



# **Abu Dhabi EHSMS Regulatory Framework (AD EHSMS RF)**

**EHS Regulatory Instrument**

**Code of Practice**

**EHS RI - CoP 54.0 – Waste Management**

**Version 2.0 I**

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

With gratitude Abu Dhabi EHS Center acknowledges the great support provided by the Executive Council in facilitating the issuance of Abu Dhabi Emirate Environment, Health and Safety Management System (AD EHSMS) and its implementation at Emirate level.

The issuance of the system would not have been possible without the supervision, diligent efforts and productive recommendations of the AD EHS Center Board of Directors.

These documents (Regulatory Instruments) constitute the efforts of the Abu Dhabi EHS Center and the concerned Sector Regulatory Authorities and who worked together to integrate all relevant regulatory requirements under *AD EHSMS RF*. The input, contribution and constructive views of all sectors is highly appreciated.

May these documents prove to be beneficial and helpful in system implementation and in expanding the knowledge in the EHS field.



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## Preface

This Abu Dhabi EHS Regulatory Instrument was developed by the AD EHS Center in order to provide interim requirements until the Center for Waste Management - Abu Dhabi (CWM-AD) as the primary Competent Authority for this topic to sets further mandatory requirements.

Every effort was made in developing this document so that it does not conflict with existing local or federal laws and regulations. In case of conflict, requirements of the existing local and federal laws and regulations shall prevail, and all concerned are obliged to bring the same to the attention of AD EHS Center for resolution.

This AD EHS Regulatory Instrument has been developed, reviewed and approved, following the process as described in *AD EHSMS Implementation Guideline: The Integration of EHS Requirements in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi*, by the following stakeholders:

- Abu Dhabi EHS Higher Committee;
- Abu Dhabi EHS Center;
- Environment Agency Abu Dhabi;
- Department of Municipal Affairs;
  - Abu Dhabi Municipality;
  - Al Ain Municipality;
  - Western Region Municipality;
- Department of Transport – Abu Dhabi;
- Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Authority;
- Health Authority - Abu Dhabi;
- Higher Corporation for Specialized Economic Zones (ZonesCorp);
- Center for Waste Management – Abu Dhabi;
- Abu Dhabi Tourism Authority;
- Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority;
- Abu Dhabi Education Council
- Regulation and Supervision Bureau; and
- Other Relevant Federal and Local Competent Authorities.

The AD EHSMS consists of the following hierarchy of documents:

- AD EHSMS RF Elements - Mandatory System Requirements

#### EHS Regulatory Instruments:

- Standards and Guideline Values - Mandatory EHS threshold and exposure levels
- Codes of Practice - Mandatory EHS technical requirements – subject specific
- Mechanisms - Mandatory system implementation processes and procedures

#### Guidelines:

- Technical Guidelines - Non-mandatory guidance on how to implement an EHS Regulatory Instrument
- AD EHSMS Guidance Documents - Non-mandatory guidance and interpretation of an *AD EHSMS RF* concept and/or principle

Further, this document is not intended to conflict with any contractual obligations in effect at the time of its issuance. However, all future contracts shall adhere to applicable requirements stated herein, and existing long term contracts shall be brought into compliance with its requirements as soon as reasonably practicable as stipulated by relevant subject authorities.

This document will be reviewed periodically as part of the continual improvement cycle.

## 1. Introduction

- (a) This Code of Practice (CoP) applies to all employers within the Emirate of Abu Dhabi that generate waste, whether potentially hazardous or non-hazardous. This CoP is designed to incorporate requirements set by Abu Dhabi EHS Center and Sector Regulatory Authorities (SRA's) in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.
- (b) This CoP establishes the interim minimum requirements and standards for the handling and management of waste by entities so that the risks associated with the handling and disposal of waste are assessed, that control measures are implemented in accordance with the environmental hierarchy of controls, as per *AD EHSMS RF – Element 02 – Risk Management*, and that control measures are taken to prevent pollution.
- (c) This CoP establishes the interim minimum requirements for the handling, transport and disposal of waste, including recording and collection of waste data, and use of waste transport manifests.
- (d) This CoP does not apply to :
  - (i) wastes discharged to atmosphere in the form of gases, vapours, fumes, aerosols, dusts and particulates;
  - (ii) radioactive wastes; and
  - (iii) sewerage water or effluents released from the industries.
- (e) The waste transport interim requirements in this CoP do not apply in the following cases:
  - (i) the transportation of waste in case of an emergency to protect human health, the environment or property;
  - (ii) the transportation of waste for the purpose of waste categorization or in research, but only if this has been approved by the CWM-AD;
  - (iii) the transportation of waste by pipeline; or
  - (iv) the transportation of any residue of a substance in a container, if the container will be refilled with the same type of substance and the substance in the refilled container is intended for use.

