"Hazards XXI" and workshops

Process safety and environmental protection

EFCE
Event 680

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heart of the process

Process safety and environmental protection

Three-day symposium and exhibition, and one-day workshops

Weston Building, Manchester Conference Centre, UK

9–12 November 2009

The theme of this symposium is process safety and environmental protection in a changing world. Globalisation is creating new supply chains, putting pressure on established companies to innovate and improve efficiency. New suppliers are emerging and expanding their operations. They need to achieve high safety and environmental standards, learning the lessons of historical failures and adapting systems and technologies to fit their different cultures and business practices. Well-established industries have to adapt and evolve to meet new challenges such as maintaining old plant, managing ageing workforces, introducing new technology and implementing organisational change.

Unfortunately, accidents continue to happen. Improved safety and environmental management practices are being developed in a wide range of industries in the post Buncefield and Texas City era. New laws are being proposed and implemented in response to these incidents. For example, major changes to the EU Seveso II Directive are being considered, the regulatory regime for pipelines is being revised and REACH is being implemented.

New industries continue to emerge, bringing with them new hazards and EHS challenges. This can generate unforeseen safety risks and environmental impacts, as new technology introduces unforeseen ways of causing failures. Organisations also still fail to address foreseeable risks, as the lessons from established industries are not learnt. It is important that we improve our understanding of all these risks, in areas such as nanotechnology, food technology, clean coal power supply, oil sands, next generation biofuels, renewable energy, nuclear power and decommissioning, and LNG supply.

The aim of this symposium is to bring together international experts and practitioners in process safety and environmental protection to present and discuss the latest technical advances and developments in safety and environmental management techniques.

Following the success of the optional one-day workshops at previous "Hazards" symposia, it has once again been decided to include one-day workshops on Monday 9 November 2009, immediately preceding the three-day symposium. They are entitled:

- *Leading peer reviews for accelerated learning* – Gordon Sellers, IOSH – full day
- *Reactive chemicals* – Kevin Dixon-Jackson, Ciba Expert Services – half day
- *REACH update* – Chemicals North West – half day
- *Practical SIL determination and instrument design software* – ABB Engineering Services – half day
- *Equipment and procedures that cannot do what we want them to do* – Trevor Kletz – half day

The "Hazards" symposium series

After the war the chemical industry expanded rapidly, producing a new generation of plants bigger than before and operating at higher temperatures and pressures. The result was an increase in fires and explosions. In 1960 the North West branch of the Institution of Chemical Engineers held a symposium – one of the first of its kind anywhere in the world – on ways of controlling these hazards. Following this successful conference similar events have been held every few years, attracting international contributions and delegates. The 21st event in this series (although equivalent events on specialist hazard topics have also been held outside the series) will take place at the Manchester Conference Centre, on 10–12 November 2009, following the one-day workshops to be held on Monday 9 November 2009.

Papers to be presented will cover the following:

- New developments and recent research in process safety and environmental protection
- Inherently safer design
- New process safety technology
- Measuring corporate safety performance/ developing and managing a learning culture/ corporate safety memory
- Risk assessment for major hazards and project evaluation
- Human and organisational factors/staff and contract resource availability, competency and retention
- Case studies and incident investigations
- Emerging technologies – hydrogen, LNG, renewables, carbon capture, nuclear power and decommissioning
- Regulatory compliance in practice
- Sharing knowledge locally, around the world and across supply chains
- Safety and environmental management systems, and challenges in different countries
- Public awareness of safety
- Biosafety and bio-containment (including 'hard-piped' and building facilities)

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For further information visit the conference web-site:
www.icheme.org/hazardsxxi

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