



2021 Award for Excellence in environmental, health, safety and security

PPG

Cleveland, Ohio

Award 1:

During a process walk of our distillation operation, it was noticed that employees routinely used a cheater bar on a valve handle in order to gain enough leverage to open/close a valve during startup & shut down. Even with the cheater bar it was still extremely difficult for the employees to operate the valve. A team including the operators, site engineering, and site EHS worked to install a pneumatic valve that could be operated using a toggle switch rather than a cheater bar, which could lead to an ergonomic injury.

Award 2:

PPG Cleveland's raw material warehouse had been constrained with too many materials stored in the warehouse. This resulted in the operation having a poor spill performance in 2019. The site determined they could remove 69 truckloads (2,200,000 lbs.) of raw materials from the Cleveland warehouse to an alternative warehouse. The elimination of these items helped to improve the Cleveland warehouse's spill

performance from 39 spills in 2019, to 12 spills in 2020 (70% reduction).

Award 3:

Filling automated dispense tanks with 5 gallon pails awkwardly positioned operator and created the potential for drips and spills. This process was very cumbersome, contorted operator and required balancing of the container with one hand and taping the pail in place with the other. At times the pail would unexpectedly fall to the floor due to the tape failing, creating unsafe conditions. The pail holder was designed to hold and control the pail in one easy motion, while supporting and channeling liquid into tank and reducing the ergonomic and musculoskeletal hazards.

Award 4:

PPG Cleveland modified the method of disposal for small paint retain cans. Rather than disposing of retain cans in drums, PPG implemented a solution that involved draining the paint from the cans. This allowed for the paint to be disposed of as bulk liquid hazardous waste and the cans as a separate non-hazardous waste. This resulted in a reduction of hazardous waste totals (i.e., can and drum weight avoidance), reduced plastic [drum] use, reduced transportation (i.e., vehicle miles traveled) and reduced overall costs associated with disposal fees and new plastic drum purchases.

The Ohio Chemistry Technology Council recently announced the recipients of their Annual Awards for Excellence which recognizes Ohio chemical companies who have demonstrated exceptional performance in environmental, health, safety and security over the previous year. Awards

were presented to 17 facilities from around Ohio, all of which had significant contributions and achievements in 2020.