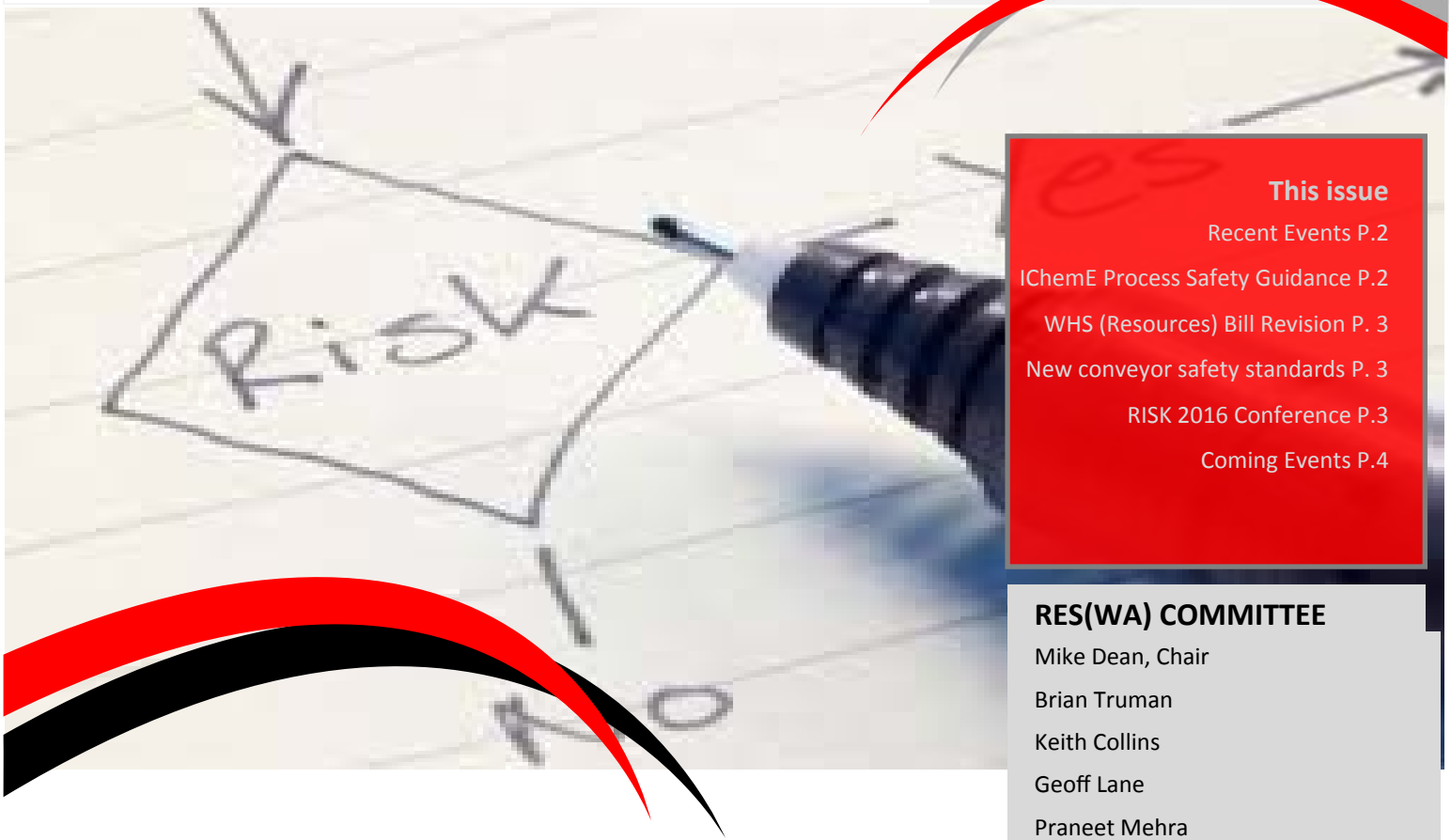
Risk Engineering Society (WA)

Quarterly Newsletter
Q1 2016



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Risk Engineering Society (WA)

The technical sessions in 2015 ended on a high note with Professor Fran Ackermann, Dean Research and Development & Professor of Strategy, School of Management, Curtin Business School, delivering our Christmas Sundowner. The proposed sessions for 2016 should prove equally interesting.

We also have Risk 2016 to look forward to in May in Sydney with the theme "Risk & Opportunity in a State of Development".

So please remember, RES (WA) is your society and here for you, so if there are areas you are interested in technical talks on, or if you are interested in presenting a technical talk, please contact us through the email address provided.

RES(WA) COMMITTEE

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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

RES (WA) is a Technical Society of Engineers Australia.

