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Handbook for Process Safety in Laboratories and Pilot Plants: A Risk-based Approach



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CCPS

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Acknowledgments

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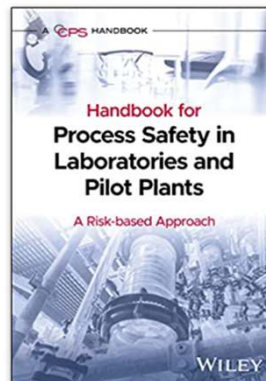
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Acknowledgments



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Bruce K. Vaughen, *Lead Process Safety Subject Matter Expert*

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Some Ingredients in our Alphabet Soup



LAPP – Laboratory and Pilot Plants

MOC – Management of Change

PHA – Process Hazards Analysis

PSM – Process Safety Management (Systems)

RBPS – CCPS Risk Based Process Safety

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Outline



- Who: Handbook Audience
- Why: Laboratory and Pilot Plant (LAPP) Incidents
- What: Handbook Scope
- Where: Starting Point
- When: Leaks and Spills
- How: Management Systems
- Summary

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Handbook Audience



- Any Laboratory and Pilot Plant (LAPP) staff working with or managing hazardous materials and energies
 - Chemical processing facility laboratories
 - Product Research and Development (R&D) laboratories
 - University, government, or other industry laboratories

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Handbook Audience, *continued*

- LAPP engineering and scientific professionals
- LAPP technical support staff
- LAPP managers

*Managing a laboratory or pilot plant requires diligent attention to **how changes in experiments and in experimental set-ups can (and do) change the risk.***

LAPP Process Safety – Reducing the Risk

Requires a Commitment to Process Safety

- Process Safety Culture
- Operational Discipline

Requires Leadership Support to Implement Process Safety Systems

- Researchers and Principal Investigators (PIs)
- University faculty overseeing research or educational labs
- Engineers scaling-up processes for pilot plants

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Laboratory and Pilot Plant Incidents

Laboratory Explosion and Fire Damage



Laboratory and Pilot Plant Incidents



Laboratory Fire and Water Damage - 1



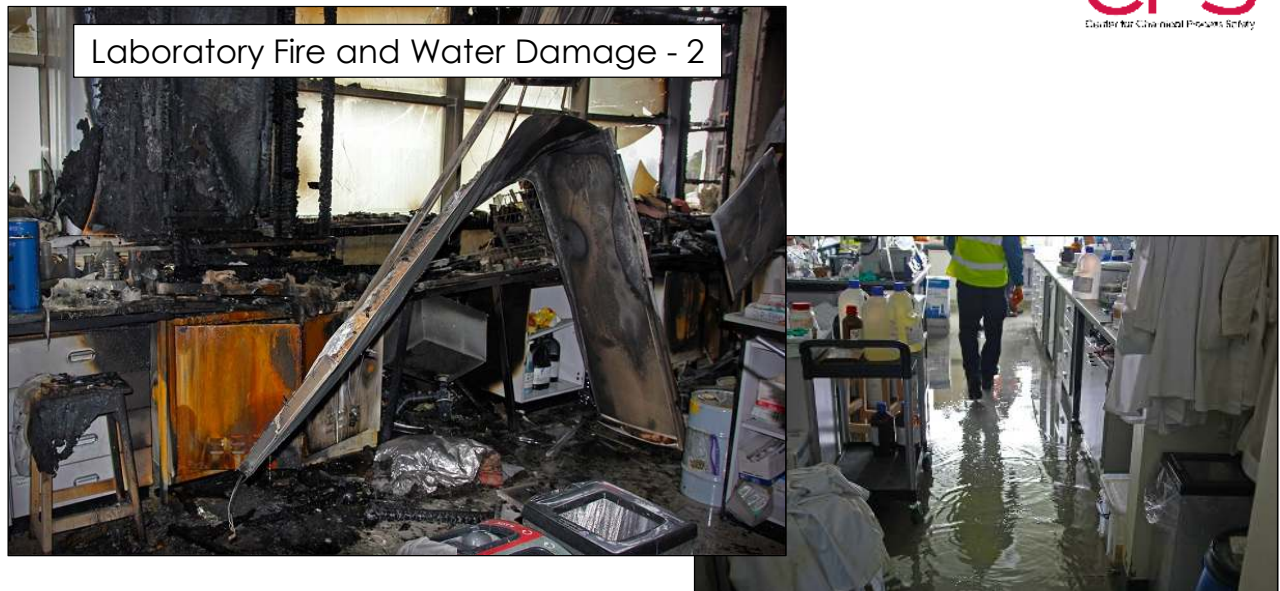
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Laboratory and Pilot Plant Incidents



