

## Safety Initiatives and Recognition Programs Factsheet



**Rely on Ross. We do it Right!**

*The Ross Group of companies work together to protect the environment.*

The Ross Group of companies include three operating companies: Ross Environmental Services, Inc. (RES); Ross Incineration Services, Inc. (RIS); and Ross Transportation Services, Inc. (RTS). The companies have been located in Lorain County for nearly 75 years and have facilities in Eaton Township and the City of Elyria. Combined, they have more than 275 associates.

RIS specializes in the treatment, by incineration, of industrial waste materials. RTS provides transportation services to the industry. RES provides sales, marketing, community relations, customer service, human resources, purchasing, information services and regulatory assistance to the other companies and to customers.



**Ross Incineration Safety Committee. The team meets monthly to discuss safety related topics.**

*The importance of our people*

The Ross group of companies is committed to maintaining an environmentally sound, safe and healthy workplace for the protection of our associates, our community and our business interests. We believe that most occupational injuries, illnesses, safety and environmental incidents are preventable. Therefore, the Ross group of companies has set zero as our ultimate goal for each of these.

The companies firmly believe our associates are individually and collectively responsible for environmental, health and safety compliance. We expect, and receive, full cooperation and participation in all aspects of our environmental, health and safety programs from all of our associates.

In an effort to keep our customers and community up-to-date on the many safety initiative and recognition programs that the companies participate in, we have created this informational fact sheet for your reference.

### EHS Policy

- *Our business success and our commitment to protection of human health and the environment are consistent and complementary goals.*
- *We will demonstrate leadership in protection of human health and the environment in our workplace, marketplace and community.*
- *We will comply with all applicable environmental, health and safety regulations, and hold the broader goals of: eliminating preventable injuries; preventing adverse environmental and health impacts; reducing wastes and emissions; and promoting resource conservation.*
- *Management and all employees are collectively and individually responsible and accountable for compliance with environmental, health and safety regulations, policies and procedures.*
- *We will communicate our environmental, health and safety achievements and challenges openly, honestly, clearly and professionally with employees, customers, our community, and government agencies.*
- *This Policy will guide all our decisions and actions that have potential environmental, health or safety impacts.*



RES protects the environment by providing a full spectrum of professional environmental services using state-of-the-art technologies with superior customer service. RES proudly recognizes the following safety initiatives, recognition programs and safety milestones:

- [ISO 14001](#) (Third Party [Certified](#))

RES is a sister company to RIS and RTS, providing the back office functions such as: customer service, logistics, human resources, community relations and accounting. RES is the customer point of contact for all services offered by the companies.




RIS was one of the first commercial incineration firms in the United States, using high temperature thermal destruction as its primary treatment method. The company is a leader in the development and design of innovative waste handling and incineration methods and technologies. RIS' highly qualified staff ensures the safe operation of the receiving, storage, and incineration systems.

RIS believes in preventing accidents and protecting its associates and must comply with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations.

The company has an outstanding safety record thanks to its associates' dedication. In fact, RIS is celebrating nine years without a Lost Time Accident. RIS proudly recognizes the following safety initiatives, recognition programs and safety milestones:

 <p><a href="#"><u>ISO 14001</u></a> (Third Party <a href="#"><u>Certified</u></a>) Environmental Management System</p> <p><a href="#"><u>ISO 45001</u></a> (Third Party <a href="#"><u>Certified</u></a>) Environmental, Safety and Health Management System</p>	  <p><a href="#"><u>National Safety Council Member</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Lorain County Chamber of Commerce Safety Council</u></a></p>	 <p><a href="#"><u>Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) OSHA/Ohio BWC Certified</u></a></p>	  <p><a href="#"><u>Ohio Environmental Services Industries</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Coalition for Responsible Waste Incineration</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Environmental Technology Council</u></a></p>
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	<p>In addition to OSHA, RIS is regulated by several agencies that govern environmental protection, human health and associate safety. RIS is required to operate under permits granted by the U.S. and <a href="#"><u>Ohio Environmental Protection Agencies (EPA)</u></a>. Specifically, the permits outline, in detail, how the facility must operate in order to be in compliance with environmental regulations such as the Clean Air Act (CAA), Clean Water Act (CWA) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Both the U.S. and Ohio EPA regularly conduct inspections of the facility.</p>
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RTS offers a full range of transportation products and services to meet every need. RTS drivers have logged millions of safe driving miles and the company has achieved the highest safety rating given by the Federal Highway Administration. With their extensive fleet and transportation authority in 48 states with hazardous waste transport permits in 21, RTS can service your every transportation need. RTS is also [SHARP Certified](#) and a member of the [National Safety Council](#). In addition, in 2023 RTS celebrated 16 years without a Lost Time Accident. It is USDOT Hazmat certified and its scores on the [Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration \(FMCSA\)](#) are among the best in the industry. RTS is a member of the [Ohio Trucking Association](#), the [American Trucking Association](#), and the [National Private Truck Council](#).

A number of other regulatory and safety programs apply to the RIS facility. Below is a description of some key environmental, health and safety programs employed by RIS.

### *Risk Management Program*

The Risk Management Program (RMP) was developed to prevent the accidental release of hazardous substances and to minimize the consequences should a release ever occur. Companies covered under the RMP are required to detail how they will respond should a release ever occur.

RIS is a covered facility under this program. As such, RIS has completed its RMP studies and complies with all of the applicable regulations of the program. For more information, specifically about the Risk Management Program, click or go here: [Risk Management Program](#)

### *Process Safety Management*



OSHA's Process Safety Management (PSM) rule was developed to prevent unwanted releases of hazardous chemicals in the workplace. RIS and companies that manufacture, process, use, store or otherwise handle certain hazardous substances in quantities that exceed specified quantities are subject to the rule.

