The Importance of Functioning Data Systems
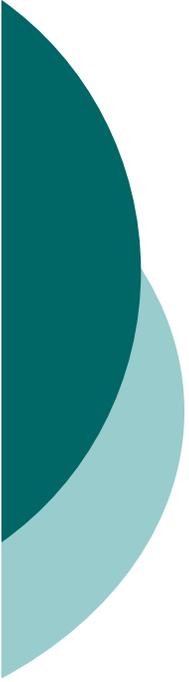
ASTSWMO Mid-Year Meeting
April 24, 2007

Debbie Goodwin, Chief Info Mgmt Branch
EPA Office of Solid Waste

Discussion Points

○ Data Accuracy and Data Quality

○ Access (can the data be used)

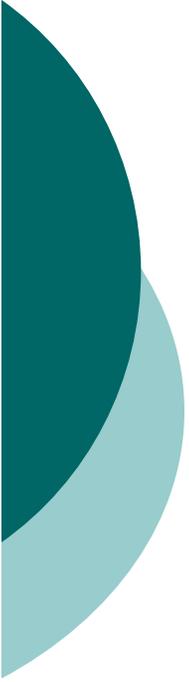○ Reliability of System

○ What is RCRAInfo doing?

Accuracy and Data Quality

○ Ensure what goes in actually represents what is going on with and in the program
  - What work you're doing and have done
  - What it means for the RCRA Subtitle C Program
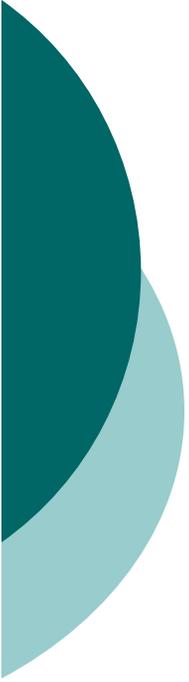 - How this helps protect human health and the environment.

○ What are we doing to advance data quality
  - Edit checks   - Drop down boxes
  - Pick lists   - Partnerships

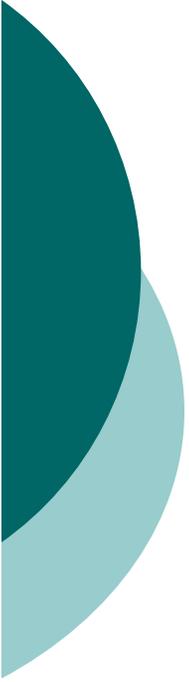 This will be an area of added concentration after V4.

Data Access (Can It Be Retrieved When It's Needed)

○ Ensure the system can easily and efficiently extract / retrieve / report the data which is being entered into the system in a manner which accurately conveys its meaning.

○ What are we doing?
  - Availability of report: standard & ad-hoc (BARTT)
  - Public access sites
  - HQ data requests for Congress, IG, GAO, program accomplishments, regulator analysis.

Reliability of System

○ Must be stable, dependable, and available – RCRAInfo has had problems!

○ What are we doing:

- developing an MOU with prescribed measurable expectations for performance,
- purchasing new dedicated hardware: improve response times, no other application will be on our server therefore eliminate risk of other application causing us problems
- NCC changing technical staff assigned to RCRAInfo
- NCC measures of success and rating will be more closely tied to RCRAInfo customer user satisfaction.
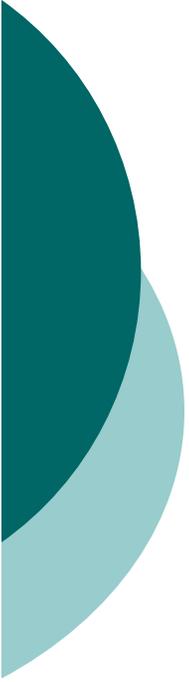
What Else is RCRAInfo Doing?

OSW has committed to accomplishing the following before V4 is deployed:

- Moving all modules out of third party software (Cool:Gen / Advantage:Gen) into Java
- Implementing all delete capabilities for CM&E
- Correcting all V3 bugs

The V4 User Conference will not be scheduled until we are reasonably sure V4 software will be finalized and ready to be deployed. (possibly September/October 2008)

Conclusion

RCRAInfo appreciates your patience! We have been working very hard to correct the problems and are committed to doing so before any new development takes place.

Test the software when we release new modifications
- Corrective Action and Permitting moving to Java (May/June 2007)
- V3 deletes available for testing (July/Aug 2007)
- New dedicated environment (July/Aug 2007)

Work through the Change Management process to report and resolve issues/enhancements

Thinking about ideas to further enhance the quality of RCRAInfo data.