

## Reasons Why EHS Consultants Are Vital to Your Laboratory

Laboratories play an essential role in scientific research, testing, and analysis, but they also pose significant health and safety risks to workers, visitors, and the environment. As such, laboratories must adhere to strict regulations and guidelines to ensure compliance with environmental, health, and safety (EH&S) standards.

EH&S consulting services provide laboratories with the expertise and resources necessary to navigate the complex regulatory landscape and mitigate risks associated with laboratory operations. Here are some reasons why laboratories need EH&S consulting:

1. **Compliance:** EH&S consultants stay up to date with federal, state, and local regulations governing laboratory operations and provide guidance on compliance with these regulations. Compliance ensures that the laboratory avoids legal and financial penalties and minimizes the risk of accidents, injuries, and environmental damage.
2. **Risk Assessment:** EH&S consultants can identify potential hazards in laboratory operations and develop strategies to minimize risks. They can assess the laboratory's processes, procedures, and equipment to ensure they are safe and effective.
3. **Training:** EH&S consultants can provide training to laboratory staff on safety procedures, hazardous material handling, and emergency response protocols. Proper training ensures that laboratory workers are equipped with the knowledge and skills to operate safely in a laboratory environment.
4. **Waste Management:** Laboratories generate hazardous waste, which must be disposed of properly. EH&S consultants can assist in developing waste management plans and ensuring that waste is handled and disposed of in compliance with regulatory requirements.
5. **Sustainability:** EH&S consultants can help laboratories develop sustainability programs to reduce energy consumption, water usage, and waste generation. Sustainability programs not only reduce environmental impact but can also lead to cost savings for the laboratory.
6. **EH&S consulting provides for an independent and unbiased evaluation of an organization's "safety culture".** Without a strong culture, all you are doing is checking the boxes. A strong culture goes beyond compliance and facilitates commitment.

In conclusion, laboratories must prioritize EH&S to ensure the safety of workers, visitors, and the environment. EH&S consulting services provide laboratories with the resources and expertise necessary to navigate the complex regulatory landscape, minimize risks, and promote sustainable laboratory practices and improve the safety culture.



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Dr. James Blackwell is a leading industry consultant with broad experience that encompasses early process development to commercial operations. His product experience includes antibodies, vaccines, recombinant proteins, small molecules, peptides, cell therapy and medical devices. Clients include virtual start-ups to multi-national pharma. Dr. Blackwell has regulatory experience with INDs, PAIs, DMFs, and leading NDA CMC submissions. He has extensive experience with CMO selection, oversight, and management. He has been involved with third party Consent Decree monitoring, organizational mentoring, and quality system remediation. He has led or actively participated in more than forty product, company, or technology due diligence projects. Dr. Blackwell was on the formative management team and led Manufacturing and Technical Operations for Shore Therapeutics in the successful recommercialization of Fenoglide.

He is a member of ISPE, PDA, AAPS and RAPS. He has graduate training in chemical engineering (Ph.D.), microbiology (M.S.), and business/technology management (M.B.A./M.S.) at Northeastern University, The Ohio State University, and University of Maryland, respectively.