## 2. Training and Competency

- (a) Employers shall ensure that EHS training complies with the requirements of:
  - (i) *AD EHSMS RF – Element 05 – Training and Competency*;
  - (ii) *AD EHS RI – Mechanism 7.0 – AD EHS Professional Entity Registration*; and
  - (iii) *AD EHS RI – Mechanism 8.0 – AD EHS Practitioner Registration*.
- (b) Employers shall ensure personnel required to implement the requirements of this CoP are trained in the requirements and understand the risks associated with waste handling and disposal and the control measures put in place by the employer.

- (c) Training for employees shall be competency-based and include:
- (i) waste classification and segregation;
  - (ii) waste storage, transport and disposal methods;
  - (iii) waste manifest / transfer note requirements;
  - (iv) specific hazardous waste requirements; and
  - (v) emergency procedures.
- (d) Employers shall maintain a record of the required training that contains the following information:
- (i) name and ID number;
  - (ii) Emirates ID number of the employee;
  - (iii) subject(s) of training;
  - (iv) dates(s) of training; and
  - (v) person(s) providing the training.

## 3. Requirements

### 3.1 Roles and Responsibilities

#### 3.1.1 Employer

- (a) Employers shall undertake their roles and responsibilities in accordance with the general requirements of *AD EHSMS RF – Element 01 – Roles, Responsibilities and Self-Regulation* Section 3.2.5.
- (b) Employers shall undertake appropriate risk assessment to ensure hazards from the generation, handling, segregation, recycling, storage, transportation and disposal of waste are identified and appropriate control measures are implemented as required by *AD EHSMS RF – Element 02 – Risk Management*.

#### 3.1.2 Employees

- (a) Employees shall undertake their roles and responsibilities in accordance with the general requirements of *AD EHSMS RF – Element 01 – Roles, Responsibilities and Self-Regulation* Section 3.2.7.

#### 3.1.3 Waste Classification

- (a) The identification and classification of different waste stream shall be based on:
  - (i) the definition of waste stipulated in *Law No. (21) of 2005 Concerning Waste Management in Abu Dhabi Emirate*;
  - (ii) the classification of hazardous wastes and medical wastes stipulated in *Regulation Concerning Handling of Hazardous Substance, Hazardous Wastes and Medical Wastes under the Executive Order Federal Law No. (24) of 1999*; and
  - (iii) waste classification guidelines by the Center for Waste Management – Abu Dhabi (CWM-AD).

#### 3.1.4 Waste Generator

- (a) All effort shall be dedicated towards minimising waste generation at the source, by preventing the generation of waste and introducing source segregation.
- (b) The waste generator shall:
  - (i) identify and classify the waste according to Section 3.1.3 of this CoP;
  - (ii) segregate non-hazardous / hazardous / medical waste to be recycled into appropriate recycling bins (glass, metal, plastics, paper, and cardboard), or special coded bins / containers for the hazardous waste;
  - (iii) ensure all wastes are stored on site correctly to minimise adverse impact to environment and human health, as per the applicable regulations of the CWM-AD and relevant laws in the Emirates;
  - (iv) ensure that incompatible wastes are not mixed;



