INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

A two-day International Conference on Occupational and Environmental Health was organised by OISD in association with Center for Occupational and Environmental Health and Drexel University, Philadelphia, USA during 13-14th December 2013 at New Delhi. The programme was co-sponsored by OIL, ONGC, GAIL, IOCL, BPCL and HPCL.

The need for identifying issues related to Occupational Health and its preventive measures, understanding environmental impact on Occupational Health and improving employee's performance by maintaining healthy work environment was long felt. OISD in association with Center for Occupational Health, therefore, organised this important and contemporary International Conference to address the issues as outlined above.

A total of 19 technical papers covering various aspects of Occupational & Environmental Health viz. Managing and Monitoring Work Environment, Stress Management, Global Warming and Carbon Footprint, Key Chemical & Physical hazards in HC sector, Achieving Zero Discharge from Hydrocarbon installations, Achieving Good Health etc. were discussed in detail during the conference.

Mr. Vivek Rae, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, inaugurated the conference. In his inaugural address, Mr. Rae, Secretary, Petroleum & Natural Gas mentioned that work place injury and illness severely dents the image of the company besides adversely affecting the morale of all stakeholders. Thus, maintaining personnel health and personnel safety are essential to productive workers and to a productive workplace. Creating a healthy and safe work environment is the obligation of the Corporates and therefore, organisations must put into place an efficient Health, Safety and Environmental Management programme, he reiterated. Prof. Kirk R Smith, a well-known professor from University of California, Berkeley presented the Keynote Address while Mr. SK Srivastava, CMD, OIL presented special address during the conference.

Earlier while welcoming the participants, Mr. Hirak Dutta, ED, OISD mentioned that subsequent to the Bhopal
disaster, the focus of the corporates is on prevention of accidents, minimizing risks and hazards, ill health, environmental pollution and its catastrophic effects. The stance of the industry is pro-active rather than reactive, mentioned Mr. Dutta.

Mr. Rajive Kumar, Addl. Secretary while delivering the valedictory address congratulated OISD for organising such an important Conference and mentioned that stakeholders of today expect organisations to demonstrate that they are responsibly managing the Occupational and Environmental impacts of their activities. He also stressed the need for regular health check-up and preventive measures to ensure employees remain healthy.

Mr. R.K. Ghosh, Director (Refineries), IOCL during the valedictory session mentioned that Refineries are actively pursuing efforts to reduce the carbon footprint as well as moving towards achieving zero discharge from its installations. Mr. Ghosh also articulated that employees must understand the consequences of process safety related incidents and should be properly trained to mitigate any unsafe practices.

A total of 177 delegates attended the programme. The faculty members for the programme were drawn from both within the country and abroad. Some of the notable faculty included Dr. Carol Rice, Professor of University of Cincinnati, Dr. Arthur L Frank, Drexel University, USA, Dr. Knut Ringen, Consultant, Stoneturn, Dr. B. Sengupta, Ex-Member Secretary, CPCB, Dr. T.K. Joshi, Advisor to WHO and ILO, Ms. Supriya Sapre, Chief Manager, BPCL, Dr. A.N. Vaidya, Director, NEERI, Dr. (Ms.) Chandra Tripathi, Chief Medical Officer, GAIL etc. The technical sessions were professionally chaired by Mr. B.K. Datta, Director-R, BPCL, Mr. S. Rath, Director-Ops, OIL, Mr. K.S. Jamesin, Director-HR, ONGC, Mr. D.K. Deshpande, Executive Director, HPCL, Mr. B.D. Ghosh, Executive Director, CHT and Mr. R.K. Singh, Joint Secretary-Ref, MoP&NG.

The participants expressed deep satisfaction and urged OISD to organise such programmes on a regular basis.
I heard at least three CEOs in Petrotech 2014 declaring candidly that Safety is top priority and HSE assumes significant importance. Each of them deliberated on safety issues and lucidly mentioned that at their personal level they attach intense value to it. It is obviously very satisfying.

