



# EPA Environmental Response Team's Viper Data Management System and Snapper Air Sampling Platform

*Informational briefing on the capabilities of ERT's  
sensor data management system*

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# Sensor Data Challenges for Superfund

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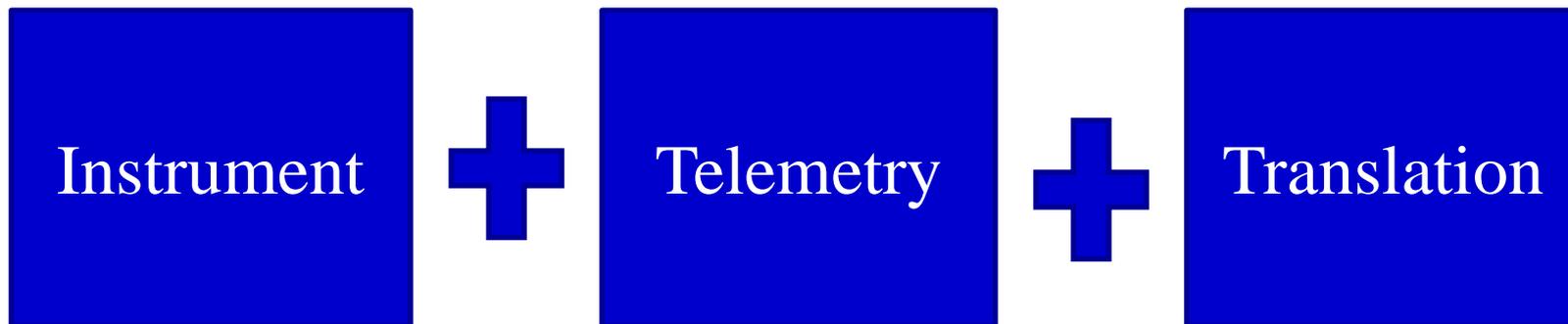
- ❑ Volume of data
- ❑ Real-time does not always mean “real-time”
- ❑ Raw data does not correspond to our human health benchmarks
- ❑ Time required to acquire, store, transform and re-format for dissemination



# Addressing the Challenges: VIPER

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- ❑ ERT developed and launched VIPER in 2011
- ❑ VIPER was built to
  - Handle the unique volume & frequency inherent to sensor data
  - Utilize federal data standards
  - Require no core system modification for new sensor types
  - Provide monitoring data in real-time
    - ❑ Processes data for comparison to human health benchmarks
    - ❑ Can immediately determine exceedances of health-based benchmarks and notify users of the exceedances



