
PATRICIA LEE PYLE

Education

B.S. Chemical Engineering – University of Delaware – 1987

Affiliations

Secretary, RETA Inland Empire Chapter (2008-2011)
Vice President, RETA Inland Empire Chapter (2012)
RETA National Board Member (2009 – 2011)
RETA National Second Vice President (2012)
RETA Certification Committee Member (2011 – current)

Professional Experience

Ms. Pyle is the Project Director of the Risk Management Group at SCS Tracer Environmental and a Vice President of SCS Engineers, Inc. These responsibilities include outlining project budgets, organizing staff schedules, and ensuring a quality project is delivered. Ms. Pyle has served as lead engineer on many projects and has been involved in the preparation of over one hundred Risk Management and Safety Management Programs in the last fifteen years. In addition, she has been key in the development of the Risk and Safety program at SCS Tracer Environmental. This includes document preparation for specific Administrating Agencies throughout the state of California and ensuring that all our risk programs are acceptable to these agencies.

Ms. Pyle specializes in risk programs for chemical processes and in particular, ammonia refrigeration facilities and water/wastewater treatment facilities. Some of these clients have included Costco Wholesale, Coca-Cola Enterprises, Vons Companies/Safeway Corporation, Versacold Logistics, and numerous water municipalities throughout Southern California.

In addition to California's Accidental Release Prevention Program (CalARP), Ms. Pyle has developed EPA Risk Management Program submittal documentation (Risk Management Plans) for over 100 facilities for the June 21, 1999 initial submittal due date and the corresponding five-year revalidation submittals due June 21, 2004. This included developing Executive Summaries that detail each facility's safety features, management structure, and potential risks associated with the process for EPA review and approval.

Ms. Pyle has worked with industry groups to develop standardized Process Safety Management Programs (PSM) for industry members to ensure compliance with OSHA's 1910.119 regulation (Cal-OSHA Title 8, §5189). In addition to developing PSM programs for industry, Ms. Pyle has also been involved in auditing facility's PSM programs. Her vast experience in developing programs for numerous facilities brings new ideas and innovative methods for facility with respect to managing and implementing their individual PSM programs.

Ms. Pyle's experience includes all aspects of preparing a CalARP or PSM program. This includes participating in Hazard and Operability Studies as the team leader, quality control, or recorder, preparing qualitative risk assessments, and conducting off-site consequence analyses.

Ms. Pyle is also involved in the preparation of Operations Manuals for facilities transferring bulk oil. This includes updating the Venoco, Inc. Operations Manual for their Marine Terminal facility to incorporate a new vapor control system. In addition to the Facility Operations Manual, SCS Tracer Environmental developed the Training Manual and Vapor System Operations Manual.

In the past, Ms. Pyle has supported SCS Tracer's RECLAIM and Clean Air Act Amendment - Title V permitting programs by developing potential-to-emit and actual emission profiles as well as outlining detailed process flow diagrams for industrial facilities. She has developed emissions inventories for natural gas storage facilities as well as refineries. In addition, she has conducted detailed air quality inspections of industrial facilities in support of developing federal operating permits.

Ms. Pyle has worked closely with numerous field personnel in order to produce accurate plant descriptions and flow diagrams for the documentation required for the different risk/safety and permitting projects. She has provided detailed flow diagrams from field observations and piping and instrumentation diagrams for the HAZOP study. Aside from data gathering in the field, Ms. Pyle is experienced in working with Administrating Agencies and presenting risk assessment results to these agencies.

