

John Croker: Risk Management; Safety and Environmental Experience

John has had very significant experience in the management of occupational health and safety both as a general manager and as an operational manager, and in his subsequent career as a consultant.

John is familiar with the OHS Regulations (eg NSW 2001) for NSW, Queensland, Victoria and South Australia having provided advice professionally based upon these regulations.

John's specific expertise in safety legislation relates to

- setup of workplaces for a safe working environment
- consultation with designers, employers and users
- hazard analysis and risk management
- plant, including design, design review and commissioning of new plant
- hazardous processes
- assessment of the risks and safety of operations

As an operational manager in Dow Corning for 12 years between 1988 and 1999, John was directly involved in safety management and leadership in safety in a very wide range of areas. This involved participating in the design of safety management systems and provision of safety training to managers, engineers, professional and plant operations staff. John chaired the operational safety meetings in the plant for a 5 year period and was noted as a leader in Dow Corning Corporate Safety Standards. John has participated in start-up safety reviews of several major processes in Australia and Asia, including leadership or membership of the startup safety audit team of 3 Dow Corning greenfields plants in Asia. John has led or taken part in safety investigations in Australia, Asia and US.

Significant fields of safety expertise where John has gained experience include:

- Risk management studies of process plants and country operations
- Fire safety studies
- Safe work systems
- Investigation of Incidents (wrote Dow Corning Corp Standard)
- Hazardous process safety
- Behavioural safety programs
- Soil contamination assessment and decontamination.

John built upon this experience as general manager in APS Chemicals where, for example, he

- led the introduction of a computerised materials safety information system
- commenced a program of risk management of the entire range of process operations.
- Directly led significant incident investigations, developed improvement plans and followed through subsequent change actions
- Managed evaluation and cleanup plan of prior chemical contamination of 1 site.

Specific risk & safety experience includes: (at the management level in most cases, including definition of the issue and leading the activities to a solution).

Design and implementation of safety management systems.

Risk assessment of process and transport operations: major study with several operational implications

Leadership of a number of risk management programs to AS 4368, involving plant management and operators.

Fire safety study for Dow Corning Operations

Incident analysis including design of a root cause analysis system, used as a basis for corporate safety standards.

Analysis of safety statistics and setting priorities for improvement programs.

Design and management of safety programs including those aimed at eliminating hand, eye and back accidents.

Safe Behaviour Involvement programs (SBI in Australia and LIFE in USA), including performance improvement measurement.

Job Safety Analysis, performed with operators and supervisors.

Safety training and assessment of training effectiveness. Training programs I have given include: isolation and lockout, vessel entry, contractor and visitor safety, ladder safety, chemical hazards, annual safety re-training programs.

Construction project safety management; in Australia, Korea, Thailand and India.

Safety audit on every piece of processing equipment installed in DC Australia 1988-99

Plant and process startup safety audits in Australia, Thailand, Korea, Taiwan and India.

Auditing to the PACIA codes; particularly the Manufacturing Code, the R&D Code; the Product Stewardship Code and the Warehousing Code.

Safety Assessment of Contract Warehouses & Transport Operations

Chemical material safety information systems design and project management of a working system, including design for IT effectiveness.

Process safety including Hazop, process design and plant layout.

Specific environmental experience includes:

- Management of manufacturing operations to minimise emissions.
- Scheduling to reduce waste
- Product design to minimise waste
- Replacement of industrial cleaning solvents with more benign solvents
- Solvent re use and recycling
- Design, construction and operation of waste processing and product recovery equipment.
- Vent stack monitoring and record keeping
- Measurement of air, water, waste and noise emissions.
- Evaluation of contamination in sites in NSW, Victoria and India.
- Soil contamination remediation.
- Management of “sensitive” neighbours.
- Leader of solvent replacement & recycling project which was runner-up to 1996 PACIA Environmental Award