Laboratory Fire and Water Damage - 2



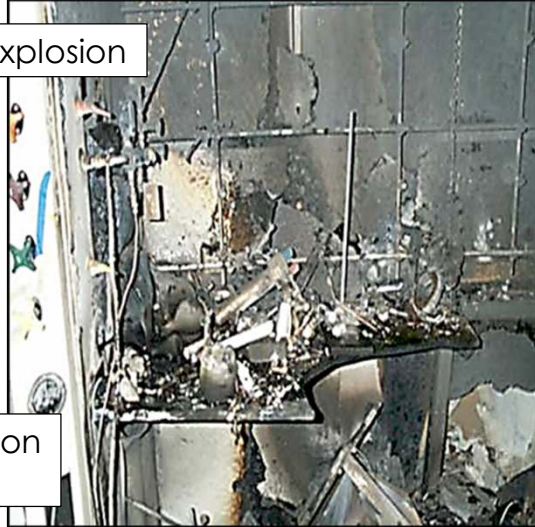
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Laboratory and Pilot Plant Incidents



Hood after the Runaway Reaction Explosion



Equipment: Glass distillation column and condenser

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Laboratory and Pilot Plant Incidents



Site after the Runaway Reaction Explosion



Equipment: 650-gallon reactor with 3-inch thick walls

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Handbook Scope

Scope: To help LAPPs prevent the loss of control of hazardous materials and energies focusing on these broad hazard categories:

1) Chemical – hazardous materials



2) Physical – hazardous energies (temperatures, pressures, etc.)



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Handbook Scope

Scope includes **how LAPP staff manage** the material's chemical hazards and the process' physical hazards:

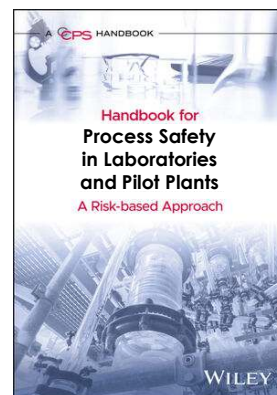
- 1) Chemical transformations (reactions)
- 2) Changes in physical state, concentration, or form
- 3) Physical mixing, separation, and purification

Handbook Framework

- Committing to Process Safety
- Understanding Hazards and Risks
- Managing Risk: Engineered and Administrative Controls
- Managing Risk: Management Systems
- Learning from Experience

Appendices

- Case Reports
- Examples and Tools
- Control Banding Strategies
- Glass Equipment Design



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Where to Start in the LAPP

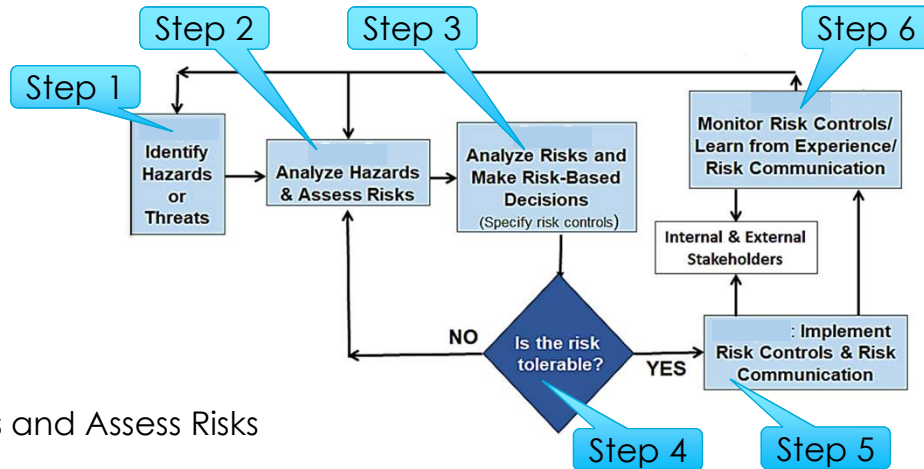
Key Success Factor: Establish a standardized Risk Matrix

