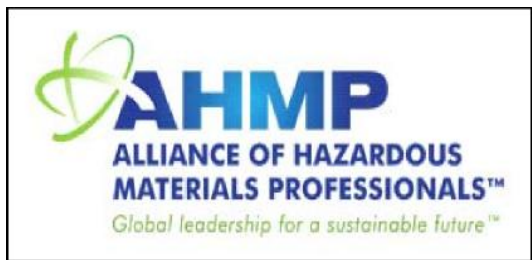


# The Hazardous Materials Manager

EASTERN WASHINGTON CHAPTER OF THE ACADEMY OF CERTIFIED HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGERS NEWSLETTER



## Eastern Washington Chapter of the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers

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## President's Corner

*By Roni Swan, PMP, CHMM, CM*



Can you believe it is Spring 2013 already? Time seems to be flying by and there is more to do now than ever. As your new 2013 EWC President, I would like to kick off the New Year in a positive way. Many of us are working for leaner companies with expanded responsibilities. As such, the Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) credential has become more important than ever. So, if you have received your CHMM credential, congratulations! If you have not yet taken the exam, 2013 is a great year for you to improve your qualifications and meet your career goals.

The CHMM and the Certified Hazardous Materials Practitioner (CHMP) credentials are the hazmat industry's premier accredited professional credentials. These credentials not only recognize expertise, but have a significant impact on public health and safety, the environment, the community, and the country. The CHMM credential is designed for those professionals that manage hazardous materials and waste for the purpose of protecting public health/safety and the environment.

EWC is dedicated to the development of professionals involved with all aspects of hazardous materials management including environmental compliance, waste management, asbestos management, safety (including radiological), industrial hygiene, education, project management, analytical services, quality assurance, and engineering. EWC believes you want to continue pursuing opportunities to learn and grow professionally. With that in



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mind, EWC will host a CHMM Overview Course in June 2013. This year's course will provide the information for you to pass the CHMM exam, as well as give others (practicing professionals) an opportunity to become more knowledgeable in other areas (like safety or environmental). For example, Radiological or Education professionals can take this class to broaden their overall understanding of hazardous materials management. I think it is an opportunity to receive current and timely information. Hope to see you there.

Please send me an email at [rhonda\\_j\\_roni\\_swan@rl.gov](mailto:rhonda_j_roni_swan@rl.gov) if you have any ideas on ways EWC can support the community or cultivate hazardous materials excellence this year.

## Presentation Announcement



***February 28<sup>th</sup> (Thursday)***

**Richland Library (Conference Room –A&B) at 6:00 p.m.**

***Presentation Title: Polychlorinated Biphenyls, A New Understanding  
River Toxics Reduction Strategy***

***Note: This meeting is free and open to the public.***

***Light refreshments will be served.***



Ms. Adriane P. Borgias, MSEM, CHMM, (Washington State Department of Ecology) will be providing a presentation on Thursday, February 28, 2013. She will discuss Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) and a cutting edge approach for addressing PCBs. The challenge of reducing PCBs at the source is a national, even global issue as PCBs are globally transported, do not easily degrade, and bioaccumulate in the food chain. The EPA National Listing of Fish Advisories lists more than 1200 water bodies in the United States where the PCB concentrations in fish render it unsafe to eat. There is also mounting evidence that even low levels of persistent chemicals have negative biological impacts of endocrine and neurological systems.

PCBs are ubiquitous in the environment, not only as the result of legacy uses of Aroclors but, significantly, from residual PCBs that are still being legally produced as "inadvertent contaminants" in industrial processes. This presentation provides the historical and regulatory context to the issue, describes the changes, challenges, and solutions needed for effective source control of PCBs.

## How to Improve Communication

By Jinnene Foster, eHow



Jinnene Foster has worked as a freelance writer for advertising and personal health outlets since 2007. She teaches college-level writing courses. Foster's articles have appeared on Rollickguides.com and various other websites. Foster holds a Master of Arts in literary journalism from DePaul University.

