

**Minutes of Safe Practices Subcommittee of the Committee on Chemical Safety  
7pm, August 21, 2004, Wyndham Plaza Hotel, Philadelphia**

Attending: Paul Schickedantz, Lester Bynum, Bob Alaimo, Russell Phifer (Chair), Barbara Foster, Art Marcinkowsky, Harry Elston, Robert Rich (ACS staff), Ken Fivizzani (Committee Chair).

1. Plant safety issues – we have begun a Checklist for smaller chemical businesses and universities to consider when addressing security issues. So far, we have developed the following questions/ issues:

**Checklist for Small Chemical Plant & Academic Facility Security Managers to deal with terrorism & vulnerability issues**

Introduction - to be developed

1. Evaluate access & egress to the facility and determine weak points -ex. Shipping/Receiving areas
2. Do you have security cameras? Where are they located? Are they monitored? What type of security is there for the cameras?
3. Do employees all have photo identification, and are they required to wear them? Are they color coded for access to specific areas?
4. Is there a perimeter fence? Is it secure? How is it guarded? Is it inspected?
5. For smaller facilities with skeleton staff on certain shifts, is there adequate security at entrance areas?
6. What type of emergency communication is available in the event of an attack on the facility?
7. What hazardous materials are present at the facility that are susceptible (fuels, flammable materials, etc.) and is there extra security for those areas?
8. What is the worst case scenario in the event of 1) a terrorist attack, 2) vandalism, 3) violent weather, 4) power failure, 5) fire.
9. What types of backup power are available?
10. If you are hosting a meeting that involves personnel from outside, what are your specific responsibilities? Do you know exactly who is coming, do they know where they are allowed to go, and what controls are there on their movement through the facility?

11. What evacuation procedures are in place in the event of an attack?
  12. What PPE is readily available in the event of an emergency?
  13. Who owns surrounding property and what is the access? Are there residential properties which might be vulnerable in the event your facility is attacked?
2. Clarification of personnel protection requirements – Michael was working on fine-tuning selection of appropriate eye and skin protection for various type exposures. As he was not at the meeting, this will be discussed again at the San Diego meeting.
  3. Nanomaterial safety – all members of the subcommittee were asked to research hazards associated with nanotechnology and report on this topic at the Philadelphia meeting. Bob identified a good source of information on the topic - a paper entitled “Environmental Impacts of Nanotechnology” by Shelley Copley from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Ms. Copley’s paper, as well as several sources Barbara discovered, indicate there are significant concerns with particles of this size, as both manufacturing workers and consumers may be exposed to nanomaterials in such products as sunscreens and cosmetics, as well as decomposition of products containing nanomaterials. The National Toxicology Program is carefully evaluating nanoscale materials for toxicological concerns. Lester indicated there is a nanotechnology topic page which updates NIOSH’s efforts to address nanotechnology safety - (<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2004-142>. ) The subcommittee will continue to monitor research in this area before attempting to draw any specific conclusions. We will report and summarize any new information at the next meeting in San Diego.

New Business: The subcommittee has been asked to address concerns that undergraduate students are not receiving adequate chemical safety training, resulting in complaints from industrial facilities. Barbara is a member of the ACS Task Force on Safety in the Curriculum which addresses this issue. The Task Force is active and moving forward on the goal of getting safety incorporated in every aspect of curriculum involving hazardous materials, including chemistry, biology, physics, and other sciences. Barbara will provide a more complete report at the next meeting. She noted the Online Safety Course developed by the Division of Chemical Safety offers a wide range of topics

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Phifer, Subcommittee Chair