



Deer Park Community Advisory Council

DPCAC TOURS HOUSTON AREA SAFETY COUNCIL

Deer Park Community Advisory Council (DPCAC) learned recently about the workplace training and occupational health services offered by the Houston Area Safety Council (HASC). Cami Hysler, Vice President of Operations, and Dr. Tommy Hysler provided an overview of HASC's programs and role in the community. Attendees learned about HASC's computer-based training, hands-on training, and health services including substance abuse testing, respirator and hearing protection fit testing, physical exams and 24/7 injury care for workplace accidents.

The tour of HASC's LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified buildings included classroom spaces, computer labs, the auditorium, skills areas like the virtual reality welding classroom, and hands-on training spaces for rigging, welding, scaffolding, crane and forklift operations.

The facility is open to the public, and sees approximately 1,800-2,000 trainees daily, and about 300-400 patients. Currently, HASC offers about 1,700 courses, and delivers about one million units of training annually. Some units are as short as an hour and others as long as 40 hours.

A 10-minute video about HASC is available to view online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bL7m--0Tw8#action=share>. For further details on the services that they offer, visit www.hasc.com.

Members provided questions about the ITC fire, but a report from the DPCAC plant member was not yet possible since the company was still responding to the event.

Visit www.deerparkcac.org to read about recent meeting topics, find links to useful resources on emergency communications and the environment, see lists of DPCAC community and plant members, and read our mission and purposes.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Each CAC agenda offers time for Updates of various types. On a set schedule, at each meeting, two or three DPCAC plants provide written updates on safety and environmental performance and business news. At any meeting, plants with significant news make verbal reports. Members report on community activities or ask questions related to the CAC. The CAC also makes decisions on organizational matters as needed. The plant updates below cover from September 2018 – March 2019.

Dow Chemical Company – Deer Park Operations

The site celebrated one year without an OSHA recordable injury on Feb. 26. Dow took part in the 4th Annual Women in Industry Conference, which is sponsored by the Community College Petrochemical Initiative. The company again partnered with San Jacinto College to hosted *Adventures in STEM*. The event gave approximately 7000 area 6th graders a hands-on science experiment opportunity over Spring Break.

“The primary products produced in the Deer Park plant are acrylates, methacrylates and Primene®. These products are used in a variety of end-use applications including paints, plastics, disposable diapers, fuel additives, antioxidants, caulks and much more. The primary products produced at Lone Star are water-based emulsions which are used in many products such as paint, adhesives, sealants and paper.”

GEO Specialty Chemicals, Inc.

No recordable injuries, no reportable spills, and no notices of violation or fines. One reportable air release occurred in November. The plant is still in the process of restarting a production unit to make DAXAD®. It had been idled in 2009 due to poor market conditions. It will provide additional dispersing agents for concrete products used in the construction and oil and gas industries.

“The GEO Specialty Chemicals, Deer Park Facility is a specialty-chemicals manufacturing site producing three primary products: Glycine, DAXAD® dispersing agents, and poly-aluminum chloride (PAC) water treatment chemicals. Glycine is the simplest, naturally occurring amino acid. It is used in a variety of applications in the food industry and in pet foods as a flavor enhancer. It also has several pharmaceutical, agricultural, and personal care applications. DAXAD® is a Naphthalene Sulfonate dispersant agent used in a number of industries. Applications include concrete mixes, wallboard, rubber manufacturing, leather dyes, paper and paint manufacturing, and agricultural products. PAC products are water treatment chemicals used for the treatment of potable water. The proven benefits of PAC include reducing overall water treatment costs when compared to traditional programs and effectively removing water turbidity, color, heavy metals and trace organic compounds.”