

Book review

Guidelines for Performing Effective Pre-Startup Safety Reviews, Center for Chemical Process Safety, Wiley Interscience, Hoboken, NJ (2007). 185 pp. + CD, Price: US\$ 110.00, ISBN: 978-0-470-13403-0

A pre-startup safety review is a fundamental element of a chemical plant safety program. "PSSR is a formal review of a manufacturing process to verify that critical areas of the affected process have been assessed and addressed prior to using the process. Using the process could include: commissioning, introducing hazardous chemicals, or introducing energy."

This book was written by the CCPS which is an AIChE Industry Technology Alliance to assist in the safety review process. This book contains approaches for designing, developing, implementing and continuously improving a pre-startup safety review system. It is intended for use by anyone interested in developing a new PSSR program or upgrading an existing one. Although the book focuses on the chemical industry, the process concepts and concomitant results apply to almost any human endeavor especially in the manufacturing sector.

The book has seven chapters with the following titles:

1. Introduction
2. What is a pre-startup safety review?

3. Regulatory issues
4. A risk-based approach to pre-startup safety review
5. The pre-startup safety review work process
6. Methodologies for compiling and using a PSSR checklist
7. Continuous improvement

There are four checklists provided in the Appendix.

An added benefit to the printed material is the inclusion of a CD that contains the following files: (1) PSM-RMP PSSR element administrative procedures, (2) PSSR checklist examples and (3) PSSR data.

Gary F. Bennett*

*The University of Toledo, Department of Chemical and
Environmental Engineering, Mail Stop 305,
Toledo, OH 43606-3390,
United States*

* Tel.: +1 419 531 1322; fax: +1 419 530 8086.
E-mail address: gbennett@eng.utoledo.edu

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