

FAQ

What is the CSF?

Established in 2013, the COMAH Strategic Forum is a high level joint chemical industry and regulator forum working to improve major accident hazard leadership, management and raise standards across the industry. This joint forum provides industry and the Competent Authority (CA) with a means for strategic discussion on how they can work together to provide leadership and encourage continuous improvement in the inspection, management and control (including emergency preparedness and response) of major accident hazards across the onshore industries. The forum partners engage collaboratively to identify and share best practice and where necessary to commission the development of new guidance.

How can I become more involved?

You can access useful information from this CSF web community where you can sign up to receive update bulletins. You can also engage with CSF through its annual 'open meetings' which are advertised on this web community.

If your organisation is a member of an existing Process Safety Forum (PSF) trade association, you should contact them. A list of participating trade associations is available on the PSF website: <http://www.p-s-f2.org.uk/>

My organisation is not a member of a trade association currently engaged through PSF. What can I do?

Encourage your trade association to join the PSF, as they may be eligible to engage. Please contact the secretary and chair directly via the PSF website link above..

Who can attend CSF Open Meetings?

The aim of the CSF Open Meetings is to "engage the unengaged". Its target audience is therefore operators of sites with the potential to cause a major hazard accident but who are not affiliated with the current CSF member Trade Associations. A video recording of the well-received 1st event held in May 2019 can be found at:

<https://webcommunities.hse.gov.uk/connect.ti/COMAHSF/view?objectId=56819&exp=e1>

Who can attend CSF Closed Meetings?

The high-level strategic CSF Closed Meetings are held twice yearly. For each COMAH establishment the Competent Authority (CA) is represented by the relevant safety body (HSE or ONR at nuclear establishments), working jointly with the appropriate environment agency for the locality (EA or NRW or SEPA). Industry members are represented by 5 Trade Associations (CBA; CIA; Liquid Gas UK; TSA; UKPIA). Further non-industry organisations (including BEIS and Unite the Union) are also represented. Full details of representation can be found at:

<https://webcommunities.hse.gov.uk/connect.ti/COMAHSF/view?objectId=53939&exp=e1>

I don't fit the criteria for CSF Closed Meeting attendance. Can I still participate?

Membership is restricted to maintain working effectiveness and to avoid precedent setting. However, Trade Associations not represented can apply to be correspondence members via COMAH.Enquiries@hse.gov.uk

What is a CSF Correspondence Member?

Correspondence members are Trade Associations not affiliated as CSF members but who still receive all correspondence including Closed Meeting Agenda and Minutes and the option to contribute in writing to these meetings.