

Industrial Safety introduces IHOPS

from Marshall's Safety Office

The Industrial Safety Department unveiled a new database application in late October that promises a reduction in safety paperwork for supervisors.

The Inventory of Hazardous Operations, or IHOPS, is designed to combine several supervisory safety responsibilities into a single process. The new process is expected to become easier and faster than the multiple processes the Marshall Center used previously.

The project to develop and implement the IHOPS system, under way for the past year, involved most Industrial Safety Department personnel and their Hernandez Engineering Inc. support contractor counterparts.

"We recognized that the existing processes were cumbersome and time-consuming for our customers," said Dennis Davis, Industrial Safety Department Team lead. "Civil service and contractor supervisors often had real difficulty in satisfying the SHE — Safety, Health and Environmental — Program requirements.

"Our goal was to merge related compliance activities into one simplified process offering easy access to needed information, and providing definite feedback to supervisors when compliance is achieved."

IHOPS will allow Marshall organizations to complete and submit their annual

Inventory of Hazardous and Potentially Hazardous Operations electronically, through the Supervisor Safety Web page. Recognizing the time constraints supervisors must contend with, the capability to save and store work during the assessment process was designed into the program. IHOPS offers a convenient method for assigning the Facility Risk Indicator (FRI) required by MWI 8715.15, identifying the corresponding hazard assessment documents, and receiving Industrial Safety Department concurrence.

For many hazardous and potentially hazardous operations, links to reference and regulatory information have been included in the appropriate self-assessment compliance checklists. These features make it easier for supervisors to identify and understand the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and Marshall requirements that apply to an operation, and to evaluate the adequacy of the hazard controls they have in place. When it becomes necessary to create or update hazard analysis documents, quick access to the linked information will simplify the writing process. IHOPS will be a dynamic resource, with additional reference links and checklists being added as they are identified or developed.

Marshall organizations will gain a "one-stop" means of tracking their progress in completing required safety assessments, checking safety concurrence with hazard analysis documentation,

verifying regulatory compliance, and assuring state-of-the-art worker protection programs. IHOPS also permits supervisors to request technical assistance from the Industrial Safety Department with the click of a button. Once supervisors and their designees enter their data into the IHOPS and receive concurrence from Marshall's Safety Office, completing required reviews and updates will be quick and easy.

The Center gains a centralized, up-to-date repository of data concerning its hazardous locations and operations. IHOPS will enable Industrial Safety to effectively disseminate information regarding changes in regulatory requirements, advances in hazard control, lessons learned, and safety alerts to affected organizations and personnel. The Marshall Center will gain the capability to identify its "technical experts" in specific types of hazards, and pool their knowledge when needed to develop and improve worker protection programs.

IHOPS can be accessed at: http://msfcsma3.msfc.nasa.gov/s&ma_01/ihops/ or by using the links provided on the Web pages for the SHE Program, Voluntary Protection Program activity, or Supervisor Safety Web page. The IHOPS page includes training material introducing the IHOPS program, as well as printable instructions for using the database.

75 percent of Marshall equipment inventoried

As of Nov. 9, more than 75 percent of the 41,264 items of Marshall equipment has been inventoried.

The physical inventory of all government-owned equipment will continue through Dec. 31.

The inventory schedule is on the Web at:

<http://inv2001.msfc.nasa.gov>