**= VIPER!**



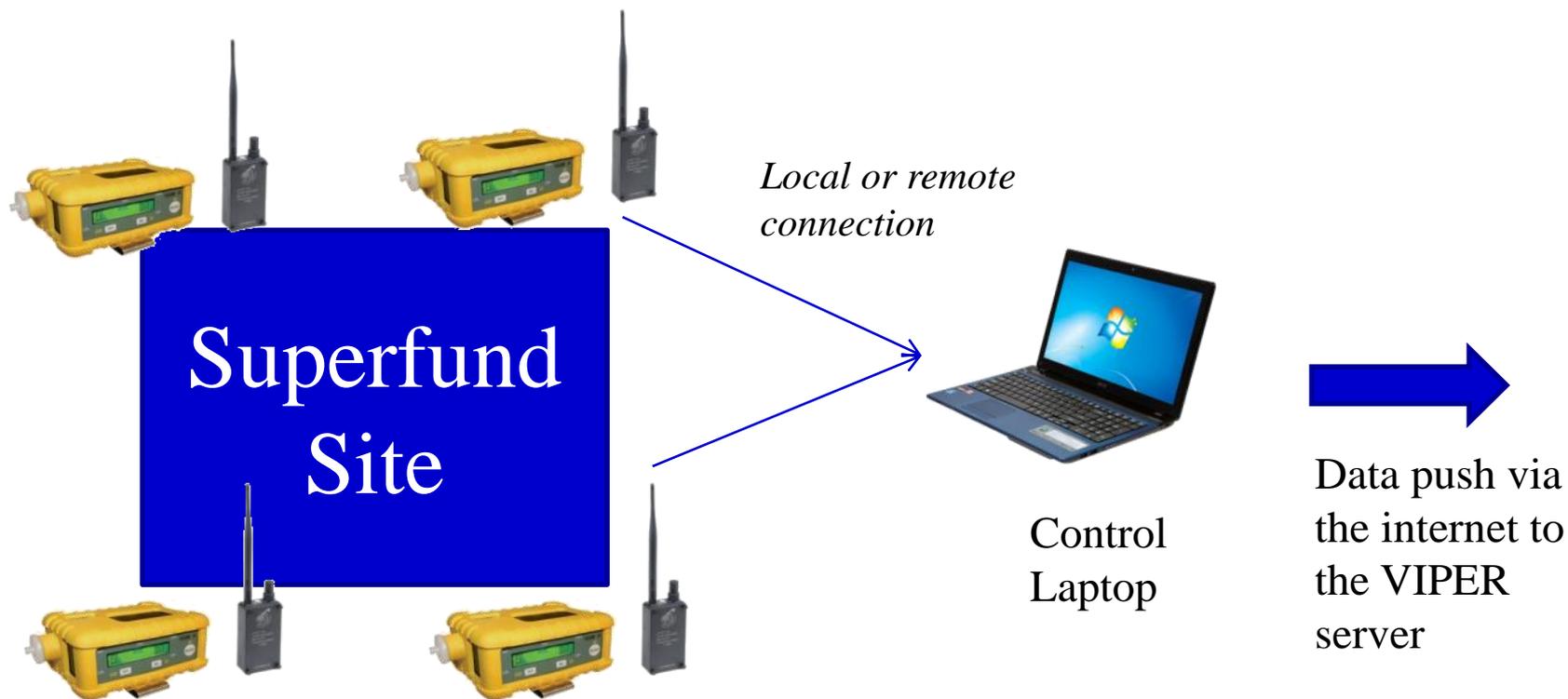
# Integrating Instruments

- ❑ Most common setup uses equipment from Safe Environment Engineering
- ❑ Vendor provides telemetry hardware and software to translate native instrument signal into the standard format
- ❑ Full list available at [www.safeenv.com](http://www.safeenv.com)
- ❑ Connecting VIPER to existing data acquisition networks and vendor's telemetry system is possible and has been done many times





# Workflow





[Deployments \(130\)](#)

[Unassigned Runs \(2\)](#)

[Admin](#)

[Help](#)

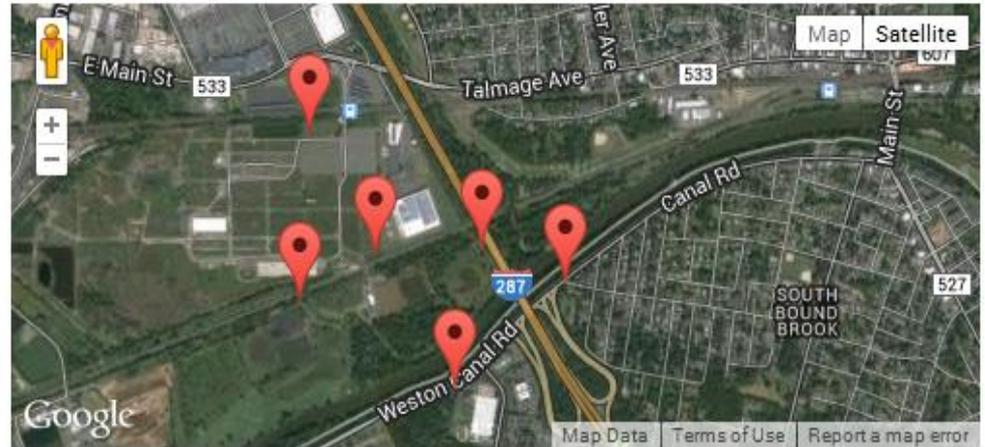
## R02 American Cyanamid Site Deployment [\[Edit\]](#)

All Times Eastern, DST Observed

Start: 1/23/2014

End:

Description:

