**Chemical Accident Risks Seminar   
European Commission Joint Research Centre  
Ispra, Italy  
14-15 June 2017**

**REQUEST FOR SPEAKERS  
Deadline 14 April 2017**

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| ***PURPOSE: This seminar is a networking event for competent authorities and industry organisations n EU and EU-affiliated countries funded by the DG-ECHO-JRC project, Seveso Capacity Building in EU Neighbourhood Countries, under the Civil Protection Mechanism jointly with the JRC Enlargement activity. The purpose of the workshop is to bring together EU and EU-affiliated countries to discuss emerging risks and concerns associated of chemical hazard sites and implications for risk management and enforcement on Seveso sites in the EU and equivalent hazards in EU-affiliated countries.***  ***PARTICIPATION: The audience for the workshop are competent authority representatives from EU and EU-affiliated countries, industry and international organisations who wish to participate in a dialogue on critical issues affecting the future of government oversight on the management of chemical accident risks in EU and EU-affiliated countries.***  ***WHEN: 13:30 14 June 2017 to 17:30 15 June 2017  WHERE: European Commission Joint Research Centre, Ispra, Italy  STRUCTURE: There will be six sessions of 1 ½ to 2 hours.***  ***The seminar sessions are described below. We are requesting proposals for presentations of 15-20 minutes for Sessions 2-6. If your organisation would like to propose a presentation, please send us the title and abstract of your presentation, the name of the session in which it belongs, and the name of the speaker, organisation and contact information.***  ***For Session 1, please contact Maureen Wood at the JRC if your organisation is interested in being on the panel.***  ***CONTACT: All proposals should be sent to: Email:*** [***maureen.wood@ec.europa.eu***](mailto:maureen.wood@ec.europa.eu) ***by 14 April 2017.*** |

***SESSION DESCRIPTIONS***

**Session 1. We cannot improve what we cannot measure. How do we know if we are reducing chemical accident risks? Do we have the right tools to measure this?**

***This session will be a panel session that will be further structured and driven by the Steering Committee.***

***FIVE-MINUTE PRESENTATIONS. NO ABSTRACTS PLEASE. If your organisation is interested in being a panelist, please contact Maureen Wood at the JRC.***

**Description:** This is a panel session that will explore what measures are currently available for the EU, national authorities and industry to measure safety performance in reducing chemical accident risks.

**Key questions:**What safety performance measures does the EU have for measuring EU performance in reducing chemical accident risks?  
What do these measures say about industry process safety performance? What are the things they can’t tell us? Is the picture clear and complete?  
What kind of leading indicators could be used to predict safety performance trends across industry?  
What are some possible options for obtaining more accurate and complete statistics on EU performance in reducing chemical accident risks?

**Presentation themes that would support this session:**Results of studies of accident trends and statistics and strengths and weaknesses in measuring progress in reducing chemical accident risks  
National or international programmes for collecting statistics on chemical accidents, or more broadly on natural and manmade disasters and lessons learned for other countries and the EU  
Accident cases that are representative of new trends, or show a disturbing trend of repeating accidents of the past

**Session 2. Integrity of installations and equipment**

**Description:** Hazardous sites should ensure ongoing mechanical integrity for systems and their critical components , both containment of hazardous substances inside the equipment and/or critical lines and the proper functioning of critical safety systems during all phases of the plant life cycle: design, installation and start-up, operation and maintenance, shut-down, cleaning and decommissioning. This session seeks answers to a number of questions to have a view of current strengths and weaknesses in mechanical integrity management on hazardous sites.

**Key questions:**What are major / typical findings from recent inspections and accident investigations and what kind of actions have been undertaken?   
How do integrity challenges affect small sized establishments (especially in small Companies or with simple processes, like LPG storage).  
How can the new requirements of the Directive be interpreted in relation to mechanical integrity of equipment and control and monitoring of plant ageing?  
How can Seveso competent authorities/industry groups promote better integrity management on major hazard sites?   
How is industry addressing planning and foresight on integrity in new design?  
  
**Presentation themes that would support this session:**Case studies of accidents to identify trends  
Results of research and analysis of inspection and accident investigations  
New approaches to addressing ageing and integrity issues  
Examples of how foresight and planning are being used to reduce risk in design

**Sessions 3 and 4. Security and safety challenges associated with IT technology and automation in major hazard industries**

**Description:** This is a double session that looks at both security and safety risks with increased integration of IT technology in hazardous site operations.

**Key questions:**Can ongoing innovations in the use of IT technology for operation of major hazard sites (e.g., increased automation of processes, optimization tools for managing resources and services , remote control of process functions, etc.) make major hazard sites more vulnerable to cyber attacks than they were 5 or 10 years ago? Why or why not?

Can they introduce additional risk factors affecting process safety on major hazard sites? Why or why not?

What are companies doing to protect their sites from cyber attacks or increased safety risks from the use of IT systems and what are vulnerable industry groups doing to help their sites reduce these risks?

What tools and approaches can the Seveso competent authority use to motivate sites to take action to reduce IT-related safety and security risks at their sites?

Compared to other risks, how relevant and how serious are IT risks for a hazardous site?

**Presentation themes that would support this session:**Case studies of incidents or near misses associated with a cyberattack or IT failure  
Examples of applications of IT technology in major hazard or related industries and the vulnerability and strengths of such applications in regard to cyber attack and chemical accident scenarios   
Results of studies showing evidence of increased (or decreased) cyber security/safety threats in major hazard industries due to the IT presence in operations  
Perspectives on industry for solutions  
Perspective of Seveso competent authorities on their role in reducing cyber security and IT safety risks on major hazard sites

**Session 5. Challenges in substance classification of non-harmonised substances for Seveso Directive implementation**

**Description:** This session explores key challenges for Seveso implementation arising from self-classification of non-harmonized substances, and in particular classifiication and downstream legislation decisions involving harmonized substances with non-harmonised classifications, harmonized classification is only a minimum classification, inconsistencies in safety data sheets from different producers, and similar issues.

**Key questions:**

* What are key challenges for Seveso implementation arising from self-classification of non-harmonized substances?
* How are EU/EU-affiliate countries approaching these challenges? Is there consistency across EU/EU-affiliate countries in these approaches? If not, should there be and if so, how could this be achieved?
* How can countries share and notify each other about changes in self-classifications?
* Harmonized substances with non-harmonised classifications as well
* Harmonized classification is only a minimum classification
* Inconsistencies in safety data sheets from different producers

**Presentation themes that would support this session:**Case studies or more general presentation of challenges and possible solutions from a national and EU perspective.

**Session 6. Organisational change and influence of enforcement**

**Description:** This session examines how organizational change may affect process safety risks on major hazard sites and what government and industry can do to reduce potential risk from organizational change.

**Key questions:**How can organizational change affect process safety risks on major hazard sites?  
Do site managers know that organizational changes may also affect the plant safety and must be evaluated in the SMS?  
What impacts do ownership change, staff reductions, re-organisation, reduction in competency requirements, joint ventures, and general drives for more efficient production affect process safety?  
How can competent authorities identify when sites are at risk because of organizational change?  
How can competent authorities influence sites to evaluate and address process safety risks due to organizational change?  
  
**Presentation themes that would support this session:**Description with examples of how organizational changes can potentially affect chemical accident risks  
Challenges faced by competent authorities in confronting sites with these risks and potential approaches to address these challenges  
Case studies of organizational changes that potentially or actually affected chemical accident risk  
Examples of how a competent authority or company addressed potential risks from organizational change  
Results of research and analyses of various types of organizational change on site safety  
Examples of company approaches to managing process safety risks in the context of organisational change