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## Chemical Safety and Lifecycle Management

**Course Number:** CH-02-303

**PDH:** 3

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## Module 1: Chemical Safety and Lifecycle Management Program

### Learning Objectives

By the end of this section, you will be able to:

- **Identify** the core components of a Chemical Safety and Lifecycle Management (CSLM) program and how they integrate with existing safety management systems.
- **Evaluate** the true lifecycle costs of chemical management beyond initial procurement to optimize project budgets.
- **Select** effective cost-control and risk-reduction strategies, such as Just-in-Time inventory and product substitution.

Executive Summary: *The CSLM program provides a standardized, hierarchical approach to managing chemicals from acquisition to disposition. By integrating Integrated Safety Management System (ISMS) and Environmental Management System (EMS) principles, the program simultaneously reduces the frequency of significant accidents and lowers the total cost of chemical ownership across the Department of Energy complex.*

### Introduction

The Chemical Safety and Lifecycle Management (**CSLM**) program serves as a comprehensive guide for developing a system that uses a **graded approach** to control and monitor chemical activities. It is designed to be applicable across diverse environments, including administrative, production, maintenance, and laboratory settings.

The program aligns with two primary organizational umbrellas:

- **Integrated Safety Management System (ISMS).**
- **Environmental Management System (EMS).**

Adherence to this guidance ensures that site operations remain compliant with applicable regulatory requirements while prioritizing the protection of personnel, the public, and the environment.

### Program Benefits

Full implementation of a CSLM program yields two primary synergistic benefits: **risk reduction** and **cost reduction**. When significant accidents are reduced through ISMS and EMS principles, overall program costs drop. Conversely, applying hazard identification and quantity controls at the procurement stage reduces the potential for incidents by minimizing exposure levels.



## Reducing the Potential for Significant Accidents

Historical data from the Occurrence Reporting and Processing System (**ORPS**) indicates that chemical incidents lead to severe outcomes, including worker hospitalizations, fatalities, fires, explosions, and environmental contamination. These events incur high costs related to:

- **Personnel:** Medical expenses and displacement of people.
- **Assets:** Replacement or repair of equipment, facilities, and critical data.
- **Environment:** Remediation of contaminated sites.

**⚠ Safety Constraint:** To maximize effectiveness, CSLM must be **tightly integrated** with hazard identification, analysis, and mitigation processes during every work activity, emphasizing safety at each stage of the chemical lifecycle.

## Cost Reduction Strategies

A common misconception is that chemical costs are limited to the initial purchase price. In reality, the **true cost** of a chemical involves direct and indirect expenses throughout its lifecycle.

## Lifecycle Cost Factors

- **Storage and Handling:** Expenses for warehouse space, utility usage for climate-controlled environments, and shelf-life monitoring.
- **Administrative Burden:** Costs associated with inventorying and maintaining **Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs)** from multiple manufacturers.
- **Special Requirements:** Resource consumption for specialized equipment like refrigerators or glove-boxes needed for chemicals with **special hazards**.
- **Waste Disposal:** Costs tied to the severity of the hazard and the volume of the material, including potential long-term storage costs if a vendor cannot be found.

**💡 Design Tip:** Perform a comprehensive **lifecycle analysis** prior to chemical acquisition to prevent significant cost liabilities later in the project.

## Methods to Achieve Significant Cost Reductions

- **Purchase Minimum Quantities:** Acquire only what is immediately necessary for the task.
- **Review Protocols:** Implement policies requiring **pollution prevention** and waste minimization reviews at every CSLM stage.
- **Strategic Sourcing:** Limit procurements to a few strategic source suppliers when possible.



- **Just-in-Time (JIT) Practices:** Adopt JIT inventory for bulk-use chemicals and those with special hazards to minimize onsite storage risks.
- **Control Special Hazards:** Require potential users to **justify the use** of high-hazard chemicals, with **product substitution** being the preferred alternative.

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### *Checkpoint Quiz*

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- 1. Which of the following represents the "true cost" of a chemical according to CSLM principles?**
- a) The initial purchase price from the vendor.
  - b) The purchase price plus the cost of PPE for the user.
  - c) All costs from procurement, storage, and handling through to waste disposal and labor.
  - d) The cost of the chemical minus any potential recycling credits.

**Answer:** (c). The true cost of a chemical must account for all stages of its lifecycle, including indirect management and disposal costs.

