

Hazardous Inventory Tracking System (HITS)

Project Timeline

Fall 2001 –

University Police receive COPSMORE grant and HAZMAT was a minor component of the overall grant. Two officers were injured years earlier entering Science Center and inhaling an unknown gas. UP felt we could use previously collected data as the database.

September 2001 -

The events of September 11, 2001 made this project a priority for the agency. The events also sped up the timeline for this project. The UP realized that our personnel would not be able to complete the project or the training necessary to develop the database.

IT was approached for assistance. The plan was for IT to develop the database and the UP would support the project on a server at the UP office. After some discussion it was determined that the project could be integrated with PeopleSoft and expanding the scope of the project.

Late 2001 –

The University Safety and Security Task Force made this project a priority of the University and recommended financial support for the project. Environmental Health & Safety and Physical Plant were brought into the project.

Early 2002 –

The project was split into two versions, “HAZMAT Lite” and the second version that would encompass the use of materials from delivery to disposal or use. It was also realized that we needed an extensive inventory of material on campus and EH&S began conducting inventories of the labs.

During 2002 there were reviews of several existing programs but none met the needs of the University.

2003 –

In 2003 Keane Inc., who was working on IT projects with the University, was approached to develop the program.

Current OSHA rules require laboratories to maintain an up-to-date and accurate inventory of chemicals. This database will assist in compliance with existing rules, and be a proactive move to better track hazardous materials.

Benefits of HITS to USF researchers

- Provide emergency response information for users.
- Provide inventory search capabilities for a chemical needed in research.
- Minimize work for faculty and researchers by having chemicals entered by employees at point of entry to University.
- Provide EH&S with information needed for removal of old chemicals from labs before they become a hazard or burden to researchers.