

EPA Session 5: U.S. Information Resources
Dan Powell (US EPA) and Carlos Pachon (US EPA)

The mission of the US EPA is to safeguard the environment and protect human health. EPA primarily supports this mission through the use of traditional and innovative technologies to investigate and remediate contaminated sites. A secondary element of EPA's support is technology transfer; i.e. the dissemination of information on environmental practices to EPA personnel; local, state, tribal and international governments; private contractors; and the public. Because information distribution is fundamental to achieving EPA's goals, it is accomplished via various methods to accommodate the wide variety of information media available today.

Two key frameworks for technology transfer employed by EPA are publications and tools, and training.

- Publications and Tools – Publications include technical bulletins, fact sheets, primers, case studies, profiles and other high application materiel. Tools include various processes generally encoded in electronic format that can be used repeatedly across multiple projects to provide answers to issues of quantity and/or decision-making. Both are available online for direct viewing or download, or ordered in hardcopy. In addition, EPA offers information via a Really Simple Syndication (RSS) feed, emailed subscription, and is currently exploring the use of social media as a mechanism for technology transfer.
- Training resources – EPA provides training information on a myriad of topics that is available from the remediation community. Training is provided in-person, via remote webcast, and through archived training viewing on the Internet.

This workshop will discuss information, technology, and training resources pertinent to the remediation community that are provided by the EPA, as well as other US agencies, and the best ways to access them. Participants will be exposed to a framework and an overview of information, tools and other resources available to assist them in all aspects of environmental cleanup. This session will provide insights on the best approaches and processes to locate information and resources that respond to practitioners' specific needs.