



**UNIVERSITY OF
ALBERTA**

**Panel Discussion on Lab Safety
CoR Summer Meeting
National Energy Technology Lab**

Presented by

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Outline

Why?

How?

Future

WHY? -The Challenges We Faced

- An inconsistent safety/compliance culture
- Inconsistent communications / use of terminology
- Changing legislative environment
- Lack of clear accountabilities
- Credibility issues
- Ineffective use of limited resources
- A lack of a true systems approach

What Was The Solution?



Build a health and safety management system that would work for the University of Alberta

A health and safety management system is interrelated structures and processes put in place by an employer to minimize the risk of injury and illness.

This includes the:

- Organizational structure
- Planning activities
- Responsibilities
- Practices, procedures, processes
- Resources for developing, implementing, achieving, reviewing and maintaining an organization's OH&S policy

(source: BS OHSAS 18001)

EHS Policy

Clearly articulates the accountabilities and responsibilities of the Chief Environment and Safety Officer (CESO) including:

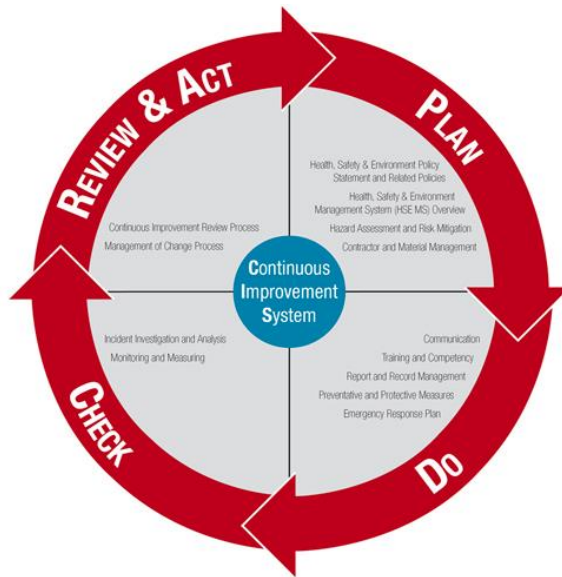
- Ensures EHS MS is in place
- Ensures EHS team has necessary skills, qualifications and resources
- Has authority to shut down operations/labs/research
- Reporting requirements
- Compliance

EHS Policy

Clearly articulates the accountabilities and responsibilities of every member of the community including:

- President
- Senior administrators
- Faculty members and supervisors
- EHS Senior Administrators Committee
- Faculty/Portfolio EHS committees
- EHS designate on EHS committee
- EHS department
- University community

Principle Behind EHS Structure



- EHS MS based on the Plan/Do/Check/Act
- Leadership team establishes priorities
- Systems Planning and Development team plans/develops & communicates new programs/initiatives
- System Implementation and Collaboration team are the doers and work with University Community.
- Operations team are the checkers and they do the inspections to determine if the programs are working and provide training

Final Observations

- Good progress to date
- Significant work to complete
- Fundamental changes were essential to improve university's health and safety practices

