

### Canadian Boiler Society 2019 Education Days

# Addressing the aging workforce problem with a few simple operator effectiveness principles

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### Agenda

- Current Industry Challenges
- Strategy #1: Knowledge Capture & Digitalization
- Strategy #2: Adopt High Performance HMI
- Strategy #3: Alarm Management
- Strategy #4: Process Simulator for Training



### **Current Industry Challenges**

- 30-40 year operator veterans are retiring
- Modern day control systems introduce a disconnect with the physical process
- Operators are overloaded with Information (Training Material, SOP's, Alarm Lists, Historical data, etc.)
- "Millennials" have different expectations of their new employers

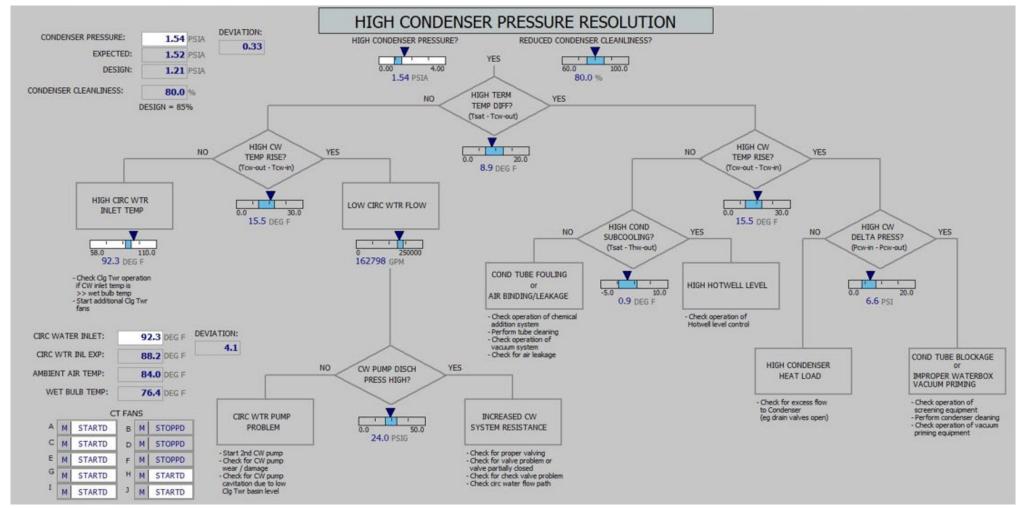


### Strategy #1: Knowledge Capture & Digitalization

- Have experienced operators review existing procedures for accuracy
- Make it a culture to document ways to operate and assign a champion
- Take videos when possible
- Captured knowledge can be integrated into the control system
  - Integrated on-line documents can eliminate paper procedures
  - "Purpose built displays" allow for the integration of live process data and SOP's
- Captured knowledge can be used in training programs
  - Can be used for training and curriculum development
  - Can be used to help define simulated conditions on process simulators

