Abstract

The term process safety conjures thoughts of complex engineering activities, resulting in people shying away from participating in process safety activities. The principles of process safety need to be restated to bring it back into the reach of all people in an organisation. While engineering design and risk calculations are in themselves complex, they are performed for the purposes of safe design and operation. This concept, in itself, need not be complex. The management of process safety requires leadership in knowledge and competence, with inherently safer engineering and design principles, defined systems and procedures, coupled with assurance processes and incorporating an understanding of human factors to shape safety culture. This paper will redefine process safety in simpler terms, and show how it can be applied to any phase of a facility lifecycle.

Keywords: leadership, metrics, safety culture, knowledge