

## Celanese recognizes best safety practices at Employee Engagement Conferences



Celanese recently hosted employee engagement conferences in Dallas and in Lyon, France, to recognize best practices in employee engagement an important area in driving to higher safety performance.

The conferences gave employees an opportunity to present their site programs and learn from each other as Celanese continues its journey to zero injuries and zero safety incidents.

More than 50 employees from sites in the United States, Mexico and Canada convened in Dallas to present best practices in seven categories. The group also spent time in facilitated breakout sessions to discuss how Celanese could better share successful safety practices across all sites.

At the Lyon conference, approximately 50 colleagues from the European and Asian sites presented best practices or discussed them in poster sessions.



Doug Madden, President of Celanese Acetate, AT Plastics and Emulsions & PVOH, opened the conference in Dallas, and Eckart von Haefen, President of Nutrinova and Managing Director of Celanese GmbH, opened the conference in Lyon. Each stressed that safety is a key pillar of the Celanese Values and that the company is already well-positioned in terms of safety compared to its competitors, due in large part to the employees attending the conferences.

To reach premier status, Celanese has set a "zero incidents" goal. This can only be reached if every individual does his or her part to achieve an even higher safety level and assumes responsibility in the

work environment. For example, employees must make it a priority to always follow the safest procedure and remind colleagues of potential hazards as well.

Juan Carlos Rodriguez, EHS Director Europe, said of the conferences: "It was important for us to bring together employees from the different countries and businesses to give them new perspectives on safety through their colleagues' achievements. It was also important, of course, to have the opportunity to recognize everyone for excellent achievements in their respective areas."

For the attendees, the real value of both conferences was the opportunity to meet colleagues and share details of successful safety programs at various sites. By sharing best practices between various Celanese sites, employees can apply the learnings and successes of others to help Celanese reach its goals.

"The experience was valuable to be able to listen to the other sites' presentations and discuss with them the specifics of their programs, what problems they encountered during implementation, and how they were able to overcome those problems," said Billy Campbell, EHS Specialist at Bay City. "Now it is up to those of us that attended to take our learnings and incorporate the best of those learnings into our own programs to ensure our employees are fully engaged in safety."

"It is important that employees have the opportunity to discuss safety programs with one another," said Trinity Horton, Chemist in Clear Lake. "It was clear that everyone was proud of their site's program. The open discussion on the second day was especially valuable because it gave us a chance to discuss our safety program in depth with our peers."

## **Recognition**

At the Dallas conference, a team of judges selected winning programs in each of seven categories:

- Hazard Recognition: Edmonton (presented by Bill Martin)
- Safety Champion Process: Shelby (presented by Jody Henson)
- Behavioral Safety Process: Cangrejera (presented by Enrique Cruz Sagrero)
- Safety Committee: Wilmington (presented by Jonathan Corbett/Rick Gregory)
- Incident Investigation: Bay City (presented by Billy Campbell)
- Recognition Program: Narrows (presented by Stephen DeHart/Paul Broyles)
- Safety Improvement Process: Florence (presented by Joe Greci)

At the Lyon conference, participants recognized two best practices:

- Safety Awareness Team Training: Geleen (presented by Horrie Driesen)
- Emergency Response Exercise: Perstorp (presented by Patrik Karlsson Bohman/Julia Franzen)