$$\text{Risk} = \text{Likelihood} \times \text{Consequence}$$

Likelihood	Very high	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	High
	High	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Red	Red
	Moderate	Green	Yellow	Medium	Red	Red
	Low	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Red
	Very low	Low	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow
		Very low	Low	Moderate	High	Very high
		Consequence				

Risk Tolerance	
Red	Unacceptable
Yellow	Tolerable
Green	Acceptable

Where to Start in the LAPP

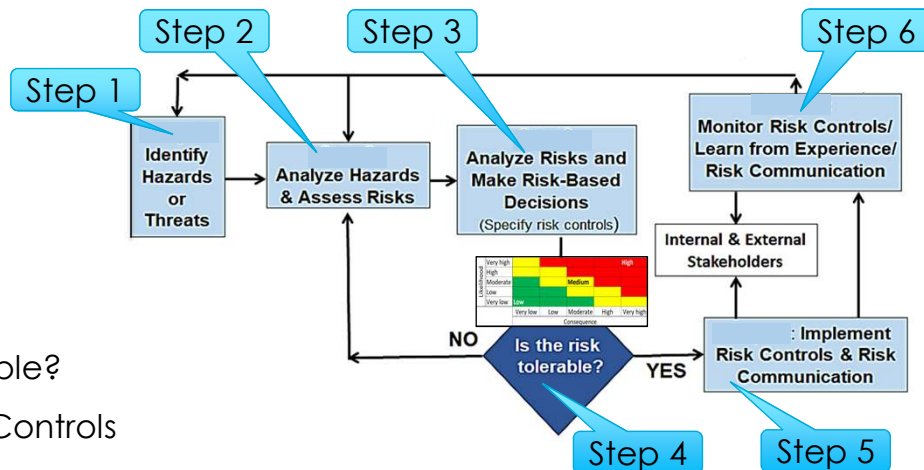


- 1) Identify Hazards
- 2) Analyze Hazards and Assess Risks
- 3) Analyze Risks and Make Risked-based Decisions

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Where to Start in the LAPP

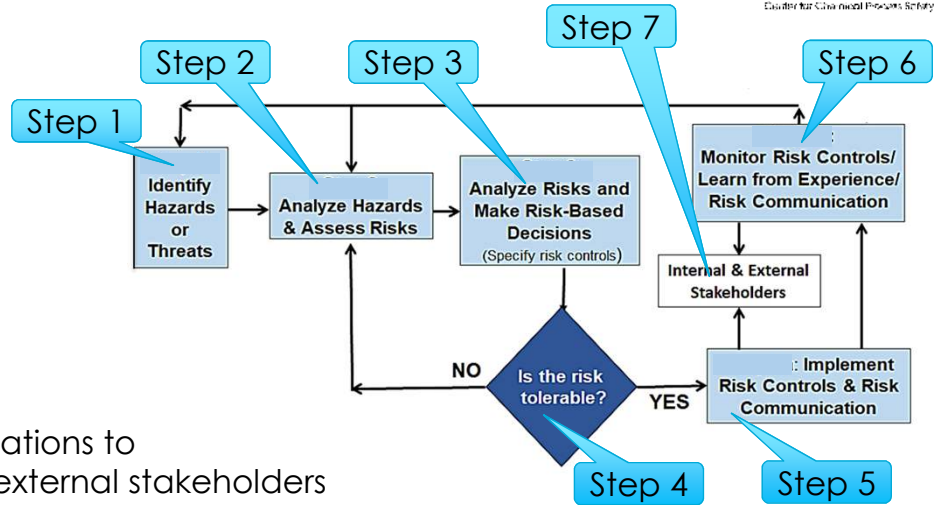


- 4) Is the Risk Tolerable?
- 5) Implement Risk Controls
- 6) Monitor Risk Controls; Learn from Experience

