



Project Summary

Control Technology Center, FY92: A Summary of Program Accomplishments

Kim Thompson

Control Technology Center (CTC) services were accessed over 15,000 times in FY92. This includes HOTLINE calls, access to computer bulletin boards and databases, and requests for CTC products. Overall use of CTC services increased 80% over FY91.

The report summarizes the CTC's activities and accomplishments during FY92. It discusses program activities and outreach efforts during FY92 to provide services to its growing client list. Finally, the report examines strategies to maintain the CTC's continued success in providing technical assistance to governmental air pollution control agencies and the private sector.

This Project Summary was developed by EPA's Air and Energy Engineering Research Laboratory, Research Triangle Park, NC, to announce key findings of the research project that is fully documented in a separate report of the same title (see Project Report ordering information at back).

Introduction

Table 1 indicates CTC activity in FY92 and the increase in activity from FY91. Brief descriptions of CTC services and activities are provided later in this Summary. More detailed information is provided in the full report.

Changes in Program Scope

The 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA) expanded the CTC's role of providing technical assistance to the private sector, thus increasing the CTC's clientele. Titles III and V of the CAAA require the Environmental Protection Agency

(EPA) to provide technical assistance to the new State Small Business Technical Assistance Programs when they become operational, and to others, which CTC sponsors have interpreted to mean the private sector. The CTC began providing limited technical support to non-governmental clients in January 1991 to comply with the CAAA mandate. The CTC was also selected at that time to become the focal point of the Federal Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP).

CTC Program Services

The CTC operates a telephone HOTLINE service staffed by technical experts from the sponsoring organizations. EPA's Air and Energy Engineering Research Laboratory and the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, both in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. The HOTLINE permits immediate response to most simple technical assistance requests, in most cases, within 3 hours. When a more detailed analysis or evaluation of a request is required, it is referred to an expert in the particular field.

The CTC Bulletin Board System (BBS) completed its first full year of service. The BBS may be accessed 24 hours per day by anyone with a personal computer equipped with a modem and appropriate software. Users can make HOTLINE requests and access or download CTC-generated documents and software via the BBS. A CTC staff member monitors the BBS daily to ensure quick response to requests received via this service.

The RACT/BACT/LAER Clearinghouse is a repository of state and local control technology determinations that allows any-



Table 1. Summary of FY92 Activity

Activity	FY91	FY92	Increase (%)
Hotline calls, government	1,296	1,309	1
Hotline calls, non-government	772	1,441	87
Total hotline calls	2,068	2,750	33
<i>RACT/BACT/LAER Clearinghouse</i>			
Information System (BLIS) ^a	1,400	1,917	37
CTC BBS ^b	866	4,440	413
Number of CTC documents requested	4,000	5,899	47
Total CTC Accesses	8,334	15,006	80

(a) RACT = Reasonably Available Control Technology, BACT = Best Achievable Control Technology, and LAER = Lowest Achievable Control Technology.

(b) BBS = Bulletin Board System.

one with a computer, modem, and communications software to review, browse, and print examples of the types of controls required or used on similar sources. In addition, the Clearinghouse also contains the name, agency, and telephone number of a contact to obtain additional in-depth information on those sources.

The Federal SBAP has also completed its first year of operation. The CTC is the focal point of coordination for the existing EPA Technical Assistance Centers participating in this program. The other centers include the Emission Measurement Technical Information Center (EMTIC), the Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office (CEPPO), the Pollution Prevention Information Center (PPIC), and the EPA Small Business Ombudsman's Office. In FY92, the Federal SBAP distributed more than 600 copies of two publications prepared specifically for small businesses. The Federal SBAP also initiated a technical guidance project through the CTC to assist in preparing materials for small businesses.

The CTC initiated 12 technical guidance or engineering assistance projects during FY92. Many of these projects resulted from HOTLINE and written requests

for technical assistance. Finally, as part of its technology transfer effort, the Center distributed more than 5,899 reports documenting the results of CTC projects.

Outreach Activities

The CTC conducted several outreach activities during FY92. More than 3,800 copies of CTC's quarterly bulletin, "CTC News," were mailed to CTC clients each quarter in FY92. This publication informs readers of the assistance, expertise, and technical information available through the CTC. The CTC newsletter also solicits input from its audience about their particular air pollution control needs.

New CTC Programs

The newly created Global Greenhouse Gases Technology Transfer Center was incorporated into the CTC. The scope of this clearinghouse is to provide technology transfer concerning greenhouse gas emissions. This assistance includes characterizations of global emissions from anthropogenic sources, as well as available prevention, mitigation, and control technologies/strategies for major sources of greenhouse gases. Information is available for methane emissions from landfills

and other waste management facilities, the natural gas industry, and coal mining. Also, materials are available on biomass utilization for energy generation, liquid fuel production, and pollution prevention technologies.

Finally, the CTC has established an informal agreement with the National Technology Transfer Center (NTTC), a technology transfer program operated by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), to exchange technology transfer data when the need arises. The NTTC directed a number of support inquiries concerning air pollution to the CTC during FY92 as did the CTC to the NTTC on issues involving energy concerns.

CTC Resources

The CTC expended \$592,000 on technical assistance projects during FY92. This amount is a 3% decrease from the \$610,900 the CTC expended in FY91 on technical assistance projects. Although this includes funding for the Small Business Assistance Program, it does not include fund expenditures for the RACT/BACT/LAER Clearinghouse program which was funded under program allotments not associated with CTC funding.

Summary

The CTC continues to grow. The 33% increase in HOTLINE calls resulted primarily from an increase in calls from non-governmental entities rather than from governmental organizations, the original CTC clients. Other CTC services experienced significant increases. The RACT/BACT/LAER Clearinghouse experienced a 37% increase in accesses for FY92 over FY91. The BBS averaged 85 accesses per week for a total of 4,440 during FY92. Finally, more than 5,890 CTC documents were mailed during FY92. This growth in services activity is evidence of the success of the new CTC programs and support activities.

K. Thompson is with Acurex Environmental Corp., Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

Charles H. Darvin is the EPA Project Officer (see below).

The complete report, entitled "Control Technology Center, FY92: A Summary of Program Accomplishments," (Order No. PB93-199230AS; Cost: \$17.50; subject to change) will be available only from:

*National Technical Information Service
5285 Port Royal Road
Springfield, VA 22161
Telephone: 703-487-4650*

The EPA Project Officer can be contacted at:

*Air and Energy Engineering Research Laboratory
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Research Triangle Park, NC 27711*

United States
Environmental Protection Agency
Center for Environmental Research Information
Cincinnati, OH 45268

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