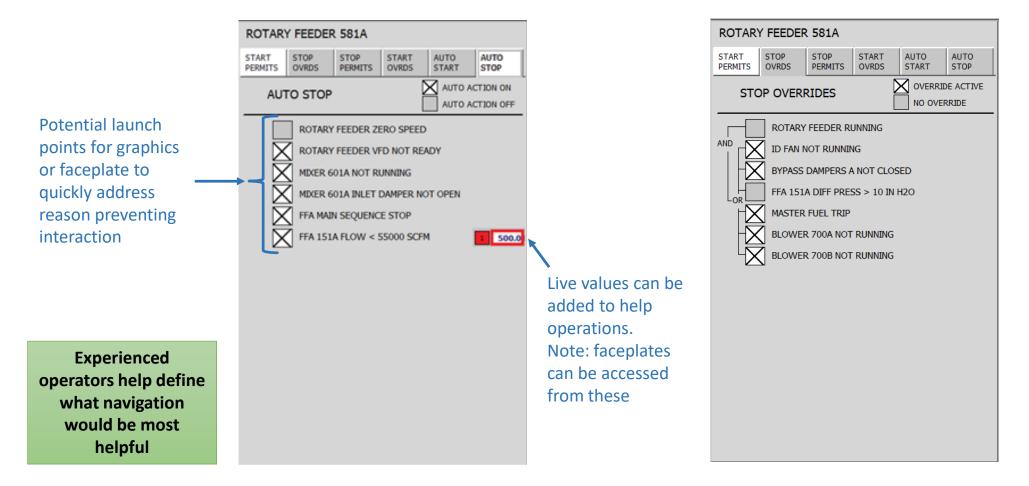


### Example: Purpose Built Displays





### Example: Help Displays



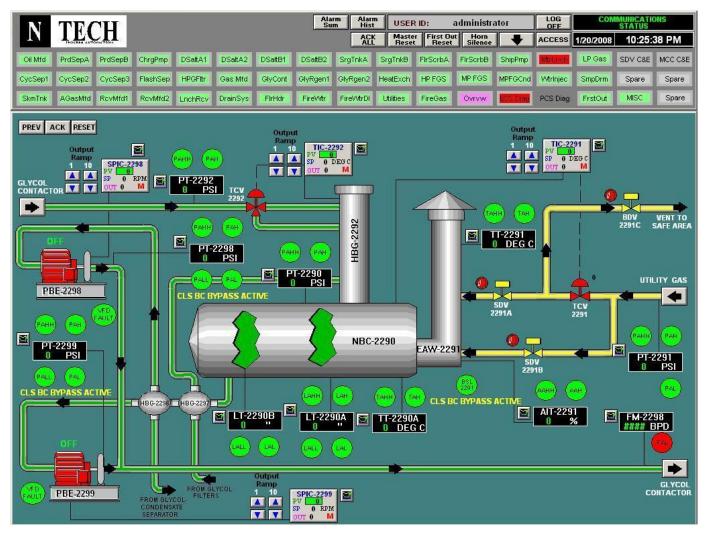


### Strategy #2: Adopt High Performance HMI

- "Process graphics that maximize operator effectiveness"
- ISA101 Standard for recommended practices and technical reports pertaining to HMI
- HMI improvement projects are justified by giving operators the tools to successfully run the plant.
- Information needs to be displayed in meaningful and actionable ways rather than as "raw data.

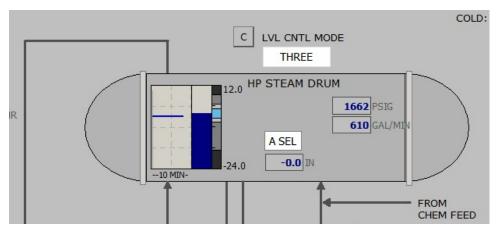


### Example: Typical 1990 Graphic



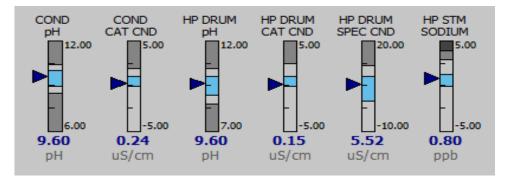


### **Example: Graphic Enhancements**

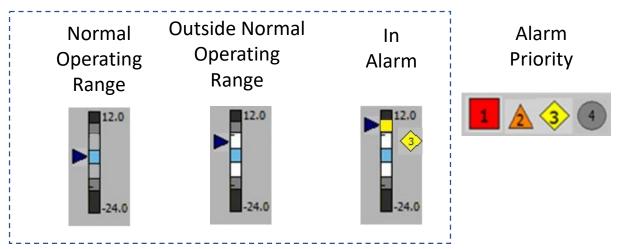


Embedded trend, every colour in use has specific

purpose



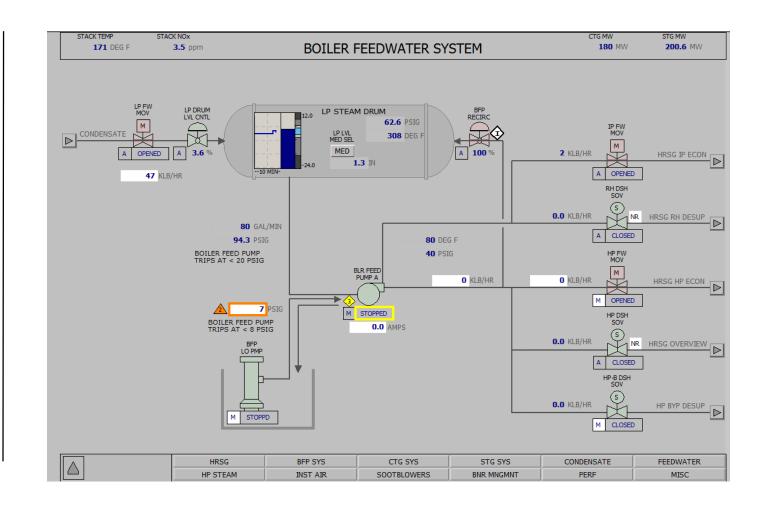
Bar graphs with individual scaling to quickly identify normal operating Conditions as defined by experienced Operators





