



Dutch Process Industry (including Energy / Oil & Gas)

August 2019

© EFNMS vzw



Facts

Recent research by the NVDO (Dutch Maintenance Society) concluded that the most important trend within the Process industry is the scarcity of technically trained personnel. This scarcity differs per education level. The supply and demand for University-trained engineers in the oil and gas industry is in good balance. Companies in the Process Industry expect the greatest problems with binding college-trained staff or students of universities of applied science.

This scarcity is a risk for the sector. When companies attempt to hire technicians by "hijacking" the staff of competitors, it leads to higher costs and. That is why it makes more sense if companies find sustainable solutions together for the entire sector. A positive development is that 95% of companies in the Process Industry reported to be willing to cooperate with other companies to recruit technical staff compared to 88% last year. The cooperation with educational institutions is also highly desirable.

Operational Excellence

Operational Excellence; the role of maintenance on the primary process (increasing asset uptime) is recognized, because reducing downtime is closely linked to the profitability of the company. Collaboration between business units helps with this. Different business units jointly focus on Operational Excellence in order to optimize the process in this way.



The aging of the asset base is also an important trend within the Process industry. A worrying report is that RIVM reports that in 30 percent of chemical accidents substances the aging of installations is (partly) a cause. It is therefore not surprising that it is in the top five. The Process Industry naturally has more to do with rules and laws than other consequences.

Trends

A positive trend is the decrease in the number of serious and medium incidents, which can be an indication of how seriously the process industry deals with compliance. Furthermore, companies in the manufacturing industry depend on critical raw materials. Security of supply is therefore of great importance.

By means of the resource scanner, the Dutch government tried to map the supply of scarce resources. In addition, options are being considered with regard to the circular economy. By recycling critical raw materials, the security of supply can be guaranteed for a longer period.

Process industry	
#	Trend
1	Scarcity of technically trained staff
2	Need for collaboration within the company across business units
3	Aging asset base
4	Attention for operational excellence
5	Tightening of regulations and the need for compliance