

## **PSSP EVENT MARCH 30 2012**

How directly related to Crane Safety are Machine Condition, Operational Limitation, and Rigging Considerations? Why and how serious are driving accidents when they occur in the Pipeline Right-of-Way?

The Philippine Society of Safety Practitioners, Middle East Region (PSSP-MER) held its monthly GENERAL MEMBERSHIP ASSEMBLY AND SEMINAR WORKSHOP last March 30, 2012. The topics during the seminar were 'Safe Driving at Pipeline Right-of-Way' with Engr. Melvin Cunanan, SAPMT/PSSP-MER BOD as the technical presenter; and 'Crane & Rigging Safety' with Dr. Pedro Marfa, OSHC/PSSP-MER BOD Chairmans the technical presenter.

Highlights of the workshop were lectures containing safety programs, procedures and precautionary measures which may be implemented specifically for crane and rigging operations, and for travelling and driving along pipeline right-of-way (ROW) areas. Supplementary videos and pictures were shown, illustrating important concerns as well as fatal and serious accidents related to the topics. A few clarifications and inquiries were raised by some attendees, which were satisfactorily answered by the presenters.

Registration for the technical presentation started as early as 7:00 AM. Members of the 'Board of Directors' have been pre-instructed on their specific roles, i.e. registration, seating arrangements, visual and audio and visual set-up and discipline marshals. Announcements were made by BOD-VP Internal Levi Alejo regarding attendance reservations, attendee's seating accommodation and proper decorum during the presentation proper. A sumptuous lunch served as break for those to attend, while simultaneously certificates from the previous month's technical presentation were distributed.

The program started with the usual national anthems of the Philippines and Saudi Arabia, followed by Christian and Islamic prayers. BOD Rufino Ruben Cosico Jr. was Master of Ceremony. Welcome remarks were given by BOD-VP External Alan Krisher Abellana, acknowledging the attendees who have come from different areas of the kingdom. BOD Archie Neil Guadalupe made the introduction for Engr. Melvin Cunanan as the first technical presenter. Critical topics were discussed, such as driving along pipeline ROW during sandstorms and dust clouds. Important reminders and safety tips were made regarding vehicle condition during travel, orientation for travelling along pipeline ROW, adherence to safety rules and regulations along pipeline areas. The first session was concluded with an evaluation test given to the attendees.

An introduction was made by BOD Rommel Deloso for Dr. Peter Marfa, PSSP-MER BOD Chairman as the second technical presenter. Dr. Marfa discussed several important issues regarding safety for crane and rigging lifting operations. It was clarified by Dr. Marfa that the intention of the presentation is to enhance safety knowledge on crane and rigging operations, and not to train the attendees into becoming riggers, however, standard rigging hand signals were discussed and rigging hand signal exercises were performed. Most importantly, it was discussed that the three main criteria for safe crane & rigging operations are Machine Condition, Operational Limitation, and Rigging Considerations.

End-of-the event announcements were made for the next month's technical presentation topic and other PSSP-MER related matters. Closing remarks were given by BOD Jonathan Alcantara, detailing a brief summary of the day's technical presentations and the lessons-learned from the topics.