One of the CEOs, while replying as to why Refiners in our country are late in integrating their Operations with Petrochemicals, outlined limited resources that were available for allocation of modernising old & ageing assets, improving complexity, incorporating new technologies to meet the demands of environmental norms like production of Euro-III & IV fuels as well as to improve Safety Infrastructure, which were not so robust, particularly for the oil marketing companies till few years back. It is a fact that lot of resources have now been spent and apportioned to improve safety performance including reliability.

Gentlemen, it is an era of Interdependence. We are also moving towards the same direction. What does it mean? Plainly speaking, Interdependence in context of Safety implies - let me make my work place and environment safe and other also must do it. I myself stop any unsafe jobs & practices and my colleagues also do the same. Let me enjoy the fruits of safe workplace and let all other stakeholders enjoy too.

I am happy and proud to share with our esteemed readers that there is a substantial improvement both in software and hardware aspects of Operations, Maintenance and Safety Management. Investments that have been made are showing results. Coupled with the renewed focus on cultural change, oil & gas companies aim to achieve both Operational and Maintenance excellence which obviously means excellence in Safety Management.

OMCs in particular have implemented more than 82% of OISD 116 and 117 & MB Lal recommendations. Some of the private refiners like Essar & Reliance, the late entrants, have already had good infrastructure and excellent plant layout. Further they are also continuously updating their safety management system with the same vigor. Upstream oil companies though slow are now making progress.

Regulators worldwide are not looked upon with much respect. It is obvious. Regulators at times are required to use stick; impose penalty i.e. monetary fines - who would like it? And it is also a fact that regulations or regulators are not the panacea for all evils or wrongdoings. So why Regulators? Absence of Regulators perhaps would lead to a situation of chaos. Therefore, omnipresence of regulators cannot be wished away.

During the plenary session at Annual CHT Conference at Kochi and recently at Interdivisional M&I Conference organised by IndianOil at IIPM, where I was invited to speak on reliability, profitability and safety issues, I stressed that prelude to improving reliability is reporting all interruptions in operations. Truthful reporting of all interruptions, investigations to find out RCA and sharing the learnings in a structured manner are pre-requisites to improve safety & reliability.
I also coined “Listen to the Plant”. Equipment do not fail without giving signals or making noises. We must strengthen our antenna to pick up the noises; the signals that plant provides. Sum and substance of achieving excellence in Safety and Operations besides others is “not to ignore the warning signals” that the plant & machinery offers. Gentlemen, like safety, reliability is also everyone’s business. I was told that the message was well acknowledged by the delegates.

Towards proliferation of Knowledge, we organised three conferences between November till January viz. (a) Well Integrity, (b) International Conference on Occupational and Environmental Health and (c) Process Safety Issues in Marketing Operations. The structures of the programs were designed to provide learning through experiential sharing, discussions on live case studies besides enough opportunities for interactions with participants & faculty.

Last but not the least, we are contemplating signing Memorandum of Understanding with API. Detailed discussions towards this were held at OISD with representatives of API and we expect to sign the MoU by Feb, 2014. This will enable us to strengthen our standard making process and also providing solutions to some of the engineering related issues faced by oil & gas companies.

I would urge our esteemed readers to visit our website and go through the section on case studies and Dos & Don’ts in safety. It is informative. Your contribution to further enrich live cases is solicited.

Hirak Dutta

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External Safety Audits (ESA):

- **IOCL**
  - LPG Bottling Plant at Lucknow during October 15-17, 2013
  - POL Terminal, Haldia during December 3-5, 2013.
  - POL Terminal, Ramagundam during December 9-11, 2013.
  - LPG Bottling Plant, Mahul (Mumbai) during December 18-20, 2013.

- **ONGC**
  - Ankleshwar Onshore Asset (3 production installations, 2 drilling rigs & 2 workover rigs) during October 21-25, 2013.
  - E&P Installations at Rajamundry Asset during December 2-6, 2013.

