

Auditing Projects

Client: Chevron Research & Technology Company (CRTC)

Dr. Schwerdtfeger was the Project Manager on a multiple year program where approximately 100 treatment, storage and disposal facilities (TSDFs) were evaluated to determine their financial stability, operational procedures and the potential for on-site contamination. She performed audits herself and oversaw junior staff to determine Chevron's risk associated with the long-term use of TSDFs.

Client: Ameron

Dr. Schwerdtfeger audited several facilities in Southern California for Ameron to determine their compliance with federal, state and local environmental regulations. The sites manufacture concrete pipes and streetlight poles.

Client: Hill Pet Nutrition

Dr. Schwerdtfeger performed a multi-media compliance audit to assist the EHS Manager with identifying areas of improvement for air, water and hazardous waste. The facility manufactures pet food in Commerce, CA.

Client: Confidential

For a refinery, Dr. Schwerdtfeger served a team member for a detailed compliance audit that USEPA required as part of a settlement agreement. She was responsible for the following audit domains: air, EPCRA and GHGs. Each finding was substantiated with photos in preparation for additional enforcement action by USEPA.

Client: Lockheed Martin

Dr. Schwerdtfeger served as the PM for an "exit audit" from the 20-acre Kearny Mesa facility in San Diego which had been leased for 2 years. Dr. Schwerdtfeger was able to show that Lockheed Martin had not damaged or contaminated the property during the lease period.

Client: Northrop Corporation

Dr. Schwerdtfeger served as PM on a pre-lease assessment of a sealant/coating repackaging warehouse facility in Southern California. Northrop wished to lease the facility and identify any potential liabilities left behind by the previous occupant. She also served as PM on a pre-lease assessment of 10 buildings at the Redstone Arsenal in Alabama for Northrop, who intended to lease these buildings and needed to document previous activities and any potential liabilities from previous tenants. Of particular concern was the presence of explosives and energetic residuals from the previous rocket manufacturing processes.

Client: Medtronics

Dr. Schwerdtfeger performed a comprehensive multi-media compliance audit for this facility which manufactures heart valves for cardiac patients in Santa Ana, CA. The facility needed a detailed assessment in preparation for an upcoming audit by its corporate group.

Client: Various Power Companies and Utilities

Dr. Schwerdtfeger completed eighteen (18) greenhouse gas (GHG) verifications to demonstrate conformance with CARB requirements for mandatory reporting. The on-site audits required employee interviews, assessment of compliance with regulatory compliance, and preparation of an issues log to describe the audit findings.

Client: Confidential Manufacturer of Energy Storage Systems

Dr. Schwerdtfeger provided third party auditing expertise for the identification, characterization and disposal of 20,000 ultra-capacitors (UCs) and other hazardous wastes during a bankruptcy proceeding. Some of the UCs were leaking acetonitrile, which can be immediately dangerous to life and health if inhaled. Other UCs were still intact and had resale value. In addition, unopened containers of solvent, oils and paint were observed at the facility and documented in the audit report.

Client: University of California Irvine, Extension Program

Dr. Schwerdtfeger developed a new online course for UC Irvine called Multi-Media Environmental Compliance: <http://unex.uci.edu/courses/sectiondetail.aspx?year=2011&term=Fall&sid=00091> In addition, Dr. Schwerdtfeger serves as an Advisory Board Member in UC Irvine's Environmental Management Certificate Program: <http://unex.uci.edu/certificates/facilities/environmental/>