

Data Management and Reporting *Occidental Petroleum Corporation*

Occidental Petroleum undertook a project to update a cumbersome health, environment and safety (HES) incident and action tracking system into a functional, user-friendly database that is accessible to multiple users. Incident tracking and reporting is a critical need, however, previous tracking systems that were developed required unwieldy data entry and were disliked by most users. Therefore, the system was of limited use and needed to be replaced.

With the assistance of the Information Technology (IT) group, a new system was developed using Lotus Notes as the platform. All information previously stored on the mainframe was downloaded into the new system. Incidents and action plans were divided into separate databases and new forms developed specific to each database. Reports using legacy data were maintained, and in addition, the structure of the new databases allowed highly individualized reports to be developed by the end-users. This was not possible under the mainframe environment.

The new program was easier to learn than the mainframe system and the number of users grew significantly as facility HES professionals found it easy to use. Facility personnel have the opportunity to create ad-hoc reports and track a variety of key metrics.

The following are the things that helped make this project successful:

- Regular communication between IT and HES
- Extensive user input at the design stage, during development and beta-testing
- A dedicated HES point person for the project.