- **HPCL**
  - Mumbai Refinery during October 7-10, 2013.
  - POL Terminal, Suryapet (AP) during November 11-13, 2013.

- **BPCL**

- **GAIL**

- **Prize Petroleum Co. Ltd.**
  - Drilling rig (Quippo-5) at south of Ravva Basin onshore block during October 15-16, 2013.

- **Cairn India Ltd.**
  - Rajamundry Offshore facilities (drilling rig-1, unmanned well head platform-1) during December 17-19, 2013.

- **Petronet LNG**

External Safety Audit (ESA) – Cross Country Pipelines:

- **IOCL**
  - Paradeep-Haldia crude oil pipeline (328 Km) and SPM at Paradeep during December 16-20, 2013.

- **BPCL**
  - Reliance Gas Transportation Infrastructure Ltd. (RGTIL)
    - East West NG pipeline 1459 Km from Kakinada to Bharuch (48" Dia) during October 15-24, 2013.

Pre-commissioning Audit (PCSA):

- **IOCL**
  - Additional facilities of mounded LPG bullet at Raipur during December 3-4, 2013.
  - POL Terminal, Ramagundam during December 9-11, 2013.

- **BPCL**
  - Flue Gas De-sulphurisation Unit (FGD-II), Vizag Refinery on November 1, 2013.
  - POL Depot, Akola on November 8, 2013.
  - POL Depot (additional TLF Bay), Ajmer on December 20, 2013.
  - POL Depot (additional TLF Bay), Jaipur on December 21, 2013.

- **BPCL**
  - Additional tankages (HSD) at POL Depot, Cherlapally on October 12, 2013.
  - POL Terminal, Paradeep on November 30, 2013.
Pre-commissioning Audit (PCSA) – Cross Country Pipelines

BPCL
- Bharatpur pumping station of Kota-Piyala product pipeline augmentation project on October 3, 2013.

ISPRL

Surprise Safety Audit (SSA):

IOCL

HPCL
- LPG Bottling Plant, Bhatinda during April 16-17, 2013.

GAIL

OIL
- Processing Plant, Dulianz during November 22-23, 2013.

Special Safety Audit (SSA):

HPCL
- POL Depot Akola on November 8, 2013

Special Safety Audit (SSA) – Cross Country Pipelines:
- Jetty & dock lines of OMC are at JNPT, Mumbai during November 7-9, 2013.

Consent accorded to operate:

ONGC
- Drilling rig ‘Aban Ice’ on November 4, 2013.

Cairn India Ltd.
- Jack up drilling rig ‘Hercules Triumph’ on October 4, 2013.

Knowledge sharing by OISD executives:
- ED-OISD addressed the delegates in Annual Safety Council meet of M/s UL on October 23, 2013 at Mumbai.
- ED-OISD presented a paper on “Safety Integrity & Reliability” and chaired a session at Refinery Technology Meet (RTM) organised by CHT at Kochi on November 12, 2013.
- Addl. Director-SKB (AI) presented paper on “Asset Management Integrity” at CORCON, ND and RTM, Kochi on October 1 and November 12, 2013 respectively.
- ED-OISD presented a paper on “Process Safety in HC Industry – Success & further Opportunities” at IIT-Gandhinagar and chaired a panel discussion on ‘Safety’ on December 19, 2013.
- ED-OISD presented a paper on “Leadership Challenges in Achieving Excellence in Project Management” at SCOPE on December 27, 2013.

Seminars/Conferences:
- 25th Hindi Conference & Workshop during October 16-18, 2013 at Goa was attended by three OISD employees.
- OISD conference on “Well Integrity” organised on November 25-26, 2013 at New Delhi which was attended by 112 delegates from PSUs/Pvt. E&P companies.
- International conference on “Occupational & Environmental Health” held on December 13-14, 2013 at New Delhi. Total 177 delegates attended the conference. The conference was inaugurated by Secretary, P&NG. CMD, OIL, ED-OISD and Professor Kirk R. Smith also addressed the inaugural session. Additional Secretary, MoP&NG delivered the valedictory address.

