

Department of Chemical Engineering Seminar Series



What We Do Matters

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Abstract

Mr. McCavit was the operations manager at the Celanese Pampa facility when an explosion occurred in which three people lost their lives. That incident will be used to illustrate the role that engineers play in preventing process safety incidents. In addition, concepts from the Center for Chemical Process Safety will be used to illustrate the importance of a strong safety culture in preventing process safety incidents. The same cultural concepts that prevent incidents in industry also prevent laboratory accidents in universities. The key feature of the seminar will be helping each participant understand their role in creating and maintaining a strong safety culture both in industry and at the university. What we do matters.

Bio

Jack McCavit, a Texas Tech chemical engineering graduate, is an independent consultant specializing in improving process safety management systems and reducing process safety incidents. Mr. McCavit worked for Celanese for 35 years. Most of his career at Celanese was spent in operations and technical management. For the last five years of his career at Celanese he was the Process Safety Manager for the company. After retiring from Celanese he was the technical manager for the Baker Panel following the BP Texas City incident. He also served as a part of the BP Independent Expert Team which monitored BP's implementation of the Baker Panel recommendations.

He is a Fellow of both the Center for Chemical Process Safety (CCPS) and the American Institute of Chemical Engineering. He was the committee chair for the CCPS book, Guidelines for Risk Based Process Safety and was the original committee chair for CCPS's Vision 20/20. He is a Mary Kay O'Connor Process Safety Center Merit Award recipient. At Texas Tech University he is a Distinguished Engineer and serves on the engineering Dean's Council.

**SEMINAR
Friday, February 3, 2017
3:00 pm
Livermore Center 101**