

OSART Good Practices

COMMISSIONING

Interface with Operations

Lingao, China

Mission Date; 6-23 August, 2001

A pre-established plan for the participation of operating staff in commissioning has been implemented in operation branch (LPO). Field operators are integrated into the Start-up Team (SUT) branches of the project department for an average duration of more than three months. Each field operator is scheduled to participate in the commissioning of a chosen system until it is handed over for operation. All participants are required to share their experience with other operating staff and submit a monthly report on equipment problems that occurred during commissioning, which are then followed up by a special group from the operations side with the help of a special database on equipment reliability. In this way, operating staff are heavily involved in the commissioning of all major systems in the plant with all important equipment problems under close monitoring.

More than 30 licensed operators with clear responsibilities for procedure writing and take-over activities compose a procedure group in the LPO. They are encouraged to establish direct contact with test supervisors to validate procedures during commissioning of the concerned systems. Among these procedure writers, ten are selected and sent to the SUT as shift start-up engineers responsible for overall commissioning tests on the unit.

Before each stage of unit overall test, maximum participation of operation shift teams in commissioning activities are also discussed between LPO and SUT with consensus recorded in minutes of meetings signed by both operations and project managers. Experienced licensed operators are also assigned to assume the coordination functions. This practice facilitates good communication between the start up and operation teams during commissioning.

Full participation of operating staff in commissioning not only provides good opportunities for training of operating staff, but also gives a strong support to commissioning activities that in turn facilitates for the forthcoming operation of the plant by knowledgeable operators.