



S-Chem Eliminates Paper-Based System and Improves Work Permitting Outcomes



SITUATION

S-Chem is a petrochemical company located in the Eastern Province Industrial City of Al-Jubail, Saudi-Arabia. It is a joint venture with Chevron Phillips Chemical Company. S-Chem had been operating with a paper-based Instrumented Protective System (IPS) bypass permitting system for several years. This time-intensive, paper-based system caused delays in approvals and had the systematic flaws associated with manual work permit systems.

S-Chem sought a better system that would:

- Align IPS bypass work permit requirements with company policies
- Maintain a central database for all past and present approved IPS bypass permits
- Efficiently report process safety Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

In 2016, S-Chem reached out to Operational Sustainability, LLC (OS) to evaluate a new IPS.



CHALLENGE

S-Chem determined that the right IPS would have a front end similar to its paper-based IPS bypass work permit, and would also:

- Be user-friendly down to the plant operator level
- Be flexible enough for adjustment as the IPS Master list changed
- Allow for easy additions or deletions of fields in the permit as work evolved
- Be highly customizable for reporting process safety KPIs and other statistical reports

In addition, S-Chem required the customized application flow chart be designed to adhere to S-Chem mandatory guidelines to improve the overall S-Chem IPS bypass work permitting system. The resulting system needed to provide a more efficient, paperless way to generate approvals by facility management, timely reminders through emails of all overdue IPS bypass permits, facilitate upper management approval of permit due date extensions when needed, create and manage an IPS bypass permits central database, and enhance reporting abilities of KPIs.



SOLUTION

After careful assessment, S-Chem purchased OESuite® Operational Excellence Framework software in 2016 to create a paperless IPS bypass work permitting for its day-to-day operations. The solution from OS delivered the required features like creating an electronic IPS bypass work permit, digital approvals and due date extensions, database storage and retrieval and email notifications.

For more information email us at info@DrivingOE.com or call (713) 355-2900.



Driving Operational Excellence™



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RESULTS

"S-Chem is extremely satisfied with the OESuite® application. The amount of information, ease of use and the email notification features have vastly improved our work process, participation, auditing and reporting capabilities," Larry Walls, S-Chem IPS engineer, said. "After realizing these positive results, we have recommended this product to other Chevron Phillips facilities as an alternative to paper-based permit systems," Walls said.

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