

LAUNCH OF

CERT ASSESSMENT BY SCDF



On September 28, SCDF launched the CERT Assessment/Audit program for all facilities and installations that are covered by the Fire Safety (Petroleum and Flammable Materials) Regulations 2005. Such facilities and installations are required to have an in-house Company Emergency Response Team (CERT) to be the first responders to any emergency or in the words of SCDF, "The CERT should be capable of handling all the initiating events identified in the Emergency Response Plan (ERP)" In Singapore, SCDF will take over command of the emergency upon its arrival at the site.

The assessment is being introduced as part of a process of continuous improvement for Singapore industry to ensure an adequate standard of emergency preparedness.

See Hee speaking about our ERP Guidelines

Preparation work

The HazMat Department of SCDF invited SLP and Singapore Chemical Industry Council (SCIC) to review and provide feedback for its draft assessment guidelines. Our President and Hon Secretary attended several working meetings with SCDF officers not only to discuss the draft but also to work on the launch event. This took the form of a seminar on Sept. 28 at the Home Team Academy in Choa Chu Kang. The seminar design ensured that there was participation from all stakeholders – SCDF, industry (represented by SCIC) and loss prevention professionals (represented by SLP).

Seminar

The Director of HazMat Department, LTC Teong How Hwa, explained the objective of the audit/assessment and introduced the guidelines. He invited feedback from the audience who were mostly from industry. He announced the intention of SCDF to start the audit/assessment in 2008. The audit would be done as part of licensing/re-licensing. Workshops would be held to help industry get ready.

Industry papers were done by Naranjan Singh of Merck Sharp and Dohme, Ridwan Jaafar of Sun Ace Kakoh and Brian Rains from SCIC.



See Hee and Kit Wing concentrating hard on the presentations



Penny at our booth speaking to potential members

Our President presented our Guidelines for Emergency Response Planning. Members will recall that SLP has conducted training on our ERP Guidelines a number of times.

In addition to See Hee's presentation, we also took a booth in the display area and used the opportunity to provide brochures on SLP, sold some copies of our ERP Guide and distributed our membership application forms.

SLP is proud that it helped to launch an important initiative to raise the overall emergency preparedness level in Singapore.

By Ong See Hee