

# Air Program Self Assessment Pilot Project

Ministry of the Environment  
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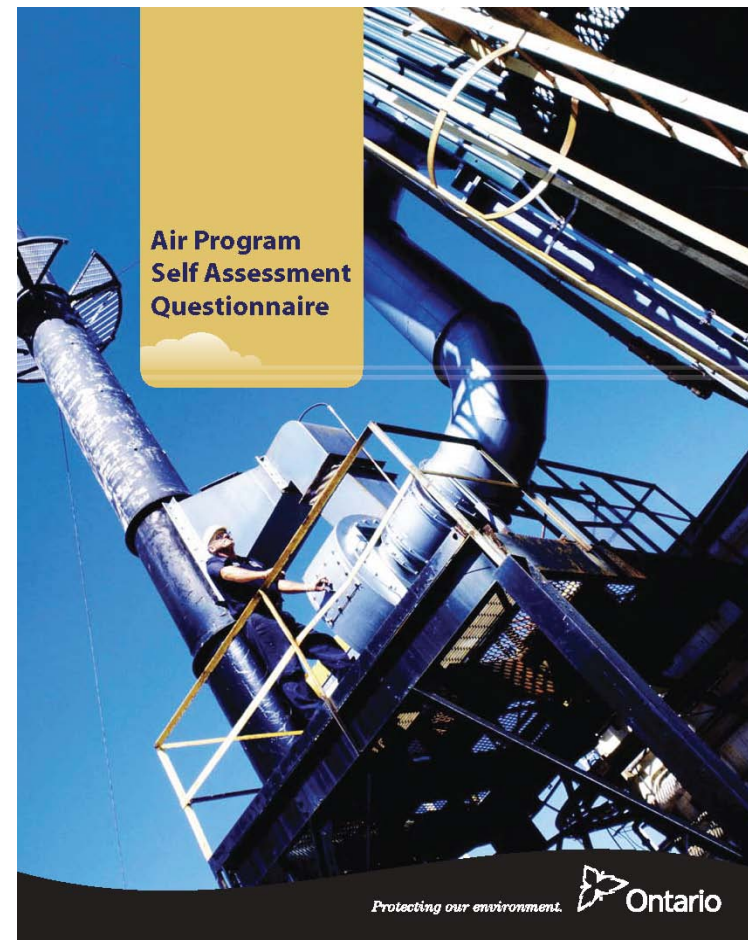
# What is the Air Program Self Assessment Pilot Project?

## Background:

- In March 2009 the ministry developed a self assessment tool that focused on compliance with Ontario air-related legislation
- The purpose of the Self Assessment is to encourage facilities to voluntarily evaluate their compliance with environmental legislation related to air emissions
- The goals of the Self Assessment project are to:
  - ✓ Improve environmental compliance at facilities by developing a “one stop” document to explain pertinent air-related legislation
  - ✓ Increase the efficiency, effectiveness
- The document has two parts; a questionnaire and a survey
- The tool provides air-related compliance information in a clear and easy to understand format

## Expected Outcomes:

- Enable the ministry to reach companies using a pro-active approach
- Empower companies to enhance their understanding of the legislation and their requirements
- Encourage companies to review their operations for continual improvement



# Air Program Self Assessment Distribution

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## Phase 1

- Since June 2009, 712 facilities from 5 sectors\* have been targeted for Self Assessment. Sent to:
  - ✓ Facilities on the 2009/2010 inspection plan; and
  - ✓ Facilities within those sectors a that were not planned for inspection

## Phase 2

- Since October 2009, EAAB began distributing assessments to facilities that have been issued a CofA

## Phase 3

- WCR-PSS met with furniture manufacturing (OEL participant) to discuss sector based outreach approach



# Self Assessment Results

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## Data Analysis mail surveys:

- 3% surveys have been completed and received
  - ✓ Over 70% considered the Questionnaire clear and helpful
  - ✓ Over 67% considered the Handbook clear and helpful
  - ✓ 83% considered the information included sufficient

✓ *"We hired an environmental consultant a few months ago, and he had us apply for a CofA for some equipment. With the information provided, I could have figured it out myself." (Plant Manager, industrial fasteners)*

✓ *".... The information in the assessment has helped me support the need for changes/additional work with management." (Environmental/Safety Engineer covering 2 sites for an industry)*

## Data Analysis Telephone Surveys:

- 34% (74) of the facilities (not planned for inspections) were telephoned to participated in a survey
  - ✓ 8 facilities (11%) contacted did not answer the questions
  - ✓ 31 facilities (42%) contacted self identified that they do not have air emissions
  - ✓ 35 facilities (47%) contacted self identified as having air emissions and completed the Self Assessment

Of the facilities with air emissions (35 facilities):

- ✓ 69% considered the Questionnaire and Handbook clear, helpful, appropriate and easy to understand
- ✓ 74% considered the information included sufficient
- ✓ 26% will implement changes as result of Self Assessment
- ✓ 40% will periodically assess their facilities using the Self Assessment



# Next Steps

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- Continue to rollout Self Assessment to high risk sectors and monitor results
- Consider expanding the Self Assessment to other media and move the Self Assessment online

