



# Self-Audit of Biosafety Practices Keeping Your Ducks in a Row



# High Containment Research Oversight

- High risk, greater consequences – requires enhanced oversight
  - » Personnel illness/injury
  - Environmental consequences (agriculture)
  - » Regulatory violations

- Integration of research goals
  - » Goal is to support and facilitate research, not impede or hinder





# **Needed Research Oversight Programs**

- Occupational Medicine
- Training
- Emergency Response
- Regulatory Compliance
  - » Select Agents USDA and CDC
  - » USDA APHIS transport permits
    - Veterinary Services (VS)
    - Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ)
    - Biotechnology
  - » Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)
  - » Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)







## **Needed Research Oversight Programs**

- Occupational Medicine
- Training
- Emergency Response
- Regulatory Compliance
- Others







## **Needed Research Oversight Programs**

Occupational Medicine

- Training
- Emergency Response
  Regulatory Compliance



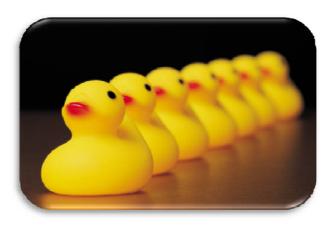


#### **Needed Research Oversight Programs**





# HOW TO KEEP TRACK OF IT ALL?...HERDING THE DUCKS





## How to Juggle it All? ...Leverage

- Leverage all necessary resources and commitments from appropriate stakeholders from the very start:
  - » Ensures safe operating conditions
  - » Strong indicator of a successful research program







# Let's Start at the Very Beginning, a Very Good Place to Start...

- New Research Project Initiation Checklist
  - » Early introduction
  - » Comprehensive requirements summary
  - » Flexibility to include research and support staff needs
  - » Ensures requirements are met before research begins



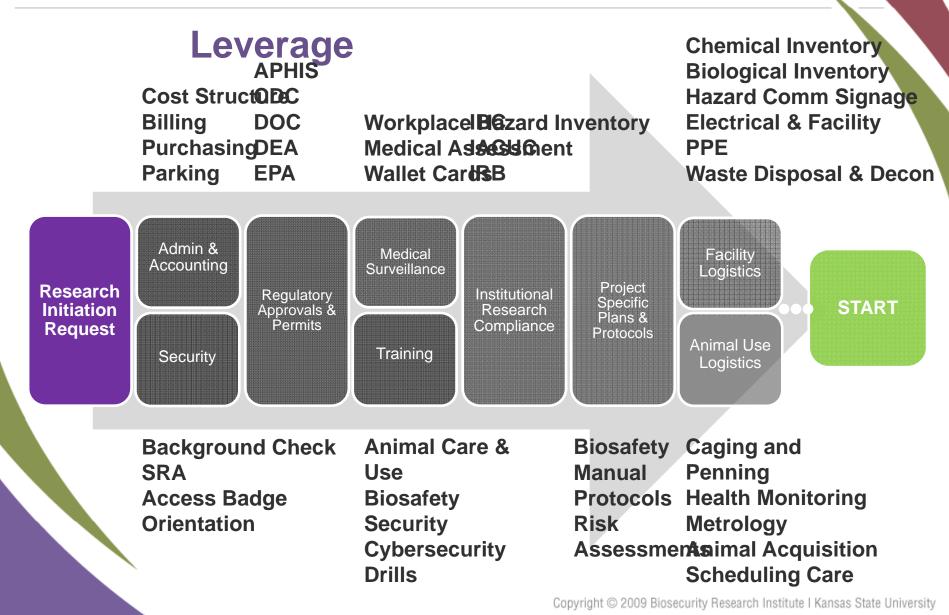


## New Research Project Initiation Checklist

- Forces interaction with <u>all</u> support groups
  - » Builds relationships from the start
  - » Fosters creativity