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Where to Start in the LAPP



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Step 1) Understand Hazards

Toxic gases



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Step 1) Understand Hazards

Fires



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Step 1) Understand Hazards

Explosions:



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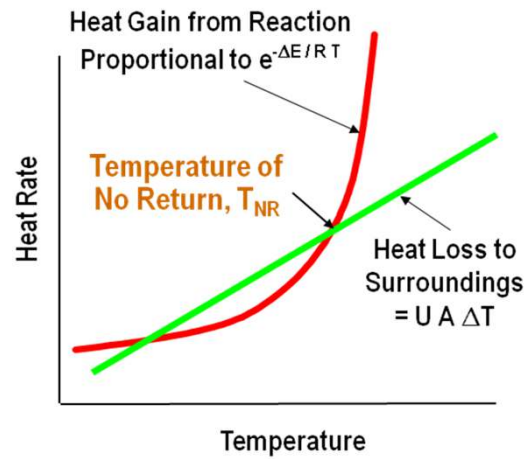
Step 1) Understand Hazards

Reactivity:

- Exothermic reactions
- Runaway reactions

Determine:

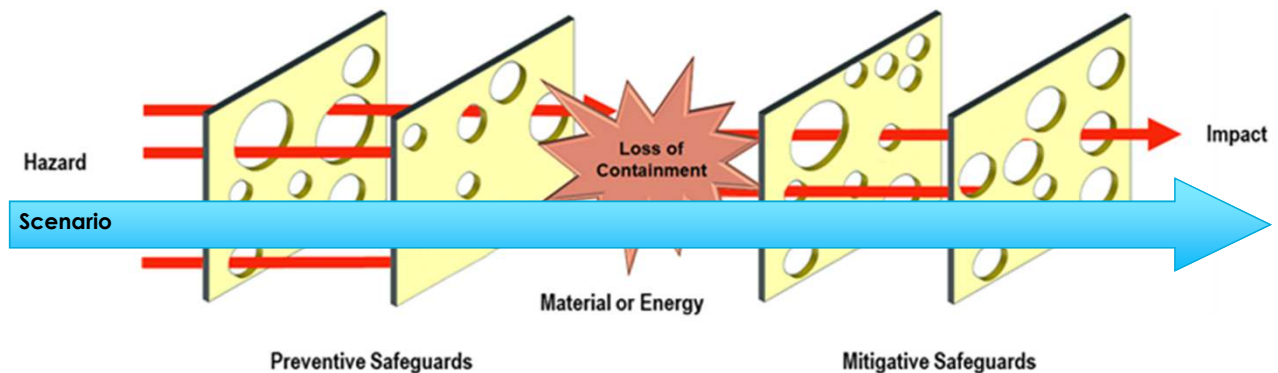
- Temperature of No Return



