Message from the President’s Desk:

26th January 2015

Best Wishes on 66th Republic Day...

We all are familiar with 3 E’s of Safety and also few more Es those evolved over time. Today, it comes to my mind the 3 C’s and those are, Collaboration, Cooperation and Commitment which are the cornerstones of success in promoting sustainable safety implementation.

Be it in industry, educational institution or a societal set-up, we need to collaborate with various stakeholders to be enable to bring the best solutions for various safety challenges that we are dealing with. Industry-institute partnership could be cited as a very successful example in this direction. For example, academic research in a university must help the industry and the society at large. We, safety professionals can play key role to take this forward, by playing catalytic role, of course with substantial efforts, creativity, innovative and holistic approach.

Similarly, cooperation at various layers and department of the organization as well as with external stake-holders is an important area which has great bearing on success of safety efforts in the organizations. We need to facilitate this with pro-active approach towards emerging challenges, on a sustainable basis.

Finally, commitment from our own end is key, in our journey forward towards a safer world with safer workplace, safer road and of course, safer homes. This, in fact take us beyond professional requirements and inspire us to see human and social impact of our contributions. Let our dedicated and untiring efforts tread us forward in protecting people, property and the environment.

Jai Hind!

Krishna Nirmalya Sen,
President, ASSE India Chapter

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Editor’s Corner:

Dear Reader,

We are presenting the 11th Issue of ASSE India Chapter Newsletter.

In response to the call from ASSE India Chapter several sections and other areas / locations OHS Professionals have celebrated 26th National Road Safety Week. I am attaching couple of reports related to the celebration. Thousands of vehicle users, commuters and pedestrians from every sphere of society were contacted through various awareness programs on road safety. I am sure that these apparently simple professional contributions shall definitely create an impact in certain degree within the society that eventually shall help to reduce unwanted incidents on road for Indian roads users.

I have also tried to add a different flavor in this issue. You will find an informative article on Measuring OH&S Performance indicator.

The regular Quiz questions with last month answers are also being presented.

Again we are inviting interesting articles on OH&S for publication.

In the eve of 66th Republic Day, let us rededicate ourselves for the cause of making our society a safer place to live.

Warm Regards and Happy Republic Day to all our Readers,
Sandip Mukherjee,
Chair – Newsletter (ASSE India Chapter)
An article on measuring of Occupational Health and Safety Management system

Safety Performance Indicators
Compiled by – Pawan Kr Sharma
Sr. Engineer – HSE (L&T Hydrocarbon Engineering Ltd.)
Mail id: pawanks@lntecc.com
Mobile no.: +91-8696905502

Safety performance of an organization is presented with two types of indicators, lagging indicator and the leading indicator.

Lagging indicators (reactive system) measure past performance of an organization that cannot be changed. Examples are the occurrence of various incidents & accidents such as Fatalities, Loss time injury frequency rate (LTIFR), Total Recordable Injury, and Restricted Work Case etc. These incidents result from a series of unsafe acts or conditions. Due to fear of punitive action and lack of support, there is a general tendency not to report such incidents unless it becomes unavoidable to do so. Thus this indicator may not represent true image of a company’s safety performance, as the numbers reported may also get managed in the process. The well-known Heinrich triangle (also known as Safety Pyramid), which holds several near miss incidents responsible for one LTI, and the several LTIs behind causing a single fatality, does not get justified for such organizations. Further if a company aims to achieve or ‘not to exceed’ a given nos. of these lagging indicators in future, it may arguably mean that by leaving this room, company is still planning for some, though fewer nos. of accidents in coming days!

On the other hand Leading indicator (active system) is a reflection of company’s management’s commitment and is a count of its ensuing safety performance that will automatically reduce incidents at work place. This system gives an organization feedback on its performance before an accident, incident or ill health and an opportunity to improve in time. It includes monitoring the achievement of specific plans and objectives, the operation of HSE management system and compliance with its performance standard. Nos. of trainings & their effectiveness, risk assessments, % of hazards or audit gaps closed, preventive maintenance, pre-employment & periodical medical examination, safety perception among stakeholders and most important the employee empowerment to ‘Stop’ unsafe work are few examples of Leading Indicators. Root cause analysis is done in place of the mere Accident investigation in this system. Leading indicators help strengthen safety culture of an organization and invariably improve the lagging indices.

