

2010 Online Panel Discussion Schedule and Sponsorship Program

Broadcast Date: March 24, 2010

Condition Monitoring Solutions for Optimum Operational Efficiency, Improved Reliability and Maximum Uptime

"Now probably more than ever, chemical makers are striving to boost efficiency and reduce costs. This is driving ongoing spending on asset optimization," notes *Chemical Processing's* September cover article "How Many More Months Will it Run?," www.ChemicalProcessing.com/articles/2009/176.html. In line with this, plants are ratcheting up their efforts to monitor the condition of key assets. After all, such condition monitoring can help spot potential problems before they affect performance, damage equipment or lead to downtime.

This Online Panel Discussion will provide insights on what's possible in condition monitoring and how to get the best out of today's tools and technologies. It's now possible to track a host of parameters, including equipment temperature, vibration, energy consumption, lubricant quality and corrosion. Plants can avail themselves of sophisticated devices and data-analysis software, and turn to specialists for certain tasks or even the entire condition-monitoring program.

Broadcast Date: April 22, 2010

The Latest Trends in Energy Efficiency: How You Can Reduce Your Energy Bill.

Electrical and thermal energy represent substantial operating costs to plants. Fluctuating, but generally increasing, power and fuel costs make it all the more important to boost energy efficiency, especially since such savings often go directly to the bottom line.

This Online Panel Discussion will provide pointers on how to save both electrical and thermal energy. We'll look a broad range of opportunities, such as variable-speed drives and more-energy-efficient designs of electrically driven equipment that promise savings, while upcoming government mandates on motor efficiency will affect what plants can buy. Analysis of compressed air systems often can identify ways to significantly lower compressor load. Likewise, many plants can save on thermal energy through better operation of furnaces, heat-transfer and cooling-water systems and via heat-recovery efforts.

Broadcast Date: May 19, 2010

What the latest CFATS regulations mean to you

For the first time sites producing or handling chemicals are subject to regulations of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) affect nearly 7,000 "high risk" facilities, divided into four risk tiers. Each facility is required to assess its vulnerability to threats -- both physical and cyber -- and to take countermeasures approved by DHS, to address these threats. Because chemical facilities never have had to do take go through this process before, this first go-around is apt to be a learning experience.

This Online Panel Discussion will outline the actual requirements imposed by CFATS and the steps required to comply with them. For instance, what's involved in developing a site security plan and submitting it to DHS and the necessary follow-up steps. We'll also touch on some key considerations in coming up with an appropriate cyber-security program, including common weaknesses and lapses. In addition, we'll discuss how to approach the protection of assets from physical assault, not just at the perimeter but at the assets themselves, using both low tech and high tech techniques.

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Broadcast Date: August 26, 2010

Succeeding with Solids

Solids can pose tough challenges both in processing and storage. How materials like powders behave depends upon a host of factors such as size, shape, overall particle-size distribution and cohesiveness. Plants face issues like erratic flow and clumping that simply don't occur with fluids.

This panel discussion will delve into key issues and how to address them. Properly assessing the properties of solids can provide insights for both selection of equipment and troubleshooting. It's also important to understand options for moving such materials through a process. Operations such as conveying, feeding, mixing and drying raise their own wrinkles. Producing materials of the right size can mean mastering the intricacies of milling or agglomeration and dealing with sieving of other particle separation techniques.

Broadcast Date: October 28, 2010

Dust Control/Emissions

Many plants process solids and so must contend with dust. Depending upon its composition, dust can present both environmental and safety concerns. Regulations and standards target dust and dust-collection systems.

This Online Panel Discussion will look at various issues and developments related to dust and dust-collection systems. While some solids are valuable and so should be recovered, others are wastes that must be collected so plants comply with emission standards that restrict the level of particulates that can be vented to the atmosphere. An added complication is that some dusts can ignite under certain conditions. New standards affect dust-collection systems that handle potentially explosive dusts, mandate dust analysis and risk evaluation, and impact the design of explosion venting equipment.

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