*Communication, whether for business or in personal relationships, can always be improved. That's not to say many businesses and relationships are not ultimately successful. Key in targeting any communication goal, however, is a constant pursuit to achieve greater efficiency. Where, then, might communication be enhanced? Active listening, asking questions and offering suggestions, for example, can each lead to greater trust between people. Important to realize is that strong communicators are not born, they are created.*

1. **Communication Begins With Listening.** Actively listen. Have you ever noticed how powerful it is when someone actually hears what you are saying, and appears genuinely concerned? In order to actively listen, establish eye contact with the speaker. Give him or her the attention you would appreciate if you were the speaker. Subtle gestures like nodding or titling the head, and offering simple statements like "I see," or "I can imagine," give the person speaking the feeling that you care, and that you can be trusted.
2. **Ask questions.** Not only does this tell a person that you're interested in what he or she is saying, but it also helps you learn about that person. Believe it or not, the more you know about someone, the more likely you are to develop an emotional attachment to that person. This will also allow you to feel safe in sharing information as well.
3. **Offer suggestions if appropriate.** If the person you are talking to seeks advice or input, wait until he or she is finished talking, and then give your perspective on the issue raised. It's possible that even offering a small story of your own relating to the topic in question is enough; to this effect, the other party will understand that you can empathize. Sharing stories is the most direct route to building personal bonds.
4. **Maintain a light, airy atmosphere with optimism or humor.** Of course this doesn't mean you would tell a joke directly after a person tells you of a personal death. But in any case, you might offer a statement that enhances that person's strength. If, for instance, the other communicator does share something intense like personal loss, you might remind this person that he or she must be an extraordinary person to survive such trials. Key to happy communicating is positivism.
5. **Strive to talk less, and listen more.** Though this can seem difficult at times, as everyone wants to be heard, seek to be the person in the world you feel you need. Create within yourself skills that others will want to emulate. Like patience, listening can take a long time to master. But with diligence, you can tackle the goal to listen more. And then steadily, you will notice that improving communication leads to more successful relationships.

Read more: [How to Improve Communication at: eHow.com](http://www.ehow.com/how) <http://www.ehow.com/how>

# The Hazardous Materials Manager

## INSTITUTE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

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### Specification Blueprint for the Certified Hazardous Materials Manager Effective 1 July 2013

A Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) is a professional who manages hazardous materials and waste for the purpose of protecting public health and safety and the environment, and provides proper controls for material handling, transportation, and security through applicable scientific and engineering technologies, best management practices, resource management, and regulatory compliance.

The CHMM examination is a testing instrument designed to evaluate candidates seeking professional certification in the field of hazardous materials management. This Specification Blueprint is intended to offer guidance to candidates by outlining reasonably expected duties and tasks based on surveys of what hazardous materials managers do in practice. The Blueprint below describes the subject matter covered by the examination. All test items will be drawn from among the duty areas of the Specification Blueprint.

This Specification Blueprint lists below each duty area with tasks given under each duty. A percentage label accompanies each duty area in this Specification Blueprint. This percentage represents the proportion of the actual CHMM examination devoted to that duty area. Tasks provide reference for activities conducted under each duty area.

#### Specification Blueprint for the CHMM Examination

Duty area	Percent portion of examination	Tasks
Planning for Materials with Hazards	7.9 percent	Determine material hazards, Conduct pollution prevention opportunity assessment (PPOA), Analyze operations, Develop permits, Develop program plans, Develop SOPs
Shipping and Transporting Materials with Hazards	7.6 percent	Ensure proper packaging, Ensure proper labeling, Ensure proper marking, Prepare shipping documents, Ensure proper placarding of vehicles, Track shipments of materials with hazards
Storing Materials with Hazards	8.5 percent	Determine storage location requirements, Manage inventory, Determine storage container, Determine proper container labeling, Determine proper signage, Control access to materials with hazards, Ensure storage meets requirements
Facility Operations Involving Materials with Hazards	8.2 percent	Determine engineering controls, Determine administrative controls, Determine PPE for materials with hazards, Implement Hazard Communication, Ensure process testing of materials with hazards is conducted, Ensure health, safety, and security standards are met for operations involving materials with hazards
Disposition of Materials with Hazards	11.8 percent	Characterize or profile materials with hazards, Determine disposition options, Prequalify



Accredited by the American National Standards Institute and  
the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards



## Ecology's New Risk Labeling Guidance

*Harold Tilden, CHMM*

A requirement to label dangerous waste containers with the major risk(s) of the waste was added to the Dangerous Waste Regulations in 1986. It has remained essentially unchanged during the intervening 27 years as follows:

"Each container or tank must also be marked with a label or sign which identifies the major risk(s) associated with the waste in the container or tank for employees, emergency response personnel and the public (Note – If there is already a system in use that performs this function in accordance with local, state, or federal regulations, then such system will be adequate.)"

