INHERENT SAFETY AND SECURITY

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Presented at the seminar on Safer Facilities: Chemical Security and Hazard Reduction, Cuyahoga County LEPC, Berea, Ohio, May 24, 2006



OUTLINE

- Background
- Definition of inherent safety
- Requirements
- Guidance
- Examples
- Inherent security principles

"There is one thing more painful than learning from experience, and that is not learning from experience."

Anon

BACKGROUND

- Use of inherently safer / securer technologies (IST) is a key element in managing safety and security
- Government legislation and regulations favor use of IST
 - New Jersey, Best Practices Standards at TCPA / DPCC Chemical Sector Facilities November, 2005

NJ DEFINITION OF IST

- Principles or techniques incorporated in a process to minimize or eliminate the potential for a hazardous substance release including:
 - Reducing inventories
 - Substituting less hazardous materials
 - Using less hazardous process conditions or chemical forms
 - Designing equipment and processes to minimize the potential for equipment failure and human error

NJ REQUIREMENTS - IST

- Review the practicability and potential for adopting inherently safer technology (IST)
- Analyze whether adoption of IST alternatives is practicable
- Provide the basis for any determination that IST implementation is impracticable
- IST review must be conducted by a qualified expert in chemical process safety
- Prepare a report

NJ GUIDANCE

Review method not specified

- Consider process hazard analysis
- Evaluate the process cycle as a whole and specific sections and pieces of equipment
- Expect that research required to identify available IST alternatives
- Recognizes challenge of implementing IST for operating plants
 - Practicability and cost effectiveness

NJ GUIDANCE (CONTD.)

- Address 3 questions for each of the four types of IST:
- 1. Are there any available IST alternatives over the current process? If so, what are they?
- 2.A Is adoption of IST alternatives practicable?

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- 2.B What is the basis for any determination that implementation of IST is impractical?
- 3. What past IST and risk reduction measures have already been incorporated into the current process?

Inherently Safer Chemical Processes – A Life Cycle Approach, AIChE/CCPS, 1996

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QUESTION 2.A Is adoption of IST alternatives practicable?

- Technology should have been successfully proven in commercial or pilot operation
- Any unproven technology should be reviewed and evaluated so that additional hazards are not introduced into the process



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QUESTION 2.B What is the basis for determination that IST implementation is impractical?

- Real life problems or conditions present to support the determination must be documented, e.g. an IST alternative:
 - Provides an extremely low yield in a reaction process
 - Introduces a more serious hazard
 - "Technology should be available at reasonable cost commensurate with the anticipated reduction or elimination of the hazard"
 - Provide costs to install and operate alternatives

QUALIFIED EXPERT

No definition provided

- NJDEP suggests team participate in the review
- Provide expertise in:
 - Chemistry
 - Engineering



- Process controls and instrumentation
- Maintenance
- Production and operations
- Chemical process safety

IST REVIEW REPORT

- Document all the findings
- Include past IST and risk reduction measures
- Provide schedule for implementation of IST measures



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IST EXAMPLES – INVENTORY REDUCTION

- Conversion of a batch to a continuous process
 - Eliminated the need for an intermediate storage tank

 Generation of hazardous materials as needed, e.g. phosgene, chlorine, sulfur dioxide, sulfur trioxide

Eliminated need for storage of the material

IST EXAMPLES - SUBSITUTION

Replace chlorine in water / waste water treatment using:

- Sodium hypochlorite
- Ozone
- Other disinfectant chemicals
- UV light



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IST EXAMPLES – LESS HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS / FORMS

- Using refrigerated materials under atmospheric pressure instead of under pressure
- Using diluted materials instead of the pure form
- Using hot water or steam for heating instead of flammable oil

INHERENT SECURITY PRINCIPLES

- Perception
- Information
- Layout
- Design
- Safeguards
- Computers
- Buffer zones

Inherent Security: Protecting Process Plants Against Threats, P. Baybutt, Chemical and Engineering Progress, 2003.

INHERENT SECURITY PRINCIPLES - PERCEPTION

- Plants should control how much attention they attract
 - Those visible from highways are more likely to be targeted
 - Buffer zones and setbacks can help
- Plants with prominent signage are more readily identified
- Vessels and tanks visible from outside the plant are more likely to be targeted
 - Placement in buildings or behind screens may help
- Locations close to population centers and transportation are more likely to attacked
- Avoidance of publicity may also avoid attracting the attention of adversaries

INHERENT SECURITY PRINCIPLES - INFORMATION

- Information on hazardous materials is needed by adversaries to plan an attack
 - Try to ensure they do not obtain it
- The less information available on a facility, the more secure it will be
 - Control information on chemicals handled, inventories, deliveries, capacities of tanks and vessels, and locations
- Ensure your marketing and PR departments do not inadvertently disclose sensitive information
 - Beware of the Internet!
- Be careful with in-plant signs
 - Make it easier for intruders to identify specific targets
- Balance right-to-know with need-to-know for local communities and the media

INHERENT SECURITY PRINCIPLES - LAYOUT

- Generally, locate sensitive areas close to the center of the plant where they will be less vulnerable
- Keep hazardous materials zones and sight lines free from obstructions to facilitate the detection of unauthorized personnel
- Disabling utilities and control systems may cause releases
 - Place them where they are difficult for intruders to locate and access

INHERENT SECURITY PRINCIPLES - DESIGN

- Where possible, avoid weak points such as sight glasses and flex hoses
- Consider whether tanks and vessels can be protected against airborne and propelled explosive devices and projectiles, e.g.
 - More robust designs
 - Increased wall thickness
 - Internal baffles
 - Double-walled construction
 - Mounding

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Underground installation



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INHERENT SECURITY PRINCIPLES - SAFEGUARDS

- Attacks may involve disabling safeguards immediately prior to causing a hazardous material release
- Some safeguards are more readily disabled than others, e.g.
 - Fire water tanks are less secure than lagoons
 - Below grade dikes are more secure than dikes at grade level



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INHERENT SECURITY PRINCIPLES - COMPUTERS

- Be careful of Internet connections to process control networks
 - What is not connected cannot be manipulated
- Ensure business and enterprise networks are protected from cyber attacks to obtain information for planning a physical attack
- Design process control systems to prevent misuse by insiders



INHERENT SECURITY PRINCIPLES – BUFFER ZONES

- Provide separation for a facility from surrounding areas and sensitive populations
 - Makes it harder to locate and attack a facility
 - Also provides some protection in the event of a release
 - Ideally, follow appropriate setback guidelines

SUMMARY

- Both inherent safety and inherent security approaches should be used
 - Including for operating facilities
- Formal review is desirable
 - Required in NJ
- Consider tradeoffs between safety and security



FURTHER INFORMATION

- Technical papers on safety and security:
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