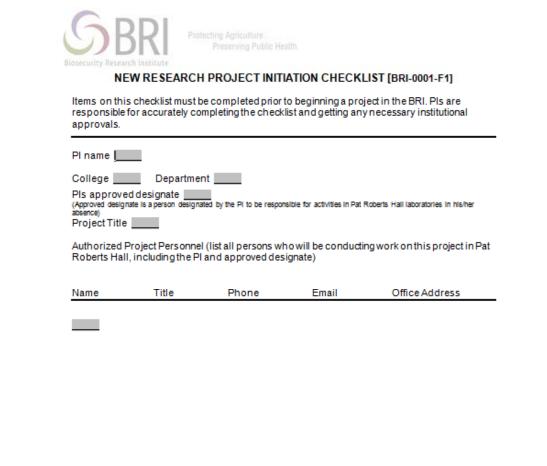




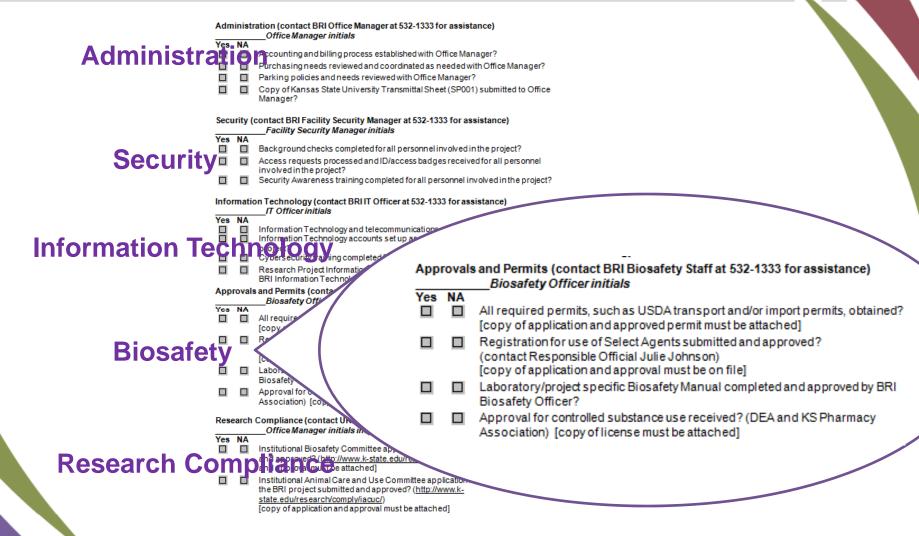




#### **New Research Project Initiation Checklist**

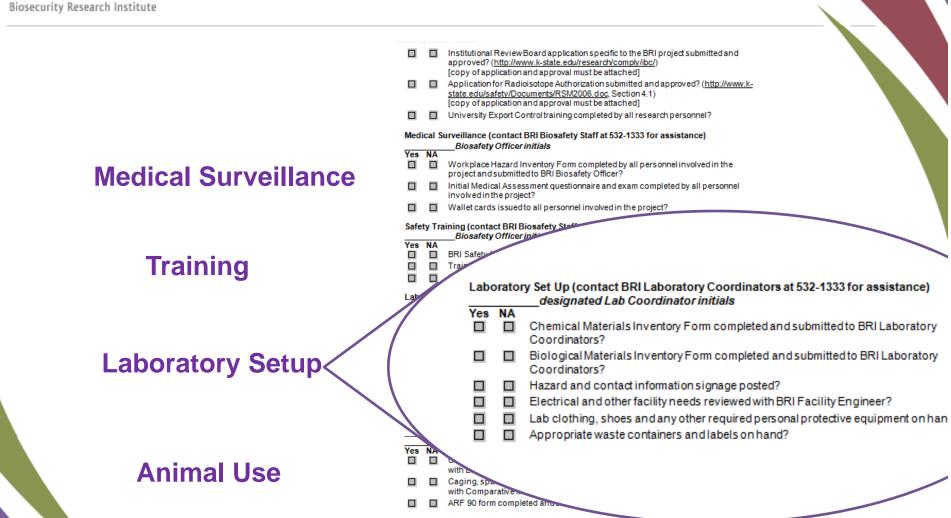






#### New Research Project Initiation Checklist

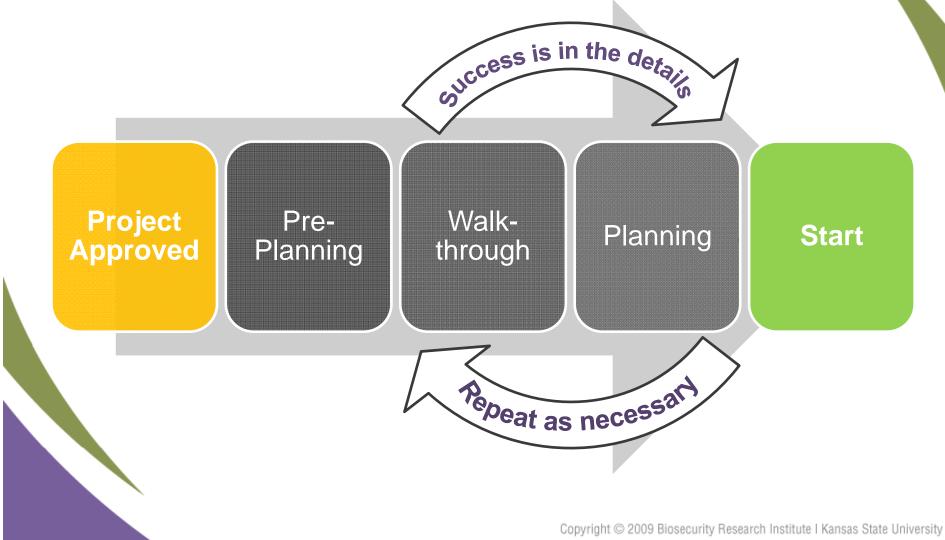




#### New Research Project Initiation Checklist



#### **Continuous Process: Preparation**





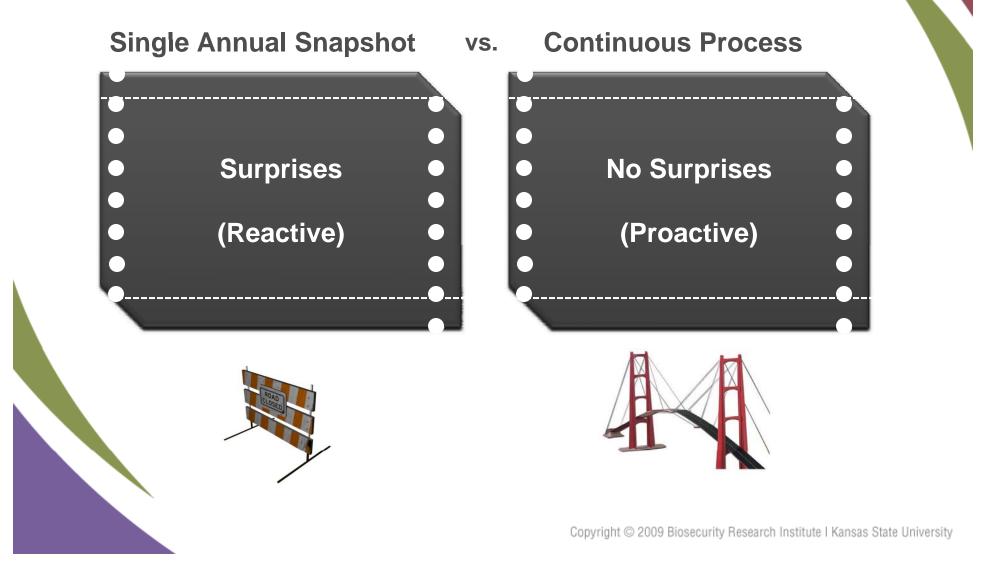
## **Active Research Monitoring (Audits)**

- Single Annual Assessment (Snapshot)
- Continuous Assessment (Profile)





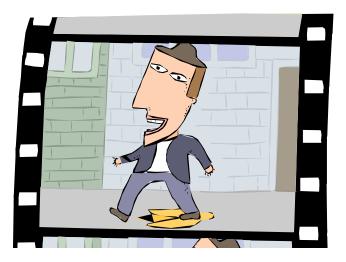
#### **Audit Approaches**





# Single Annual Assessment (Snapshot)

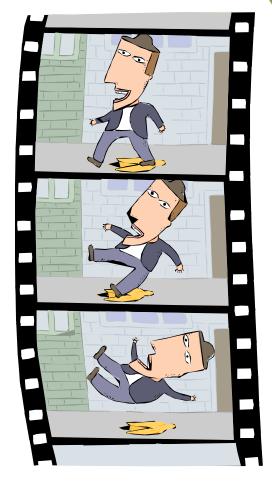
- Annual comprehensive inspection
- May coincide with annual whole facility shut down for validation
- Expectations are clarified during annual trainings and orientation
- Incorporated into trainings and daily activities





## **Continual Assessment (Profile)**

- Weekly eyewash log
- Daily BSC operations log
- Daily respirator evaluation
- Daily autoclave verification
- Weekly, monthly, and annual housekeeping
- Scheduled inventory audits
- Quarterly self audits by researchers
- Others





## **Eating the Whole Elephant at Once**

• Not very palatable







## **Eating the Elephant One Bite at a Time**

• Much more palatable



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Recipeserves



#### **Continuous Assessment: One Bite at a Time**

- Continuous process gives researchers shared responsibility for safety culture
  - » Prioritizing
  - » Continuous Sampling
  - » Deputizing





