Chemical Distribution Safety – What is the right approach?

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ABSTRACT

Chemical distribution safety has been managed by many different approaches, including regulatory compliance, EHS or risk management systems, route selection, risk screening and occasionally risk assessment. Within any one of these approaches there is also great variability in the degree to which they are applied, whether individually or in combination. The bottom line question for most companies is what financial benefit will be realized for increasing expenditures (and level of analysis/rigor) in this area. Data on the direct benefits are scarce, and measurable improvements in terms of averted losses are small. This paper examines several hypotheses about the actual and perceived benefits of various transportation risk management approaches to try and develop a framework for selecting the appropriate strategy.