



• A precious visual aid for regular supervision

Arab Industry Company (STAR), Chemical Industries, Palestine

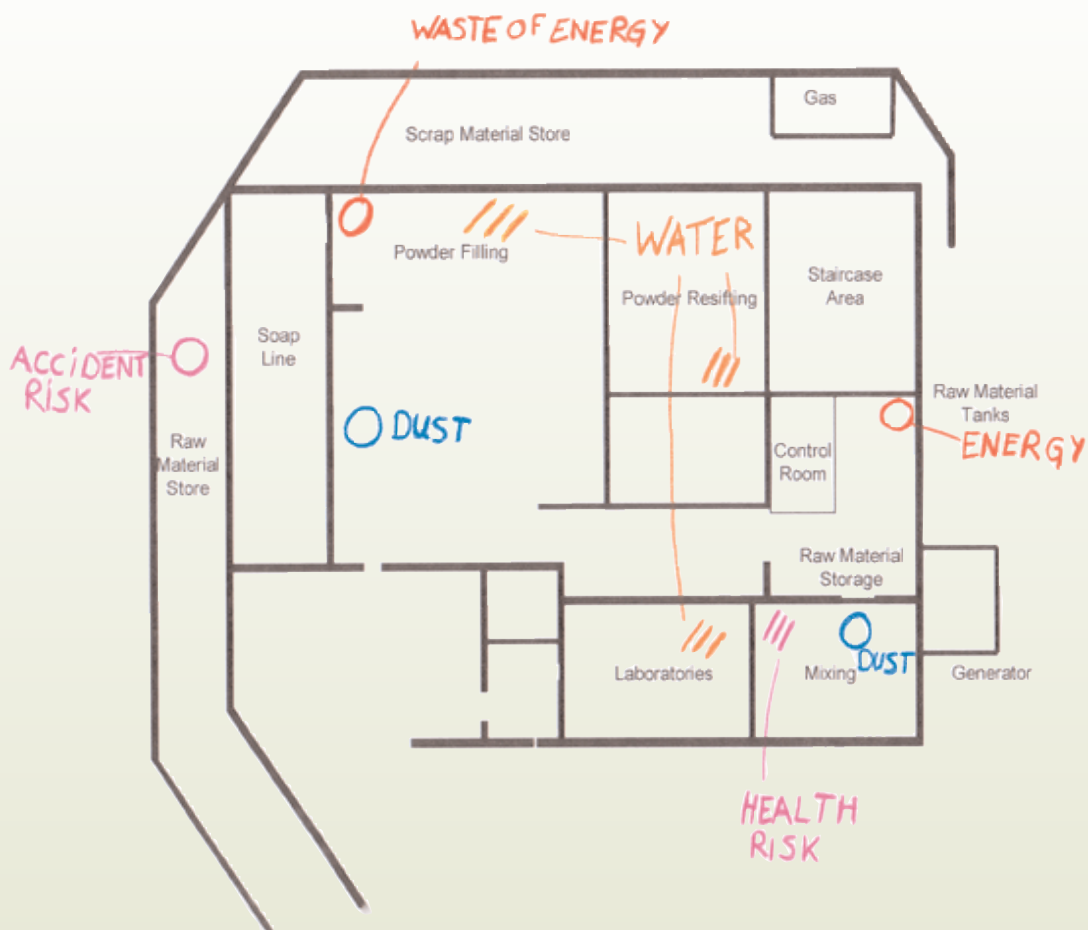
In brief

The Arab Industry Company (STAR) is a medium-sized enterprise established in 1972 and is one of the largest chemical companies in Palestine (60 employees). It produces more than 20 kinds of cleaning products. Environmental matters are among STAR's priorities. As a matter of fact, it was the first company in Palestine to be certified ISO 14001. Through the daily actions and manipulations of chemicals, danger can arise without being aware of it. Even though certification has already been implemented in STAR Company, specific environmental aspects have to be monitored regularly. In that perspective, ecomapping is a precious visual aid.

Application

The technical team planned two visits to check the whole company site: the first one to walk through the site and make a diagnosis of all environmental problems, and the second visit to discuss the problems, define and rank the priority of actions. Due to the density of dust in the mixing and powder filling areas, the Management decided to secure areas where the powder volatilised seriously. Further along, the fallen dust was collected and reused in the process after analysis. Safety is also an important concern. The technical team identified piled up pallets that could fall on workers and waste raw material. To prevent such a risk in the storage area, the Management built guards on the shelves.

• Ecomaps



• Action plan

Environmental aspect	Corrective measures	Investment	Annual savings
Air	- Secure areas where powder volatilised seriously - Collect and reuse the fallen powder	450 US\$	1'250 US\$
Energy	Isolate vapour pipes	4'000 US\$	2'100 US\$
Risks	Build guards on the storage shelves	3'000 US\$	1'150 US\$

• Mini audit *

The mini audit highlighted clearly that the employees were concerned about the safety of their workplace. In that perspective, the Management was looking for methods to increase monitoring of the workplace to reduce absenteeism due to accidents.

Health and safety in the workplace

Prevention of environmental accidents

Air pollution, dust and odours

• Lessons learned

The Ecomapping guide permitted to draw all the environmental maps of the most important environmental aspects in STAR Company. They helped the Management to find a solution more easily. There is no doubt that the guide had a positive effect on most employees. It helped raising the level of environmental education.

"To be successful in your business you need two things: invest in your employees and create a suitable environment for them."

Eng. **Bshara Jobran**, Environmental Manager
Arab Industry Company

• For further information

• WHO IS SBA?

SBA, Sustainable Business Associates is an international non-governmental organisation (NGO) working to engage industrialists in 'eco-efficiency' with the aim of minimising environmental impact and improving business productivity. To pursue this aim, SBA has initiated the DELTA Programme to sensitise industrialists to new business risks and opportunities, and to provide them with the management tools and training to move towards sustainable development.

• WHERE ARE THE DELTA NETWORKS?

The DELTA Networks are operating in: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.

• SUPPORT TO DELTA



• WHAT IS DELTA?

DELTA stands for Developing Environmental Leadership Towards Action. Chapter 30 of Agenda 21 (an outcome of the 1992 United Nations 'Earth Summit') indicates that business & industry have a critical role to play in achieving sustainable development goals. After an initial awareness-raising phase, the DELTA Programme focused on structuring industrialists in 'business & environment' networks (DELTA Networks) in 11 countries of the Mashrek & Maghreb. These Networks are composed of key industrialists interested in taking a proactive role and leadership on environmental issues. The DELTA Networks are practical, working structures for industrialists to obtain information & contacts, exchange experiences, develop environmental know-how, and gain access to practical management tools that can offer 'win-win' options based on eco-efficiency.

• SBA

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The **Ecomapping Guide**, elaborated by the Association Belge des Eco-Conseillers (ABECE, Belgium), is a visual tool that enables managers and their staff to assess the environmental performance of a micro-company or workshop. By drawing a set of maps (water, soil, risk, air, etc.) of the plant, the main environmental risks and sensitive areas of the factory can be identified. See <http://www.ecomapping.org>

*The mini audit is a 120-second audit done by the workers to assess the company's environmental performance. The results of all staff are then consolidated in a table that is analysed and graphically interpreted.