#### **Continuous Assessment: Prioritizing**

- Focus on a few most critical safety issues
  - » Top Ten List
  - » High risk vs. low risk activities





## **Continuous Assessment: Sampling**

- Spot checks by safety staff
  - » Early detection
  - » Early prevention and mitigation
  - » Minimal intrusion and interruption
  - » Increased dialogue and opportunity to develop relations





#### **Continuous Assessment: Deputizing**

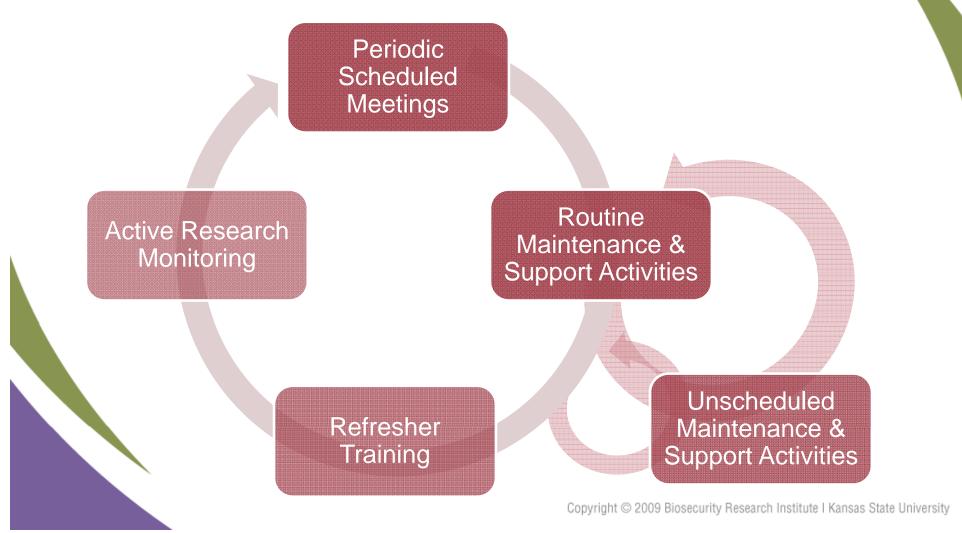
- Continuous process gives researchers shared responsibility for safety culture
  - » Laboratory user groups sharing of best practices
  - » Local safety committees sharing of oversight responsibilities





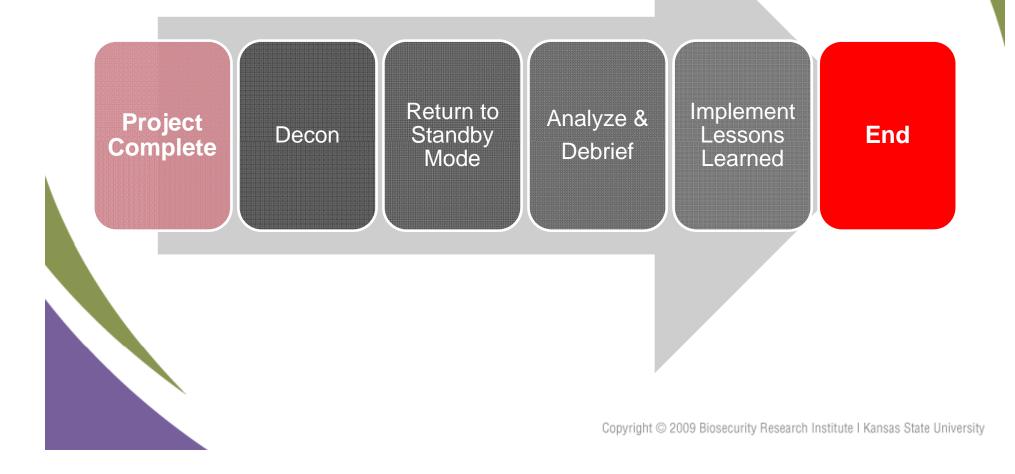


#### **Continuous Assessment: Simplicity** and Moderation





#### Continuous Assessment: After Action Review





## **External Audits**

- Eating the elephant one bite at a time works the same for external audits.
- Self audit using same checklists inspectors will use
  - » Ensures fixes done ahead of time
  - » Tab documents to show where requirements are addressed
  - » Research & support staff more at ease
  - » Makes inspectors' jobs easier
  - » No surprises in inspection report





## Value Added Audits

- True value of audits is how you use the collected data.
  - » Does it increase awareness and accountability?
  - » Does it increase healthy communication?
  - » Does it promote change?
  - » Is the targeted change sustainable?
  - » Does it make you safer?