A balanced mix of both may yield good results for an organization. It is important, whilst an organization monitors its past safety performance and wait for another incident ‘not-to- happen’, through leading indicators it also strengthens the safety culture among people (be it employees, contractors and member of public), thereby achieving the same goal more holistically.

A report on 26th National Road Safety Week celebration
11TH TO 17TH JANUARY 2015 at PARADIP, ODISHA

Compiled by – Mr. R L Kalita (General Manager – HSE)
Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Paradip, Orissa
Mail id: kalitarl@indianoil.in
Mobile no.: +91-9437070382

According to the statistics developed by Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India, Road Traffic Deaths are on a rise and the trend is quite alarming as shown in the graph below:

At present approximately 25,000 personnel are engaged in Paradip Refinery Project Site and the volume of Traffic flowing in and out of Refinery site is enormous. This high density traffic, especially during morning and evening rush hours have resulted with serious road accidents in the past.

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Safety and well-being of all people being the top most priority, various awareness programs and training sessions are conducted at Paradip. As a part of Observance of 26th Road Safety Week, from 11th to 17th January ‘2015, a Traffic Checking cum Awareness Drive under the banner of ASSE India Chapter was carried out on 17.01.15 at Refinery Road (Opp. to Abhayachandpur Police Station) where traffic density in the morning hours is very high. The program was strategically carried out during morning rush hours from 7.30 AM to 10.30 AM in order to cover majority of the traffic inflow towards Refinery Site. Around 850 two-wheelers were checked and the drivers and pillion riders without crash helmet were counseled and proper road safety rules were explained. The two-wheeler riders found in triples (with 2 pillion riders) were also stopped and cautioned.

Counseling of Two Wheeler Drivers and Pillion Riders

Four wheeler commuters were also contacted and briefed about the importance of following traffic rules. Around 400 vehicles were covered during the drive and Speed Limit Stickers were pasted on Wind Screen of Vehicles for mass awareness.

Introspective Session on Road Safety – A report

Organized by Kolkata Section of ASSE India Chapter on 09th JANUARY 2015

Compiled by – Mr. Aloke Chatterjee (Secretary – ASSE Kolkata Section)
Mail id: alokec@intec.com
Mobile no.: +91-9748457277

An introspective session on Road Safety was organized by ASSE Kolkata Section in collaboration with Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Kolkata, on 9th January 2015, at Shivananda Hall, Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Golpark, Kolkata. Nearly 200 participants from various walks of life participated in this event. Mr. Indranil Chakraborty, Member of ASSE Kolkata Section briefed on emergency procedure of the venue before start of the event.

Theme of the event “Be a Change” was unfolded by an introductory audio-visual presentation by “E-frame”, a multimedia company who volunteered to support this initiative. It depicted the need for building good habits and retains faith in self to be a change.

Mr. K N Sen, President ASSE India Chapter introduced ASSE and highlighted various activities of ASSE India Chapter including Student Sections and ASSE Kolkata Section. He stated we all are exposed to risks on roads, citing examples of common violations and described what we can do to bring down the unsafe acts.

Mr. Indranil Choudhury, Director of E-frame, highlighted various challenges on the road and the need of focusing on human errors and driver competence. He highlighted need of imparting defensive driving training and reiterated the
importance of following “two second rule” while on the road.

Presence of His Holiness Sri Sampurnanand-ji Maharaj, Head of the Ram Krishna Mission was very encouraging to the whole team. He shared his thoughts on the subject and on introspection, he highlighted on the need for effective communication with the drivers in a decent way instead of finding fault with them and their lapses.

Dr. Samrat Deb presented a part of his doctoral research on road safety and physiological stress of drivers including MSD, under the guidance of Dr. Somnath Gangopadhyay. His findings corroborate the facts on driver’s errors and indicated that need of addressing the issues from a macro level.

