

# *Enhancing Furniture's Environmental Culture EFEC*

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# *AHFA's Environmental Policy Statement*

*The home furnishings industry has an obligation to help manage our world's natural resources for future generations.*

In response to this policy statement, AHFA developed a furniture industry-specific environmental program.

It was designed to help AHFA member companies implement *sustainable business practices* that are consistent with the environmental policy statement.

The program provides a systematic approach to evaluating a facility's environmental footprint at a micro level, as well as the company's overall sustainable business practices and environmental performance at a macro level.

# *EFEC Sets the Course*

*EFEC is an environmental management system that evaluates the impact of a facility's operations on air, land, and water.*

The program is designed to *evaluate and measure* the environmental footprint of any type of facility, i.e., warehouse, plant, office, retail store, and the impact of the footprint to the air, land, and water.

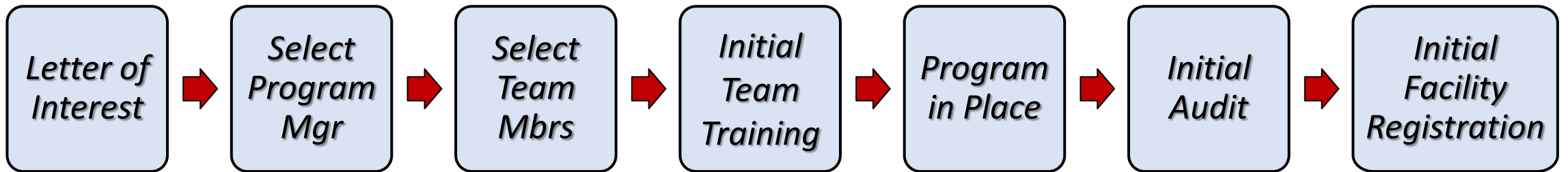
There are *12 elements to the program* – all designed to focus the facility and align its operations with the environmental policy statement.

It is *proactive*, designed to be a '*drop-in solution*' to existing continuous improvement programs; it creates new opportunities to *increase value*; it showcases a commitment to *sustainable business practices*; and it can serve as a foundation to *ISO 14001*.

# *The 12 Elements of EFEC*

<i>Intent to Register</i>	<i>Incident Preparedness Plan</i>
<i>Environmental Policy Statement</i>	<i>Public Education/Communication</i>
<i>Facility GAP Analysis</i>	<i>Work with Suppliers</i>
<i>Facility Impact Analysis (FIA)</i>	<i>Inform Regulatory Agencies</i>
<i>Goals</i>	<i>Information Technology Exchange</i>
<i>Employee Awareness</i>	<i>Measurement of Progress/Corrective Action Plan</i>

