

Project Owner

City of Chicago, Department of
Aviation

Project Location

O'Hare International Airport
Chicago, Illinois

Services

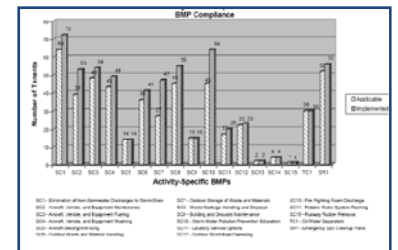
Environmental Engineering
-Storm Water Management
-Environmental Compliance

NPDES Compliance Audit**O'Hare International Airport, Chicago, Illinois****Challenge**

Airport deicing and fueling facilities are identified as industrial activities subject to compliance with the 1972 Amendments to the Clean Water Act. These laws prohibit the discharge of pollutants into waters of the United States unless the discharge is authorized by a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. In part, the NPDES permit program requires the use of control measures to minimize the discharge of pollutants. Based on requirements of the airports' NPDES permit, storm water compliance services were requested to assess the status of their storm water management program and maintain compliance with the permit provisions.

Strategy

GSG assisted in the planning and implementation of an NPDES Compliance Audit covering the entire airport operations. Activities completed included coordination of inspection schedules and preparation of notification letters to all airport tenants, inspection of facilities to assess implementation of the Best Management Practices (BMPs), and post-inspection activities including conformance documentation and report preparation. Both structural and nonstructural BMPs were reviewed and evaluated to determine whether the required BMPs had been implemented and whether additional BMPs were needed. Inspections included documentation of individual BMP locations, potential discharge points and associated pollutants, and assignment of a BMP Performance Rating.



The audit included a range of industrial operations including equipment washing, vehicle fueling and maintenance, scrap material storage, aircraft fueling, aircraft washing, Aircraft Maintenance, aircraft deicing, underground storage tanks (USTs), aboveground storage tanks (ASTs), mobile tank trucks, chemical handling/storage, battery storage, truck loading/unloading, spill control and response, storm drain protection, cargo handling & transport, disposal of water/glycol, drain and oil-water separator cleaning, and airfield deicing.

GSG Advantage

Following completion of the inspections and review of the information collected, GSG provided a clear, concise interpretation of the regulatory status of the airport with assigned "action priorities" for implementation. The approach resulted in the added protection of the regional surface water quality.