Mr. Bimal Mukhopadhyay, a renowned expert on Road Safety, made a detailed presentation on road safety highlighting various causes of road accidents as well as importance on drivers awareness. He stressed on sharing of information on road marks, road traffic signs and proper use of TREM CARDS while transporting Hazardous Chemicals by road.

Mr. Nilanjan Biswas, IPS, Commandant, State Armed Police, appreciated the efforts made by ASSE to prevent accidents on road. He stressed on the need for safe driving of two wheelers and use of PPEs. He told apart from disregard to safety norms and road safety signs, there are multiple causes of accidents and drivers attention and attitude towards safe driving plays a crucial role on road safety. He stressed on the need to strengthen the legal provisions to control the increasing violations of road safety norms, e.g. by review of the penal system.

Mr. S Roy, Managing Director, Vesuvias India Limited, explained how their corporate policy takes care of people before profit. He shared various good practices and initiatives taken to promote safety and prevent road accidents.

Mr. V. Solomon, Nesakumar, IPS, Dy. Commissioner of Police, (Traffic), shared few case studies of recent road accidents in Kolkata. It seemed an eye opener to the audience. He stated that some major corporates are coming up to support the cause of road safety and to check the growing menace of road accidents at Kolkata. He mentioned that more safety promotional activities are to be taken up and welcome any volunteering efforts from safety professionals and organizations like ASSE, to take this forward.

Mr. Gurudas Bandyopadhyay, President of ASSE Kolkata Section while recapitulating the subjects discussed in the program, stressed on the need to look back at one’s own life and analyze the mistakes made. He emphasized on the need to keep senses alert, use ingenuity and change the limiting beliefs to accept that all accidents are preventable. Simple changes may bring home big rewards, if we think how to change instead of only desiring for a change. He stressed on the importance of taking care of the health, safety and well-being of the drivers as over 75 percent of road accidents are caused at that end. He extended vote of thanks to all concerned for their contribution, particularly to Mr Avijit Sasmal, Treasurer and Mr. Aloke Chatterjee, Secretary of ASSE Kolkata Section for their contribution for success of this event.

This was followed by safety pledge, administered by Mrs. Sandipa Lahiri, EC Member of ASSE Kolkata Section. This event ended with National Anthem.
**HSE Quiz**

1. What first aid should you give to someone who is having a heart attack?
   - A Call your local emergency number
   - B Perform CPR
   - C Loosen his / her clothing
   - D All of the above

2. Which of these is NOT a probable physical hazardous characteristic of a chemical?
   - A Flammable
   - B Chronic
   - C Corrosive
   - D Reactive

3. What is the ABC of First-aid procedures?
   - A Attitude, Breathe, Compression.
   - B Airway, Blood, Circulation
   - C Airway, Breathing, Circulation
   - D Active, Back pain, Chest blocking

4. First-aid treatment for a chemical burn involves...
   - A Applying ointment over the affected area
   - B Removing dead skin from the affected area
   - C Neutralizing the splashed chemical
   - D Wash the affected body part at least for 15 minutes under running water

5. Which of the following information is displayed in column 2 of the hazardous material table?
   - A Proper shipping name
   - B Special provisions
   - C Identification numbers
   - D Quantity limitations

Watch out the next issue for correct answer

Answers from last issue’s (November / 2014) Quiz: 1 (B); 2 (C); 3 (A); 4 (B); 5 (B)

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You are welcome to send your inputs to: Sandip Mukherjee; e-mail: smukherjee1971@yahoo.co.in; Phone: +91 9829600067

Selected articles shall be published in next publication

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ASSE offers its members many opportunities for networking, professional development, global media outreach, government affairs programs, standards development, publications and other resources. For further details, please contact:

Mr. K. N Sen, President; email: knsen@Intecc.com; Phone - +91 9444399208

Mr. V Janardhanam, Secretary; email: vjana05@gmail.com; Phone: +91 9500079757

For more information please visit our website - http://india.asse.org

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