

OBSERVATIONS OF AN INSPECTOR ON INVESTIGATIONS OF ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS

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DISCLAIMER

The following presentation is based on the author 's experiences as Seveso-Inspector

But

Doesn't present the official point of view of his Department

OBSERVATIONS OF AN INSPECTOR ON INVESTIGATIONS OF ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS

Inspector Activities

related to Investigating Accidents and Incidents

(as imagined to be possible)

**Experiences and observations made related to these
Inspector activities**

Proposal of Needs for Inspectors

INSPECTOR ACTIVITIES RELATED TO INVESTIGATING ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS

Inspectors

- **Do their own accident analysis**

- When asked by the Labour Jurisdiction
- In order to get more learning points from a certain accident/incident for dissemination through the entire sector

- **Check and verify accident investigations done by enterprises/operators**

- In relation to explicit legal duties performed by the operator
- (if parallel with operator) To check and steer the investigation done by operator
- If asked for support by organisations / enterprises (operators)

- **Audit the operator systems for investigating accidents/incidents**

- To check the ability and capability of the operator in investigating accident and incidents
- Part of the audits concerning
PSM (Process Safety System) or MAPP (Major Accident Prevention Policy)

INSPECTORS DO THEIR OWN ACCIDENT ANALYSIS

RELATED OBSERVATIONS AND EXPERIENCES

- When asked by the Labour Jurisdiction
 - **can be under time pressure**
 - **reporting must be clear for “lawyers” (not too technical, or , with a lot of explanations)**
- In order to get more learning points from a certain accident/incident for dissemination through the entire sector
 - **Tricky if goodwill from operator is needed**
(dissemination < > (public) image)

INSPECTORS CHECK AND VERIFY INVESTIGATIONS DONE BY OPERATORS

RELATED OBSERVATIONS AND EXPERIENCES

- In relation to explicit legal duties performed by the operator
 - **Job inspector is to correct investigations which are non adequate**
 - **Can be an iterative process (more than one (single) try necessary) which can make it time consuming**
- (if parallel with operator) To check and steer the investigation done by operator
 - **Good equilibrium who's doing what (workload)**
 - **Who has the resources and/or expertise for what**
- If asked for support by organisations / enterprises (operators)
 - **Take care of deontology**
 - **Should remain the exception ?**

INSPECTORS AUDIT ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS INVESTIGATING SYSTEMS

RELATED OBSERVATIONS AND EXPERIENCES

• **Audit the operator systems for investigating accidents/incidents**

- To check the ability and capability of the operator in investigating accident and incidents
- Part of the audits concerning PSM (Process Safety System) or MAPP (Major Accident Prevention Policy)
 - **An appropriate inspection instrument has great value**
 - **Not only a “documentation system” audit**
[Sometimes there is a great system but a lousy application]
 - **=> But do a verification of lot of investigations (cases)**
This supports the learning by the operator [for a better application]

INSPECTORS DO THEIR OWN ACCIDENT ANALYSIS

NEEDS OF THE INSPECTORS

- When asked by the Labour Jurisdiction
 - can be under **time pressure**
 - reporting must be **clear for “lawyers”** (not too technical, or , with a lot of explanations)
- In order to get more learning points from a certain accident/incident for **dissemination** through the entire sector
 - Tricky if goodwill from operator is needed
(**dissemination < > (public) image**)

related needs for the Inspector:

Specific **pool** of methods so
the Inspector can **choose** depending on what the “client” and himself wants

INSPECTORS CHECKING AND VERIFYING INVESTIGATIONS DONE BY OPERATORS NEEDS OF THE INSPECTORS

In relation to explicit legal duties performed by the operator

- Job inspector is to correct investigations which are non adequate

Knowledge of critical criteria : “what makes an investigation a good investigation ??”

- Can be an iterative process (more than one (single) try necessary) which can make it time consuming

Persuasion (in short time) : need for good examples

(if parallel with operator) To check and steer the investigation done by operator

- Good equilibrium who's doing what (workload)
- Who has the resources and/or expertise for what

Good capability of time budgetting and time planning and resources planning

Understanding and recognising needed expertise and knowledge (operator + inspector)

If asked for support by organisations / enterprises (operators)

- Take care of deontology
- Should remain the exception ?

rules , guidelines

INSPECTORS AUDIT ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS INVESTIGATING SYSTEMS NEEDS OF THE INSPECTORS

To check the ability and capability of the operator in investigating accident and incidents

Part of the audits concerning

PSM (Process Safety System) or MAPP (Major Accident Prevention Policy)

- An appropriate inspection instrument has great value
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[Sometimes there is a great system but a lousy application]

- => But do a verification of lot of investigations (cases)

This supports the learning by the operator *[for a better application]*

Inspection Instrument

Training theoretical and practical

Coaching / Mentoring on the field

Thank you for your attention !!!