Review Meetings & Presentations at MoP&NG:
- 30th Safety Council Meeting chaired by Secretary, P&NG was held on October 4, 2013. The meeting was attended by Safety Council members. Secretary lauded OISD’s activities.
- Secretary, P&NG reviewed the short & long term action plan in respect of maintaining healthiness.
of PPL/shifting of terminals from Chennai to Ennore with OMC’s on November 1, 2013.
- M/s Deloitte presented findings of OD study report on transfer of PESO work to OISD to Secretary, P&NG on December 11, 2013. JS (M), JS(R), ED and other officials of OISD also attended the meeting.
- JS(R) convened a meeting on December 24, 2013 to share the findings of the above study report of M/s Deloitte with OMCs. The Option-II of the study report was unanimously accepted by the OMCs.

Other Major Events/Meetings:
- Meeting with National level Crisis Management Team of ONGC held on October 17, 2013 on BOP re-certification.
- Meeting on Emergency Response Centre with Director (Mktg.) of OMCs held at Mumbai on November 18, 2013. The summary of the meeting was shared with PNG.
- A committee comprising EIL, Shell, ONGC & OISD visited Mangalore port during October 18-19, 2013 to review the separation distances for LNG unloading jetty/berth.
- Functional Committee meeting for preparation of standard on “Safety in AFS Stations” held on October 7-8, 2013.
- Addl. Director (MO) attended meeting at PESO, Nagpur on November 15, 2013 regarding internal EFCV in LPG TT’s.
- Addl. Director (PL) attended meeting at Gandhinagar on November 21, 2013 with Gujarat State Management Authority, PNGRB & oil companies on pipeline rupture incident at Narmada river.
- Functional Committee meeting to develop guidelines OISD-GDN-238 on ‘Sustained Casing Pressure Management in Onland Wells’ held on November 27, 2013.
- Functional Committee meeting held on November 29, 2013 to review OISD-GDN-202 ‘Inspection of Drilling & Workover Rig mast & Substructure.
- Meeting held with representatives of API, USA on November 22, 2013 at OISD to discuss about MOU for extending cooperation in the field of safety and environment in P&NG sector.
- M/s DNV conducted the surveillance audit for ISO 9001-2008 certification on December 11, 2013 and recommended for revalidation of QMS certification to OISD.
- Status on ESA recommendations for IOCL refineries uploaded on OISD website to note the areas of improvement & update the latest status on the safety recommendations time to time.

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**When you are in the Light, everyone follows you.**
*But when you enter into the dark,*
even your shadow doesn’t follow you

**Life is like riding a bicycle.**
*To keep your balance you must keep moving*

- Albert Einstein
Oil Industry Safety Directorate organised a two-day Workshop on Well Integrity during November 25-26, 2013 at Hotel Le Meridien, New Delhi.

Well Integrity Management is the application of Technical, Operational and Organisational solutions to reduce the risk of unintentional flow of hydrocarbon feed from a well throughout its life cycle. The two-day workshop aimed at sharing the knowledge and latest development in well integrity management besides sharing some of the best practices in the field. During the workshop, case studies on incidents related to well integrity, surface gas leakage, blow-out during workover operation were discussed with a view to enhance the knowledge of the delegates in successfully managing well integrity.

A total of 17 technical papers covering Well Integrity Management System, Well Integrity Assurance in Deep Water Well, Cementing Issues in Wells, ensuring well integrity during work-over operation, management of casing analysis, geo-mechanical considerations for safe drilling of well, top hole drilling hazards & its consequences including lessons learnt, log based Geo-mechanical earth modeling for wellbore stability etc. were discussed. A few live case studies related to underground blow-out, blow-outs during work-over operation both in off-shore and onshore wells were deliberated in great detail.

The faculty for the programme included well experienced practicing managers from both India and abroad viz. ONGC, OIL, Cairn, BG, Reliance, Transocean, etc. A total of 132 delegates attended the programme.

