



Do you use drysweep, rags or towels to clean up HAZMAT spills?

Would you like to improve this process in the following areas?

- **Meeting environmental compliance regulations** -- Reduce disposal costs associated with used absorbent materials. Regulatory areas include RCRA.
- **Improving workers' safety and health** -- Reduce workers actual contact with liquid spills.
- **Improving productivity** -- Improve spill response by speeding up the collection of spills.
- **Saving money** -- Reduce the procurement costs of absorbents such as pillows, rags, dry sweep, and brooms. Decrease disposal costs associated with absorbents.



Pneumatic Spill Vacuum

*Most liquid spills are cleaned up with absorbent materials such as dry sweep, rags, and towels. The pneumatically operated wet and dry vacuum provides an efficient and safe means of recovering spilled liquids, including fuels. This piece of equipment reduces or eliminates the use of absorbent materials. The vacuum is connected to a compressor and operates pneumatically. The unit will recover liquid spills at a rate of one gallon per second. The collected spill materials can then be stored in 55-gallon drums or other suitable containers for recycling, reuse, or proper disposal. As with all equipment it is imperative that proper safety procedures be followed when operating this equipment. The pneumatic spill vacuum is in use at many DOD installations. **Pneumatic spill vacuums are available through the Navy Pollution Prevention Equipment Program (PPEP).***

How can you achieve these improvements?

Use a Pneumatic Spill Vacuum.

How does this equipment work?

The spill vacuum operates similar to a vacuum truck and replaces the use of absorbent materials.

How will this equipment save you money?

The pneumatic spill vacuum minimizes the purchase and disposal of absorbents. The cost to implement ranges from \$3,000 to \$6,000, depending on the capacity. The equipment typically pays for itself within a year. For a complete economic analysis refer to Joint Service P2 Opportunity Handbook Data Sheet 6-I-10.

Typical Process Flow Diagram



How can this technology eliminate or reduce pollution?

When implemented, this technology can result in the following pollution reductions:

- Reduction in procurement and use of absorbent materials such as rags, towels, pillows, and dry sweep
- Reduction in disposal costs associated with used absorbents

Which shops can benefit most from this technology?

This technology can be used in shops that use absorbent materials to clean up liquid spills. Typical shops include:

- Aircraft Maintenance and Repair
- Ground Support Equipment Maintenance
- Shipboard Operations and Maintenance
- Fuel and Oil Spill Recovery

Take action: How can you implement this technology?

- **Activity Shop & Work Center Personnel.** Contact your Pollution Prevention Program Manager. The P2 Program Manager can provide more information and conduct a more detailed analysis, and may be able to provide this equipment at no cost to a Shop or Work Center.

- **Activity Pollution Prevention Manager.** Request this equipment through the Navy P2 Equipment Program (PPEP). Depending on the application, the Environmental Program Requirements Cookbook may contain project submission information for annual budget requests sent to your claimant.

- **For Additional Technical Information.** More information about this technology can be found on Joint Service P2 Opportunity Handbook Data Sheet 6-I-10 (Web: http://p2library.nfesc.navy.mil/P2_Opportunity_Handbook/6_I_10.html) or at the PPEP Book web site (<http://www.lakehurst.navy.mil/p2/listing.htm>).

Achieving Environmental Compliance Through Pollution Prevention

Every day the Navy faces the challenge of operating and maintaining the fleet while complying with environmental regulations. This burden can be reduced by implementing pollution prevention technologies and methods to reduce compliance requirements. This Fact Sheet is one in a series designed to encourage activities to implement pollution prevention technologies and methods. The overall goal of this series is to promote sustained environmental compliance at the lowest life-cycle cost.

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