Regulations, Standards, and Safety Instrumented Systems

Angela E. Summers, Ph.D., P.E.
Premier Consulting + Engineering
4916 FM 1765
LaMarque, Texas 77568

ABSTRACT

The field of SIS design is rapidly evolving to meet the new ANSI/ISA S84.01-1997 standard and the draft IEC 1508/1511 standards. The race for standards compliance is marked with the finish line of "good engineering practices" and "highly recommended practices." As we race toward compliance, industry must work hard to prevent the creation and acceptance of new design paradigms, which could threaten the economics of plant operation and could erode the effectiveness of SIS designs. This presentation will address the goals of the standards that shape our SIS designs today. Finally, it will provide cautions about the potential paradigms that could undermine industry's attempts to meet the new standards.