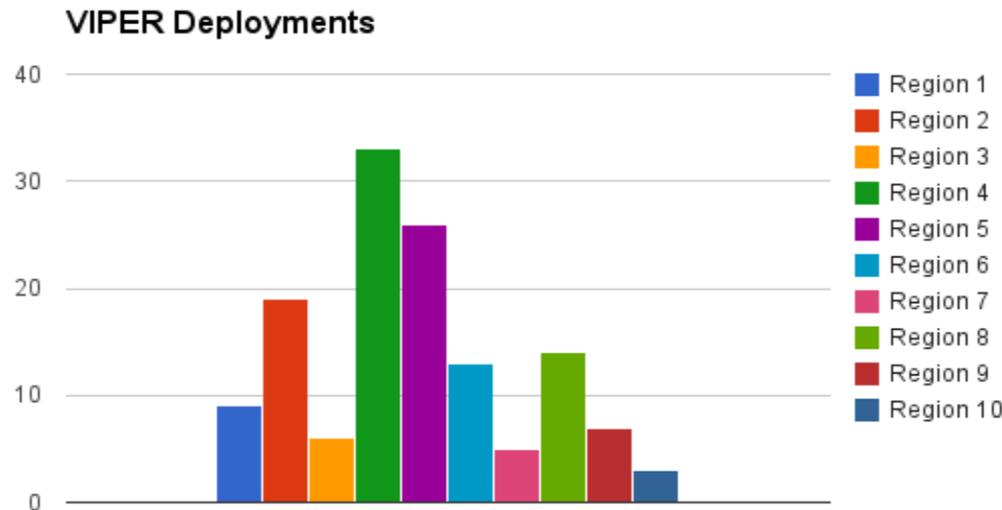


### AreaRAE(s):

~	Instrument ID	Connection	Location	VOC	VOC 15-Min TWA	Received
	<a href="#">(.109) AreaRAE</a> * EPA Location 3 PRP Location I2	OK	40.5552210, -74.5506540	0.0 ppm	0.000000 ppm	3/19/2014 2:59 PM
	<a href="#">(.115) AreaRAE</a> * EPA Location 4 PRP Location I3	OK	40.5554270, -74.5459520	0.3 ppm	0.201444 ppm	3/19/2014 2:59 PM
	<a href="#">(.28) AreaRAE</a> * EPA Location 6 Behind Ballpark	OK	40.5591460, -74.5535940	0.0 ppm	0.000000 ppm	3/19/2014 2:59 PM
	<a href="#">(.42) AreaRAE</a> * EPA Location 5 PRP Location I1	OK	40.5537540, -74.5540280	0.0 ppm	0.000000 ppm	3/19/2014 2:59 PM
	<a href="#">(.76) AreaRAE</a> * EPA Location 2 Pumping Station	OK	40.5509280, -74.5471480	0.0 ppm	0.000000 ppm	3/19/2014 2:59 PM
	<a href="#">(.97) AreaRAE</a> * EPA Location 1 Residential	OK	40.5543300, -74.5422390	0.0 ppm	0.000000 ppm	3/19/2014 2:59 PM



# Implementation Status



- ❑ There have been 250 deployments on removal and remedial sites since 2011
- ❑ Removal programs in all Regions have equipment and have received training



# Benefit: Real-Time Decision Making

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- ❑ Collect real-time data and actually use it in real-time
- ❑ Ability to receive data in real-time from PRPs and site partners allows EPA to have full situational awareness of all sensor data
- ❑ The monitors in VIPER allow an OSC or RPM to evaluate data in a way that matches DQOs without the need for any data post-processing. Examples:
  - If dust levels exceed X at the fenceline for a period of 10 minutes, notify the PRP to stop work
  - Notify the local fire chief immediately if there is break through detected in the exhaust stack



# NPL Case Study: Standard Mine (R8)

- ❑ Rehabbing of abandoned adit
- ❑ VIPER-ized water quality meters (pH, conductivity, water level) were placed downstream of treatment cell
- ❑ Monitoring was 24/7 so if the cell had a breach overnight, the work crews would have been notified and mobilized to stabilize the situation
- ❑ Work was being done at 11K ft. so satellite dish was necessary for internet uplink





# Benefit: Rapid Deployment

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- Design allows for very quick setup and data communication
- Can watch sensors come on-line as they are being deployed
- Rapid deployment time enables system to be used on responses where resources are limited
  - Cape Cod Ice Ammonia Incident (R1)
  - Bennett Landfill Fire (R4)
  - And many more....