- (v) ensure that Registered Service Providers (RSP's) have valid permits from the CWM-AD as per applicable requirements; and
  - (vi) ensure that all waste is transferred to an appropriate waste management facility that is permitted by the CWM-AD to receive the classified waste.
- (c) The waste generator remains the 'owner' of the waste and is thus responsible for the correct handling / disposal / reuse / recycling of the waste in accordance with this CoP within its premises until it leaves the generation point and is handed over to a permitted RSP to be taken to a CWM-AD designated facility for further treatment /disposal.
- (d) The waste generator is required to keep appropriate manifest / transfer notes records certificates as evidence of appropriate handling from the final destination of the waste for a period of at minimum 5 years.
- (e) If the waste management facility rejects the waste, the waste generator shall identify another appropriate location seeking guidance from the CWM-AD for the transportation / management of that waste.
- (f) If another location cannot be found, then the generator shall accept the rejected waste and find a way to manage that waste as per the CWM-AD directives in keeping with the requirements of this CoP.
- (g) Generators of industrial wastes shall determine the:
- (i) potentially hazardous properties of their waste; and
  - (ii) constituents of the waste that give rise to those potentially hazardous properties.
- (h) The generator of hazardous wastes shall:
- (i) be responsible for classifying the waste;
  - (ii) have a valid permit from the CWM-AD;
  - (iii) determine the potentially hazardous properties of their waste;
  - (iv) determine constituents of the waste that give rise to those potentially hazardous properties;
  - (v) ensure hazardous waste is stored and managed (including packaging, containment and labeling) according to the identified hazards to minimize risk to human health and the environment; and
  - (vi) complete relevant sections of the Manifest for Transporting Toxic and Hazardous Wastes as per all the applicable laws in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

### 3.2 Registered Service Providers

- (a) The Registered Service Provider (RSP) - waste collector / transporter - shall have a valid permit / license from the CWM-AD in order to transport waste in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.
- (b) Handling of hazardous wastes and medical wastes is prohibited without licensing from the relevant authorities within the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

- (c) The RSP shall record the waste consignment number and the Waste Transfer Note for a period of at least 5 years.
- (d) The RSP for hazardous wastes shall ensure the following:
  - (i) having a valid permit / license from the CWM-AD;
  - (ii) wastes received are stored correctly and are handled correctly during transportation;
  - (iii) the hazardous waste received is the same waste and same quantity as classified according to Manifest for Transporting Toxic and Hazardous Wastes (information provided by waste generator);
  - (iv) relevant sections of the Manifest for Transporting Toxic and Hazardous Wastes are completed accurately;
  - (v) a copy of the Manifest for Transporting Toxic and Hazardous Wastes shall be carried in the vehicle with the load at all times;
  - (vi) if the hazardous waste management facility rejects the waste, the RSP shall:
    - 1) obtain the Manifest for transporting Toxic and Hazardous Waste for the waste endorsed by the receiver stating the reasons for the rejection;
    - 2) forward the Manifest of the rejected wastes, including reasons for rejection to the waste generator;
    - 3) transport the waste to an alternative waste management facility as identified by the waste generator and/or the CWM-AD; and
    - 4) if another appropriate waste management facility is not identified by the waste generator and/or CWM-AD, the waste transporter shall transport the waste back to the waste generator.
  - (viii) having emergency management control measures in place in case of an accidental spill or incident;
  - (ix) holding appropriate insurance that shall include coverage for any clean up and remediation cost that may be incurred to protect the environment from incidents or spills transportation vehicles meet necessary requirements for the identified hazards; and
  - (x) the waste is being taken to a waste management facility permitted to receive hazardous wastes.

### 3.3 Waste Management Facility

- (a) A waste management facility includes:
  - (i) a waste transfer station;
  - (ii) landfill;
  - (iii) reuse and recycling facility / materials recovery facility;
  - (iv) storage facility;
  - (v) treatment facility;
  - (vi) incinerator;

- (vii) energy recovery facility; and
  - (viii) any other as identified by CWM-AD.
- (b) Waste management facilities shall have a valid permit / License issued by the CWM-AD in order to operate.
- (c) Waste management facilities shall ensure compliance with the emission and exposure Standards stipulated in the *Federal Environmental Law No. 24 of 1999* and *AD EHSMS RF*.
- (d) Handling of hazardous wastes and medical wastes is prohibited without licensing from the relevant authorities within the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.
- (e) All wastes leaving generators premises and taken to a waste management facility is licensed / permitted by the CWM-AD is the property of CWM-AD, unless specific contract conditions to the contrary are in place.
- (f) Sites licensed / permitted by the CWM-AD to store, recycle, treat, and/or dispose industrial wastes and/or hazardous waste shall keep appropriate records (manifests / transfer notes) of where the wastes received originated from, and the nature, composition, form and quantity of those wastes.

## 4. References

- *Abu Dhabi Law No. (21) of 2005*
- *Federal Environmental law No.24 of 1999*

