**Toxic Release Inventory**

**State Data Exchange (SDX)**

**E X C H A N G E  N E T W O R K  S U C C E S S  S T O R Y**

**Need for the Exchange Network**

The Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986 requires facilities to report Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) data to both EPA and their State. States and EPA each must process and reconcile these submissions. Because facilities provide TRI data in a variety of formats, processing the data is cumbersome for both the EPA and States. EPA’s TRI Made Easy (TRI-ME) software enables facilities to submit TRI data electronically to EPA. Without the Exchange Network solution, facilities would still have to submit data to States as well.

**The Benefits**

- Simultaneous submission to EPA and States means agencies have reports much more rapidly than in the past.
- Improved efficiency: States and EPA save time and money due to the streamlined data flow.
- Reduced facility reporting burden because facilities need only submit one report.
- Reduced data processing costs for the States.
- No need to reconcile State and EPA TRI data.

The SDX has reduced state time and effort processing TRI data. It has also reduced the reporting burden for facilities, who now submit TRI data once instead of twice.

**The Exchange Network Solution**

The TRI State Data Exchange (SDX) allows facilities to submit data to EPA and have it forwarded to states automatically. The effort began as a four-state pilot in 2005. Facilities in participating states can satisfy their reporting requirements by filing each report only once, to EPA. SDX then automatically forwards an electronic copy to the State. EPA’s Central Data Exchange (CDX) receives TRI submissions and certifies them before transmitting them to SDX members and sending receipt notification emails to facilities. States can use the SDX Viewer to view the status of TRI transmissions from CDX to their state.

TRI SDX now has 28 participating states, each able to receive raw TRI data in real time.

Some of the challenges to TRI SDX include ensuring the reliability of transmissions, ongoing operations and maintenance, and managing system complexity as more States begin participating and more facilities are submitting data.

In the future, the TRI SDX will explore improvements to the exchange of TRI data between EPA and the States, expand capabilities, and identify state volunteers to work with EPA to develop these and other enhancements.

**Image source:** [http://www.epa.gov/tri/stakeholders/state/state_exchange/index.htm#h2](http://www.epa.gov/tri/stakeholders/state/state_exchange/index.htm#h2)