

# Process Safety Forum

## Learning Brief #16 – Issued on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016

### Quality of Maintenance

Other than ensuring the competency of the people carrying out maintenance activities, how do you ensure the quality of your maintenance activities?

The Process Safety Forum have developed a series of prompts which may be useful when reviewing how you manage your maintenance activities.

Do you have any additional means to:

- check the provenance of parts used in maintenance tasks?
- ensure tools have been correctly calibrated before use in a maintenance task?
- ensure re-assembly after maintenance has not resulted in mis-assembly or misalignment (e.g. parts installed wrong way round, part left out, components not in line)?
- ensure re-assembly after maintenance has not resulted in mis-setting or mis-calibration (e.g. torque, fan-speeds, sensors, etc.)?
- ensure labelling and tagging is left in the correct state?
- ensure re-setting or re-programming of software during maintenance has not introduced a fault?
- ensure plant and equipment are left in the correct configuration (e.g. valves open/closed, chillers turned on/off, etc.)?

For example, do you:

- provide checklists as part of maintenance instruction documents
- undertake post-work inspections or audits of maintenance tasks
- get different teams to peer review each other's work
- use a re-commissioning/start-up procedure after maintenance on particularly high hazard systems
- match-up procurement, stores and waste stream checks to ensure like for like replacements, etc.?

### **Further reading**

The use of external contractors in the management of ageing plant:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/aboutus/meetings/committees/cif/cdoif-external-contractors-managing-ageing-plant-230315.pdf>

*The Process Safety Forum has been set up to provide an industry association platform whereby initiatives, best practice, lessons from incidents and process safety strategy can be distilled and shared across sectors, to influence our stakeholders (including the Regulators), and to drive the process safety management agenda. The Process Safety Forum consists of representatives from UKPIA, TSA, CIA, OGUUK, CBA, RSSB, ENA, ECIA, UKLPG, BAMA, EIG, UKOPA, SWA, MPA, UKLPG, BAMA, SWA and SDF. For further details, contact: [peter.davidson@tankstorage.org.uk](mailto:peter.davidson@tankstorage.org.uk).*