ABSTRACT

In 1983, DuPont sponsored the HCN Transportation and Safety Seminar. Attendees were representatives from hydrogen cyanide producers, shippers, and users from around the world. This was the beginning of the HCN Industry Safety Conference. Each year since 1983 the conference has been held and incidents are shared. Special presentations are also made on HCN safety related topics.

The Conference Board realized that although conference presentations are published for attendees, the information often remains unknown or unavailable to others from their respective companies. The “world’s experts” on hydrogen cyanide are also retiring and some of the experience and knowledge is being lost. Finally, a review of incidents over the last 20 years indicated our industry is not learning from the experiences of others. Not only are the same types of accidents are happening, but the personnel involved are often experienced.

The HCN Industry Safety Conference entered into a contract with Mary Kay O’Connor Process Safety Center (MKOPSC) to address these needs. Our goal was to improve availability of presentations from the conference, increase safety communication between member companies, and maintain a confidential database of hydrogen cyanide incidents.

These goals are met as follows:

1. Conference agendas can be viewed, printed, or searched.
2. Conference presentations can be searched, viewed, or downloaded.
3. Requests for help and ideas on safety related topics can be posted.
4. The key contact of member companies can submit written requests for data searches of the incident database.
5. A discussion board allows safety questions to be posed to many companies as one time.