Mr. N.K. Bharali, Director (BD), OIL inaugurated the programme. Mr. Bharali in his inaugural speech highlighted various operational and maintenance issues in oil exploration and production. Mr. Bharali also dwelt upon the intricacies of various important parameters in ensuring well integrity including long term cement integrity, drilling in HPHT wells, work-overs etc. Stating people process very important, Mr. Bharali urged for training and updating of knowledge & skills.

Mr. Hari Kumar, Director, Cairn India delivered the Keynote Address. In his address, Mr. Hari Kumar shared practical experiences of exploration & production at Rajasthan oil field. Mr. Kumar emphasised the need for identifying and managing the key performance indicators in E&P business.

Mr. Hirak Dutta, ED, OISD welcomed the delegates and emphasized on Design, Execution and Safety issues during well drilling and well operation. While on the subject, ED-OISD also called upon to educate the large number of contract labourers in the field of safety. Narrating some of the catastrophic incidents, Mr. Dutta stressed that learning from past incidents and sharing them in a structured manner would go a long way in enhancing safety in hydrocarbon industry. Unlearning, learning and relearning is the key added Mr. Dutta.

The delegates expressed deep satisfaction and mentioned that the workshop provided them tremendous opportunity to network and interact with each other for enhancing their knowledge base. Live case studies & experience sharing provided hands-on learning opportunity, mentioned the delegates.

Mr. Tarsem Singh, Director (E&P) thanked the eminent faculty members and the delegates for making the programme a grand success.
CASE STUDY
FIRE INCIDENT AT PROCESS COOLING TOWER

A. THE INCIDENT
An incident took place in Process Cooling Tower at one of the refineries. One new cell was added to the existing cooling tower. The existing cells were under maintenance and hot jobs were going in the nearby area.

The incident happened during commissioning of the new cell. Soon after opening the cooling water return header valve to the new cell, there was an explosion and fire resulting in collapse of all the five cells of the cooling tower. The incident resulted in serious burn injury and fatality to a number of persons working in the cooling tower area.

B. BACKGROUND/SEQUENCE OF EVENTS
1. The Process Cooling Tower was commissioned during 2009-10 with four cells. During operation, the fills of all the cooling tower cells collapsed within 2-3 years.
   The reason for collapse was investigated by refinery’s internal team and it was concluded that failure was due to improper load distribution/design of the cooling tower.

2. Refinery analysed the reason for collapse of the fills in two occasions. One of the major reasons was the imbalance in load of two distribution headers on the top of cooling tower cells. To reduce the load on the cooling towers, a process modification scheme was issued whereby the cooling water return headers were proposed to be re-routed to the ground level, and construction of riser pipes from the bottom header to the top of each cell, for uniform supply of hot cooling water to the Cooling Tower. With this, the load of return header, which earlier was on top of the cell, would be shifted from Cooling Tower structure to the separate supports outside the Cooling Tower. Refinery also envisaged one new cell to meet the requirement of New DHDT unit as shown in Fig. 1 attached.

3. Actions were initiated to reconstruct all the cells of the cooling tower. The re-construction job of old cells of the cooling tower was being carried out under the supervision of Maintenance Department. The construction job of new cell was in progress under supervision of Project Department.

4. Though the reconstruction jobs were in progress, to sustain unit operations, the cooling water returning from the units was routed directly to the sump through one cell. Since adequate cooling could not be achieved, the temperature of cooling water was reduced by increasing water make up.

5. To meet the cooling water requirement of the process units, an interconnection between old cooling tower with new cooling tower was made through supply as well as return header.
   With the above arrangement, though the process units were running but due to higher temperature of cooling water, sustaining normal processing level of the refinery was not possible. Coupled with low throughput operation, refinery also faced much higher flaring of gases from the Flare Stack.

6. Since the return header and risers of old cells were not ready, an interconnection was made to the riser of Cooling Tower new cell, to enable commissioning of the new cell bypassing old cell for which reconstruction activity was in progress.