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Step 2) Understand Risks

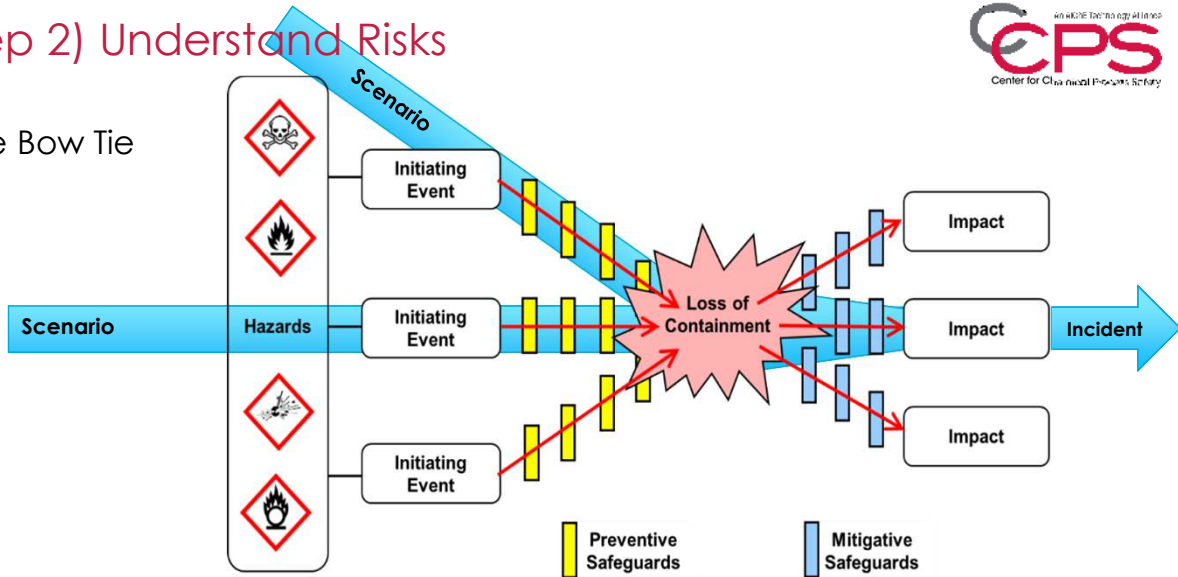
Identify Scenarios: The Swiss Cheese Model



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Step 2) Understand Risks

The Bow Tie



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Step 3) Manage Risks

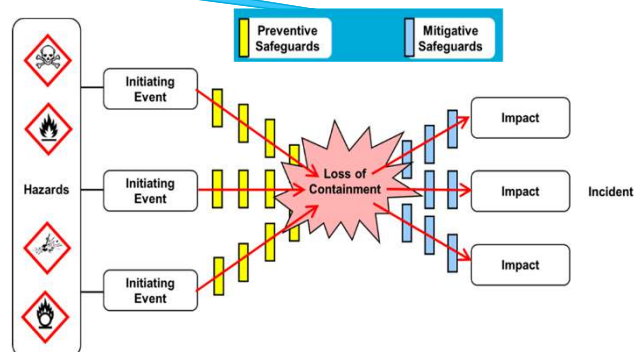
Management Systems

Discussed

- Process Safety Culture
- Operational Discipline
- Hazards and Risks

Next

- Incidents



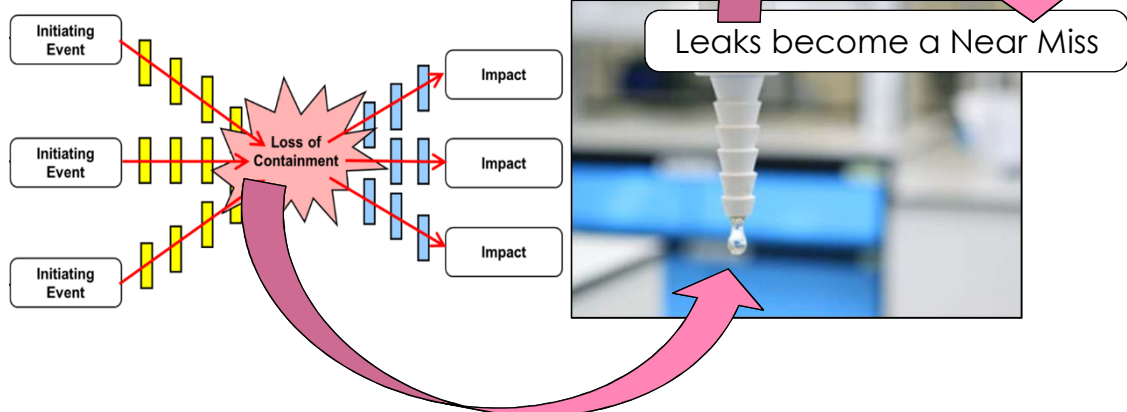
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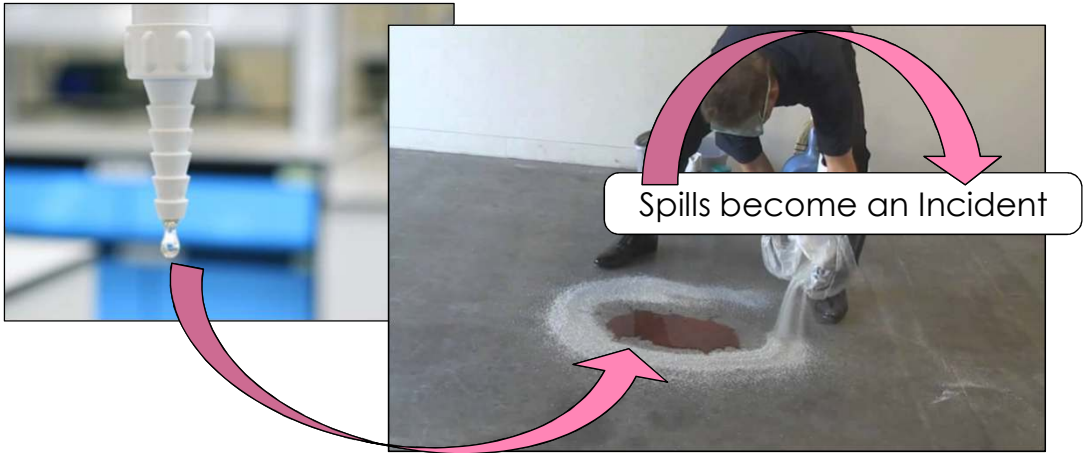
Leaks and Spills in the LAPP

