

Onsite Services
Chemical Management

Success story

Full life-cycle chemical management

ENSURING AUDIT COMPLIANCE THROUGH EFFICIENT CHEMICAL INVENTORY PRACTICES

CHALLENGE

A major specialty chemical company was struggling to reduce audit findings in its quality control and R&D labs for cGMP chemical production. The most common concern involved expired containers. The facility needed to reduce on-hand inventory of old chemicals to prevent being out of compliance and to acquire the correct regulatory and safety data. Employees often purchased chemicals that were already in stock but couldn't be located, leading to expiration of current inventory. Scientists were also spending too much time searching labs and storage space to identify expired chemicals before audits and locate chemicals needed for daily research.

SOLUTION

The facility engaged Avantor Services to implement a chemical tracking system, perform initial chemical inventory, and establish an ongoing process that would work with the limited resources at the site. User-friendly chemical management software met the company's needs and enabled them to quickly generate the data needed for audits and internal management use. The company's chemical containers are now immediately bar-coded upon receipt and tracked in a central database. Expiration dates are clearly marked on the containers, and reports are automatically generated to track when chemicals need to be tested.

CHALLENGE

Without an efficient system to report and dispose of expired chemical containers, the company was struggling to maintain compliance during audits.

SOLUTION

With software and onsite support, Avantor Services enabled an ongoing program for managing expired chemicals and ensuring audit compliance.

RESULT

The company reduced corrective actions to zero as a result of the program, and the time needed to prepare for an audit has dropped from three days to 30 minutes.

"Previously, we had chemicals stored together that shouldn't have been. It was pretty frightening. When Avantor Services helped us do an inventory audit during implementation, we found all sorts of dangerous situations. It's taken a lot of the stress off to know that this doesn't exist anymore."

-The Company's Laboratory Manager

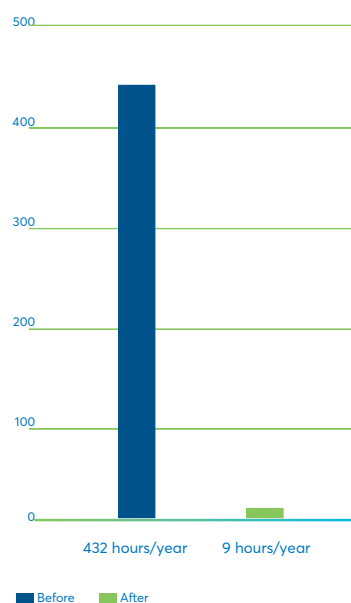
RESULT

As a result of the program implementation, the company reduced corrective actions resulting from an audit from 18 to zero. The time needed to prepare for an audit, whether scheduled or unplanned, has decreased from as much as three days to 30 minutes. The facility also achieved OSHA compliance, and their MSDS information for their chemicals is easier to find and access.

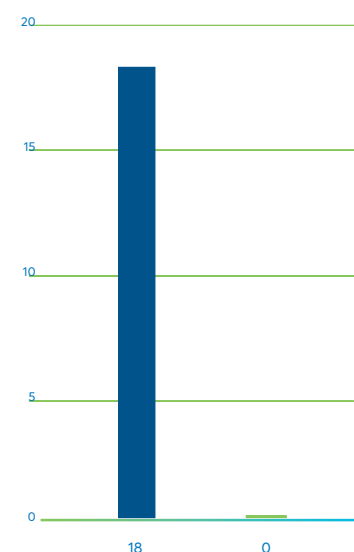
Additionally, the company can:

- Identify and remove unwanted hazardous materials in an organized and consolidated fashion
- Remain current with on-going removal of containers prior to expiration date
- Expend less resource effort for audits and daily chemical materials acquisition
- Readily find chemical materials, avoiding repurchase or rush shipments

Time Spent Preparing for Audits



Audit Findings



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