



## Office of Information Collection:

### Central Data Exchange

The Central Data Exchange (CDX) serves as EPA's point of exchange on the Environmental Information Exchange Network (Exchange Network). Today, CDX successfully manages thousands of data submissions from states and industry through a service oriented architecture. CDX provides standardized and secure information collection services and infrastructure for EPA program partners. CDX will continue to expand throughout 2007, adding more programs and services to simplify reporting, improve data quality and reduce burden for its customers.

#### **Purpose**

Industry and other entities routinely submit environmental information, such as compliance reports, to EPA and state governments. Although in the past this information was submitted on paper, information technology has made it possible to generate and submit data electronically.

Through a joint partnership, EPA and the states established the Exchange Network to facilitate environmental information *sharing* among EPA, states, tribes, localities and other entities. CDX, EPA's communication point or "Node" on the Network, reduces reporting and compliance burdens, improves data quality, enhances data integration, and increases data availability to the public.

#### **Background**

In 1998 the states and EPA, recognizing the need for an information exchange system to meet the needs of environmental decision-makers at all levels, committed to a partnership to build locally and nationally accessible environmental information systems. In 2000, the Information Management Work Group, consisting of EPA and state representatives from the Environmental Council of the States, proposed the Exchange Network as a solution. The Exchange Network connects EPA and state environmental databases over the Web using CDX as EPA's exchange Node on the Exchange Network.

#### **Current Activities**

The Office of Environmental Information is responsible for:

- Partnering with states, tribes, programs, regions and other stakeholders to implement successful information sharing on the Exchange Network;
- Operating, maintaining and enhancing CDX;
- Deploying new data flows and services, such as automated fee collections and messaging/alerts/ subscription; and
- Deploying Agency Web Services infrastructure.

#### **CDX Benefits**

- Simplified reporting: Fill out one electronic form instead of multiple paper forms.
- Improved data collection: Increased data quality, timeliness, accessibility, and security
- Reduced burden: Reduce time and resources expended to fill out and process submissions.
- Reduced costs: Centralized, shared services eliminates the need for redundant data systems and reduces data collection and management costs
- CROMERR Support: Systems are developed to comply with the Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Rule

#### **CDX Quick Facts**

- Over 67,000 unique registered users, representing states, tribes and thousands of industries
- CDX received over 74,000 submissions in CY 2005,
- 31 data flows in production; 15 in development

## Progress to Date

CDX currently collects data and distributes it on behalf of 31 Agency information programs

- Assessment Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES)
- Air Quality System (AQS)
- eBeaches
- Electronic Discharge Monitoring Report (eDMR)
- Electronic Inventory Update Reporting (eIUR)
- EnviroFlash AIR NOW and UV
- Environmental Appeals Board (EAB)
- Facility Registry System (FRS)
- Facility Registry System Update Service (FRS-US)
- Institutional Controls (ICTS)
- Integrated Grants Management System (IGMS) and Grants.gov
- Lead Notifications of Abatement Activities
- Lead Notifications of Training Activities
- Lead Certifications with Pay.gov
- Long Term 2 (LT2)
- National Emission Inventory (NEI)
- Office of Transportation and Air Quality Fuel Reporting System (OTAQ)
- Ozone Depleting Substances-Confidential Business Information (ODS-CBI)

## Future Actions

- CDX will provide enhanced support and services to states and tribes on the Exchange Network;
- CDX will help system owners comply with the Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Regulation standards;
- CDX will develop and promote the Environmental Agency Reporting System (EARS), which allows for rapid and cost efficient data flow development
- CDX will integrate new Web and Node technology including the .NET framework, XML Key Management and Security Services, and Universal Description, Discovery, and Integration Services;
- CDX will implement a suite of business improvement activities that include a financial and business process baseline as well as business cases. These and related business management projects will support the system's move to a managed service for the Agency over the next two years.

## More Information

Charles Freeman  
Acting Chief, Information Exchange Technology Branch  
Office of Information Collection, OEI  
(202) 566-1694  
freeman.charles@epa.gov

EPA's CDX Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/cdx>

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