Leaks are a Loss of Containment



Leaks and Spills in the LAPP

Unchecked Leaks may lead to Spills



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Leaks and Spills in the LAPP

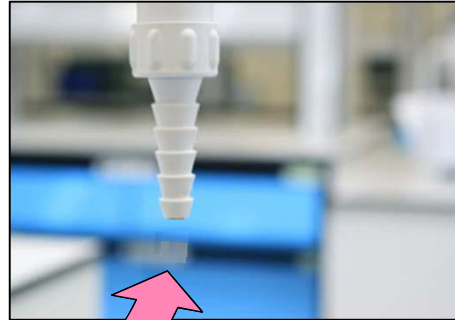


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Leaks and Spills in the LAPP

Root Causes are used to help prevent a future incident



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Management Systems



Managing risk includes

- Procedures
- Equipment condition (new, used, modified)
- Safeguards (Protective Layers)
 - ❖ Preventive (before loss of containment)
 - ❖ Mitigative (after loss of containment)
 - ❖ Emergency response

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Management Systems



Managing risk includes

- Management of Change (MOC)
 - ❖ Ingredients and ingredient concentrations
 - ❖ Temperatures and pressures
 - ❖ Experimental equipment and set-up
- Training
- Incident Investigations

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Management Systems



- o Management of Change (MOC)
 - ❖ Ingredients and ingredient concentrations
 - ❖ Temperatures and pressures
 - ❖ Experimental equipment and set-up

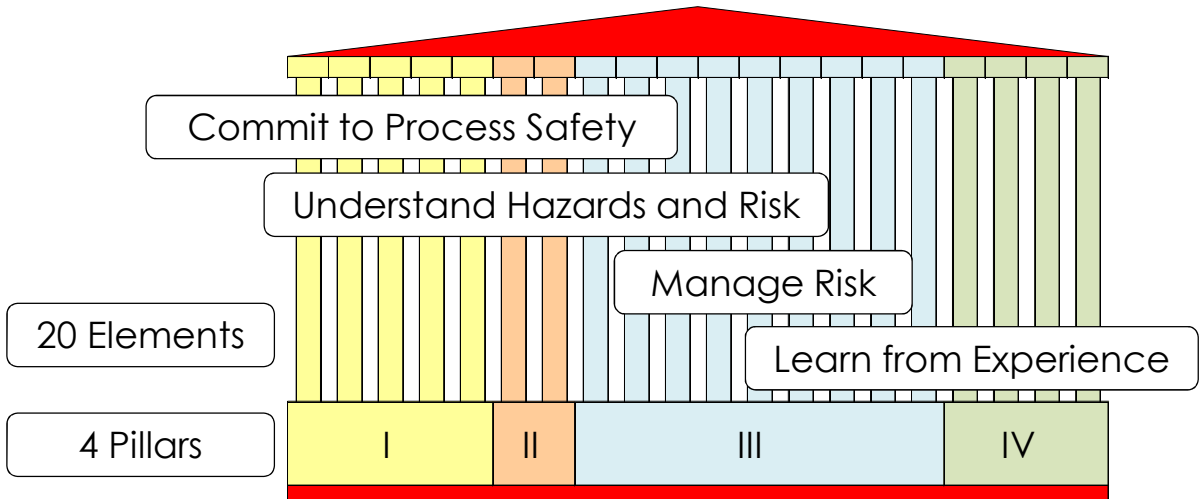
Recall:

