

EPC Safety Subcommittee Minutes

Thursday, Sept 17, 2020 4:00 PM held via conference call

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.”

Elections

The Safety Subcommittee appointed the following people to fill the roles through the 2021 conference.

Norman Wilhelm (LyondellBasell) – Committee Chair

AJ Armer (Chevron Phillips) – Committee Co-Chair

Micheal Smith (ExxonMobil) – Paper Session Chair

Daryl Bitting (Eastman) – Paper Session Co-Chair

Review of 2020 Session

We presented the 5 papers as planned. We had a technical glitch during presentation of one paper, but it was reloaded after the conference and is now available.

Consensus of the group was that the session went well. Very good questions in chat.

The presentations felt like they went very fast. Comment was made for overall session that some papers started before other ended. It would be good if presenters started their videos and waited a short time before starting presenting because when people join they usually joined midsentence in the speakers opening words.

By the end of September we should have some statistics on attendance at each session. It is hoped that some people were able to attend virtually that would not have been able to attend in person, even under normal circumstances.

Papers should be published on EPC website sometime in October.

Key Dates

Committee /Subcommittee meetings –

Considering using MS Teams for future virtual subcommittee meetings (or call-in option if you don't have the software)

Oct 15

Dec 10

Feb 11

Conference Deadlines

- Condensed Timeline
- September 8 – Sessions & Session Chairs due in Confex
 - 2020 information has been rolled over
 - NEED 2021 Session Chair information
- September 11- Call of Abstracts opens
- November 20- Call for Abstracts closes
- December 13 - Accept or Reject
- January 15 - Draft Schedule Available
- January 18 - Technical Program Live

Date of Conference

April 18-22 Hotel Anatole, Dallas

Paper Session Ideas – we started with list from Jan 2020, and kept pertinent items. **Bold items either had high interest or high potential to be available.** Please solicit additional ideas within your companies!

- **(New) Potential Tutorial – Popcorn Polymer Potential Separate Session (ExxonMobil/Others)**
- **Exothermic Runaway in Reactor Feed Heater (Sasol) (Abstract submitted for 2020)**
- **(New) Potential paper on Burner management or other safety items (Linde)**
- **(New) Furnace Reverse Flow Affecting Piping with lower MAWT (Eastman)**
- **(New) Potential paper on Ethylene Decomp in small bore piping (ExxonMobil)**
- **Detonations at Ground Flare (NOVA?/Sasol?/Joint?)**
- **Furnace Overtemperature Incident (Chevron Phillips)**
- Shell – suggested a topic on vaporizing LPG for use in inventorying equipment to avoid low temperature brittle fractures. ExxonMobil also interested in participating.
- Paper on Underground Cooling Water failure – was previously presented at EEP. This failure was right next to Gasoline Fractionator. Norm Wilhelm to check again whether this is available.
- Reach out to CSB on investigations to recent incidents. **Would like to get paper on TPC Incident.**
- Brittle fracture – is there any update on metallurgy issues for 2021?
- Carryover from 2018 - Braskem paper ‘Protection against backflow in Existing Furnaces.’ Was withdrawn due to author health issue – Sankar Mahalingam to follow-up again with author.
- Reactions in Dryers during Regeneration (Shell/Dow)
- **(New) Salt Dome Storage Ethylene Regen System – Change of Heating Medium (Eastman)**
- Mercury in Cold Boxes (ExxonMobil)
- Sasol – Light ends fouling
- Nova (Jake) PQE Inlet Cone Failures

Other items with less discussion, or need sponsor/update

- Deadlegs - universal agreement this is an issue

- Hot tap safety
- Acetylene precipitation in Cold Box, safety practices
- Valve Issues (unidirectional, need for uninsulated bonnets in cryo service, etc...)
- Pyrophoric polymers – trays vs packing- chemical cleaning
- Mine other conferences prior presentations, i.e. APFM conference, PS Congress
- An abstract was received from SABIC on “Lessons Learned from Furnace Switching – paper did not materialize.
- How to clear equipment to ground flare when ground flare is running at higher pressure
- Possible session just on ground flare issues, joint environmental/safety session?

NOx Subcommittee

- NOx Subcommittee is considering updating the NOx tutorial on the EPC website for 2021.