds of facilities have been inspected, thousands of violations have been cited, and hundreds of thousands of dollars in fines have been proposed.

When does a dust accumulation cross the line...

...from an annoyance and housekeeping problem...



...to a safety hazard and regulatory violation?



The answer is critical, but is rarely simple.

ABS Consulting has a diverse team of experts capable of tailoring your preparation and response to NEP for resource-effective success. Our team has the complex balance of industry leaders, engineers, specialty consultants and experienced tactical implementers. We have implemented practical, successful NEP compliance solutions at facilities with exceptionally difficult issues.

ABS Consulting can help you navigate through the complex issues by offering these services to assist you with your dust management challenges:

- On-site facility assessment to applicable NFPA standards
- Ignition source evaluation (e.g. NFPA 499)
- Qualitative assessment of potential dust hazards
- Dust sampling and analysis
- Recommendations for risk reduction
- On-site training of personnel
- Incident and near-miss investigation
- Develop an effective housekeeping strategy
- Assist in integrating combustible dust hazard management into existing process safety programs
- Preparation assistance for dust NEP inspection, including appropriate responses to inspector's questions
- Review documentation against NEP and NFPA requirements
- Develop system for completion of recommendations

Sustained Safety. Managed Risk. Optimized Integrity.

Using industry experience and in-depth technical knowledge, ABS Consulting develops tailored solutions that help our clients optimize business operations throughout their organizations.



ABS Consulting is a global safety, risk and integrity management company with nearly half a century of experience. We provide clients with industry experts, risk modeling, practical engineering and technology-based solutions. Our services provide specialized recommendations that help our clients get the most from their assets by promoting safe practices, mitigating hazards and maintaining operations from initial design to final decommissioning.

With a network of offices in over 30 countries worldwide, ABS Consulting provides our customers around the world with specialized engineering and risk management services. Wherever you need us, in as many locations as you need us, we have the skills, industry expertise and field experience to help you succeed in today's challenging marketplace.

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Contact us today.

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Visit us at www.absconsulting.com

Consulting Services

- Design Review and Verification Engineering
- Risk Assessments
- Safety Culture Assessments
- PSM System Development
- Process Safety Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- Management of Organizational Change (MOOC)
- Training

Compliance

- PSM Audits
- NEP Audits
- PSM Gap Assessments
- Environmental Management Compliance Assessments

PSM Implementation Services

- Safe Operating Limits Design
- Procedures Development
- Process Hazard Analysis (PHA) Leader and Scribe
- PHA Action Item Closure Support
- Layer of Protection Analysis (LOPA)
- Incident Investigations
- Audit Action Item Closure
- Staff Augmentation
 - Process Safety Specialist
 - Energy Isolation Plans (LOTO)
 - Facility Siting
 - Contractor Management