Additional Training

- Ammonia Safety Training Institute, Operations Commander 8 Hour Course, March 8, 2012
- Ammonia Safety Training Institute, 32 Hour Managing Ammonia Emergencies November 2011
- SCS Engineers Leadership Training (June 2010 – March 2011)
- Southern California RETA Chapters Annual Ammonia Safety Day, April 2012
- Southern California RETA Chapters Annual Ammonia Safety Day, April 2011
- Los Angeles RETA Annual Safety Day, April 18, 2008
- Los Angeles RETA Annual Safety Day, April 19, 2007
- RETA National 2006 Annual Convention (Dallas, TX).
- RETA National 2005 Annual Convention (Ponte Vedra Beach, FL), “Preparing for a PSM Audit”, “Oil Analysis”, “Pipe Mechanical Integrity”, and “Operator Qualifications”.
- RETA National 2004 Annual Convention (Reno, Nevada), “Codes & Their Development as They Relate to Ammonia Refrigeration Facilities and Installations”, “Fire Codes and the Ammonia Refrigeration Industry – Moving Forward Together”, and “Special Structural Problems in Refrigeration”, (October 2004).
- RETA National 2003 Annual Convention (Costa Mesa, California), “Proper Pre-Startup and Shut Down Procedures Before Maintenance, Retrofit, and Installation Activities” (October 2003).
- Risk Assessment Methodology for Water Utilities (RAM-WSM), American Water Works Association / Sandia National Laboratories, October 2003
- Hazardous Waste Operations & Emergency Response Training, 29 CFR 1910.120, May 2002.
- How to Develop an Effective Safety & Health Program, (0.6 CEU) April 2000.
- Confined Space Training Program, 4 hour course, December 1999.
- Los Angeles Chapter RETA Ammonia & Refrigeration Safety Seminar, 8 hour course (1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004).
- Ammonia Safety & Training Institute, 24 hour Emergency Response Training (Technician Level), October 1998.
- Four-day “Hazard Evaluation: Qualitative Methods” training course, American Institute of Chemical Engineers, October 1997.

Presentations

“Stop Them Small or Prevent Them All – CalARP Implementation”, Alliance Safety Day, October 2011 and Yuma Valley Safety Day, February 2012.

“Taking Responsibility – Whether You Like it or Not” 101st Annual RETA Conference, Portland, Oregon, November 2010.

“Developing an Effective Training Program”, San Diego County CalARP Workshop, October 21, 2010.

“You Are a Contractor – What is Your Responsibility”, presented at the 100th Annual RETA Conference, Monterey, California, October 2009.

“Who’s on First – Emergency Shutdown Responsibilities”, presented at the 100th Annual RETA Conference, Monterey, California, October 2009 and 102nd Annual RETA Conference, Greensboro, North Carolina, September 2011, and IARW South Pacific Chapter Meeting, October 2011.

“You’ve Chosen Your Maintenance Contractor – Now What Do You Do?” presented at the 99th Annual RETA Conference, Hershey, Pennsylvania, September 2008.

“PSM / RMP Five Year Revalidations” presented at the 99th Annual RETA Conference, Hershey, Pennsylvania, September 2008.

“What to do When Your Relief Valves Pops and Other Planning Issues”, Alliance Ammonia Safety Seminar - 3rd Annual, (May 16, 2007) & 98th Annual RETA Convention, Boise, Idaho, October 2007.

“CalARP Program Issues & Recent Citations”, Los Angeles Chapter RETA Safety Day (April 19, 2007)

“PSM / RMP / CalARP – How to Stay Out of Trouble”, Alliance Ammonia Safety Seminar - 3rd Annual, (May 17, 2006)

“Navigating RMP and PSM Requirements – An Update of Critical Compliance Regulations”, Session #201, RETA National 2003 Convention (October 2003).

“Process Safety Management / Risk Management Program Workshop”, Tracy, California, Three Sessions (July – August 2002).

“PSM/RMP/CalARP Programs: What do I do now?”, 1999 Ammonia & Refrigeration Safety Seminar, 8 hour course, September 17, 1999.

“California Accidental Release Prevention (CalARP) Program”, 1999 Pacific Southwest Safety & Health Conference, April 26, 1999.

“Risk Management Program Strategies for Ammonia Refrigeration”, Central California Valley 2nd Annual Ammonia Safety Day, February 6, 1999.

“Five Months and Counting for the RMP/CalARP Programs (No Sleep for Consultants)”, Riverside/San Bernardino County Water Industry RMP/CalARP Implementation Workshop, January 26, 1999.

“Process Hazard Analysis and Hazard Assessment for Compliance with the RMP and CalARP Programs”, San Diego County Water Industry RMP/CalARP Implementation Workshop, November 18, 1998.

“Emergency Response Program for Compliance with the RMP and CalARP Program”, San Diego County Water Industry RMP/CalARP Implementation Workshop, November 18, 1998.

“Process Safety Management and Risk Management Programs for the National Association of Gas Chlorinators”, National Association of Gas Chlorinators 7th Annual Conference, October 17, 1998.

“Safety and Environmental Hazards: Case Studies”, 1998 California Water Environmental Association, Southern Regional Training Seminar, March 3, 1998.