

### Safety Tip

For WHO guidance on COVID-19:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/>

# AIGA News

Bi-Monthly Newsletter of Asia Industrial Gases Association

# AIGA

Jan-Feb 2021

**AIGA Announcement:** AIGA warmly welcomes John Panikar, Executive Vice President, APAC CEO, Linde Plc, as Member and Vice President of AIGA Board. John was a member of AIGA from 2014 to 2018 in his previous role as President of Praxair Asia. "I am pleased to once again be a part of AIGA's impactful work to promote health, safety and sustainable development in the industrial gas industry across Asia," said John. He replaces Sanjiv Lamba, who was a member of AIGA's board from 2006 to 2020, including holding the position of Board President for two terms. AIGA extends its sincere gratitude to Sanjiv for his immense contribution and wishes him the best in his new role as Chief Operating Officer of Linde Plc.



John Panikar  
Executive Vice President (Linde Plc)

**AIGA Webinar:** AIGA successfully held a webinar on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 on "Process Safety - Safety critical devices significance and maintenance". 220+ participants from 10 countries in Asia attended the webinar. The webinar was hosted by AIGA Safety Advisory Group. Jesslyn TAN (Air Liquide) and He Taoji (Air Products) were the joint speakers. Prevention of Process Safety incidents has been one of the major areas of focus for AIGA. Management Teams must ensure that safety critical equipment and devices are identified, appropriately managed and maintained, for safe operation at all times.



**56th meeting of AIGA Technical Committee:** In view of the ongoing travel restrictions due to the Pandemic, the 55<sup>th</sup> meeting of AIGA TC was held virtually via web conference on 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021. TC members not only reviewed the key accomplishments of year 2020 but also finalized the 2021 work plans. AIGA TC is also planning to focus on promoting Safety and Regulations in the areas of H2-Mobility and Green-Energy in near future.

**AIGA Participation at 48th Meeting of IHC:** The 48<sup>th</sup> meeting of International Harmonization Council was held virtually on 24-25 Feb 2021 due to travel restrictions in view of the on-going Covid-19 Pandemic. AIGA is one of the key members of IHC along with CGA, EIGA and JIMGA. AIGA was represented by Haris Farooqi (TC Chair) and Milan Sarkar (Secretary General) who also Chaired the session. Subject to easing out of Covid-19, the 49<sup>th</sup> meeting of IHC is expected to be held face to face in USA in 3Q 2021 with CGA as host.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Party Two Wheeler Safety Awareness:** AIGA Board appreciates the National Associations of India (GIA), Malaysia (MIGMA) and Thailand (SIGA) who have successfully launched multiple impactful initiatives viz., safety posters, webinars, video clips of drivers sharing their experiences, safety video competition for University students, etc., in recent past. The sole purpose is to create safety awareness for product vehicle drivers and also for general public in order to reduce/prevent the large number of two wheeler related incidents on the roads in this region.

**Change of Technical Committee Member:** Steven Yee of Iwatani Co. joined AIGA Technical Committee. Steven is based in Singapore and comes in place of Ang Lee San.

### Upcoming Webinars and other Events:

- Webinar by AIGA on "Medical Gas Supply System at Healthcare facilities" - on 28 April 2021
- Webinar by AGII Indonesia on "Safe Handling of Medical Cylinders During the Pandemic" - on 1 March 2021

**Did You Know?** The minimum safe oxygen concentration for entry into a confined space is 19.5% oxygen. There are applications with oxygen concentrations less than 19.5% where entry is permitted provided that further precautions are taken in accordance with proper risk assessment and national regulations

### Documents Published During Jan-Feb 2021

**AIGA 086/21,**  
"Safe Startup and Shutdown Practices for Steam Reformers"

**AIGA 114/21,**  
"Safe Catalyst Handling In HYCO Plants"

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AIGA is registered as a non-profit society based in Singapore. It aims to foster the exchange of technical information among its members in the safe handling and use of industrial, medical and carbon dioxide gases, and to have close liaison with national authorities, in order to work towards the highest level of safety and environmental care across Asian countries.



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