This marking requirement applies to:

- Large quantity generators accumulating waste in 90-day accumulation areas [WAC 173-303-200(1)(d)]
- Satellite accumulation areas [WAC 173-303-200(2)(a)(ii)]
- Medium quantity generators [WAC 173-303-201(2)]
- Containers and tanks at treatment, storage, and/or disposal facilities [WAC 173-303-395(6), repeated at WAC 173-303-630(3) for containers and WAC 173-303-640(5)(d) for tanks]

In August 2012, Ecology issued a Focus sheet (Publication 12-04-016) entitled "Risk Labels Required for Dangerous Waste Containers." The guidance spoke to several long-standing issues in risk labeling, including:

- Identifying state-only toxicity as a major risk: The guidance states that this is required to be labeled, in contrast to previous Ecology policy. (The state criterion for persistence is still not required to be labeled, but other potential risks of persistent state-only waste may need to be reflected in labeling.)
- Criteria for Risk Labeling: Several risks that are not necessarily associated with dangerous waste criteria (e.g. nanoparticles, teratogens) are given as examples of "major risks" requiring labeling. The guidance also states that all major risks of the waste in the container are expected to be labeled, and that labeling must be prominent enough to be read from a distance.
- Department of Transportation (DOT) Labeling System: The guidance continues to endorse the DOT labeling system as "acceptable for use in most cases". However, the guidance warns generators not to rely on the Class 9 DOT label alone for identifying the major risk(s) of the waste.
- Incompatibility with DOT Labeling: The guidance notes that major risk labeling that does not comply with DOT labeling standards must be removed before transport. One example is that DOT considers the terms "poison" and "toxic" to be roughly equivalent to one another, where State dangerous waste criteria designate many substances as "toxic" that are not DOT poisons. A "WA Toxic" major risk label would generally have to be removed or obscured before offering a waste for transport under DOT requirements.

Ecology also offers free labels on their website to assist generators with compliance. CHMMs responsible for Dangerous Waste Regulations compliance should review the new guidance for potential impacts to activities they oversee.

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## Mistakes of the Past

(And How Not to Repeat Them!) - Part 9

“Information Please”

Harold Tilden, CHMM

[Author’s Note: This article is intended to take a look at past activities in the light of how to learn from them. No accusations of impropriety on anyone’s part are intended; usually the actions taken were “state of the art” at the time.]



A North Carolina resident driving by an industrial park in the evening smelled a strong smell of chlorine and called 911. The fire department responded and discovered a small “sofa-size” fire in one of the storage cells of a commercial hazardous waste storage facility in the industrial park. Since the fire department did not have immediate knowledge of the materials involved in the fire, the incident commander chose to take only defensive actions. Within minutes, the fire spread to the flammable liquid storage area, causing drums of waste to explode and send fireballs hundreds of feet into the air.

The fire was essentially allowed to burn itself out.



Ultimately, over 17,000 people were under evacuation orders for up to two days as part of the incident. One of the reasons for the large number of evacuations were (1) the contents of the facility were not immediately known, impeding assessment of the hazard; (2) the plume from the fire was large; and (3) the wind shifted several times during the course of the incident, putting new areas in danger. Complicating management of the response, shifting winds necessitated four different

relocations of the incident command post, evacuation of the city’s emergency operations center, and evacuation of police headquarters (911 calls had to be rerouted to the county).

Lessons Learned:

- Storing oxidizers close to flammables can make a bad situation worse unless there are strong barriers in place to prevent fire spread. The oxidizer and flammable cells were only separated by a six-inch curb at this facility – not enough to separate them in a fire. The oxygen released from some of the waste in the oxidizer cell contributed to rapid fire spread.
- This facility did not have an engineered fire suppression system, only portable fire extinguishers, so control of the spread of the fire would have put firefighters in danger. Engineered controls can be important in controlling a potential emergency.

