

The Future of Process Safety

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Abstract

Over the past two years the IChemE Safety Centre has been leading an international project to develop a roadmap for the future of process safety. This project was undertaken in association with the Mary Kay O'Connor Process Safety Center at Texas A&M University. As the global population continues to rise, the planet is under more pressure to provide vital resources for people. If we are to be sustainable we need to solve the grand challenges of our time, food and nutrition, water, energy, health and wellbeing. Science and engineering are fundamental to overcome these challenges and industry plays a major part in this. However, if industry does not conduct itself in a sustainable way, which includes good process safety outcomes, they will not have a social license to operate, which means that the future of process safety is crucial. To consider what the future roadmap for process safety may look like it is necessary to understand what the key challenges are. A list of key challenges to process safety from the perspectives of industry, academia, regulators and society were established via a series of international consultations over 2016 and 2017. The list was then considered by an international committee of process safety thought leaders who developed some strategies to conquer them. This workshop will present these key challenges and discuss the strategies to overcome them and a call to action. Audience feedback on this information as well as participation will be guided via mobile phone technology.