Improving Process Safety from the Ground Up

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ABSTRACT

Improving process safety performance for a business is a huge task. The single most important factor to achieve success is the ability to foster a deep understanding of process safety principles and how to apply these principles in a practical manner at the plant level. The Dow Chemical Company has approached this effort by developing Process Safety Teams. These teams include at least one representative from each plant within a business as well as key management and technical personnel for the business. The team is led by a process safety expert and the primary team goal is to improve sustainable process safety performance for the business. This paper describes in greater detail the team makeup and purpose as well as the mechanics of how the teams function and the success we have seen as a result of these teams. The author’s goal is to provide an easy to understand “how to” guide for use at companies struggling to improve their process safety performance.