Passive Fire Protection: Whose Responsibility?

Hosted by: Engineers Australia WA Division - Chemical Panel and the Institution of Chemical Engineers (WA)

A good Passive Fire Protection (PFP) solution provides reliable, long life protection against fire related escalation in many settings, including the petro- and chemical industries.

So how is it that the plan is often more glossy than the reality, resulting in higher risk and costs? This presentation points towards organisational factors rather than available technology to bring about improvements.

The presentation considers PFP in three project stages: design, implementation and operation. Each stage is examined from the perspectives of Safety Engineering / Asset Integrity and from the technical / material specifications of the chosen solution.

About the Speakers

Paul Heierman-Rix – Principal Consultant, MMI Engineering, Perth WA

Paul has 25 years of experience in the petroleum and process industries, working in drilling, reservoir engineering, facilities engineering, safety engineering, brown and green-field design, construction and commissioning, offshore operations and management. Over the last 7½ years at MMI Engineering Ltd, Paul has focused on Technical Safety Engineering and Risk Management. His professional interest lies in the conversion of technical safety assessments and requirements into practical – first time right – solutions.

Paul is a Chartered Engineer with the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining, as well as an Associate Member of the Institute of Chemical Engineers.

Mike Docherty – Senior Consultant PFP, MMI Engineering, Perth WA

Michael Docherty has 30 years of experience in the PFP and protective coatings industry across a wide variety of geographical locations and sectors, working in petrochemical, hydro-electric power, mining, construction and marine coatings. Since 2007, his main focus has been on the PFP content of all the major projects (new and refit) in the Australasia region. The main emphasis of his work was on technical specification, implementation via training and onsite monitoring, ongoing support and QA.

Michael is a qualified fireproofing and coatings inspector and a member of the Australian Corrosion Association (ACA), The Institute of Corrosion (ICorr) and the National Association of Corrosion Engineers (NACE international).