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IN CONTROL

A Newsletter From Control Instruments Corp

Safety: The *Highest* Priority

There's an old saying about flying small planes, "any landing you walk away from is a good landing" - and in a sense this is true for gas detection, especially in the process industry. Saving lives is the highest priority. Loss of life has become rare, and, in spite of some high profile cases, most years bring fewer accidents and injuries. It might be ironic then, to consider that this progress might make people tend to relax their standards in the belief that somehow everything is going to be OK.

Safety is a lot like piloting: a set of habits developed over time, skills developed over the years, and constant effort to keep in shape. There is no real substitute. Fortunately, even for those presently flying by the seat of their pants, good progress can be made right away. And for those who already try their best to be the best, the knowledge that accidents happen even to the well-prepared should keep them on guard.

Strides made to improve safety reverberate well beyond the protection of life and property. It is deeply entwined with efficiency, energy, and economy. Done well, it becomes a key to survival and success in business.

Safety Award for High Excellence

The marketplace is demanding that companies be sustainable; and they should only be considered sustainable if they protect their most important asset: their people.

Keeping personnel and facilities SAFE is Control Instruments' #1 goal. Our company was founded all those years ago because of it. We care that much about it. Productivity, sustainability, and energy savings all ultimately begins & ends with keeping our customers, and their people safe.

The safest companies understand the relationship between safety & productivity, profits, morale and employee retention and have integrated safety into the way they do business.

We are pleased to present the following companies with the 2014 Safety Award for High Excellence, for leading the way in demonstrating outstanding efforts made towards the safety and sustainability of their manufacturing facilities:

- 3M-PC&IS - Advanced Technology Industry
- Printpack, Inc. - Flexible Packaging Industry

3M is a global innovation company that never stops inventing. Over the years, their innovations have improved daily life for hundreds of millions of people all over the world. They have made driving at night easier, made buildings safer, and made consumer electronics lighter, less energy-intensive and less harmful to the environment. They even helped put a man on the moon. Every day at 3M, one idea always leads to the next, igniting momentum to make progress possible around the world.

Printpack is a major converter of flexible and specialty rigid packaging with an over fifty-year history of innovation. Twenty-eight manufacturing plants throughout the United States, Mexico, the United Kingdom, Poland, and China, allow Printpack the flexibility to offer a broad range of packaging options globally. Every product that Printpack designs and produces addresses a real world marketplace challenge for their customers.

Printpack inc.®
Packaging Better Ideas.®

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Safety Beyond the Classroom

Time and energy are spent learning about safety through various trainings and educational forums, it's important to actually apply that knowledge to the everyday workings of your application. Consider the unique needs of your workplace and find what best supports your safety goals. Here are some questions to help you get started:

1. Is the detection system considered an analyzer (for process) or a sensor (for leak detection/area)?
2. Does the system meet the requirements of the necessary approval agencies for your particular application?
3. What are your process conditions? Does the device remain accurate under the expected temperature, pressure, and humidity ranges?
4. Is it an indoor or outdoor environment you are looking to monitor?
5. What do you want the system to do?
6. Is there a means to test and verify proper operation of the system?
7. Is the necessary training on the system in place, to ensure workplace safety and maintenance?
8. Are there analytics available to predict trends for process improvement and energy savings?
9. If you currently have a system in place, does it meet the requirements of current regulations, standards or codes?

Test your LFL I.Q.

Identifying & understanding Lower Flammable Limit (%LFL) is important for safe and efficient operation of your process. Take this quiz & test your knowledge, for the answers check our weekly blog at www.controlinstruments.com/blog

1. What is the definition of %LFL?
   a. The lowest flammable concentration of a gas in air in which a flame can be propagated when given a source of ignition.
   b. The lowest flammable concentration of a gas in air in which a flame can be ignited when given a source of ignition.
   c. The lowest flammable concentration of a gas in air in which solvents begin to vaporize?
   d. The lowest flammable concentration of gas in air within which a flame cannot burn?

2. When are continuous flammability (%LFL) monitors required to be used on heated processes?
   a. Above 10% LFL
   b. Above 25% LFL
   c. Above 50% LFL
   d. At 100% LFL

3. How does the flammability of solvent vapors in air at a temperature of 250° F compare to 77° F?
   a. It is more flammable
   b. It is less flammable
   c. It is the same
   d. Solvents do not have LFL values

4. How quickly has experience shown some of the worst accidents to occur?
   a. A few seconds
   b. One minute or so
   c. Several minutes
   d. Hours

5. What does 30 feet of added sample tubing do to an analyzer's ability to give an alarm?
   a. The reading is just as accurate so that alarms will be good.
   b. There is no effect, everything stays roughly the same.
   c. There is a very small effect, maybe a few seconds, but not enough to matter.
   d. The analyzer is several seconds slower, which matters a great deal.

6. What type of technology will report the most accurate results in a multiple solvent application (i.e. Toluene, MEK, IPA and Acetate)?
   a. Catalytic
   b. Infrared
   c. Flame Ionization
   d. Flame Temperature