



DIRECTOR'S CORNER



The 2000 Annual Symposium was held at the Reed Arena, Texas A&M University, College Station on October 24-25, 2000. The Symposium was attended by approximately 300 people from all over the US as well as overseas. The 2000 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:

- AcuTech Consulting
- American Society of Safety Engineers
- Ashland, Inc.
- DNV
- EQE International
- General Physics Corporation
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration
- Quest Consultants
- RMT, Inc.
- US Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board
- USEPA – Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office
- Voluntary Protection Program Participants' Association

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

- ◇ David Chung – USEPA, Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office
- ◇ Skip Early – Early Consulting LLC
- ◇ Chap Pierce – Occupational Safety and Health Administration
- ◇ Simon Schubach – Arthur D. Little, Inc.
- ◇ Kathy Shell – RMT, Inc.
- ◇ Robert L. Smith – Eli Lilly and Company

Two M.S. students completed their research and degree requirements in Fall 2000. Tina Sposato successfully defended her M.S. thesis on, "The Effects of Obstacle Geometry on Jet Mixing in Releases of Silane." Tina will work for Intel in New Mexico starting January 2001. Fahad Al-Qurashi successfully defended his M.S. thesis on, "Development of a Relational Chemical Process Safety Database and Applications to Safety Improvements." Fahad will return to his job at Saudi Aramco in January 2001. Congratulations to both Tina and Fahad on their accomplishments and we wish them well in their careers. Both their theses are available in their entirety in read-only pdf format on the Internet (<http://process-safety.tamu.edu>).

Finally, I would like to share with all of you something of enormous significance and pride to me personally. On November 13, 2000, at the Honor's Luncheon of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers' 2000 Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, I was awarded AIChE's **Service to Society Award**.



I was really humbled and overwhelmed to receive this prestigious award, particularly because I know that there are so many chemical engineers, past and present, who have contributed so much to the common good. I feel deeply honored to have been recognized in that group. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Awards Committee and Board of Directors of AIChE, the sponsors of the award-Fluor Daniel, Inc., Texas A&M University, my colleagues in chemical engineering at Texas A&M especially chemical engineering department head Dr. Ray Anthony for the enormous support and backing I have received. I also want to thank my friend, Mike O'Connor for providing the financial support, and assistance in many other forms. I thank the staff and researchers at the Mary Kay O'Connor Process Safety Center and our numerous supporters from industry and other stakeholders. I thank my students for the contributions they continue to make and their hard work. I thank my parents, both of whom worked hard to give me the best education and preparation for life. Finally, I thank my wife, Afroza, and our two daughters, Joya and Rumki, for their love and support. I truly believe that the support of our families makes us what we are and propels us towards success.

M. Sam Mannan

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