

PURPOSE

This fact sheet includes the Federal Electronics Challenge (FEC) Triangle, developed by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Southeast Laboratory.

INTRODUCTION

Each FEC Facility Partner can achieve an FEC award by following a series of steps each year:

- Selecting the appropriate number of lifecycle phases based on the desired award level, and then completing the necessary mandatory activities for those lifecycle phase(s) as well as the required number of optional activities.
- Completing the Annual Reporting Form and Award Application by January 31.
- Conducting two mentoring activities, if your facility's objective is to go for the FEC Gold Award. The FEC allows Facility Partners to develop a resource useful to FEC participants and submit it to FEC for approval, in lieu of one of the mentoring sessions.

The DEA Southeast Laboratory in Miami, Florida applied for the FEC Gold Award in 2007. The EMS Laboratory team developed the FEC Triangle to organize the award process. A brief explanation of how the FEC Triangle helped DEA follows.

THE FEC TRIANGLE

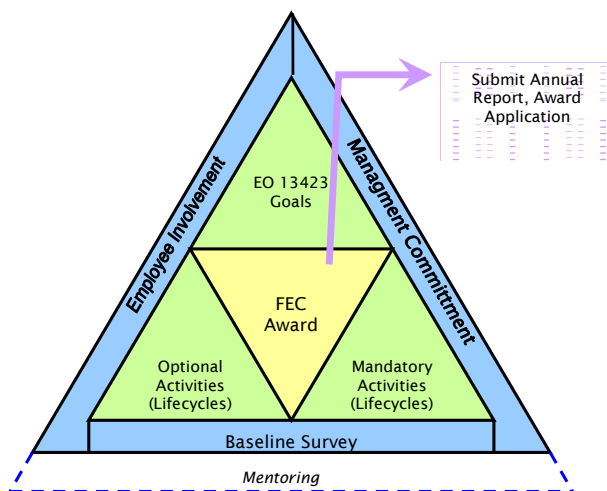


Figure 1. The FEC Triangle developed by the DEA Southeast Laboratory EMS Team

The FEC Triangle consists of four interconnected triangles forming a larger overall triangle. The top triangle represents the Executive Order 13423 Goals for electronics stewardship, the bottom two represent FEC award Mandatory Activities and Optional Activities. The inverted triangle in the middle is the FEC Award.

The foundation of the triangle represents the baseline survey, which needs to be completed six weeks after an organization joins the FEC. The baseline survey creates a starting point with which to measure future improvement. The two remaining line segments of the triangle are formed by the two critical success factors: Management Commitment and Employee Involvement. Both are integral for an organization to achieve a FEC Award.

There are other critical items! For example, other critical items can be: selecting someone to serve as the project or objective manager; developing an action plan for accomplishing the mandatory and optional activities; and obtaining any additional resources, if needed.

The FEC Triangle is very versatile and can be changed to suit your needs.

- You can change the colors of the triangle to make it the colors in your organization's logo or you can make it patriotic with red, white and blue like the Triangle below.
- You could also use the FEC Triangle as a logo for your organization's FEC program.
- The FEC Triangle is also a great tool as an opening for FEC presentations and for explaining the FEC guidelines and standards.

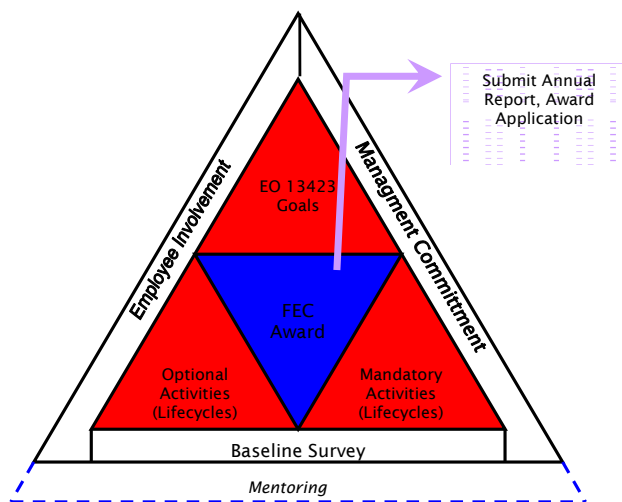


Figure 2. Using red, white, and blue shows the need for all Americans to join in practicing electronics stewardship.

CONCLUSION

This tool was developed by the DEA Southeast Laboratory Environmental Management System (EMS) Team as a mentoring activity for the FEC Gold Award. The DEA Southeast Laboratory believes that every FEC Team should have a goal of ultimately applying for the FEC Gold Award. The Southeast Laboratory went for gold during their first year as a Team, and although they were awarded Silver in 2008, they still have a strong ambition and drive to be a model for federal electronics stewardship. They are planning on achieving Gold in 2009.



CONTACT INFORMATION

If you would like an electronic copy of this tool, please request via email to: Jeannette.M.Perr@usdoj.gov, Theresa.M.Murray@usdoj.gov, or MHowellQMT@aol.com.

If you have questions related to this resource or need other assistance with the Federal Electronics Challenge, please contact your Regional Champion. The list of FEC Regional Champions is available at <http://www.federalelectronicschallenge.net/champions.htm>.

Partners may also request technical assistance via email to partner@electronicschallenge.net.

FEDERAL ELECTRONICS CHALLENGE

Web site: <http://www.federalelectronicschallenge.net/>
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