



News Release

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Total Hosts ASM[®] Consortium Operations Outreach Seminar

PHOENIX, Nov 11, 2011 – The ASM[®] Consortium concluded a day long Operations Outreach Seminar hosted by Total, Paris, France, on October 14, 2011. The objectives of this seminar was to provide the ASM Member company plant and operations staff with an understanding of the Abnormal Situation Management problem, and examples of how to mitigate abnormal situations through the deployment of Effective ASM Operations Practices.

This intensive one-day seminar was attended by over forty (40) plant and operations leaders, HSE (Health Safety Environment) managers and other executives interested in learning more about how to keep people and plants safe. During the course of seminar attendees were challenged to consider the operations integrity of their plant and identify factors that may be contributing to near misses and abnormal situations. The seminar speakers, included Jason Laberge, Principal Scientist, Honeywell Laboratories, Peter Bullemer, Senior Partner, Human Centered Solutions, and Anand Tharanathan, Principal Investigator for the ASM and also a scientist for Honeywell. The broad agenda of topics included Safety culture, Human Factors, Procedures, Operator Situation Awareness, Operator Competency and Alarm Management. In addition to these highly experienced ASM member speaker and facilitators, several User Members also shared how they have benefitted by deploying ASM practices in their plants.

The [ASM Consortium](#) aims at improving process safety, reliability and efficiency in process plants by bringing together plant experience, with human factors engineering and the latest innovative technologies. Members of the consortium – which include a wide range of industrial manufacturers, vendors, and universities that collaborate to research best practices for managing abnormal situations in industrial facilities – meet quarterly for a week to discuss current research and development activities and continue the history of sharing what each company has learned to reduce or mitigate abnormal situations.

Background on the ASM Consortium

The ASM Consortium started in 1994, is represented by a group of operating company personnel, universities, and suppliers that are considered domain experts and thought leaders in the area of applying human factors to reduce or mitigate abnormal situations in the process industries.



The ASM Consortium collaborates through jointly funded research to address member company concerns about the high cost of unplanned incidents caused by abnormal situations and increasing effort has been put into development and deployment of ASM solutions and best practices that incorporate ASM knowledge.

The basis of the ASM Consortium is collaboration and information-sharing. By working together, members achieve far more than they could working alone. Research results are published for members, and often further shared by means of webinars, seminars and workshops. Non-members can benefit from ASM Research by purchasing the [ASM Best Practices Guidelines](#) for Alarm Management, Display Design and Procedural Practices at Amazon.com.

Current ASM Consortium members include: BP, ExxonMobil, ConocoPhillips, Sasol, Total, Shell, Honeywell, Human Centered Solutions, UCLA, MaryKay O'Connor Process Safety Center at Texas A&M, NTU, and Penn State. For additional information on becoming a member of the ASM Consortium, please go through our [information on joining](#).

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