

Abnormal Situation Management in Industrial Installations

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Abnormal Situations occur all too frequently in the process industries. Many are dealt with by operators - and little or nothing is heard about these events outside of the plant concerned. In other cases, the operators are unable to respond effectively and significant problems occur. In the worst cases, fatalities and injuries result. In many cases, significant plant damage occurs and there may be unwanted environmental consequences too.

This paper briefly covers the work of the Abnormal Situation Management Consortium and then turns to more recent experience with alarm management during abnormal situations. The presentation includes a summary of the metrics for alarm system performance recommended by the EEMUA 191 guidance and the results of a survey of alarm system performance in member plants carried out by the Abnormal Situation Management Consortium.