

Consistency in reporting on risk mitigation at Aspen Oss

IN THE PHARMACEUTICAL SECTOR MANY COMPANIES ARE SUBJECT TO STRICT 'SEVESO' SAFETY REGULATIONS. FACED WITH AMBITIOUS REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS, CLIENTS LOOK FOR GUIDANCE FROM EXPERTS IN PROCESS INTEGRITY & SAFETY (PI&S). DANNY DEN HARTOG, SENIOR CONSULTANT PI&S, DESCRIBES HOW HE WORKS AT ASPEN OSS BV.

'Under SEVESO rules we review many safety studies at Aspen Oss every five years. We also conduct about 10 process safety studies a year. For instance, when the client makes changes to the process or extends the facilities.' Danny den Hartog is the main contact for Aspen Oss and works closely with the company's Process Safety Manager Remko Harbers and the Environmental Health and Safety Manager Ralf Slangen.

Consistency is key in safety studies

The client on the Bilfinger Tebodin way of working on Hazard and Operability studies: 'Consistency is extremely important in reporting on risk mitigation. With the authorities looking over our shoulder it's key that we report on our activities in a consistent and realistic way. Bilfinger Tebodin helps us to assess the risks in a uniform way and present the measures we take according on a transparent scale.'

Danny den Hartog often acts as the facilitator for HAZOP sessions. 'We put a group of about 6 experts

from different disciplines – process, operations, safety, maintenance – into one room with the client for 2-3 days. It's an intensive process that ensures we cover every possible risk angle.' This way of working also helps to avoid duplication, increase efficiency and reduce costs says Ralf Slangen. 'When we do an intensive HAZOP study at the design phase, Bilfinger Tebodin ensures it's incorporated into subsequent process and safety studies.'

Responsibility in the chain

Chain responsibility is a high priority for Aspen Oss. 'We expect our suppliers to comply with ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 norms. Bilfinger Tebodin has proved a reliable partner in this respect, which is one reason that they are one of the few suppliers to benefit from a framework agreement with Aspen Oss,' says Ralf Slangen. ■



Danny den Hartog



Aspen Oss' production location De Geer