Managing a laboratory or pilot plant requires diligent attention to **how changes in experiments and in experimental set-ups can (and do) change the risk.**

Management Systems



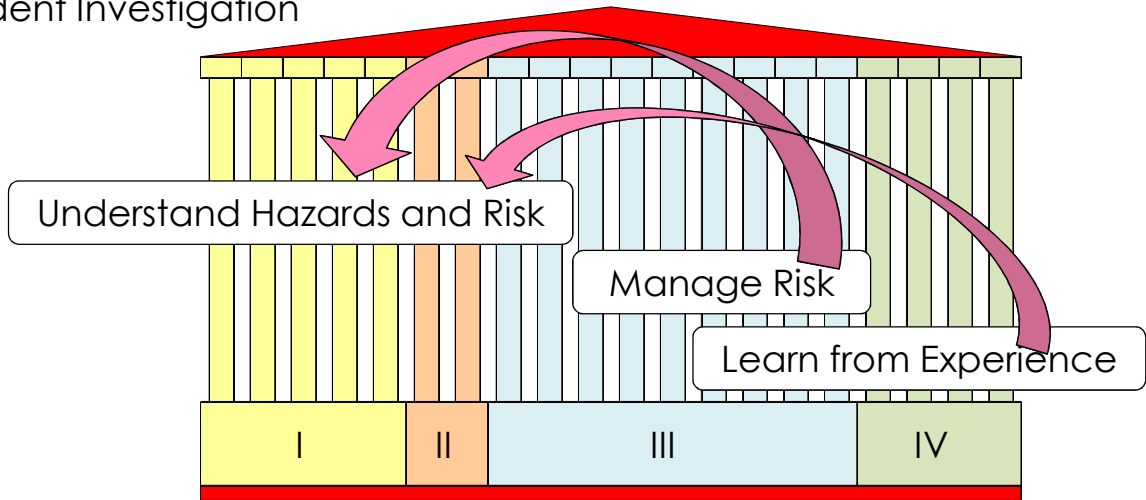
Risk Based Process Safety (RBPS)



Management Systems



Management of Change
Incident Investigation



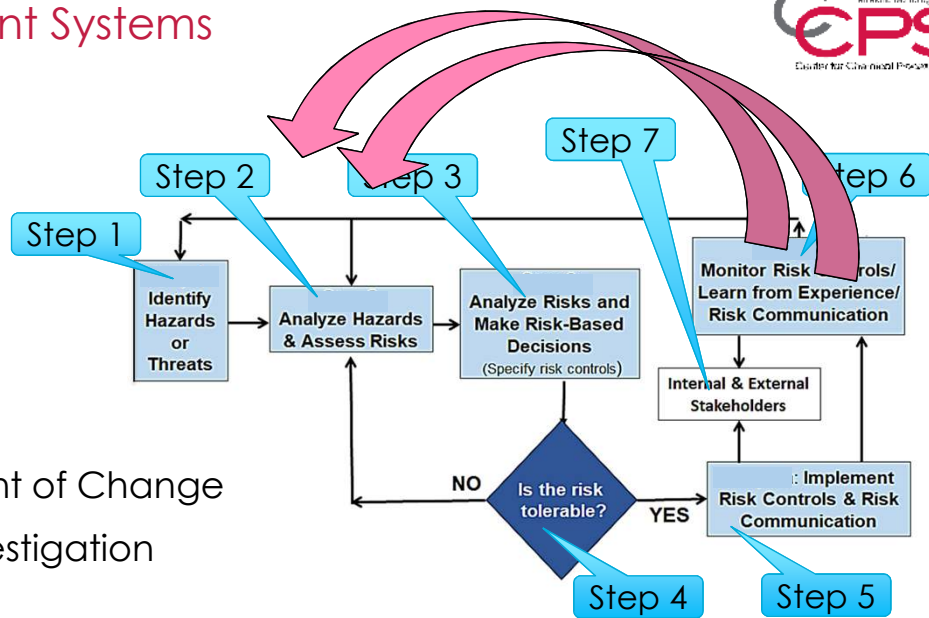
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Management Systems