7. It was considered to commission the new cell hurriedly with several unfinished jobs (including fan and gas detectors) to achieve as much as natural cooling of water only by free fall of cooling water through new cell with the objective to reduce the cooling water temperature to achieve the following:
   i) Increase of unit throughput
   ii) Reduce flaring
   iii) Reduce blow-down of cooling water
   The hot work of these headers and riser pipes were going on at the time of incident.
   On the date of incident, total 16 jobs were going on, out of which hot job permits were issued for 9 jobs.
   The explosion took place after opening of the valve on the CW return line connecting to riser of new cell (shown in Fig 1).
C. ANALYSIS

- The reason for explosion and major fire is gushing out of hydrocarbon from the entrapped portion of cooling water return header to the new cell which got ignited since hot job was being carried out near the cooling tower.

- The ingress of hydrocarbon in the cooling water was from leakage of cooler/condenser in process units connected with this return line.

- There is distinct possibility of entrapped/accumulated light hydrocarbon in the portion of the new line since it is located at an elevation and that there was no escape route for this entrapped hydrocarbon as the other end of the header was closed by valve.

- The entrapped hydrocarbon gushed into the cooling tower as soon as the CW return line valve to the new cell was opened. The hydrocarbon got ignited by the spark of welding jobs being carried out nearby causing explosion and major fire. The wooden structure of the Cooling Tower got ignited in the process which continued for about 45 minutes till the fire was extinguished by F&S personnel.

D. ROOT CAUSE

1. The reason for explosion and major fire is gushing out of entrapped hydrocarbon from the cooling water return header to new cell, which got ignited since hot jobs were being carried out in close vicinity. The ingress of hydrocarbon was from leakage of hydrocarbon in cooler/condenser in connected process units.

2. Not adhering to the practice of stopping all work (especially hot work) and prohibiting all unrelated contractor and company personnel at site, before commissioning a new system/facility. Also, carrying out hazard analysis/ risk assessment would have probably indicated that there could be trapped HC gas, and prompted commissioning/operation team to vent out entrapped gases.

3. Failure to prevent commissioning activities, even though several jobs were unfinished:
HC and H₂S detectors were not installed.
Instrument cabling, cooling fan jobs were still unfinished.
Decision to go ahead with commissioning at last end of the day.
Improper coordination amongst Operation, Maintenance and Project departments.
Unable to ensure the gaps identified in internal safety audit & operation check-list are liquidated before commissioning.

E. RECOMMENDATIONS AND LEARNING
1. Do not allow simultaneous hot work and commissioning activity at site; this increases manifold the chances of accidents at site.
2. While commissioning activity is planned / undertaken, it must be ensured that other than minimum number of required operating crew, nobody should be allowed to be present at the work site.
3. Hazard analysis must be done prior to commissioning of any new facility.
4. HIRA must be carried out before commissioning of any new/temporary facility/system; this analysis by a multi-disciplinary group can easily identify the risks involved and suggest measures to overcome the same.
5. No facility should be commissioned unless it is ensured that internal audit points / pre-com checklist points are liquidated; further a multi-disciplinary group must carry out the internal audit.
6. There must be a proper coordination amongst the various departments; in the instant case there was clear communication gap and lack of coordination amongst Operation, Project and Maintenance Departments.
7. No facility must be commissioned unless safety devices like Hydrocarbon or Hydrogen Sulphide detectors are installed.
8. Standard Operating Procedure must be prepared; shared with operating personnel and ensured its display at site prior to commissioning.
9. Proper house-keeping must be done at the commissioning site; the site should be clear of unwanted materials and debris.
10. Facility(s) must not be commissioned unless pre-com audit is carried out.

- Leaders demonstrate commitment to safety
- Everyone is personally responsible for safety

Coin always makes Sound,  
but the currency notes are always Silent.  
So when your value increases, Keep Quiet.  
- William Shakespeare
FOCUSED PROGRAM ON PROCESS SAFETY
ISSUES IN MARKETING OPERATION

A seminar specially focused on Process Safety Management of Marketing Operation Locations was organised on January 16, 2014 at Jacaranda Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. The theme of the seminar was “Critical Safety Issues in Marketing Operations - Striving for Improved Performance”.

