



DIRECTOR'S CORNER



We, at the Mary Kay O'Connor Process Safety Center appreciate the support and assistance given to us by various organizations and individuals. A major part of the support for various programs and activities of the Center comes from annual membership dues. Organizations can become members of the Center at the Partner, Sponsor, or Advisor level. Small business and individual memberships are also available. Details about membership benefits, membership criteria, and annual dues are available on request.

A lot of exciting things are happening at the Center. The Center recently welcomed The Chlorine Institute as a supporting member.

The Second Annual Symposium, held at the George Bush Presidential Conference Center on October 26-27, 1999, was again a tremendous success. The Symposium was attended by approximately 300 people from all over the US as well as overseas. The 1999 Symposium also featured an exhibit area for display of process safety-related technology, software, and tools. Evaluations submitted by the Symposium attendees provided complimentary comments about the quality and content of the papers and the smooth arrangements. We are indebted to many organizations and individuals for the success of the Symposium. First and foremost, the cosponsoring organizations:

- American Society of Safety Engineers
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration
- USEPA – Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office
- US Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board
- Voluntary Protection Program Participants' Association

We are also indebted to the following organizations for sponsoring different events at the Symposium:

- RMT, Inc. – Cocktail hour
- Arthur D. Little, Inc. – Lunch
- Warren-Forthought, Inc. – Lunch
- General Physics Corporation – Breakfast
- AcuTech – Breakfast
- Quest Consultants – Coffee Break
- Loss Control Associates – Coffee Break

The Symposium Planning Committee worked hard in making sure that the symposium went without any glitches. We owe our gratitude to them.

- David Chung, USEPA, Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office
- Skip Early, Early Consulting LLC
- Skipper Kendrick, Bell Helicopter/American Society of Safety Engineers
- Sanjeev Mohindra, Arthur D. Little, Inc.
- Chap Pierce, Occupational Safety and Health Administration
- Kathy Shell, RMT, Inc.
- Robert L. Smith, Ashland, Inc.

The Center research activities are also gaining energy and new life. In addition, to our ongoing research work, we were awarded two new contracts. The first one is from Parsons Engineering to conduct Quantitative Risk Assessment for chemical demilitarization processes. The other one is from the Advanced Technology Program of the State of Texas to conduct Aerosol Modeling for high viscosity heat transfer fluids. Outline for these research projects will be provided in the upcoming issues of *Centerline*.

We have issued a Call for Papers for our next symposium, Beyond Regulatory Compliance, Making Safety Second Nature, which will be held on October 24-25, 2000 at the Reed Arena at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. More information can be found in this newsletter and on our website at <http://process-safety.tamu.edu>.

M. Sam Mannan
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