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Process Safety Beacon

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Messages for Manufacturing Personnel

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Security – It's everybody's Job

After the attacks on September 11, 2001, when our nation's leaders told us "to remain vigilant", they were speaking to all of us. We have heard that chemical plants may be attractive targets for terrorists due to their potentially large impacts on neighboring communities, or by theft of chemicals. That makes us the front line of defense. The more watchful we all are, the greater chance that suspicious behavior can be spotted - and stopped - before harm can be done. We are not anti-terrorism experts but we can do a lot to protect ourselves, our companies, and our communities.



Here is a quick list:

- ▶ All companies have security policies and practices – understand them, and practice them. Wear your employee badge, and note that your coworkers do the same. When you “badge in” do not allow others to “tailgate” in on your pass. Park only where allowed.
- ▶ As you make your inspection rounds, keep your eyes open for potential weaknesses in the plant's security. Look for anything out of place or different. Point these deficiencies out to your supervisor or the security department.
- ▶ Review your plant's emergency procedures – evacuation, emergency response, etc.
- ▶ Pay attention to the required paperwork for contractors and visitors. If it doesn't appear correct, contact your supervisor. Be particularly alert to new bulk shipment drivers.
- ▶ Housekeeping is a never-ending part of operations. If a plant is kept neat there are fewer places to hide something and small leaks can be easily detected and cleaned up before they become larger hazards.
- ▶ Check in-coming shipments for proper tamper seals. If they are missing, notify the proper person. That load may have been contaminated, or some of the contents stolen on the way to your location.
- ▶ Make sure all deliveries are handled according to your location's procedures – especially those arriving outside normal receiving hours.
- ▶ Be careful what information you share with people outside your company. A lot of confidential information can be lost to someone who is overly curious. Some of these people will use the names of plant managers and others to appear to be trustworthy.

Report any and all strange phone calls received to your supervisor. Following 9/11 several chemical plants received questionable calls inquiring about their operations. Don't be embarrassed to raise any questions if you notice something different. We would all prefer to be safe than sorry.

These are difficult times. Our past practices and procedures may no longer address the new concerns raised by terrorist attacks. America has met these challenges in the past through the attention and determination of people just like you. Keep your eyes open, and if something doesn't appear to be correct – ASK!

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