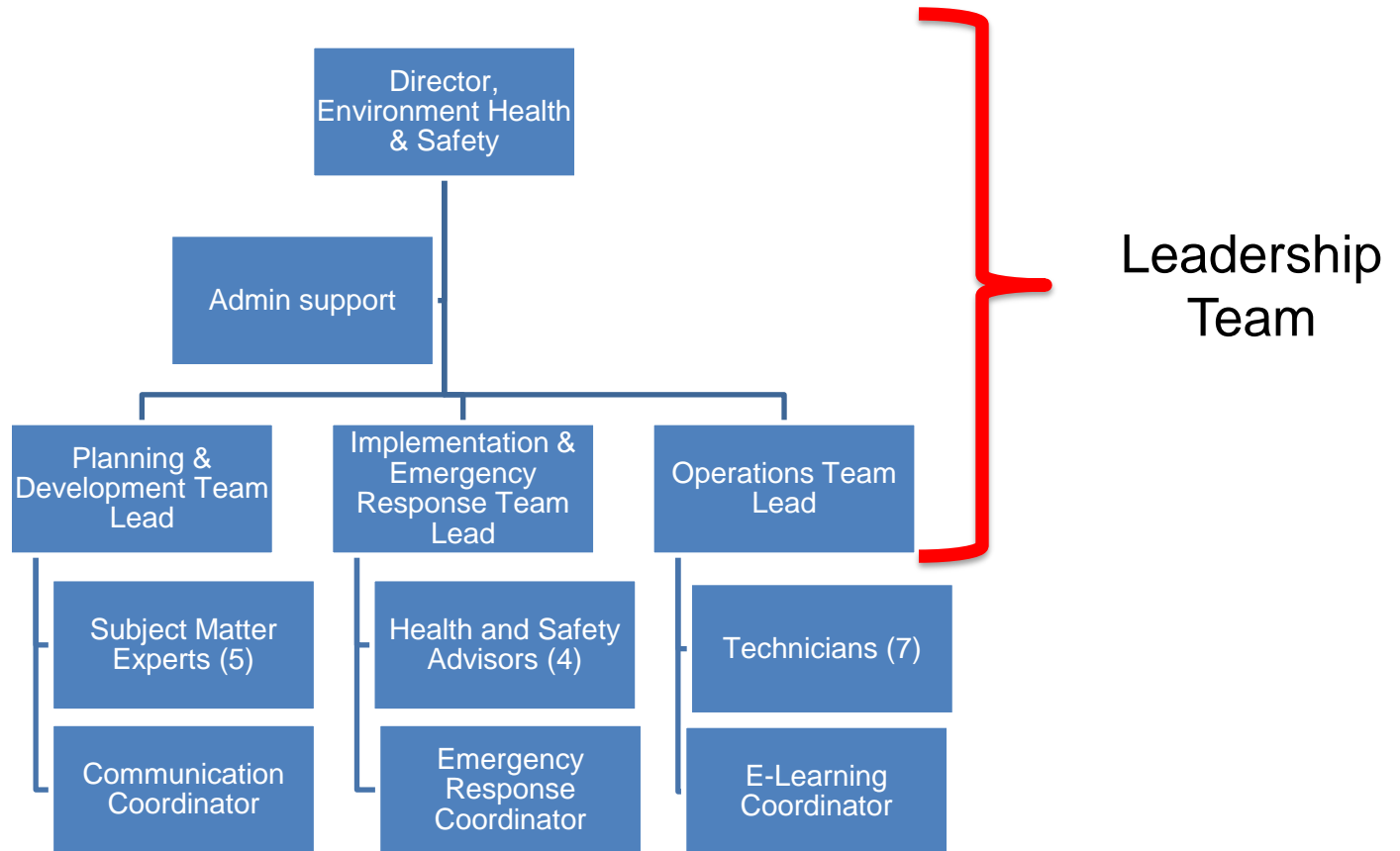
Critical Success Factors

- Senior executive support
- Board support – board health and safety moments
- Stay the course
- Dedicated change management process within EHS – resistance was huge
- Transitioning staff as required
- Walk don't run – it's a minimum five-year journey
- Get simple wins – PPE compliance
- Communicate, communicate, communicate

Thank You

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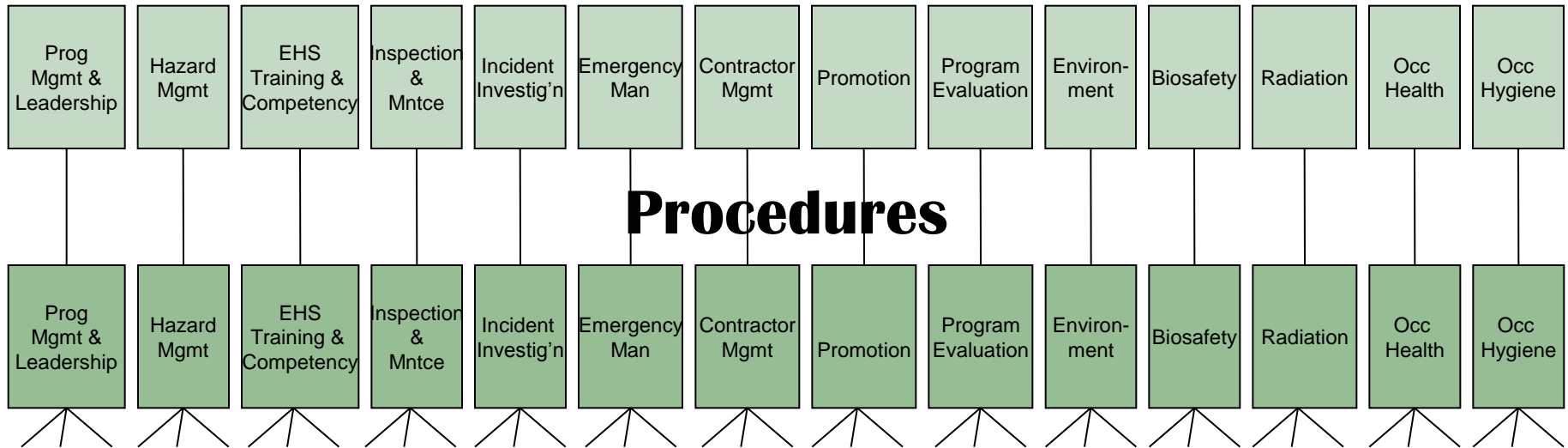
Current EHS Organization Chart



EHS MS Framework



Assignment of Accountabilities



Forms & Guidelines

Presentation Outline

- 1. Overview of the University of Alberta**
- 2. The challenges we faced**
- 3. What is a health and safety management system?**
- 4. Out with the old and in with the new**
- 5. Accomplishments**
- 6. Critical success factors**