

1-day Virtual Workshop on “Enhancing HSSE Awareness” for IOCL POL Terminals/Depots (4th September 2020)

The mission of OISD is to support the Oil and Gas industry to achieve excellence in Health, Safety & Environment, by developing standards, conducting audits, investigating incidents and disseminating knowledge. Audits are a part of the Safety Management System of an organization.

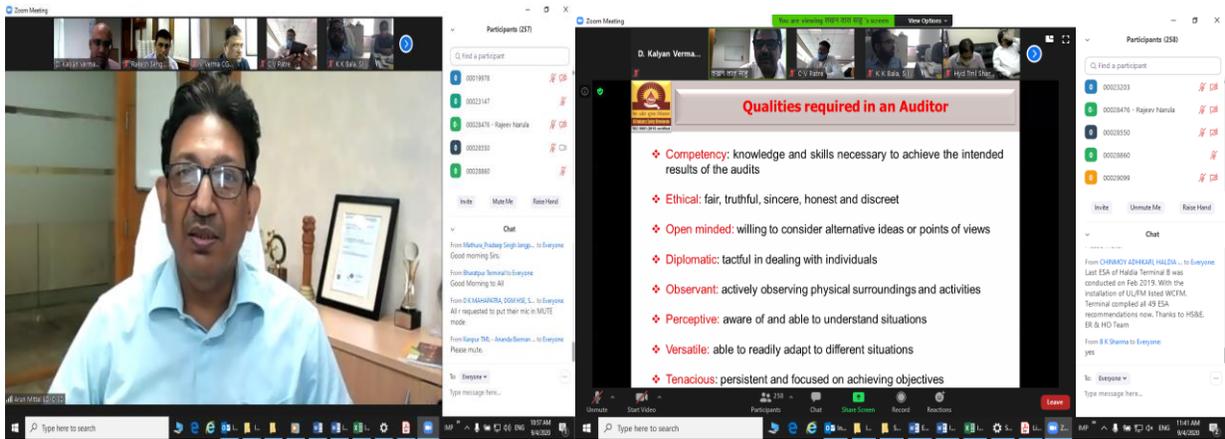
OISD conducts External Safety Audit (ESA) of POL locations once in every 5 years. Though OMCs also carry out the Internal Safety Audit (ISA) of POL locations on an annual basis, it is observed that many observations/recommendations of ESA are not being identified in the ISA. The review of ISA reports also point out that environment-related auditing needs further improvement. These gaps indicate that the competence of Internal Auditors needs to be enhanced by improving their HSE awareness.

Therefore, a 1-day virtual workshop was carried out on 4th September 2020 for IOCL POL locations with the theme as “Enhancing HSE awareness” of the Internal Auditors. Due to travel restrictions imposed by Govt owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, **the one day workshop was carried out through the video conferencing platform.**

The virtual workshop was attended by **259 no. participants** comprising HSE/M&I/TAS role holders & In-charges of locations from across the country as well as senior officials from Zone/HO/ Corporate HSE. **Taking the opportunity of a virtual workshop, all 117 no. POL Terminals of HPCL participated in the workshop.**

The workshop started with the welcome address from **Shri Ravindar Garg, ED (HSE) - IOCL**. He appreciated OISD for conducting such a workshop to address the gaps between internal and external auditors and advised all participants to implement safe operating practices to ensure NIL accidents at POL Terminals/Depots. He requested OISD to conduct one workshop on “Learnings from accidents in Oil & Gas Industry” for the benefit of operating personnel at POL Terminals/Depots. Then **Shri Rakesh Sehgal, ED (Supplies) - IOCL** addressed the participants. He appreciated the role of OISD in improving the safety at locations through External Safety Audits and publication of standards. He informed OISD about the various “Internet of Things” initiatives being implemented at POL Terminals/Depots of IOCL to improve the maintenance of facilities thereby improving safety at locations.

Shri Arun Mittal, ED-OISD gave a **keynote address** to all participants. He lucidly explained the need for strengthening the internal auditing system to improve the safety performance of an organization. He cited many best safety practices followed by overseas multinational companies like Life Saving Rules (LSR). He stressed the importance of taking effective corrective action while complying with the recommendations which will ensure that observations will not repeat in future audits. He focused on the importance of complying with the environmental requirements of an organization which helps in improving the brand image of the company.



Shri. L L Sahu, Director (MO-POL), OISD briefed about the recent incident of leakage of MS at one OMC location & thereafter gave a presentation on “**Guidelines on carrying out Internal Safety Audits**”. He informed that the OISD standard on auditing: OISD-GDN-145 is under revision. He covered the roles and responsibilities of Internal Auditors as well as the methodology to carry out Internal Audits in detail which was well appreciated by the participants. He stressed the importance of carrying out daily at least two rounds of the location by the location in charge and Safety Officer which will help in identifying any unsafe acts and unsafe conditions, thereby eliminating risks/hazards immediately.

Shri D. Kalyan Verma, Jt. Director (MO-POL) & Shri S.K. Tiwari, Jt. Director (MO-POL) gave a point-wise presentation on the revised ESA checklist of POL locations. The discussions with participants were lively, especially on the chat box which was used by participants to ask several pertinent queries on OISD-STD-244. Throughout the presentations, a conscious effort was made by OISD officials to hammer the importance of adhering to Safety practices by operating personnel working at locations.

Then the closing formalities of the workshop started. First participants gave their valuable feedback on the virtual workshop conducted by the OISD. They requested OISD to carry out such workshops on an annual basis to enhance HSE awareness among the officers of the POL locations.

Shri L L Sahu, Director (MO)-OISD gave the **closing remarks** by highlighting the importance of Internal Auditing and how it helps in achieving NIL incidents at the location and minimum recommendations in ESA.

The workshop was formally concluded by **Shri Vijay K. Verma, CGM (Operations) & PP -IOCL** who gave a sincere **vote of thanks** to OISD officials and all participants who made the virtual workshop a grand success. He assured OISD on behalf of HPCL POL locations that information disseminated during the workshop will be utilized by the participants in effectively improving the safety of their locations.

As per the feedback received from the participants, it is observed that 100% of respondents *agreed* that the topics presented will be useful in their work. 80% of participants opined that virtual workshops are better than physical workshops and recommended OISD to carry out such virtual workshops in the future too.
