1. RECENT CHANGES IN SAFETY INSTRUMENTED SYSTEM STANDARDS
(alternate title, “The Short Happy Life of ISA 84.01, 1996)

Achieving and maintaining compliance with accepted industry practices in the technical area of safety instrumented systems has become complex and confusing, due to a variety of reasons. This paper will present an overview of the recent activities, and will address options that can be used to ensure compliance with recognized and generally accepted good engineering practices. This paper will also compare US, European, and International initiatives related to ensuring acceptable performance of instrument control systems. This paper is co-authored by Ms. Tracy Whipple and Mr. Jack Philley.

For the Topic Area – Process Management for Safety

1. POTENTIAL IMPACTS TO PROCESS SAFETY MANAGEMENT FROM MERGERS, ACQUISITIONS, DOWNSIZING, AND RE-ENGINEERING.

Significant potential impacts to process safety management performance can be generated by corporate organizational mergers, acquisitions, downsizing, and re-engineering. This paper explores a selection of consequences (favorable as well as unfavorable) and presents possible options for addressing this new and broad based challenge. Loss of in-house PSM expertise and surge capacity is a prime example. Demographics indicate a bell curve of experienced personnel in the process industries are approaching normal and early-retirement age. Rapid expansion of the process industries in the 1960’s and 1970’s brought in a large group of workers. Retraction of the process industries in the late 1980’s significantly reduced the number of people entering this segment of the workforce. These two events have combined to generate a bell-curve distribution of experienced personnel, who are now leaving the industry as a result of downsizing, mergers, and other re-organizations. Retention of this experience is a serious challenge to successful management of process safety. There is an increasing likelihood lessons learned may be permanently lost.
2. PRACTICAL LESSONS LEARNED FROM PSM AUDITS

After three cycles of PSM compliance audits, many organizations have now collected sufficient data to begin to analyze results and draw practical conclusions related to PSM program optimization and integration. EPA RMP audits will begin soon. There is increasing interest in integrating and optimizing PSM program activities and audits. This paper attempts to present practical lessons and observations that have been learned from PSM program assessments. This paper addresses common elements of ISO 14000 and PSM audits, API Recommended Practice 9100 A and B for EHS Management System, and the proposed OHSAS 18,001 voluntary standard for Occupational Health & Safety Management System. This paper also includes several samples of consolidated audit protocols, and attempts to highlight some common PSM audit pitfalls that can be avoided.