



“I want Capital Metro to “raise the bar” and become a leader among other Texas transit agencies when it comes to environmental sustainability. The ESMS Program is not only a good business practice; it’s the right thing to do for our agency and our community.”

— Linda S. Watson
President and CEO



METRO

“Environmental stewardship is another area that we must take a leadership role if we are to successfully promote public transportation as a green solution. From the Board of Trustees on down, the District is committed to doing our very best to make our ESMS a model for the transit industry.”

— Bill Volk
Managing Director



courtesy of Mass Transit Magazine

— Mike Harbour
General Manager



PEER
center

Virginia Tech is an EMS Local Resource Center designated by US EPA to assist public and private entities in using EMS to implement green initiatives and sustainable practices



For More Information about the institute contact **Bob Herbert**.

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Participants attend the EMS Institute, comprised of four workshops, at the Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center (shown left) in Roanoke, Virginia.

Green solutions for sustainable communities!



emsINSTITUTE
environmental & sustainability management system

In support of Presidential Executive Order # 13422, Virginia Tech is pleased to offer Round 4 of Environmental & Sustainability Management System transit training using the ISO 14001 standard. Previous transit agencies have reported:

- significant progress towards sustainability efforts
- dramatic cost reductions in operations
- enhanced level of confidence that operations are in compliance with federal and state environmental standards.





“Transit stakeholders in the Atlanta region expect MARTA leaders to manage the business in a conservative manner. This ideology extends beyond fiscal responsibility to encompass social and environmental responsibilities as well. At times,

balancing the demands of financial sponsors and maintaining an aging infrastructure can be challenging. The EMS program can be used to systemically identify ways to better manage operations and resources.”

— Mr. Dwight A. Ferrell
Deputy General Manager/Chief
Operating Officer



WHAT IS AN EMS?

An environmental management system is a set of management processes and procedures that allows an organization to analyze, control and reduce the environmental impact of its activities, products and services and operate with greater efficiency and control. An EMS is appropriate for all kinds of organizations of varying sizes in public and private sectors.

The basic elements of an EMS include:

- Reviewing the organization's environmental goals
- Analyzing its environmental impacts and legal requirements
- Setting environmental objectives and targets to reduce environmental impacts and comply with legal requirements
- Establishing programs to meet these objectives and targets
- Monitoring and measuring progress in achieving the objectives
- Ensuring employees' environmental awareness and competence
- Reviewing progress of the EMS and making improvements

workshop 1 | August 5–8, 2013
workshop 2 | November 18–21, 2013
workshop 3 | February 24–27, 2014
workshop 4 | June 9–12, 2014

- Baseline Environmental Review (one day on-site at your agency)
- WebEx Team Conference Calls (midway between workshops)
- Senior Executive Conference Calls (week prior to next workshop)
- Homework Review (one hour individual team session the night before the workshop)
- Gap Audit (one day on-site conducted by ISO 14001 certified lead auditor)
- Final Audit (half day review of documents plus one day on-site with ISO 14001 certified lead auditor)

“The benefits have been considerable. We realized direct savings of over \$1.3 million in our first full year of implementation. Employees at every level work cleaner, more efficiently, and less wastefully.”

— Jerry Benson
Chief Operating Officer



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Your EMS Core Team consists of a minimum of the following five members:

- Senior Executive
- Management Representative
- Environmental Champion
- Operations Manager/ Superintendent
- Administrative /Executive Assistant.

Teams may choose to add additional members to the Core Team as class space permits.

Your EMS Core Team will travel to Roanoke for four three-day workshops spaced approximately three months apart.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

An EMS provides tools to help manage your organization's environmental impacts efficiently and to improve environmental stewardship across the entire organization. Organizations who have implemented an EMS have realized both environmental and business benefits.

Environmental benefits include:

- Reduction in the number, type and severity of compliance incidents;
- Improved relationships with state and federal regulators;
- Pollution and waste quantify reductions;
- Recovered resources;
- Reduction of air emissions; and
- Reduction of amount of oil in waste water.

Business benefits include:

- Enhanced public image with system users and the general public;
- Reduced regulatory oversight;
- Improved employee awareness and efficiency of potential environmental impacts of work activities;
- Improved communications and cooperation through training and outreach;
- Reinforcement of environmental processes currently in place;
- Proactive management systems for environmental issues;
- Captures employee knowledge (“institutional memory”) prior to retirements;
- Documentation of standard operating procedures;
- Institutionalization of best practices in and permanent improvements of on-time performance;
- Increased fuel economy; and
- Increased management awareness of environmental issues.

“The goal of ESMS here at RTD is to create a business practice that is sustainable, eco-friendly and has benefits not only for the employees here today but the community in general and for our families and kids for generations to come... Every RTD employee has the responsibility of environmental stewardship and sustainability.”

— Donna DeMartino
General Manager/CEO