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- The daily inventory of the facility was not readily available, and the first responders did not know where to look for it. Immediate availability of such information can prepare incident commanders with the information necessary to properly respond to a small fire before it becomes a large one. The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board recommended that EPA require facilities to prepare inventory information for Local Emergency Planning Committees to aid them in preparing for incidents.

## Looking for New EWC Members and Volunteers! Do you have what it takes?



Membership and participation in the Eastern Washington Chapter (EWC) is open to all individuals regardless of CHMM status. To join the local chapter, mail your name and contact information (membership application is available from the website at <http://www.ewcachmm.org>). The dues are \$25 annually.

Community involvement and volunteering can reduce stress. Studies have shown that when you focus on someone other than yourself, it interrupts the usual tension-producing patterns. It can also make you healthier. Moods and emotions, like optimism, joy, and control over one's fate, strengthen the immune system. If you have any time to volunteer, send a note to either Roni Swan at [rhonda\\_j\\_roni\\_swan@rl.gov](mailto:rhonda_j_roni_swan@rl.gov), Wade Winters at [wade@regulatoryresources.net](mailto:wade@regulatoryresources.net), Harold Tilden at [harold.tilden@pnnl.gov](mailto:harold.tilden@pnnl.gov) or Chuck Mulkey at [Charles\\_H\\_Mulkey@rl.gov](mailto:Charles_H_Mulkey@rl.gov).

## EWC Supporting Students at the Mid Columbia Science Fair in March – Volunteers Needed

Hundreds of Eastern Washington students will demonstrate their scientific skills on Thursday March 7th, 2013, at the Columbia Center Mall, in Kennewick, WA. The fair is open to students in grades 6 through 12, that are from any public or private school in the Mid-Columbia region of Washington and Northeastern Oregon. The awards ceremony will be on March 9th at Chief Joseph Middle School Auditorium located at 504 Wilson, Richland, WA.

EWC-ACHMM will be selecting winners and providing awards that meet specific hazardous materials management criteria in line with the CHMM mission. Some of the focus areas are environmental, waste management, safety, industrial hygiene, education, analytical services, and/or engineering. The EWC mission encompasses the following four areas: (1) Environmental Health and Safety, (2) Regulatory Compliance and Policy, Science and Technology, and (4) Materials Handling, Emergency Response, and Remediation.

**Judges to support this activity are needed!** If you would like to be a judge, please contact Scot Adams at [scadams@hotmail.com](mailto:scadams@hotmail.com). Many of the Hanford contractors will allow work time to be used for this activity.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### ANSI Grants IHMM Continued Accreditation for 2013

ROCKVILLE, Maryland (December 18, 2012) – The Institute of Hazardous Materials Management (IHMM) is very pleased to announce that the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has granted IHMM continued accreditation under the International Standard Conformity Assessment, *General Requirements for Bodies Operating Certification of Persons* (ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024), for another year. After a review of IHMM's 2012 Annual on-site audit report, The Personnel Certification Accreditation Committee (PCAC) at their 4 December 2012 meeting officially moved to continue IHMM's accreditation.

“ANSI accreditation offers the Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM®) and the Certified Hazardous Materials Practitioner (CHMP™) credentials the added recognition of independent global validation as hazardous materials professionals,” said Elizabeth R. Pfeiffer, Chair of the IHMM Board of Directors. “IHMM continues to conform to the highest independent, third party accreditation standard available in the scientific and global communities for the delivery of competencies exams.”

ANSI's accreditation program for personnel certification bodies is based on the international standard ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024. In addition to an annual comprehensive review of a paper application, ANSI assessors conduct an on-site assessment every other year to validate information provided by each certifying body. Nearly 2.5 million professionals hold credentials from an ANSI accredited certification body, offering the Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) and the Certified Hazardous Materials Practitioner (CHMP) credentials global reach and recognition.

### About the Institute of Hazardous Materials Management

For over 25 years the Institute of Hazardous Materials Management, a not-for-profit organization founded in 1984, has been protecting the environment and the public's health, safety, and security through the administration of credentials recognizing professionals who have demonstrated a high level of knowledge, expertise, and excellence in the management of hazardous materials.

Over 16,000 homeland security, environmental protection, engineering, health sciences, transportation, and public safety professionals have earned IHMM's accredited Certified Hazardous Materials Manager credential. IHMM also administers the Certified Hazardous Materials Practitioner credential and the Hazardous Materials Manager-in-Training program.

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