



SLP SOCIETY of LOSS PREVENTION news

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A Practical Approach to Safety Management

This was the subject of a technical talk on September 24 by Mr Teo Lek Hong, Country and Plant Manager of Infineum Singapore.

Infineum is a joint venture between Shell and ExxonMobil. It is a leading manufacturer and supplier of oil additives for the fuels and lubricating oil industries both locally and world wide. Its plant is on Ayer Chawan, Jurong Island.

The outstanding safety performance of the Infineum Plant on Ayer Chawan has been recognised by the Ministry of Manpower for a long time. It was therefore a privilege for SLP to hear from the man who has had a major role in this achievement.

Mr Teo spoke about the Safety Management System at his plant.

Safety Management System

- Safety Leadership, Policy & Rules
- Risk Analysis & Management
- Personnel & Training
- Facility Design & Implementation
- Maintenance & Inspection
- Work Permits
- Critical Equipment
- Operations & Maintenance Procedures
- Change Management
- Incident Investigation & Learning
- Verification & Effectiveness
- Emergency Response & Readiness

The components are not much different from other SMS's. How has Infineum translated the system into a way of life for their operations?

From the enthusiastic faces in the picture and the demonstrated performance, it is obvious that Infineum has a safety culture and this culture is thriving. While this is true, like a good safety practitioner, Mr Teo reminded the audience that it is hard work and attention to details that determine success or failure.

He chose to emphasise two aspects of his system -- Risk Analysis and Management, and Personnel. In Risk Analysis and Management, he spoke about knowing the hazards, assessing the risks, developing and implementing measures to manage the risk, developing, training on and using appropriate procedures. Lastly, he emphasised verification. In his words, "Verify, verify, verify".

On Personnel safety, he spoke about two aspects.

- Personnel are protected against personal injuries
- Personnel do not jeopardize major risk management systems



Safety is.....

... a culture..

... a journey ...

....is everybody's business