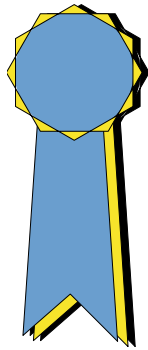


AIR QUALITY DATA EXCHANGE IN NEW JERSEY, NEW YORK, AND DELAWARE

Overview

THE AIR QUALITY DATA EXCHANGE (AQDE) was developed by the state environmental agencies of New Jersey, New York, and Delaware in strong col-



laboration with the U.S. EPA Air Program. AQDE is the exchange of ambient air monitoring data using a standard file format and data standards over the Exchange Network, making data available to EPA and state partners almost as quickly as it is collected. Working together, the states and EPA developed one common data exchange that provides Exchange Network partners with standard, automated access to more ambient air monitoring data than ever before while also reporting to both EPA air data systems – AQS and AirNow. This creates tremendous reporting efficiencies for the states, and more access to better data by EPA. The states and EPA also worked together to link AirNow Tech to the Exchange Network, providing a way to analyze AQDE data through this interactive, Internet-accessible mapping tool.

Problem Addressed

In the past, states could only access limited ozone and fine particle data through EPA's AIRNow system or older and limited air monitoring data from AQS, but to get actual concentrations or data on non-reported pollutants, the states had to contact each other to request the information. During 9/11, states were collecting important ambient air data but had no standard, automated way to share and use the data.

Description

Now, through the Exchange Network, AQDE flow partners can immediately share data machine-to-machine, and, thanks to the collaborative efforts between the states and EPA, use and analyze the data to make important environmen-

tal, homeland security, and health tracking decisions. It should also make deploying temporary monitoring sites in emergency situations more beneficial as states and EPA have immediate access to the new site data.



Leveraging the technology of the Exchange Network, and through strong collaboration between the states and the EPA Air Program, partners developed one common way to report to both EPA data systems and share more data state-to-state. New Jersey will also use AQDE to make its ambient air data available to its intra-state homeland security agency and to its sister health agency for health tracking efforts. That's one effort serving five different purposes!

The AQDE team is developing a video and brochure and will make it available through the ECOS Exchange Network website for interested states.

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