

## Tier Criteria

### TIER 1: THE FIRST STEP

- Commitment of upper management
- Develop a core EMS team
- Develop and adopt environmental policy
- Develop business case
- Adopt AMI model pollution prevention plan
- Adopt AMI model emergency response plan
- Adopt AMI model preventative maintenance plan
- Adopt AMI model internal communication plan
- Monitor and record water/utility use, wastewater discharge, air emissions and hazardous/solid waste generation rates

### TIER 2: THE SECOND STEP

- Meet Tier 1 Criteria
- Expand EMS team
- Conduct gap analysis
- Adopt 5-9 Environmental Practices
- Identify and prioritize environmental aspects and impacts
- Develop and implement external communication plan

### TIER 3: THE THIRD STEP

- Meet Tier 1 and 2 Criteria
- Complete "Plan, Do, Check, Act" components
- Establish Objectives and Targets
- Educate at least one additional facility about EMS program and encourage participation

### TIER 4: ENVIRONMENTAL MASTER

- Complete Tier 1, 2 and 3 criteria
- Complete Auditing Cycle and Certification checklist
- ISO 14001 or outside the certification program

## Need Assistance?

For more information in developing the initial steps in your EMS plan, or progressing to the next tier, contact the AMI offices at 202.587.4252.

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# Environmental Maps Program



## AMI's RoadMAP to Environmental Stewardship

As AMI members work to minimize production costs, key targets are efficient use of energy and natural resources, minimizing product waste, and overall regulatory environmental compliance. Keeping up with all of this is a complex and constantly changing task, so AMI developed the MAPS program to help its members. This voluntary program provides a proven framework for planning for improvement, technical guidance to help them through the program, and later rewards the accomplishments that plants make.

MAPS is a step-by-step guide to what companies and individual plants can do to systemize their approach to managing their environmental footprint not only making them better neighbors, but also helping them to reduce production costs.

### What is an EMS?

The first step in managing your environmental footprint is the development of an Environmental Management System (EMS). An EMS is a hands-on, systematic approach plants can use themselves to identify aspects of their operations that are critical to more efficient and better environmental performance. It's a self-help program in which those closest to the production actually help plan improvements to the operations. It starts by identifying environmental goals and targets for improvement. Plans are drawn up to go after each of the targets, and each year the plans are reviewed for effectiveness and possible revision.

The MAPS program allows companies to begin implementation of an EMS by initiating a few basic steps, then expanding at a pace driven by their resources and priorities as they recognize the benefits of the program. Ease of entry and self determination of the schedule for step by step implementation are the primary benefits of MAPS over 'conventional' EMS programs. The tailored EMS creates a site-specific plan that converts company policy and goals

into results that are quantifiable. An effective EMS can identify alternatives and options for ways to do business that not only addresses the environmental impact, but can reduce costs as well. For example, ways to reduce air emissions, odor, solid waste production, water consumption or electric usage, handling bio-solids or managing electricity and water needs.

### Why Have an EMS?

- An EMS just makes good business sense. It's better to do things right the first time than to fix them after the fact. It's makes good business sense to prevent a spill, or reduce solid waste, than to clean it up later. The EMS can actually augment the long-term viability of a plant, as energy costs, disposal costs, and demands made by neighbors will continue to be issues that effect a plant's "bottom line." And companies that do address these costs will have a competitive advantage over companies that don't. Developing and utilizing an EMS will help companies keep old customers, attract new customers, and serve as models for their communities.
- An EMS Will Boost Your Public Image. As the U.S. population continues to expand and local zoning and development become more challenging, trust and credibility – particularly with your neighbors – will become even more significant to the overall success of your business. An EMS can help establish an ongoing dialogue with your community, allowing you to demonstrate tangible ways that you are managing your environmental footprint while simultaneously affecting your bottom line. This plan will help you demonstrate that you are not only a responsible and responsive employer, but a good neighbor.
- An EMS will Deliver a Return on Investment. Although an EMS requires some initial investment, the plan will produce savings by reducing non-compliance costs, quantities of waste to be managed and disposed, and help incur savings from energy and water conservation.

## These Tools Will Help You Develop Your EMS

MAPS, AMI's four-tiered environmental management system, was designed to help member companies throughout the meat and poultry industry implement their personalized visions and goals for managing their environmental footprint. MAPS combines a step-by step approach – Tiers 1 through 4 - combined with a national awards program to recognize improvements and achievement, to enhance the meat and poultry industry's overall image regarding the environment.

Because different companies have different business plans, needs, and capabilities, the MAPS four tier approach will guide companies through a tailor-made environmental management system to fit your specific needs. Tier 1 starts with a basic environmental policy statement and environmental compliance criteria. Tier 2 incorporates a complete EMS model developed in conjunction with EPA. Tier 3 builds on the momentum of the previous tiers and adds the education of another of the company's facilities to the plan, and Tier 4 culminates with an outside certification program or ISO 14001 EMS – EPA's highest level of environmental management - as the final tier. Each AMI member can choose the tier or degrees of complexity that works best for their company or plant.

### Environmental Recognition and Achievement Awards Program

Two programs help recognize the success of participating companies with the implementation of EMS. The Recognition Awards observe success within the criteria of the four tiers. The Achievement Awards recognize a company's efforts to go beyond environmental compliance to make significant achievement in pollution prevention, environmental sustainability improvements and through other vital conservation programs. For more information on these two awards programs, visit the Environmental Recognition Program section of MeatAMI.com