

We would love to hear from you....

Please do contact Helen Conlin, Newsletter Editor at specialinterestgroups@icheme.org about contributing articles or providing feedback and comment on: Good practice, previous SIG events, outreach (e.g. support to Universities, other institutions), or anything else that you think our readers would find interesting.

Introduction

Welcome to the March 2024 edition of the S&LP SIG newsletter.

Please use specialinterestgroups@icheme.org to contact anyone associated with the S&LP SIG.

This issue includes articles on [University Process Safety Workshops](#), [Flixborough 50 Years On](#), [IChemE Process Safety Symposium Papers](#), [Hazards 34](#), [Member Request for ICI Historical Information](#) and the [S&LP SIG Committee](#).

University Process Safety Workshops – 23 February and 1 March 2024

On Friday 23 February 2024, the S&LP SIG ran a Process Safety Workshop for the second time at:

- ❖ Lancaster University

And on Friday 1 March 2024, the S&LP SIG ran Process Safety Workshops at:

- ❖ Brunel University London
- ❖ Queen Mary University of London (QMUL)
- ❖ London South Bank University

as a combined London event and for the second time at:

- ❖ The American University of Sharjah (AUS, UAE).

221 students attended from across the five institutions and 30 volunteers organised, presented and facilitated the workshops.

QMUL hosted the three London institutions and streamed the morning session to AUS.

Across the five institutions, multiple PhD students, Post Doctorate staff and technical support staff made this possible.

A huge thank you to all involved: University students, University staff and our enthusiastic and highly knowledgeable and skilled volunteers! We look forward to 2025!





As in previous years, the students particularly enjoyed the career snapshot talks and interactive activities including the afternoon HAZOP case study exercise.

We would welcome interest from other academic institutions and from people keen to become involved in co-ordinating and supporting the workshops at the current and new locations.

For more information or assistance, please contact us at specialinterestgroups@icheme.org.

Flixborough 50 Years On

2024 marks 50 years since the incident on 1 June 1974 at Nypro UK Flixborough that changed the UK regulatory framework and onshore industry approach to process safety and major hazards. 28 people on site died, including all in the Control Room and 89 people on and offsite were recorded as injured. A reactor 20" bypass line assembly, installed as a temporary plant change, catastrophically failed after two months of operation during its second start-up and released approx. 30 tonnes of cyclohexane at a pressure of at least 8.6 barg and 155°C. The cyclohexane formed a flammable cloud that

ignited and resulted in an Unconfined Vapour Cloud Explosion (UVCE) and multiple fires.

There will be an LPB special issue and other IChemE activities to commemorate the people harmed and lessons that have been and can be learned.

[The Flixborough report](#) of the court of enquiry is available on the S&LP SIG website and remains valuable and relevant.

IChemE Process Safety Symposium Papers

The S&LP SIG website has created and hosts a new archive of [IChemE process safety symposium papers](#):

- ❖ The [1982 symposium](#) is titled: 'The Assessment of Major Hazards'.
- ❖ The [1987 symposium](#) is titled: 'Hazards from Pressure: Exothermic Reactions, Unstable Substances, Pressure Relief and Accidental Discharge'.
- ❖ The [1990 symposium](#) is titled: 'Piper Alpha Lessons for Lifecycle Safety Management' and took place prior to the publication of Lord Cullen's report.
- ❖ The [1992 symposium](#) is titled: 'Major Hazards Onshore and Offshore' and explores learnings from Piper Alpha and between onshore and offshore approaches, tools and techniques.
- ❖ The [1995 symposium](#) is titled: 'Major Hazards Onshore and Offshore II' and explores learnings from Piper Alpha and between onshore and offshore approaches, tools and techniques.

There are papers relevant to a wide range of subjects in this archive including LNG and use of CO₂ pipelines for CCUS.

Plus, a reminder that the S&LP SIG website includes [historic Hazards papers](#) (up to and including Hazards 30) with all Crown Copyright papers available up to and including Hazards 33.

Hazards 34

[Hazards 34](#) will take place in Manchester, UK between 5 and 7 November 2024.

The call for content is currently open and the brochure can be downloaded at the above link.

Member Request for ICI Historical Information

The S&LP SIG has received a request for help from a member who is conducting research into ICI's contribution to process safety hazard and risk management education and learning.

They are interested in learning about ICI training courses up until 2000 and reviewing any course notes that still exist.

If you have information that you think might be helpful and that you are willing to share, please let us know at specialinterestgroups@icheme.org.

S&LP SIG Committee

The S&LP SIG committee last met on 20 February 2024.

Planned future S&LP SIG committee meeting dates:

- ❖ 18 April 2024
- ❖ 18 June 2024
- ❖ 15 August 2024

If you have something for the committee to consider, please contact Sean O'Sullivan, Chair, at specialinterestgroups@icheme.org.

We are grateful to those who take the time to contribute to the S&LP SIG Newsletter. Please note that content and opinions are those of the contributor(s) (or in resources accessed online) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Safety & Loss Prevention Special Interest Group Committee or the Institution of Chemical Engineers.