

## EPC Safety Subcommittee Minutes

Thursday, August 8, 2019 – Doubletree Hotel, Houston, TX – 4:30 PM

- Anti-trust statement

“No activity of the Committee shall involve the exchange, collection or dissemination of information among competitors for the purpose of bringing about or attempting to bring about any understanding or agreement, written or oral, formal or informal, express or implied, among competitors with regard to costs, prices or pricing methods, terms or conditions of sale, distribution, production quotas or other limitations, on either the timing, or volume of production, or sales, or allocation of territories or customers.”
- Safety moment - There was a possible ethylene decomposition incident occurring in the acetylene reactor feed heater of the new Sasol cracker in Lake Charles. This was unexpected at this point in the process, possibly involving rust catalyzed hydrogenation. This could be a good topic for a paper. NOVA discussed varmint control. Recent incident with raccoon affecting electrical.
- Membership – **We still need a co-chair for the 2020 Safety session.** No volunteers in today’s meeting. Will table for next meeting.
- Carrying this list Wish list for future sessions from previous meeting. Not discussed in detail at this meeting (Bold indicates interest from committee after June discussion)
  - Rotating equipment, Static, furnaces, controls
  - **Hot tap safety**
  - Continue with good papers on brittle fracture, decomp
  - Process safety topics from the real world, another tutorial on process safety (acetylene precipitation maybe), process safety practices
  - **NORM tutorial**
- NOx Subcommittee/Paper – Micheal Smith (Exxon) gave an update
  - Charter previously approved
  - We have a quorum agreeing to participate
  - Meeting planned for participants at Exxon Baytown campus on October 9. We expect 5 companies to provide answers to questionnaire.
  - Micheal will go ahead and put abstract in.
- Update on Safety Session

Jeff Melching –2020 Committee Chair and Norman Wilhelm co-Chair

Jeff Nichols is the 2020 Session Chair. **Need co-chair as discussed above.**

## Ideas for 2020 papers/Brainstorming

- Sulfur Reducing Bacteria/MIC/Selection of water for hydrotreating (Need Presenter) Sasol and Dow are possibilities. Sasol reported a very large percentage of HXs needing repair/inspection. We could also consider getting a water treatment vendor to present.
  - Commissioning in general (was previously discussed as joint paper or tutorial with Operations subcommittee (Need Presenter) CPChem is considering something on Contractor Engagement. Could engage EPC Contractor. CPChem will work with Bala.
  - Valve Issues (Need presenter) This will be on backburner, not a likely paper for 2020.
  - NORM (Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (was covered in 1996. Per June meeting David Gent will look for potential presenter – 3<sup>rd</sup> parties, surveyors, Industrial Hygiene. Update: This can be different depending on geography. Jake Barret will work with David on finding possible presenter. CPChem will also follow up with contractor.
  - Pyrophoric polymers – trays vs packing- chemical cleaning with permanganate (Need presenter) Can we approach McDermott – they have collection of papers on Lummus Design. Check with Aivars Kruminis from main committee.....Jake Barret
  - Brittle Fracture – has anything changed since last years session? .Possibly can get Summary of Standard revisions Expected from Ralph King – Norm to check with Ralph. David Gent can check in NOVA
  - Hot tap safety – Idea from 2018 comments (Need presenter) Jeff Melching to talk with contractor such as TD Williamson or Steam& Process. This may be a backup plan paper if given solely by contractor.
  - Paper on Underground Cooling Water failure – being presented at EEPCC Norm Wilhelm to follow up. This failure was right next to Gasoline Fractionator.
  - Micheal to look at APFM conference agenda in Fall for possible papers. Michael looked at Spring papers. Mostly generic. Nothing promising so far.
  - Mine PS Congress for papers – Jeff Melching
  - Carryover from 2018 - Braskem paper 'Protection against backflow in Existing Furnaces." Was withdrawn due to author health issue – Sankar Mahalingam to follow-up with author.
  - New – Possible Sasol paper on recent ethylene decomp – Jeff Nichols to follow-up.
  - New - Deadlegs - universal agreement this is an issue (Need presenter) Backburner for now
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- Upcoming meetings and key dates
  - Remaining subcommittee meetings **October 10, December 5, January 30**
  - Abstracts close November 27, 2019
  - EPC March 29-Apr 2, 2020 Houston, TX