

IDEQ Petroleum Risk Evaluation Software Troubleshooting Guide

A software tool has been developed to assist in the evaluation of risk posed by chemicals of interest detected at petroleum release sites. This tool is designed to follow the process outlined in the rules, *Application of Risk Based Corrective Action at Petroleum Release Sites* (IDAPA 58.01.24), which were codified in May 2009 and revised in March 2012 and accompanying guidance, *Idaho Risk Evaluation Manual for Petroleum Releases*, released in August 2012. The tool was developed as a modification of the original Risk Evaluation Manual (REM) spreadsheet released in July 2004.

The tool was developed for Windows operating systems using Microsoft Excel and Visual Basic for Applications (VBA) as it existed in Excel 97. As a result of ongoing changes in operating systems, versions of Excel, and the VBA programming language since that time issues with formatting, style, and compatibility have been identified. To the extent practical attempts have been made to correct them. No problems related to these changes have been identified that affect the risk calculations themselves.

This guide provides tips on resolving issues which may arise during its use. References to settings and functionality in Excel refer to those found as they exist in Excel 2010.

Please contact Bruce Wicherski at bruce.wicherski@deg.idaho.gov if issues other than those described below occur which prevent the use of the software tool.

Initial Excel Setup and User Tips

- There are several “add-ins” provided with Excel that provide additional functionality and are necessary to perform certain calculations. These add-ins are not automatically turned on but must be activated by the user. The add-ins include the Analysis Toolpak and the Analysis Toolpak – VBA. Management of add-ins is found by selecting File/Options/Add-Ins.
- When opening the software for the first time the user may receive a message with a question about content contained in the file and whether to enable the content. The button labeled “Enable Content” should be clicked.
- Macros are routines programmed into the software that perform various tasks. It is necessary to enable these macros in Excel to allow the software to function properly. This is done by first going to File/Options/Trust Center/. Click the button in the lower right labeled “Trust Center Settings”. Select Macro Settings from the menu on the left side and then selecting the radio bullet titled “Enable all macros”.
- The software has not been optimized for Excel 2010 and must be run in “Compatibility Mode”. The software has been released as an “xls” Excel filetype. Simulations must be saved as xls file types and not as newer Excel file types (xlsm, etc.).
- Do not attempt to print the Chemicals of Interest page.
- The Exposure Point Concentration data that is present in the Exposure Point Concentration sheets when first using the software should not be mistaken as “default” data. They are placeholders. The

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concentration data placed in these cells are intended to be site, route of exposure, and receptor specific. When calculating risk for the vapor inhalation pathway using soil vapor data (as opposed to soil and ground water data) exposure point concentrations must be present for each selected chemical of interest. Blank cells or cells with a value of zero will not allow calculations to be completed properly and a #VALUE error message will result. If no concentration is available for a chemical some very small non-zero value that will not materially impact the risk calculations should be entered.

- Site information (site name, preparer, date) that is entered on the Main Menu page will print across the header of pages that printed. However the site information is not saved when a simulation is saved. If the user would like the printed pages to show that information it should be entered just prior to printing.
- When saving site-specific simulations using newer versions of Excel a compatibility checker box may pop up with a warning message that there may be a “minor loss of fidelity” in style and format due to the older file format of Excel that is being used. This warning can be ignored and the continue button selected.

Error Messages

- Various versions of a Visual Basic Error Message such as “Run-time error 1004: Sheets of object_Global failed”.

This error may occur more frequently in certain versions of Excel 2010 (32 bit version) or in earlier (pre-2010) versions. The specific sources of these errors have not been identified. One potential source is that certain Microsoft security features which prevent the execution of code contained in the software are enabled. This security feature is referred to as Data Execution Prevention Mode. To determine whether you have the ability to modify the feature go to File/Options/Trust Center/Protected View. There may be a heading in the lower portion of the page entitled Data Execution Prevention with a checkbox underneath labeled Enable Data Execution Prevention mode. This checkbox, if it exists should be unchecked. 64 bit versions of Excel 2010 do not have this checkbox or the ability to modify this feature.