The prime objective of the seminar was to provide a holistic knowledge base in process safety in various sub-elements of marketing operations from storage of the petroleum products to its dispensing. During the seminar, core issues like automation in Marketing Operation, fire-fighting infrastructure, behaviour-based issues were also deliberated. This was the 3rd event in the domain specific series of seminars organised by OISD in 2013-14 and was the first one specifically targeting Marketing Operations as the focus area.

The seminar was inaugurated by Mr. L. N. Gupta, IAS, Secretary, OIDB. Mr. Gupta, through his power-point presentation laid emphasis on need for improved operations and understanding of safety issues in MO. Analysing the incidents, Mr. Gupta reiterated that flouting of well-laid-down systems & procedures coupled with disregard to SOPs and poor supervision are the major areas of concern. He complimented OISD for making continuous follow-up with oil & gas companies for implementing some of the major safety initiatives including its undivided attention & effort to enhance safety in the entire gamut of petroleum business and noted that there have been good improvements.

Keynote address was delivered by Mr. P. Raghavendran, President (Refinery Business) of Reliance Industries Ltd. Mr. Raghavendran while expressing satisfaction and complementing OISD for organising such a special seminar focussing on marketing of petroleum products also articulated on importance of improving softer skills and attitude for achieving NIL incidents. Mr. Raghavendran advocated immediate action must be taken in respect of long awaited bottom loading of TTs and wondered why such a good & accepted practice of bottom loading TTs is getting delayed.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Hirak Dutta, ED, OISD stressed on urgent need to improve reliability. He added that safety & reliability are the two sides of the same coin; thus focus for oil marketers must be on improving maintenance & reliability. He cited a few cases where catastrophic incidents have taken place due to poor reliability of equipment, plant & machinery.

Domain experts - both from international and national level representing industry members, consultants, system experts and academia - delivered lectures on topical and thought provoking issues covering the marketing value chain in entirety - from storage to retail dispensing; from design to risk assessment and from operation to behaviour management, through 4 technical sessions - each having 3 speakers - chaired by senior executives and eminent academicians. The subjects covered included Safety aspects in LPG handling, Corrosion and Cathodic protection issues, Layers of Protection incorporated in Marketing installations, Design, Operation, and Maintenance issues in Retail Outlets, Static Electricity & Lightning protection, Case Studies on successfully extinguishing full surface tank fires, Electrical protections, QRA & its impact etc.

More than 170 delegates representing companies engaged in Oil Marketing, stand-alone POL & LPG Storage Operators, Pipeline operations, Crude Tank Farm Operations, consultants and vendors attended the seminar.

The valedictory session was attended by Mr. Partha S Das, Director (Supply, Pricing & CC), Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Govt. of India. Mr. DK Adhikari, Director (MO) proposed the vote of thanks.

The delivered topics generated intense discussions between & among the participants and with speakers and session chairpersons. The apt attention of delegates till late evening and the threadbare deliberations throughout the day made the programme lively & meaningful.
NEWS IN BRIEF

In-house training on Quality Management System Internal Auditor Training Course

OISD organised two days in-house training on "Quality Management System Internal Auditor Training Course" based on ISO 9001:2008 at OISD office premises during November 18-19, 2013. The training was imparted by reputed external faculty from AJM Management System, Delhi.

Altogether 25 nos. of executives from Process & Engineering, Exploration & Production, Marketing Operation (POL & LPG) and Administration Department actively participated in the training programme. The training programme was followed by an examination to evaluate the performance of the participants. It is heartening that all OISDians who appeared for the exam passed with flying colors securing very good marks. Accordingly, Internal Auditor's Certificate for ISO 9001: 2008 was issued to all the successful participants by AJM Management System.

