

FIRST HAZOPS LEADERS' COURSE



Tay Cheng Pheng welcoming the participants.



John Lockwood capturing the attention of his audience.



Case study and group work - this is not a class for passive learning!



A happy graduand receiving her certificate from John.



Wendell Harms after receiving his course certificate.

This was a first for SLP because it departed from the usual HAZOPS course that is aimed at persons who have no experience in this technique. For the leaders' course, participants are expected to have some prior knowledge of HAZOPS and who may be called on to lead a HAZOPS team. The course was put on to meet a need expressed by members. It was held on November 13 and 14 at the Singapore Polytechnic Graduates Guild.

We had a good response, 26 participants, from a wide range of industries including petro-chemical, pharmaceutical, chemical engineering design companies, marine companies and even educational institutions. Participants who are Registered Workplace Safety and Health Officers would qualify for 14 SDU's.

John Lockwood was the instructor. John is an Honorary Fellow of SLP and is an internationally known consultant and trainer in safety. From the feedback of the participants, John's experience and deep insights of the subject were much appreciated.

The course structure included lectures, training videos, discussions, case studies, teamwork to develop facilitation skills and experience sharing. Although some prior HAZOPS knowledge was required, time was given during the course to give a quick revision of basic HAZOPS methodology. Because many of the participants were from the pharmaceutical industry, attention was given to applying HAZOPS in a batch process. Befitting the aim of the course to prepare people to be leaders of HAZOPS teams, emphasis was given to facilitation skills and opportunities were given for people to practice them during the case studies. To help HAZOP leaders, common pitfalls were pointed out.

The overall feedback was very good. Comments were helpful eg. more time for discussion; ensure that participants had the pre-requisite HAZOPS knowledge and so on. Wendell Harms, a participant summed it up very well, "The course provides a good overview of the methodology behind a Hazop study as well as the preparation needed prior to, and the follow-up actions needed after each Hazop study.

The group case studies generated a healthy exchange of views and ideas, which made the course more interesting and beneficial to the participants.

John is an excellent trainer, bringing with him many years of EHS consultancy to major petrochemical industries and leading Hazops and other process hazard analyses. He has a unique ability to stimulate participants to challenge conventional thinking in order to achieve a more robust and comprehensive hazard study.

I would recommend this course to anyone who leads or participates in Hazop studies in their line of work".

Participants also appreciated the opportunity to network and share experiences during tea breaks and lunch.

By Penny Pan

They are not kidding. This is not a course for passive learning. It's hard work!

