



Tips for Reporting Optional Pollution Prevention (P2) Information to TRI

Complete your reporting requirements and help advance pollution prevention efforts!

For each Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) chemical, report any activities you implemented to prevent or reduce the generation of TRI chemical waste. Then, tell us your story in more detail. We may showcase your achievements to the public on our website or in our outreach materials and publications. Provide as much detail as you want so EPA can give you the credit you deserve. [See for yourself!](#)

TRI is not just about releases...

It's so much more! Detailed descriptions inform communities about your achievements in preventing pollution and environmental stewardship.



Tips and Questions

Consider the tips and questions listed below when reporting optional details about the source reduction activities you have implemented at your facility. These questions are written to guide you in providing useful and interesting details about your actions to prevent pollution. Reported details are compiled in Section 8.11 of the TRI Reporting Form R.

- ◆ What **chemical(s), material(s), or processes(s)** did you use as a **substitute**? How effective was the substitution?
- ◆ Which **technologies** were used, installed, or replaced? Which **processes** were affected? How was the process improved?
- ◆ Did **release** (e.g., air, water, land) or **waste management** (e.g., recycling, treatment) quantities change? By how much?
- ◆ What other **benefits** (e.g., cost savings, improved product quality, energy savings) were attained?
- ◆ Do you have any **updates on P2 activities** implemented in prior years?
- ◆ Who provided the idea or **assisted with implementation**?
- ◆ Are there any **company webpages** with more information?

“TRI offers a unique opportunity to showcase your commitment to go above and beyond compliance by deploying the powerful tools of green chemistry, green engineering, and other green practices. By completing the optional P2 section on your TRI reports, you will help all of us – industry, EPA, and the public – work together to implement sustainable development.”

Dr. Robert Peoples
Former Director of the American Chemical Society's Green Chemistry Institute; Executive Director, Carpet America Recovery Effort, and President, Environmental Impact Group, Inc.

To find out if your facility is required to submit a TRI reporting form, go to epa.gov/tri. For more guidance on reporting source reduction activities and tips for optional information, see the [P2 Reporting Guide](#).



Pollution Prevention Achievements. See what others are doing*

**This content is for informational purposes only. EPA does not endorse any company, product, or service.*

EPA promotes P2 efforts by sharing your stories on our website and featuring examples in publications, including EPA’s annual TRI National Analysis. The pollution prevention stories below include informative details provided in optional comments over several years. Share your success and demonstrate your environmental stewardship!

Reducing xylene and zinc releases through improved purchasing practices, materials tracking, and training

[BAE Systems](#) reduced its xylene and zinc releases in its Southeast Shipyard Alabama facility by implementing “waste minimization and prevention awareness training.” All employees now take training on the proper handling of hazardous and nonhazardous wastes to prevent mixing. The facility also established a “computerized [materials] tracking system to manage purchasing and control inventory.” To minimize overstocking, all coatings are inventoried at least quarterly, ordered in the smallest quantities possible, and properly labeled to track their shelf life. Purchasing is now centralized and includes procedures to find possible alternative coatings. Implementation of “internal and external materials management audits” helped the facility identify P2 initiatives and reduce waste disposal volumes.



Reducing zinc releases through material input and processing changes



[Ultra Yield Micronutrients](#) reduced its releases of zinc. The Washington facility reported barriers to P2 in 2017 due to challenges in finalizing and implementing processing changes to reduce the amount of zinc fines needed for production. After some experimentation with blending of materials, an employee recommendation led to the “use of a liquid raw material with less impurities” in 2020 that “allowed for reduction in amount of filter cake produced” and “material sent to landfill.”

Reducing decaBDE through material substitution

Berkshire Hathaway’s [Dekoron Wire & Cable](#) facility in Mount Pleasant, Texas, manufactures industrial cables. In 2009, the facility “received the last shipment of material that contained decabrom[o]diphenyl oxide [ether] (decaBDE)” in an “ongoing effort to move towards Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) compliant materials.” The facility switched to a material compliant with the European Union Directive on RoHS and stopped processing the material containing decaBDE commonly used in electrical and electronic products. By 2012, the facility no longer had to file a TRI reporting form for decaBDE.



Tell your story!
Submit optional details
about your P2 activities.

Benefits of Reporting P2 Details to TRI

- ◆ Gain recognition from peers, community, and customers
- ◆ Contribute to a shared knowledge base of P2 practices
- ◆ Increase awareness of best practices
- ◆ Track and gauge facility performance over time

To find out more about P2 opportunities reported to the TRI, go to the TRI P2 Search tool <https://enviro.epa.gov/facts/tri/p2.html>.