OISDians attending Internal Auditors Training

[Image: Handing over of Certificates]

Successful Completions of Surveillance Audit for ISO 9001:2008 Quality Management System


While carrying out the audit M/s DNV remarked that OISD is working on the strong foundation of systems and procedures.

Mr. Dharmvir elevated to Grade-F

Mr. Dharmvir, Joint Director-OISD, Grade-E has recently been promoted as Chief Manager in the scale of Grade-F. A Mechanical Engineering graduate from Delhi College of Engineering, Mr. Dharmvir joined HPCL in 1991. He has more than 2 decades of rich experience in Project Management, Maintenance Management.

Matured and pleasant Mr. Dharmvir in a short span of one year, at OISD has proved himself as an excellent resource and a good team member.

We wish Mr. Dharmvir all the success in all his future endeavours.

Mr. Dharmvir
NEWS IN BRIEVE

American Petroleum Institute (API) and OISD to sign Memorandum of Understanding

With a view to enhance Process Safety in Oil & Gas Installations, a formal discussion was held between representatives of OISD and API at OISD’s Noida office on 22nd November, 2013. Deliberations also focused on issues pertaining to environmental matters. Both the sides agreed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate in several areas to achieve the common objective of achieving NIL incidents.

Since 1924, API has been the leader in developing industry standards that promote reliability and safety through use of proven engineering practices. API maintains more than 600 standards- recommended practices, specifications, codes, technical publications, reports & studies that cover all aspects of oil & natural gas industry. These standards are reviewed regularly to ensure they remain current. The standard making of API is a collaborative process that includes industry experts, academia, other interested stakeholders etc.

OISD, the technical directorate of Ministry of Petroleum & NG is entrusted with the activity of overseeing safety in the entire oil & gas industry organizations in India. The focus of OISD is on Process Safety Management and towards this OISD has developed 111 safety standards in the entire value chain of hydrocarbon business those are followed by oil & gas industry organizations. OISD carries out periodic audit of oil & gas installations; and incident-accident investigations. To enhance process safety knowledge, OISD besides conducting regular seminars, workshops and conferences for upstream, mid-stream and downstream sector of petroleum business, provides faculty assistance/support in various forums within the country and abroad. It maintains a rich database and case studies on incident-accident investigations.

The proposed MoU between API & OISD would broadly cover the following areas of mutual interest:

- To participate in standard making process,
- To share data base & provide clarifications on technical matters,
- To conduct conferences for enhancing safety in Oil & Gas Industry,
- To share knowledge and experience for capability building etc.

It is expected that signing of MoU would be a new beginning between API & OISD for propagating Safety Knowledge, participating in standard making process etc. so as to enrich Process Safety Management.

Observance of Vigilance Awareness Week

OISDians observed Vigilance Awareness Week from October 30 to November 2, 2013. The theme for this year’s awareness week was “Promoting Good Governance - Positive Contribution of Vigilance”.

To commemorate the week, a workshop was organised on November 1, 2013 with full participation of all OISD employees. The workshop was inaugurated by Mr. Hirak Dutta, Executive Director, OISD, who during his speech shared his views on achieving transparency in all business transactions and fairness & accountability in discharging the responsibility of each employee and stakeholder associated with OISD functioning.

On the occasion, Mr. V K Singh, IFS, Chief Vigilance Officer of BSNL, Delhi was invited as the chief guest to deliver his thoughts on current vigilance related issues. Mr. Singh stressed the need for leveraging technology to enhance transparency with an ultimate objective of eliminating corrupt practices and good governance.

The workshop started with vigilance pledge by all the employees that was administered by Mr. Anup Walia & Mr. Hirak Dutta in Hindi & English respectively.
PHOTO GALLERY

ED, OISD speaking at Global HSE Conference

ED, OISD welcoming Secy, P&NG

JS-R chairing session at Occupational & Environmental Health Conference

A foreign delegation making a presentation to OISD officials

ED, OISD with the OISD family
I am thankful to all those who said NO to me. It's because of them I did it myself.

-Albert Einstein