# NPL Case Study: Libby, MT (R8)

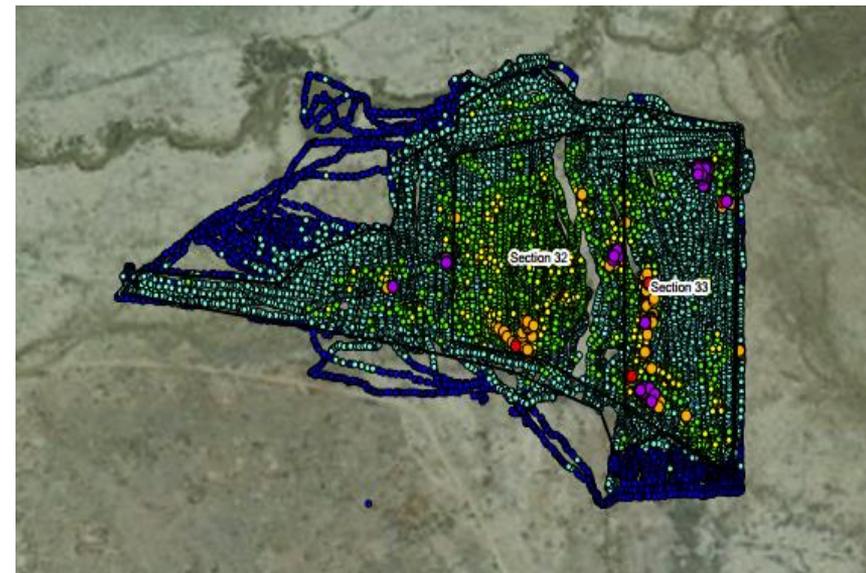
- ❑ Repaving operation on the main road through downtown
- ❑ Particulate monitors were deployed on the sidewalks in front of the local business
- ❑ Notification of elevated readings sent to MTDOT, so they could adjust dust suppression controls





# Assessment Case Study: Tronox Section 32 AUM (R9)

- ❑ Navajo nation uranium mine
- ❑ Rapid assessment of site using ATVs and baby carriages to transport radiation monitoring equipment
- ❑ Data was displayed in real-time on the site specific GIS viewer





# Benefit: Data Storage

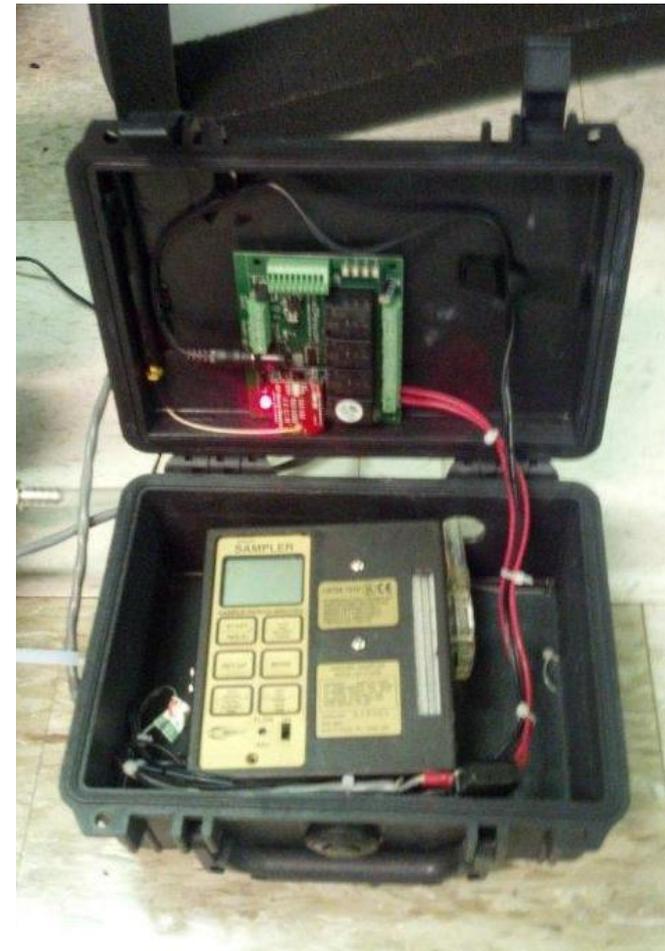
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- ❑ All sensor data for a site can be sorted in VIPER, eliminating need for data reduction or averaging.
- ❑ Once instruments are connected, VIPER handles the acquisition and storage. No contractor LOE for managing the database.
- ❑ Complete datasets are immediately available for FOIA requests or any other records needs



