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INNOVATIVE RESEARCH FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

SUPERFUND AND TECHNOLOGY LIAISON PROGRAM

The Superfund and Technology Liaison (STL) Program was established in 1990 to facilitate regional access to ORD laboratories, provide technical support, and assist with the integration of science and technology into decision making for hazardous waste programs. The STL Program was created by the Office of Research and Development (ORD), in cooperation with the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) and the EPA regional offices. The program is managed by ORD's Office of Science Policy (OSP).

STL Responsibilities

- Provide technical support to the Superfund, RCRA, and Brownfields Programs
- Facilitate technology and information transfer through planning and conducting training, workshops, and conferences; developing issue papers and scientific journal papers; engaging in regional and national technical workgroups and forums.
- Coordinate technical assistance, including site-specific consultation, through ORD's TSCs and other agency sources of expertise.
- Work with regional and ORD staff to communicate research priorities and their accomplishments.

Who are STLs?

STLs are ORD senior scientists and engineers located in the EPA regional offices supporting the hazardous waste programs. STLs are an important link between the Regions and the expertise in the ORD labs. STLs work to ensure that EPA science is applied in regional waste cleanup projects by coordinating with ORD researchers, regional staff, and the ORD Technical Support Centers (TSCs). Having these ORD staff "on the ground" also provides input to ORD for future research needs. One of the most important tasks of STLs is to assist project managers in the regional hazardous waste programs with technical support that will help them make scientifically defensible decisions during their site cleanup work.

What are TSCs?

ORD's Technical Support Centers are specialized resource centers that provide technical expertise to address high-priority hazardous waste issues in EPA regional offices. The TSCs can be accessed directly or by contacting the regional STL.

Expertise Available at the TSCs

1. **Site Characterization and Monitoring TSC (SCMTSC)**—Provides site characterization assistance by supporting the use of state-of-the-science methods and technologies for identifying contaminants, determining levels and concentrations, and identifying geographic extent of contamination.
2. **Ground Water and Ecosystems Restoration TSC**—Provides site-specific assistance on ground water and subsurface contamination problems in site remediation.
3. **Engineering TSC**—Provides site-specific assistance on engineering and treatment issues of site cleanup. Helps incorporate technology-based data needs and site-specific remedy options.
4. **Ecological Risk Assessment TSC**—Provides guidance on the development and/or application of tools, models, and methods to evaluate potential ecological risks and ecosystem impacts.

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For more information on the STL Program, please visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/osp/regions/liaisons.htm>