

AXENS CASE STUDY

Alumina manufacturer implements Nimonik Compliance Solution

Axens easily transitioned their complex auditing and legal monitoring needs to Nimonik.

Location: Ontario, Canada **Industry:** Alumina production

"An effective way to receive notification of changes to regulatory, standards and legislative requirements." - Craig Brown, Axens Canada Specialty Aluminas Inc.



Summary

Prior to implementing <u>Nimonik</u>, Axens relied on pen-and-paper and manually tracked updates to regulations. The search for a simple solution led to Nimonik, which provides a mobile auditing and legal tracking software solution.

Implementation and training of staff took less than four weeks. Craig Brown, Health, Safety, Worker and Quality (HSWQ) Coordinator at Axens Canada, reported multiple benefits from Nimonik's compliance management software solution, including saved time and better compliance, allowing him to focus on improving the company's EHS performance.

This case study highlights how an integrated compliance management system with Nimonik supports Axens's compliance efforts, making it easier to stay in compliance.

Company Overview: Axens Canada Specialty Aluminas

<u>Axens Canada Specialty Aluminas</u> (ACSA) is a Canadian company that specializes in the production of high-performance alumina powders and advanced ceramics. ACSA operates a manufacturing facility in

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Jonquière, Quebec, where it produces a range of specialty alumina powders, including activated aluminas, calcined aluminas, and tabular aluminas. The company's products are used in a variety of industries, including the chemical and petrochemical industries, electronics, ceramics, and refractories.

ACSA is known for its expertise in the production of high-purity alumina powders, and the company has a strong focus on quality control and product consistency. The company's manufacturing processes are designed to ensure that its products meet the strictest standards for purity, particle size, and surface area.\

About Craig Brown



Craig Brown, Axens Canada HSWQ Coordinator

Craig Brown is responsible for EHS compliance at Axens' activated alumina production site. He is also responsible for parts of the Quality Management system and general operational excellence.

The Challenge

The Canadian chemical industry is highly regulated and Axens' complex industrial operations require constant surveillance of EHS and Quality Services legislation.

Axens is firmly dedicated to a sustainable approach. The company strives to protect the health and safety of employees, partners, subcontractors and neighbors, while reducing environmental impact. To this end, Craig must ensure compliance according to ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001 standards.

Prior to implementing Nimonik, Axens was using pen and paper, with no technology in place, no mobile tools to work in the field and no automated legislation monitoring system. Craig recalls, "We just relied on checking federal and provincial websites or other sources for related news or updates."

Craig needed a simple solution that could address his needs and be adopted without a difficult transition period.

The Search

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- An ISO auditor who was an avid user of our solutions recommended <u>Nimonik</u> to Craig.
- Craig then started to review our services. He says, "I tried it with an IT associate and we seemed comfortable with the presentation and explanations given at each step."
- Craig had begun his search looking for a basic service, "an automatic email with notifications, etc.," but he immediately liked the combination of mobile auditing and legal tracking tools in a simple package.

The Solution

- After a webinar and discussion, Craig knew that Nimonik was the perfect fit for his needs.
- Craig chose our tools because of their simplicity and efficiency. He also saw that the dynamic team at Nimonik could provide support during implementation.
- When asked, "What did you find most attractive about Nimonik?" Craig responded, "It's easy!"

The Implementation

- Once Craig decided on our solution, implementation and full training of his staff took less than four weeks.
- Nimonik's team worked with Craig's team to smooth out the kinks during implementation. Craig
 describes it: "We had a couple of minor issues...not a big deal."
- According to Craig, the Nimonik team was very helpful during setup, assisting him through the whole process.

The Results

- In less than six months, Craig managed to find the solution, implement, and operationalize it.
- Craigs says he sees multiple benefits from using Nimonik's compliance management system, including saved time and better compliance. For example, he no longer worries about following legislative changes. Regulatory updates are presented to him in a comprehensive and easy-to-understand format.
- With the time he saves on legislation monitoring, Craig focuses on improving Axens' compliance performance, ensuring his production facility is an environmental, health and safety leader.
- "Nimonik's integrated compliance program is an effective way to receive notification of changes to regulatory and legislative requirements... It's all good!" concludes Craig.

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