For Engineers Australia members, please remember to nominate your membership of RES when you re-new your membership. NB: Non EA members can also join RES.

Risk Engineering Society

ENGINEERS AUSTRALIA

Celebrating the Work of Andrew Hopkins

An event celebrating the work of Andrew Hopkins was held in Melbourne on November 16, 2015. Organised by RMIT as testament to Andrew's enormous influence in the safety field, there were a wide range of speakers from US, UK and Australia who spoke on Andrew's influence on government, industry, academia and the safety profession.

The speakers included Judith Hackitt CBE, Chair of the UK Health and Safety Executive (pictured above with Andrew), Emeritus Professor Andrew Hale, former Professor of Safety Science at the Delft University of Technology and Chairman of Hastam UK and Bill Hoyle, Senior Investigator, U.S. Chemical Safety Board; retired.

Australian industry was also well represented with David Knox, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Santos , Robin Wright, Safety, Security, Health and Environment Manager, PTTEP Australasia, and Dr Andrew Lewin, Vice President, Safety and Security, BHP Billiton.

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In Andrew's words 'Please know that I feel honoured by your attendance at "Celebrating the work of Andrew Hopkins". It was for me a personally overwhelming event, but also very interesting. I hope you, too, found it an interesting day, a day to reflect on where we have all come from and where we are going.'

The day was recorded and the organisers hve indicated that they propose to make this available. However in the interim you can check out the photos from the day on https://www.flickr.com/photos/106566544@N04/sets/72157661744547032/

2016 Technical Presentations

If you have suggestions for technical sessions for 2016, including wanting to volunteer to speak at a technical session, please contact the committee on reswa@engineersaustralia.com.au.

Five (5) dates have been booked for 2016 technical sessions. These are listed on page 4. Please note these in your diary now.

RES (WA) Annual General Meeting

The RES (WA) Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on 25 March 2016 in the EA Auditorium, West Perth.

The AGM will take approximately 15 minutes and beheld at 5:45pm. This will be followed by our first Technical Session for 2016.

The proposed agenda for the AGM is available WILL This BE ON THE WEBSITE> IF SO CAN WE ADD THE URL?

All positions are available for 2016, people interested in nominating for a position on the RES (WA) committee can fill in a nomination form or contact the committee for more information.

First 2016 Technical Session

Taking on board feedback from the member survey in 2015, the first technical session will bring together two topics that were highlighted: Process Isolations and Human Factors. Our presenters have used their years of experience to shed light on this issue. The following is the abstract for the session.

During Oil & Gas facilities design, the Process Engineers will decide where to provide double block and bleed isolation (vs single block and bleed, or just single block). This decision is normally based on the internal practices of the plant owner or the experience of the design house. The decisions, are in the main, governed by the type and toxicity of the fluid, its properties (eg flashing liquid), and design pressure.

Then, for actual plant operations and maintenance, the operator is faced with a range of decisions, such as: what work can be performed if:

- Only valved isolations are used – i.e. is work limited to installation of blinds, or can it include removal of piping sections, or even removal of equipment
- The primary isolation valve passes in a double-block arrangement, and how is the bleed flow handled in this case
- Both the block valves leak in a double block.

In the past, there was little guidance from management and the site operators were left to make their own decisions. Now, the major operators have moved to risk based approaches, with detailed guides for risk evaluations for each situation, often known as the ISSOW (Integrated Safe System of Work), as supported by UK HSE HSE253. This risk-based approach is now driving changes to design philosophies for isolation.

Within operating companies, there is often friction between Project Teams (which manage a fixed Capex budget, and derive no benefit from Opex reductions) and the Operations Group (which will manage the future Opex budget). This can arise when isolation valves are removed from the design to save money for the Project (Capex), but lead to shut down of a larger portion of the facility for maintenance , or stop production for longer periods and expose the maintainers and operators to greater risk. Early establishment of the isolation philosophy (and acceptable risk levels), preferably well ahead of final project sanction, will allow life cycle considerations to be integrated into the design.

Upcoming RES (WA) Events

RES (WA) organises regular technical seminars each year. Sessions are held at Engineering Australia in West Perth, unless otherwise indicated.

Monday 17 March 2016, 6:00pm

Process **Isolations—Best Practice and the influence of Human Factors**

Frank Cotton and Andy Pidd

Professional Development

For EA members, RES (WA) Technical presentations contribute to your CPD. Ensure you register for the events and sign the attendance register.

Hold the date:

The 2016 technical sessions have been scheduled for the EA Auditorium on the following dates: 19 May, 14 July, 15 September and 13 October.

Risk Engineering Society (WA)

Engineers Australia

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www.engineersaustralia.org.au/risk-engineering-society/western-australia