



"CLEANER PRODUCTION INITIATIVES AND CHALLENGES FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD"

## Cleaner Production at an Environmental Agency: 15 Years of Experience at CETESB, Sao Paulo - Brazil

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## **Abstract**

The State of São Paulo concentrates about 40% of Brazilian industry, which although conferred a large economic force to the state has also brought several environmental challenges in its history. In order to ensure and improve the environmental quality, in 1968 the State government created CETESB, the São Paulo State Environmental Company, which has served on permitting pollution sources, monitoring the environment and transferring technology in its 40 years of existence. In 1996, CETESB made its first contacts with cleaner production (CP) and since then has developed several initiatives to foster CP in the State. This paper presents the main initiatives and the most relevant achievements, with emphasis on the institutional development and the relationship improvement with industrial sectors representatives, concluding with a brief view of the main prospects for the near future.

Keywords: cleaner production, environmental agency, public policy, environmental regulation