Learning from Disaster -
Implementing the Lessons Learned from Texas City

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Abstract

In early 2007 the Baker Panel issued their report on the Safety Culture found at BP’s US Refineries along with numerous recommendations for not only BP, but also for companies across the chemical and refining industries. A team of process safety professionals recognizing the value of these recommendations, and many of those made in the BP and CSB investigation reports, set out to determine, “How can we make sure this doesn’t happen to us?”

This paper details the approach taken 1) to evaluate existing culture, programs, and process design to identify potential short-coming; 2) to develop a project to improve these areas; and 3) to communicate these findings to everyone impacted. The project is still in progress, so findings and activities-to-date will be discussed as well as plans for the completion of the project.

The purpose of this paper is to encourage and equip safety professionals to undertake similar efforts within their own companies so that the lessons from this disaster do not go unlearned.