# *The Registration Process*



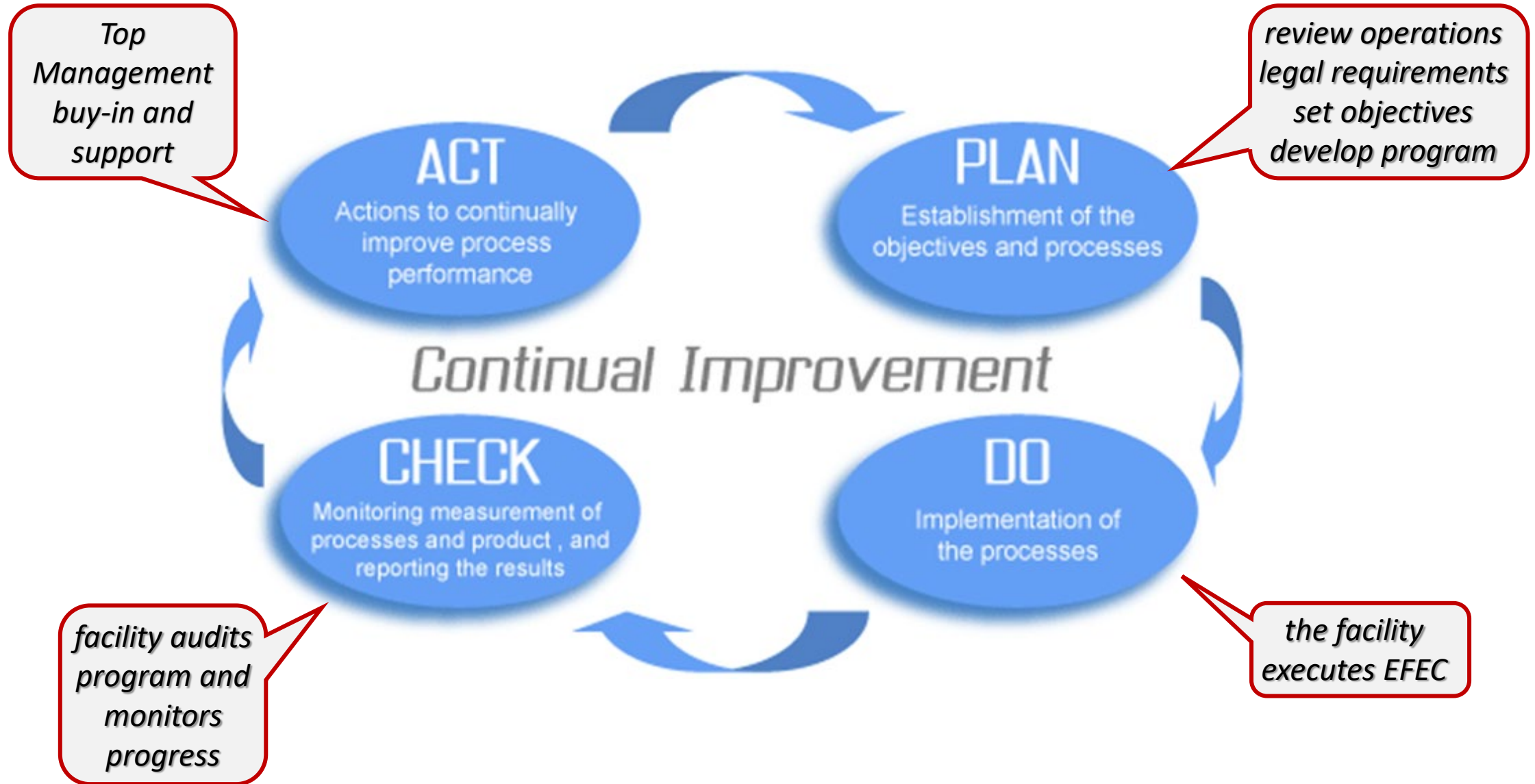
You can have an *internal auditor* for the program who is an employee – however, the auditor *cannot be a program manager* for the facility being audited.

The facility must be audited *annually* to maintain active registration.

The team should be more than *5 but no more than 12* and very diverse with members selected from several different plant disciplines, e.g., product engineering, accounting, purchasing, customer service, etc.

You can have a *‘train-the-trainer’* for training multiple facilities.

# *The Core Principles – Continuous Improvement*



# *Integration*

*EFEC integrates with 'LEAN Manufacturing'*

*No additional resources required*

*Built on the core concept of continuous improvement*

*Programs 'drop in' to existing projects*





# *Savings and Benefits*

Eliminate internal inefficiencies = **WASTE!**

Reduce landfill **waste disposal**

Reduce **air emissions**

Reduce **water consumption**

Reduce **energy consumption**

Reduce potential **risk**

Increase operational **efficiency**





# *Realized Cost Savings and Reductions*

Reduced *electrical* use by more than *9%*  
Reduced *natural gas* consumption by *25%*  
Reduced *water* usage by 6.7M gal.  
2M lbs. of *waste diverted* from the landfill  
representing a 14.7% reduction  
50M lbs. of material *recycled or reused*



# *Realized Cost Savings and Reductions*

Total *energy* reduction 12%

*Natural gas* consumption reduced 50%

*Water* consumption reduced 23% or  
5.2M gals.

9.5M lbs. of material reused

214,000 lbs. or 8.7% of landfill waste  
diverted

*\$1.9M revenue generated by combined  
recycling efforts @ the facility*



# *Realized Cost Savings and Reductions*

Reduced *landfill waste* by 1.8M lbs.

- *\$40,000 cost savings*

Reduced *water* consumption by 6.3 million gallons

Reduced *electrical* usage by 3.6 million kilowatt hrs.

Reduced *fuel oil* consumption  
344,000 gallons

*Total company savings = \$250,000*



# Questions

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