

Keeping Manufacturing Processes Safe & Sustainable

ADRIENNE YOUNG IS THE GLOBAL MANUFACTURING QHSSE MANAGER FOR CHAMPION TECHNOLOGIES.

In this interview, Young discusses how she overcomes the challenges she faces in her position and explains how Champion Technologies keeps its manufacturing processes safe and sustainable.



MPS: Please provide a brief description of your professional background and of your position as a Global Manufacturing QHSSE Manager for Champion Technologies.

AY: I am a chemical engineer with more than 20 years'

process design, process safety and risk management experience in the chemical, refinery, oil and gas industries. I have been with Champion for almost 7 years, the last 2 as the Global Manufacturing QHSSE Manager. In this role, I am responsible for guiding compliance with applicable QHSSE laws and regulations by developing, monitoring and auditing the implementation of QHSSE standards within the global manufacturing division.

MPS: What made you decide to enter the safety, health and environmental (SH&E) profession?

AY: As a young engineer, I was interested in the systems that companies use to manage risk. That led me to the Chief Engineer's office at M.W. Kellogg (now Kellogg Brown and Root) for 6 months doing process hazard analyses and management of change for major projects.

MPS: What are the greatest challenges you face in your position with Champion Technologies, and how do you address them?

AY: My greatest challenge at Champion is managing change in an ever-evolving organization. For instance, my span of control is doubling next year from two plants to four plants, with one of the plants located in Canada. Supporting the safety needs of a global company—and a global industry—increases the complexity quite a bit, but it is a challenge we look forward to conquering.

MPS: How would you describe Champion Technologies' overall safety culture?

AY: Champion is a company that continuously strives to be the best in everything we do and that includes SH&E performance. Our measurable safety performance has significantly improved over the past 5 years, and that includes both our lagging and leading indicators. We have implemented several behavior-based safety programs, and we host company-wide safety stand-down days each year so our people can stop working and spend time focused entirely on talking about what it takes to work safely.

MPS: How does Champion Technologies ensure that workplace SH&E practices keep pace with the new products it introduces?

AY: Our Product Stewardship group stays at the forefront of

assessing proposed new products for potential impacts and completing the required registrations and testing prior to the product being approved for manufacturing. We partner together as a business unit to assure we deliver the right information to our people as we introduce new products.

MPS: In what ways does Champion Technologies employ process safety management (PSM)?

AY: At both of the PSM-covered plants in the U.S., Champion has developed and implemented management systems for compliance with both the OSHA PSM and EPA RMP regulations. For the non-PSM sites, we are continuing to develop Manufacturing division standards to incorporate PSM-based risk management practices into these locations as well, commensurate with risk.

MPS: How is Champion Technologies working to comply with REACH?

AY: Champion took a forward-thinking approach to REACH compliance. We are an active member of the European Oilfield Specialty Chemicals Association, which helps our industry share best practices and assure full compliance with REACH legislation. A member of our Eastern Hemisphere QHSSE team is a past Chair. A

cross-functional team was formed soon after the REACH legislation was announced, allowing us to pre-register our products well before the deadlines associated with the phased implementation.

MPS: *How does Champion Technologies ensure that its manufacturing processes are sustainable?*

AY: Champion is in the process of incorporating lean manufacturing concepts into its manufacturing division to improve operational effi-

ciencies, reduce occurrence and severity of accidents/incidents and reduce operational costs.

MPS: *What are Champion Technologies' SH&E goals and objectives for the year?*

AY: Champion's overall strategic corporate QHSSE goals are to have zero incidents and accidents, and to implement our sustainability policy, incorporate sustainability concepts into our metrics and measure our ongoing SH&E performance accordingly. ☺

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NORTH AMERICAN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH (NAOSH) WEEK MAY 6-12, 2012





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ASSE Kids' Poster Contest

Entries Due Feb. 14, 2012

Today, 12 people a day die from on-the-job injuries in the U.S. Recent federal statistics show that in 2010, 4,547 workers died from on-the-job injuries and millions more suffered injuries and illnesses. ASSE's holds an annual poster contest for children aged 5-14 to increase awareness of this issue. The winning poster from each of the five age groups will be featured on the annual North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week poster distributed worldwide. The five grand prize winners and 15 runners-up each receive prizes and are recognized at NAOSH kick-off events in Washington, DC, in May 2012. The posters that best illustrate safety on the job will win the contest.

To enter, a child must be sponsored by an ASSE member. Those seeking an ASSE member to request sponsorship can check with their **local ASSE chapter**. Other links of interest:

- Poster Contest Rules
- Poster Contest Entry Form

- Poster Contest Presentation
- 2011 NAOSH Poster
- 2011 NAOSH Poster Contest Winners
- Template letter members can use to solicit participation in the poster contest from their local schools

Poster contest winners will be announced the first week of March on **ASSE's website**. In addition to being featured on the NAOSH poster, the posters are displayed in Washington, DC, during NAOSH Week at the Department of Labor, the U.S. Capitol and at ASSE's annual Professional Development Conference and Exposition to be held in Denver in June 2012. ☺

