

**An Overview of Chemical Safety as an
Integral Component of ISM Programs at DOE**

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Chemical incidents at the Department of Energy (DOE) have historically equaled or exceeded nuclear incidents in frequency and severity. As evidenced by the recent Class 1 chemical occurrence at the Y-12 Plant in Oak Ridge, it is clear that chemical safety continues to be a major issue of concern for the DOE. A path forward is being pursued to further the enhancement of chemical safety throughout the Department and provide a clear focus to improve chemical safety as an integral component of the implementation of ISM programs Complex-wide. In addition, the Department can accomplish a vast improvement in its chemical safety performance through a focused partnership with the Chemical Industry to efficiently share and import lessons learned and best practices within the framework of ISM. DOE Management will provide an overview of chemical safety at the Department and the outcomes of the chemical safety Workshop held in Washington D.C. in December, 1999. A discussion of the status of chemical safety and of efforts to better integrate chemical safety into the implementation of Integrated Safety Management programs across the Complex will be provided.