

Knowledge grows

# How Yara is dealing with aging plants

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# Yara is one of the biggest fertilizer producers in the world Our global presence is growing





### In numbers

# More than **17,000** employees

Sales to about 160 countries Revenue NOK 93.8 Billion

(USD 11.4 Billion)

In 2017



# **Our Mission**

Responsibly feed the world and protect the planet

# **Our Vision**

A collaborative society; a world without hunger; a planet respected



# **Aging plants**

- Yara has more than 25 chemical plant locations around the world
- Many of the plants are aging including the best performers.
- Several of the units in Porsgunn facility are aging and among the largest in its product group

# Set up of Yara production





# Herøya 1927 and today - the location of Yara Porsgrunn





# Key criteria in successful operation of aging plants

They must

- be reliable and safe
- satisfy authorities and legal requirements (emissions, technical standards etc).
- be economical

Management will include aging and obsolescence.

Operating and managing of aging plants is a continuous improvement process that includes the above criteria.



# Aging plants How Yara is handling the safety requirements

- Risk assessments (QRA, HAZOP, LOPA, SIL)
- Integrity of process equipment
- Integrity Operating Window (IOW)
- Process safety and control systems. Functional Safety.
- Management of change
- Working with people



# Aging plants Risk assessments

- QRA Quantitative Risk Assessment
  - Normally used for calculating individual risk contours
- HAZOP qualitative hazard identification
  - Include auxiliary systems
  - Updated every 10 years
- LOPA assessment of risk barriers
  - Used to determine the required reliability of the Safety Instrumented Functions (SIF)
  - Likelihood of failure of protection layer
- SIL safety integrity level
  - Safety Instrumented Function (SIF)
  - Assessment of risk reduction required from SIF to give a sufficiently low level of risk in relation to a hazardous event.
- By applying modern methods for risk ranking on old plants and system designs, Yara believes risk can be better controlled





# Integrity of process equipment. Risk Based Inspection

The primary purpose of an RBMI assessment is to manage risk on an asset level based on expected degradation mechanisms.

- 10 years ago, Yara introduced RBI. RBMI Capstone software package from Lloyds was selected
- The system was introduced to already aging plants

#### Input

- Corrosion loops
- Process parameters
- Materials and dimensions. Construction code
- Susceptible to CUI?
- Risk ranking
- User experience (other degradation mechanisms)

#### Output

VARA

- Inspection plan including damage mechanisms and inspection methods
- Inspection Priority Index





# Integrity of process equipment. Risk Based Inspection

#### **Benefits**

- An improved understanding of current risk allows to focus resources on the high risk items
- Development of inspection plans that address ways to manage risks at the equipment level taking into account not only what happened in the past but also what could happen;
- A tool for continuous improvement: ever greening the RBI process gives a continuous risk reduction;
- Increased reliability and higher safety standard.
- Well documented process and inspection program.

#### Equipment not included in RBI program

- Equipment not containing dangerous media
- Inspection program based on criticality, competence and experience
- Inspection program assessed after each inspection



# Aging plants Integrity of process equipment

#### In case issues are found/things go wrong

- Fitness For Service (FFS)
- Repair
- Replacement/modifications. Management of Change (MOC)
- Root Cause Analyzes. Share!

#### **Replacement of equipment**

- When equipment need to be replaced, the replacement are designed and constructed according to today's rules.
- Improvements -> MOC



# Integrity of Process Equipment Integrity Operating Window (IOW)

- Integrity Operating Windows (IOWs) are sets of limits used to determine the different variables that could affect the integrity and reliability of a process equipment or unit.
- It is important to develop limits for each damage mechanism.
- When operating an equipment inside the limits, it is normally considered safe.
- Alarms when process parameters are outside limits -> involvement of inspection department and assessment of
  possible damage/actions.





# **Electronic control and safety systems.**

Aging plants, however following development within control and safety systems. Illustration of control room decades ago and today







# Aging plants Electronic control systems and safety systems

- Functional safety, electronic safety systems and control systems have developed rapidly during the last 30 years and Yara is following this development closely and aiming for improvements .
- Today's digital technology focuses on good and intuitive user interfaces. The threshold to use the system is low.
- The technology behind can be more challenging

#### How to stay updated?

- Maintain a culture for gaining and sharing competence
- · Close cooperation with suppliers "us"
- Standardize on equipment
- Try new solutions and dare to think new.
- Participate in projects
- Networking and training

#### Concern

VARA

 New updates of DCS systems might lead to overflows of alarms. Alarm management.



# Aging Plants Management of change

- Management of change is about maintaining integrity by controlling the many changes that occur during the lifetime of a site operating process plant.
- 4 types of changes to be assessed:
  - Plant: Adding, changing or removing plant hardware
    - P&ID, piping, materials, change of relief valves etc
  - Process: changing the plant control
    - Logic, alarm and trip setting, process control chemicals, feedstock etc
  - People: changes to the organization supporting the plant
  - Procedures: changes to operating procedures



# Aging plants Emissions

- Allowable limits for emissions and noise from process plants becomes lower and lower.
- Yara Porsgrunn is certified according to ISO 14001 Environmental management systems.
  - Identify issues, interested parties and expectations, defining processes. Identify risks and opportunities.
  - Plan and work in a systematic way to reach goals
  - Evaluate performance
- Dust removal.
- Reduction of emissions to air and water.
- Noise reduction



# Aging plants Working with people

#### Key success factors:

- Competent people through the whole organization
  - correct attitude
  - ownership to equipment and processes
  - systematic training and refresher training (more important than ever due to higher rotation of people)
- An open 2 way communication
- A systematic way of working
  - A good system for asset integrity management and following up. Feedback to the organization.
  - Continuous focus on derogations and dangerous conditions.
  - Plant tours to improve equipment and the way of working, effectiveness and safety.

