

Chair,
Cho Nai Cheung

Attendees: Jon Becker (Chemtrade), Karla Salomon (Chevron), David Kahn (K2 Pure), Ha Nguyen (Shell), Lori Mathews (Valero), Rico Dizon (USS Posco), and Cho Nai Cheung & Nicole Heath (CCHMP).

The Mission of the CAER Process Safety Group will improve safety through training and sharing information through experience gained from Incident Investigations and with regulatory compliance.

Introductions

Everyone in the group gave a brief introduction of themselves.

Incident Discussions

Chevron discussed the Dec 28, 2016 flaring incident that occurred during the start-up of a compressor. From the investigation, it was discovered that a contractor installed a “non-Chevron” standard blind upstream of the compressor and this gray colored blind did not have any handle or tags which made it look like a spacer. This was not identified during the pre-startup review. Contractors are instructed to only use standard Chevron blinds for all maintenance work. Per the investigation, Chevron will make improvements around how contractors are managed including materials they are allowed to bring on site. For example contractors will no longer be able to bring in their own blinds.

Objectives:

Share process safety experiences including incidents

Technical sharing

Educational forum

Regulations updates and clarifications

Resource networking
Continuous Improvement

K2 Near Miss: During the turnaround last October, contractor working in the brine area noticed cracks on the flange during the installation (torqueing) of flanges that transitioned from carbon steel pipe to fiber reinforced pipe. These observations are contributable to the contractors being fiberglass specialty contractors. As it turns out, specific calculations have to be made to determine the type of gasket and the torque values at the spec break. The reliability engineer is reviewing all the torque values at the spec break and is now required to review and confirm this prior to installation. Policy is also changed to not rely on vendor recommendation for installation at spec break but reviewed by the reliability engineer. Karla mentioned that Chevron as part of their PHAs have a spec break review checklist that the engineers review.

Cho Nai reported that the Jan 29 fire at Calpine DEC fire caused major damage to the steam turbine and the facility may be non-operational from 4 months to one year. There are no further details and investigation is underway by Calpine DEC officials.

David mentioned that a newly released CSB video on the Williams olefins plant in Geismar Louisiana has some valuable learnings regarding Process Hazard Analysis, Management of Change, Pre-Startup Safety Review and Operating Procedures.

Regulatory Follow-up

OSHA PSM 5189.1 and the CalARP Program 4 proposed regulation were posted for the 15-day comment period with the last day to comment as 3/3/17. Depending on the extent of the comment, the PSM proposal could be headed to the Standards Board next. Both proposed regulation could be going to Office of Administrative Law (OAL) around May with the regulations being finalized in July.

Contra Costa County
CAER Group, Inc.
Process Safety Group

CAER PROCESS SAFETY GROUP February, 2017

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Group wanted to know when CCHMP will develop the protocols for auditing the new program 4 requirements. Cho Nai stated we should start with the SP Guidance Document update and incorporate some of the specifics in the Program 4 that the ISO were not and come into alignment. We have put it off due to other commitments and maybe the group can start back up meeting in the later part of March to begin the review for updates for SP guidance document. CCHMP would like to align SP and CalARP guidance so that we do not ask for two different things for the same program. The group suggests that it may be beneficial to highlight certain chapters to review first based on the changes. We will also ask the team if anyone objects to Valero participating during these discussions as this would be helpful to them even though they are not a direct stake holder.

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General Discussions\Workshops

The PSM group is always open for new workshop topics on any CalARP/ISO topics.

Next Meeting

As a reminder, the PSM meetings are now scheduled quarterly on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next regular meeting in May will be cancelled (due to CCHMP conflict) and the next scheduled meeting will be August 16th, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at 4585 Pacheco Blvd. Please mark your calendar.