

FACT SHEET

Refinery Safety



The refining industry is committed to a goal of zero fatalities, zero injuries and zero incidents. The industry takes any safety incident as an opportunity to learn and to improve technology, training, operational procedures, industry standards and best practices.

The American Petroleum Institute Standards Program provides an ongoing opportunity for improvement through collaboration with companies, regulators and other stakeholders. Through this program, industry has created more than 200 refinery standards to maintain and improve operational safety.

The U.S. refining industry continues to be one of the safest workplaces in the nation. In 2010, the rate of job-related nonfatal injuries and illnesses for refinery workers was 0.7 per 100 full-time workers, compared to a rate of 4.0 for the US manufacturing sector and 3.6 for all industries and government combined. (Source: *US Occupational Safety and Health Administration - OSHA*)

In response to US Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board recommendations, in 2010 the industry released two new refinery safety standards.

- **Recommended Practice 754**, Process Safety Performance Indicators for the Refining and Petrochemical Industries, provides companies with leading and lagging process safety indicators for recognizing and evaluating events that may predict safety issues.
- **Recommended Practice 755**, Fatigue Risk Management Systems for Personnel in the Refining and Petrochemical Industries, provides guidance to help manage personnel fatigue risk.

Industry cooperates with employees, labor unions, and also with federal and local government to enhance workplace safety. In 2007, OSHA initiated the Petroleum Refinery National Emphasis Program with a goal to inspect all US refineries over two years for compliance with OSHA's Process Safety Management regulations.

Voluntary Protection Program (VPP): Another example of industry cooperation with government is the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). In the VPP, management, labor, and OSHA establish cooperative relationships at workplaces that have implemented a comprehensive safety and health management system. Approval into VPP is OSHA's official recognition of the outstanding efforts of employers and employees who have achieved exemplary occupational safety and health. Several of Louisiana refineries have been approved by OSHA as qualified VPP Sites.

Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, founded in 1923, is a trade association exclusively representing all sectors of the oil and gas industry operating in Louisiana and the Gulf of Mexico. LMOGA serves exploration and production, refining, transportation, marketing and mid stream companies as well as other firms in the fields of law, engineering, environment, financing and government relations.

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