- 2. What is the preferred alternative when a user justifies the procurement of a "special hazard" chemical?**
- a) Increasing the frequency of safety audits for that chemical.
  - b) Product substitution with a non-hazardous or less hazardous material.
  - c) Purchasing the chemical in bulk to reduce the per-unit shipping cost.
  - d) Storing the chemical in an offsite warehouse to reduce facility risk.

**Answer:** (b). CSLM guidelines state that product substitution is the preferred alternative when controlling the procurement of special hazard chemicals.

- 3. How does the CSLM program interact with the Integrated Safety Management System (ISMS)?**
- a) It replaces the ISMS for all chemical-related laboratory tasks.
  - b) It operates as a separate, non-compliant guidance document for administrative staff.
  - c) it falls under the ISMS umbrella to ensure compliant, safety-integrated work planning.
  - d) It is only used when the ISMS fails to address environmental contamination.

**Answer:** (c). The CSLM program is designed to function within the existing ISMS and EMS frameworks to ensure regulatory compliance and worker protection.



## Module 2: Scope

### Learning Objectives

By the end of this section, you will be able to:

- **Identify** the specific regulatory frameworks and chemical categories that fall under the CSLM program's jurisdiction.
- **Evaluate** whether a specific substance or activity is subject to CSLM oversight based on federal standards.
- **Distinguish** between standard hazardous chemicals and the heightened requirements for special-hazard substances.

Executive Summary: The CSLM program encompasses the entire lifecycle of all chemicals and chemical-containing products, ranging from standard hazardous materials to high-risk explosives and reactive substances. It serves as a centralized compliance framework for a wide array of federal regulations, including OSHA, EPA, and DOT standards.

### Scope

This guide is applicable to all Chemical Safety and Lifecycle Management (CSLM) activities, including the **acquisition, use, storage, transportation, and disposition** of all chemicals and chemical-containing products. This includes, but is not limited to, the following regulated categories:

- **Hazardous Chemicals:** As defined in the OSHA **Hazard Communication Standard** (29 CFR 1910.1200, including Appendices A and B).
- **Highly Hazardous Chemicals:** Substances regulated under the OSHA Standard on **Process Safety Management** of Highly Hazardous Chemicals (29 CFR 1910.119) and the EPA **Risk Management Program** (40 CFR 68).
- **Hazardous Substances:** Regulated under the **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)** (40 CFR 302).
- **Extremely Hazardous Substances:** Regulated under the **Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA)** (40 CFR 355).
- **Toxic Chemicals:** Regulated under Section 313 of Title III of the **Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA)** (40 CFR 372).
- **Hazardous Materials:** Regulated under the **DOT Hazardous Materials Regulations** (49 CFR 172).
- **Wastes:** Regulated under the **Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)** (40 CFR 260-282).
- **Toxic Substances:** Regulated under the **Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)** (40 CFR 700-799).



## Special-Hazard Chemicals

Specific management rigor is required for materials that pose unique or extreme risks.

**⚠ Safety Constraint:** Special-hazard chemicals include **time-sensitive chemicals** (e.g., peroxide formers) which become hazardous upon prolonged storage, and **high-hazard chemicals** such as:

- Unstable reactive chemicals and shock-sensitive substances.
- Explosives and pyrophorics.
- NFPA Class 4 oxidizers and certain organic peroxides.
- High-acute-toxicity chemicals.

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### Checkpoint Quiz

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**1. A project manager is planning the transport of chemical waste across a site. Which regulatory frameworks must the CSLM program address for this activity?**

- a) Only the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard.
- b) Only the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).
- c) Both DOT Hazardous Materials Regulations and RCRA waste regulations.
- d) Only the EPA Risk Management Program.

**Answer:** (c). The CSLM scope explicitly covers transportation and waste-related activities under 49 CFR 172 and 40 CFR 260-282.

**2. Why are peroxide formers classified as "special-hazard chemicals" within the CSLM scope?**

- a) They are highly expensive to purchase.
- b) They are time-sensitive and become hazardous upon prolonged storage.
- c) They are only used in administrative environments.
- d) They are exempt from OSHA Hazard Communication standards.

**Answer:** (b). The Handbook defines special-hazard chemicals as those requiring specific oversight due to degradation or extreme reactive risks.

**3. True or False: The CSLM program only applies to the use and storage of chemicals, excluding acquisition and disposition.**

- a) True.
- b) False.

**Answer:** (b). The scope specifically includes acquisition, use, storage, transportation, and disposition.



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