Process Safety – focusing on what really matters – leadership!

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What causes complacency?

- Assuming problems are fixed
- Remoteness from the process
- Too much faith in technology
- Memory loss
- Culture that seeks *reassurance* rather than *assurance*
The need for unease

• A continuum not a one-off fix

• Major incidents continue to happen

• Impact felt throughout whole sector

• Society at large increasingly intolerant of mistakes and cost
Is regulation the way to achieve change?

• Applies to everyone good and bad

• Externalises the issue rather than making it part of doing business

But

• Voluntary approach requires real commitment and delivery
An incomplete pyramid on process safety

Accidents
Incidents
Precursors
Management Failures
Unsafe Behaviours and Attitudes
Personnel safety

Accidents
Incidents
Precursors
Management Failures
Unsafe Behaviours and Attitudes
Process safety
Business pressures vs Process Safety

17 April 2013 – West Fertilizer Company
Getting the Board’s attention

- Make the business case
- Acknowledge similarity / vulnerability, don’t rationalise away
- Use the right language not jargon
- Use real examples not overall statistics

Create unease!
IChemE’s PEng Standard
Where to from here?

Leadership:
• Create the right culture
• Know what you don’t know and learn
• Unease – watch out for complacency
• Give the same priority to Process Safety wherever you are – the threat is the same.
Leadership!

• Lead
• Embed
• Learn
• Lead!

Thank you.