HOUSTON REFINERY

HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

JULY 20, 1973

MEMBER	ALTERNATES
F. M. Dishaw*	J. W. Burks*
H. J. Krebs*	Dorothy Curlee
R. D. Madsen*	J. B. Floyd
T. A. Skeahan *	L. E. Jackson
E. G. Suhr**	R. L. Wege
R. L. Bryan*	

* Present At Meeting
** Vacation

The first meeting of the Health and Safety Committee was held in the Safety Department training room on July 20, 1973.

We welcome the above members and alternates on the committee. It is proposed to run an article in the Shellegraph, so all employees may know who is involved in the Health and Safety Committee work.

There were 229 reported first aid cases, 14 doctor cases and one disabling injury in June.

It was agreed that the meeting time would be arranged so as to involve all of the regular members as much as possible in the monthly or special meetings.

Each member was given a list of previous unit inspections for the past three years, with the understanding that the committee would prepare a list of future units to be inspected at the next meeting. Further, the areas to be inspected could be modified when necessary due to inclement weather.

The role of the Health & Safety Committee in recommending health and safety matters was discussed; however, the necessity of day-to-day communication between all employees with their respective supervisors, in all matters concerning health and safety in the work place, was emphasized.

The routine surveillance by the Safety Department and Head Office Industrial Hygienist of toxic materials was discussed. However, the necessity of immediately reporting abnormal or unusual conditions involving health or safety was pointed out. Such conditions should be checked with the various instruments as necessary by the Safety Department, Refinery Supervisor or Head Office Industrial Hygienist when necessary. Regardless of the materials involved, any employee who is wetted by liquid hydrocarbons or corrosive chemicals must follow the long established safety rule of immediately flushing the eyes, when exposed, for fifteen minutes with water, and subsequently reporting to the plant hospital for showering with soap and water and being provided with clean clothing. Likewise, any job requiring possible contact with harmful materials should require chemical suits and safety equipment or other special clothing, depending on the nature of the task. The use of white coveralls for anyone involved in the maintenance of equipment, having been in leaded gasoline service, has been a standard practice in the industry for years.

The refinery departmental work permit system was discussed. Preplanning is absolutely necessary by operators and Engineering Field in preparing operating equipment for maintenance, and the use of the operator and/or craftsman danger tags is mandatory.

The following recommendations were made by various members of the committee:

1. Provide a health and safety suggestion or complaint form in triplicate for the use of all employees. A copy of the completed form would go to the employees' supervisor and the Safety Department for inclusion as a permanent record, along with the minutes of the Health and Safety Committee.

2. The Safety Department should prepare a letter for all managers on departmental work permit procedures. In turn, the subject should be used for further training of everyone involved in operations or engineering.

3. Instructions should be given to the marine docks personnel to use respirators when toxic materials are released or loading conditions are such that vapors exist.

4. Physical examinations for dock workers should be implemented.

5. Additional training regarding the hazards of toxic materials in the work place should be provided. A program similar to the H_2S training is visualized.

6. The carpenter shop dust evacuation system should be modernized in order to remove respirable dust.

Following the business meeting, the committee inspected distilling units Nos. 1&3 (DU-1 & DU-3). The following items were noted:

Safety Equipment

1. Steam lance off hose by V-688.
2. Steam hose on slab to P-4358.
3. Steam hose on ground at the southwest corner of DU-3 secondary furnace.
4. A chain should be installed on the ladder by E-097 and the cage is open on one side where a platform has been removed.

Electrical

1. Install cover plate on condulet near V-1152.
2. Remove wiring south of E-523 & E-524.
3. The ground wire for P-596 and P-1459 appears to be bad.

Leaks and Spills

1. The pump base drain is plugged at P-605 causing the slab to be oily.
2. A flange and valve are leaking at the northeast corner of the control room near V-105.
3. Leaking packing gland on valve north of E-1128.
4. A valve is leaking on the floor in the rest room.
5. The grating is covered with oil by E-1388.
6. Oil on the slab north of D-1828.
7. Leaking steam piping at primary tops pump.
8. Steam leaks at the condensate drum.
9. Floor oily by T-935.
10. Steam leaks on auxiliary charge pumps.
11. Oil on concrete slab around E-1001, 1002 & 1004.
12. Steam leak on pump under E-1373.
13. Oil leak on box just north of P-4134.
14. Valve leaking on steam line over P-4093.
15. Oil on slab around D-4362.
16. Oil on slab by V-688.
17. Steam leak at P-1927.
18. Oil on slab by the DU-3 primary column.
19. A leaking plug is allowing East Texas debutanizer bottoms to go to the sewer.

Housekeeping

1. Loose grating and wire under E-1373.
2. Trash on platforms of V-613.
3. The uncoiled hose throughout the units should be properly racked.
4. Loose material on V-1153 platforms.
5. Piping on ground at west plot edge.
6. The primary column skirt is cluttered with miscellaneous material.
7. Boards, piping, hose, etc., on the primary column platforms.
8. Loose timber in the rack north of the stabilizer.
9. Disconnected gauge on top of the depropanizer accumulator.
10. Scaffold board by the debutanizer is a tripping hazard.
11. The rest room should be cleaned.
12. Wood scaffolding in the rack south of the control room.
13. The area behind the control panel should be cleaned.
14. The amount of isopropyl alcohol on the unit should be minimized.

Miscellaneous

1. Replace the surface drain cover east of the DU-1 primary column.
2. A cable is hanging over E-098.
3. Sample trays by V-687 & V-686 are full of hydrocarbon.
4. The slag is oily on the south side of the control room.
5. The lab room is gassy and does not vent properly.
6. Steam from the condensate drum is hitting the electrical cables in the rack.
7. The tank in the desalter building should be inspected.
8. The ladder should be inspected on the control room roof.
9. Wooden beams wired on top of V-127 and the piping is hung with wire.
10. The extension ladder at the condensate tank is not tied down at the top.
11. The helium cylinder north of the temporary building is not properly secured.
12. The rusty chains on the chain operated valves on the units should be checked.
13. A small amount of mercury reported behind the control panel has been removed.
14. The hole by V-178 should be back filled.

RLB/jac

R. L. Bryan

LAM 030022

cc: Head Office
- Manufacturing Engineering
- Department of Safety & Health Manager

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