# Capability: Remote Sampling - Snapper

- ❑ WiFi enabled switches can trigger a pump for the collection of a sample
- ❑ Opportunity to automatically trigger sampling based on readings recorded by VIPER-ized monitoring instruments
  - If the stack has a reading  $> X$ , start the collection of 24 hour samples at the fenceline
  - Allows collection of water samples post storm event. This eliminates the need for a field mobilization while maximizing ability to immediately sample the aftermath of an event





# Snapper Components

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- Wifi Connection
  - Piggybacks on Viper telemetry setup
- 4 relays
  - Turn things on or off
  - Open and close valves
- 8 sensor inputs
  - Working with types of sensors like vibration sensors to monitor pumps



# Snapper Integration into Viper

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- ❑ Functions as an instrument
- ❑ Outputs:
  - Sensor data
  - Connection Status
  - Relay Status
- ❑ Controls:
  - Solenoids to open/close Summa Canisters
  - Solenoids to turn on/off Pumps for Tedlar Bags
- ❑ Status:
  - Ability to see how Snapper is functioning in Viper



Overview Snapper 21 X

## TEMPLATE

START Next Run: 1/13/2016 8:40 AM Status: Off Time Remaining: 00:00:00

## RELAYS

Relay1	Relay2
Delay: 00:00:00	Delay: 00:00:00
Duration: 00:00:05	Duration: 00:00:05
Remaining: 00:00:00	Remaining: 00:00:00

## CONNECTION HEALTH



01/13/2016 08:44:21

## SENSORS

## LOG

1/13/2016 8:43:43 AM 9 Stopping Template Run.  
1/13/2016 8:43:51 AM 10 Starting Template Run.  
1/13/2016 8:43:55 AM 11 Remote Trigger has been triggered; starting relay sequence.  
1/13/2016 8:43:55 AM 12 Relay1 started for 00:00:05.  
1/13/2016 8:44:00 AM 13 Relay1 was stopped by the timer.  
1/13/2016 8:44:01 AM 14 Received:  
1/13/2016 8:44:10 AM 15 Relay2 started for 00:00:05.  
1/13/2016 8:44:11 AM 16 Received:  
1/13/2016 8:44:15 AM 17 Relay2 was stopped by the timer.  
1/13/2016 8:44:21 AM 18 Received:  
1/13/2016 8:44:24 AM 19 Stopping Template Run.

SAVE



# NPL Case Study: American Cyanamid (R2)

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- ❑ Concern about impact to nearby residents during the operation of the thermal oxidizer unit during the OU8 pilot study
- ❑ EPA pre-positioned summa canisters at the fence line and in the community equipped with the remote activation switches
- ❑ If monitoring instruments show an exceedance, sample collection can be remotely triggered providing analytical data



# Benefit: Building Public Confidence

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- ❑ EPA routinely deploys monitoring instruments to show the public we are taking necessary precautions to monitor exposure during cleanup operations.
- ❑ VIPER allows EPA OSCs or RPMs to show they have a real-time feed of data from those instruments. Any exceedance results in immediate notification so they can take action.



