24. Commissioning Procedures

Commissioning procedures, written during the preparation phase of the project are the documents which in great detail, set out how the plant will be commissioned and started up.

It is common for the commissioning procedures to be written first, the SOP's being developed from these documents.

A detailed commissioning procedure should be compiled for each major activity that the plant will undergo through the start-up. These documents are not check sheets, they give a detailed descriptive of how the plant is made ready for normal operation.

Information to compose these procedures is found within, P&ID's, PFD's, process descriptions, instrument data sheets, equipment data sheets, control narratives, interlock and emergency shutdown descriptions, vendor installation and operating manuals and most importantly talking with the process design teams.

A good commissioning procedure will detail the step, the method of performing the step, any detail any relevant comments and observations.

Common procedures could be:

- How do we get the chemicals in?
- How to slowly heat up, cool down, vent and control pressure and non-condensables,
- Introduce and control level
- Establish and control flow
- Manage exotherms and endotherms
- Condition a catalyst
- Set-up a distillation column for profile – diagrams on temperature/pressure curve can be utilised
- Set-up and control of a scrubbing tower
- Actually introduce alarms conditions to test operability
- Introduce interlock conditions to test
- Describe and manage any DCS controlled sequences
- Normal and emergency shutdown – where applicable and possible
- Validation criteria and sampling regime

Commissioning Procedure	
TITLE:	Page 1 of
Project:	Document Title:
System :	P&ID's covered:
Line numbers:	Vessel Numbers:
Author:	Date:

STEP	ACTION	METHOD	Comments	Signed Date

Procedure to …….. has been completed.	
Signed by:	Date:
Comments	
Procedure Validated by:	Sign/Date