Management of Change
Incident Investigation



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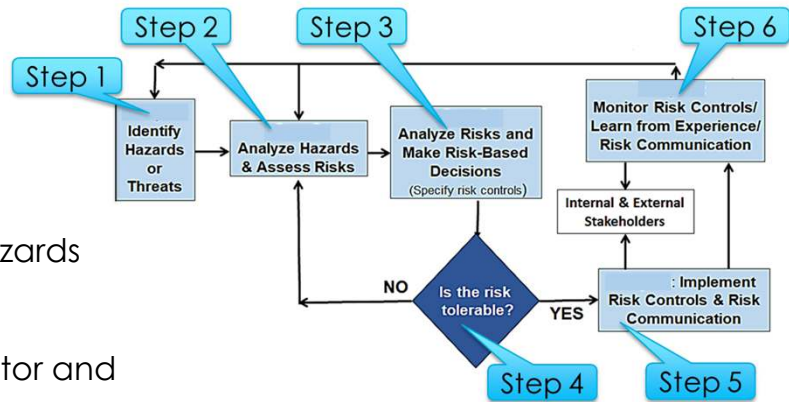
Summary

- Laboratory and Pilot Plant incidents can result in serious injuries, fatalities, and significant property damage
- Scope includes how LAPP staff can manage the material's chemical hazards and the process' physical hazards
- Handbook focuses on how hazardous chemicals and energies can be managed safely



Summary

- The starting point is hazards identification
- The last step is to monitor and control the risks



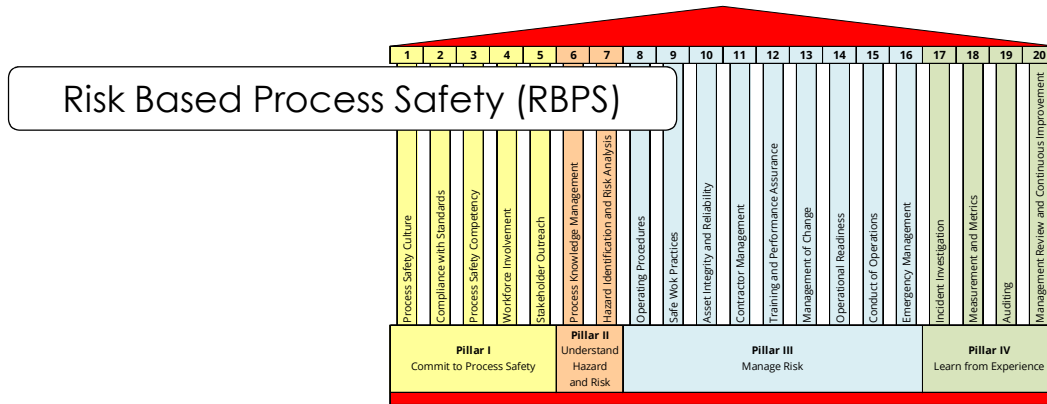
Summary

- Investigating leaks and understanding their root causes will help prevent spills



Summary

- Management systems help prevent the loss of containment of hazardous materials and energies



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Questions?

Thank you for your attention



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