

Inspections under COVID 19 – good practice by facility specific pandemic plans

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REGIERUNGSPRÄSIDIUM KARLSRUHE

Background:

- Corona Pandemic: begin March 2020
- Safety of Major Accident Establishments
- Regional authority is the competent authority for Seveso inspections.
- Additional remit from the State Environment Ministry, to oversee the Seveso establishments from the stand point of the pandemic.
- Several Seveso inspections carried out with an emphasis on safety aspects under pandemic conditions in chemical facilities

→ Example: Chemical Facility A



Example Establishment A

- Chemical facility:
 - Upper tier establishment under Seveso III
 - Continual operation (24h/7d)
 - Facility is part of an international corporation
 - Site is part of a chemical park
- Chemicals park:
 - 3 upper tier Establishments, additional chemical facilities (non IED) e.g. polymer panel blowing, chemical storage
 - Maintains a joint infrastructure, e.g. Works fire brigade, Works security and access control, process steam, N₂, waste water
 - Domino effects have been identified → intensive communication between actors in chemical park



Inspection Establishment A – Pandemic measures in the chemical park

- Daily, morning telephone conference:
 - current situation (e.g. cases of illness, occurrences)
 - Assessment of the pandemic situation → close proximity to risk areas (international border)
 - Supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) to employees (pandemic/general)
- Individual case communication in the chemical park:
 - Provision with raw materials and other supplies
 - Carrying out of urgent testing and the test possibilities on location.



Inspection Establishment A – Pandemic plan

- **Step 1:** Establishing a Pandemic Team
- **Step 2:** Goal definition for the Pandemic Plan
- **Step 3:** Definition of core processes
- **Step 4:** Determining the core team
- **Step 5:** Amending the hazard assessment
- **Step 6:** Regulation of personnel management



Inspection Establishment A – Pandemic plan

- **Step 7:** Calculation of material requirements
- **Step 8:** Storage and distribution of medication and protective equipment
- **Step 9:** Plan for the step-by-step reduction of all activities on site down to the maintenance of the basic safety and security functions.
- **Step 10:** Determining the substitution roles for the operator responsibilities (legal role).



Inspection Establishment A – Carrying out the inspection - Focus

- **Manning:** How are production processes carried out safely, including during process upsets?
- **Communication:** Are all relevant communication partners and decision makers known, and can they be reached?
- **Documentation:** Are all relevant (pandemic) changes documented, available and have the staff received the instruction?
 - → Pandemic plan identifies safety measures for critical processes
 - → Measures are implemented and practiced



Thank you for your attention!