The PSM program consists of 14 key elements currently being implemented at RIS as shown on the diagram to the left.

For more information on PSM click or go here <http://www.osha.gov/Publications/osh3132.pdf> to view the OSHA informational booklet.

### *Process Hazard Analysis*

The Process Hazard Analysis (PHA) is a key component of the EPA's RMP and OSHA's PSM program. The PHA is a thorough, orderly, systematic approach for identifying, evaluating, and controlling the hazards of processes involving hazardous chemicals. All process hazard analyses must be updated and revalidated at least every five years. During PHA, the team will analyze every process at RIS and examine the potential for any hazards.

The process hazard analysis must address the following:

- The hazards of the process;
- The identification of any previous incident that had a potential for catastrophic consequences in the workplace;
- Engineering and administrative controls applicable to the hazards and their interrelationships;
- Consequences of the failure of engineering and administrative controls;
- Facility siting;
- Human factors; and
- A qualitative evaluation of a range of the possible safety and health effects on employees in the workplace if there is a control failure.

The employer must establish a system to promptly address the team's findings and recommendations; ensure that the recommendations are resolved in a timely manner and the resolutions are documented; and the actions communicated to operating, maintenance, and other associates whose work assignments are in the process areas and who may be affected by the recommendations or actions. All new processes must have a PHA performed prior to operation.

### Environmental, Health and Safety Standards

- Train personnel in safe work practices, environmental program compliance, applicable regulatory and permit requirements, and RIS' established management practices. Reinforce this training through continuing education.
- Indoctrinate and instill in all personnel a commitment to assume personal responsibility and accountability for safety, health and environmental protection and compliance. Encourage all personnel to expect similar performance from coworkers.
- Strive to provide appropriate machinery and equipment and maintain it in safe working order.
- Maintain programs which promote prompt reporting and correction of all potential and actual unsafe conditions or environmental impacts.
- Periodically evaluate work processes and procedures in the context of safety, health and environmental impacts and make appropriate engineering and procedural changes.
- Incorporate compliance with these standards as an element of job requirements and individual performance appraisals. Take appropriate action with personnel exhibiting behavior inconsistent with these standards.
- Select contractors and vendors who demonstrate proper concern for safety, health and environmental protection.

### Emergency Response Teams

Emergency Coordinators are specially trained and experienced supervisors and managers. They are responsible for making decisions in emergencies and for evaluating special job hazards such as hot work or confined space entry.

The Emergency Response Team consists of at least two experienced associates on each shift who are specially trained in first aid, rescue, and emergency response. They are our first line of defense, and report to the Emergency Coordinator in charge during an emergency.



### Environmental, Health and Safety Department

The Environmental, Health and Safety staff at RIS is second to none in our industry. Safety is the number one priority at the companies and every associate buys in to this premise. The EHS staff regularly inspects and monitors every area and individual at RIS. Through the Industrial Hygiene (IH) and Medical Surveillance (MS) programs, EHS oversees the wellbeing of all associates. The IH program anticipates, recognizes, evaluates, and controls workplace conditions that may cause a worker to become injured or ill. The MS program's fundamental purpose is to detect and eliminate the underlying causes of hazards or exposures and has a prevention based focus. The EHS staff also administers several environmental control programs such as Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure and [Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan](#). These programs are in place to prevent, contain and mitigate releases.

EHS is dedicated to taking a preventative and proactive approach to environmental, health and safety. This means regular monitoring and consistent training. This world-class team of professionals tirelessly maintains our high standards.



### Associate Training

Associates are first and foremost trained to do their jobs safely. They are not allowed to complete jobs until they have been properly trained and that training is documented.

Training begins on the first day of work. This initial training gives associates basic information about their workplace and how to work safely. Within their first six months on the job, associates attend at least 40 hours worth of training, consisting of information about the facility, how it operates, how it is a regulated 24-hour site and all applicable OSHA rules and regulations. General topics of this training include:

#### Occupational Safety and Health Act/Administration (OSHA) and regulated worker safety.

Includes but is not limited to:

- Hazardous Materials
- Toxicology/ Industrial Hygiene
- Worker Rights/Responsibilities
- Monitoring Equipment
- Hazard Evaluation
- Site Safety Plan
- CPR/First Aid/AED
- Standard Operating Procedures
- Engineering Controls
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Medical Program
- Decontamination
- Legal/Regulatory Aspects
- Emergencies

**The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)**, intended to minimize risk to human health and the environment. Training involves:

- Routine Operations
- Hazardous Wastes/Materials
- Waste Treatment/Storage Areas
- Waste Analysis
- Reporting and Recordkeeping
- Security
- Inspections
- Emergency Procedures
- Emergency Equipment
- Waste Feed Cut-Offs
- Spill Control and Response
- Fires and Explosions
- Power Failures
- Natural Disasters
- Civil Unrest
- Respiratory Protection

Refresher training is given each year on safety, regulatory and operation topics. This training keeps associates up-to-date on key changes in safety and operating procedures/equipment and in the rules and regulations of the facility.

Continual training, the mantra of the companies, means associates are given training on an as-needed and as-appropriate basis. This type of training is given when procedures or equipment change or when new rules or special situations require it.



**Ross Environmental Services, Inc.**

**Ross Incineration Services, Inc.**

**Ross Transportation Services, Inc.**

For more information please visit us at:

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