

**MAY 2009** 

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## TARGETING ZERO

This is the second in our series of Technical Talks on the sharing of Corporate Best Practices in the area of safety, industrial hygiene and environmental protection. This talk, held on January 16, 2009, was conducted by Ms Charleen Dickson, Vice President for Environment, Health and Safety for Chevron Phillips Chemical Company. It also marked the second time that SLP had partnered with the Singapore Chemical Industry Council (SCIC) on such an activity.

In her presentation, Ms Charleen Dickson, spoke about her company's determination to achieve ZERO loss. In this context, ZERO includes zero injuries, zero industrial hygiene incidents and zero environmental incidents. For Chevron, this target is applicable to employees and contractors. This is an extremely challenging goal and it has the support of Chevron's senior management. This is perhaps the most important lesson. Companies that have exemplary performance in EHS all share this characteristic – their senior managements take EHS performance very seriously.

One could say that these strategies are not new and they are not. The secret of success is in how rigorously they are applied. Thus, we would go right back to where we started --- the crucial role that senior management plays in determining the EHS performance of any organization.

A testimony to the importance of the subject

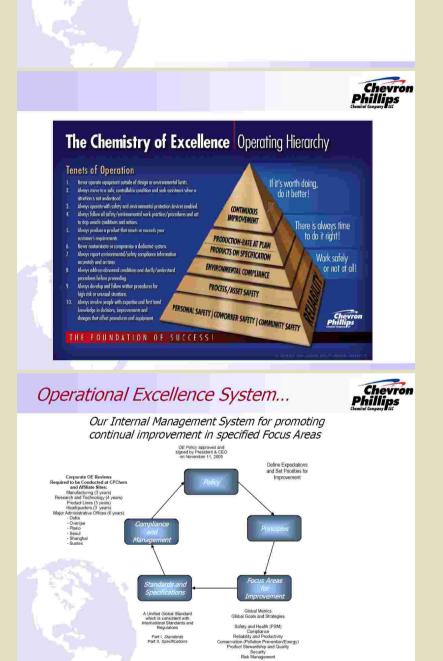


## What are the strategies to achieve this goal?

- 1. Best Practices Teams Teams have been formed to review industry best practices and to develop companywide EHS procedures. The point to note here is that there is no lack of knowledge to promote exemplary performance. Company wide standardization and sustained application is the key.
- 2. Tenets of Operation This is Chevron's terminology for behavioral safety. Here good psychological principles are applied to the human side of injury and incident prevention strategies to reduce or eliminate injuries and illnesses. For example, workers are empowered to think and follow principles such as "Work Safely or Not At All" and "There is Always Time to Work Safely"
- 3. Operational Excellence Systems These management systems focus on continual improvement in specified areas in personnel and process safety, health, environment, security, quality and reliability. These OE Systems encompass the key core principles, metrics and verification. Compliance is ensured by regular audits.
- **4.** EHScoms Sharing of Lessons Learned -All facilities are expected to proactively share their lessons on recordable injuries and process safety incidents.
- 5. Summer of Safety Campaigns This is an outgrowth of the observation that there are significantly more injuries and illness during hot summer months. This principle could be applied to situations where we can anticipate more risks at work eg. a turnaround or start-up. Promotional activities would include relevant safety talks eg. protection against heat stroke, poster competitions, more comprehensive involvement of workers in site inspections, emphasis on reports/observations of unsafe practices and so on.

## Concepts of Tenets of Operation: **Chevron** Phillips The Human Side of Injury and Incident Prevention

- Tenets are basic risk principles.
- Multiple violations will develop a "chain of errors."
- As the error chain grows, the probability of an event is increased.
- The greater the number of Tenets in violation at the time of an incident, the greater the consequences.
- Following Tenets is key to injury and incident prevention.



A lively discussion followed the presentation. Several speakers related their own experience on continually improving EHS performance. They endorsed the points made by Ms Dickson. These discussions continued into the tea break.

Part I, Standards Part II. Specifications

Ms Dickson truly earned her memento.

Reported by Tay Cheng Pheng



her well earned memento receiving