[Deployments \(53\)](#)

[Unassigned Runs \(5\)](#)

[Help](#)

## [R04 Burlington Industries Cheraw Deployment](#)

All Times Eastern, DST Observed

[3273-3: BIC 201706060855](#)

Start: 6/6/2017 8:57:52 AM

Description: Burlington Industries Cheraw  
Removal Begin Run Jun 6, 2017

Location: Cheraw, SC



### (.227) TSI Dustrak

Connection: Down [\[Edit\]](#)

Intermittent after 45 minute(s)

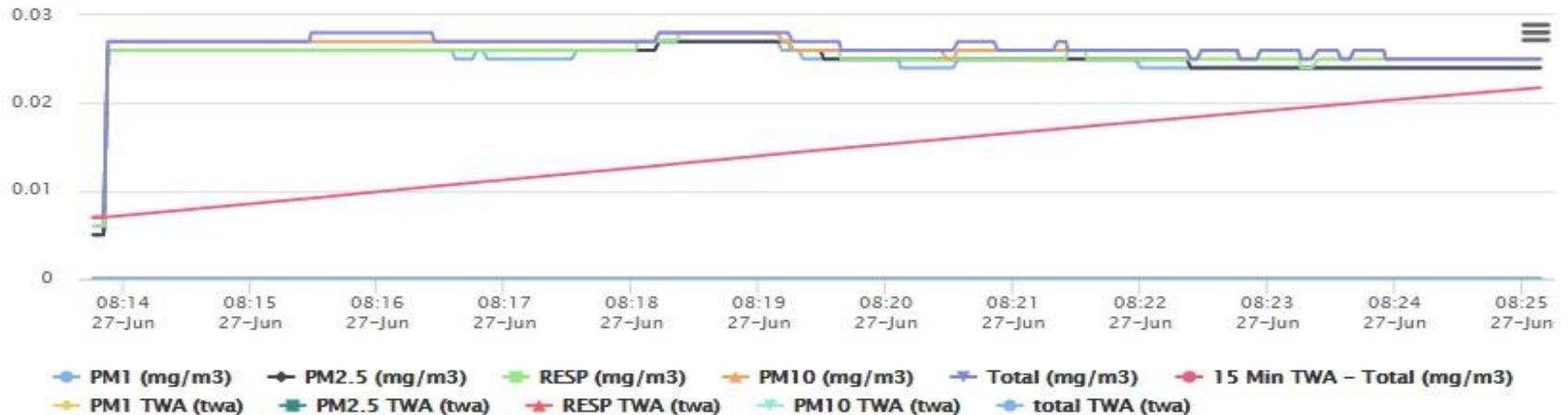
Down after 90 minute(s)

Lat/Lng: 34.6988930 / -79.9132950

Last Update: 6/27/2017 8:25:09 AM

Latest Readings: [\[Edit\]](#)

PM1: 0.024 mg/m3 PM2.5: 0.024 mg/m3 RESP: 0.025 mg/m3 PM10: 0.025 mg/m3 Total: 0.025 mg/m3 15 Min TWA - Total: 0.021750 mg/m3  
PM1 TWA: 0 twa PM2.5 TWA: 0 twa RESP TWA: 0 twa PM10 TWA: 0 twa total TWA: 0 twa



[Revise Graph](#)

#### Instrument Monitors

Name	Type	Sensor	Settings	
15 Min TWA - Total	RollingTWA	Total	Window: 15 Minute(s)	
15 Min TWA - Total >.040 mg/m3	RollingTWAAlarm	15 Min TWA - Total	WARNING - High Alarm: 0.04; Low Alarm: n/a	<a href="#">[Remove]</a>

[\[Add New Instrument Monitor\]](#) [\[ManageAlarm Notifications\]](#)



## Removal Case Study: US Finishing/Cone Mills (R4)

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- ❑ Removal action to deal with asbestos contaminated buildings at the US Finishing/Cone Mills NPL site
- ❑ Perimeter particulate monitoring and sampling implemented to assure public there were no issues with fugitive emissions from the site
- ❑ Live data was shown at the public meetings to demonstrate how EPA project managers were updated on site conditions in real-time



# Summary

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- Primary objective of VIPER is to bring all the sensor data together in real-time
- If that mission is accomplished then EPA can:
  - Rapidly analyze and use it
  - Store it
  - Share with other stakeholders and automated systems
  - Retrieve it later for future use



# Questions?

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- [response.epa.gov/viper](https://response.epa.gov/viper)
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