### Example: High Performance Graphic

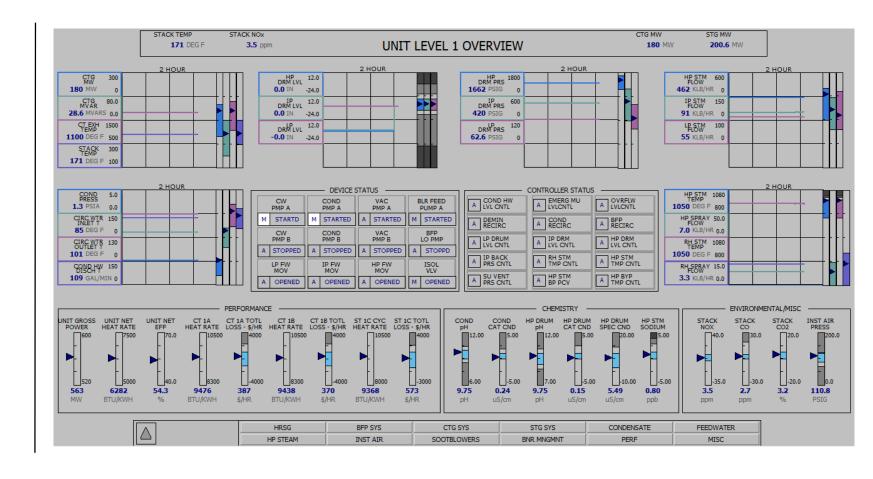
- Studies have found High Performance HMI has a lot to offer new operators
  - Intuitive and easy to learn
  - Maximize recognition and response, any colors that are used must be unique and meaningful
  - Graphics are consistent
  - Only information pertinent to operations is presented
  - Navigation is made consistent to facilitate route movements and eliminate guesswork





### **Example: Enhanced Overviews**

- Allows Operators to instantly survey the entire plant or a specific area of the plant
- Displays key performance indicators at a glance
- Area level displays include the information and controls to perform most normal operator tasks





### Strategy #3: Alarm Management

### • The Goal:

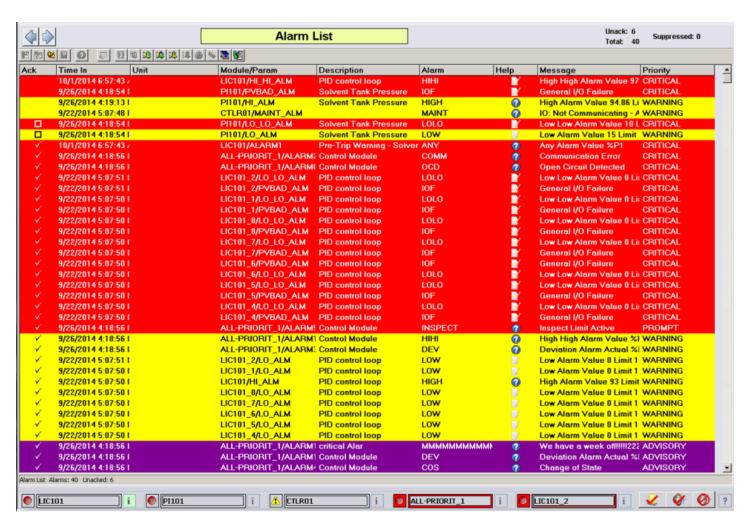
 Remove noise and distractions from the operator and allow for efficient recovery from plant upset

### • How:

- Reference ISA-18.2/IEC 62682 alarm management lifecycle
- Identify and eliminate bad actors using alarm analysis tools
- Perform alarm rationalization
  - reviewing, validating, justifying and prioritizing alarms that meet the criteria of an alarm
- Develop and digitalize alarm response information



### **Example: Alarm Flood**

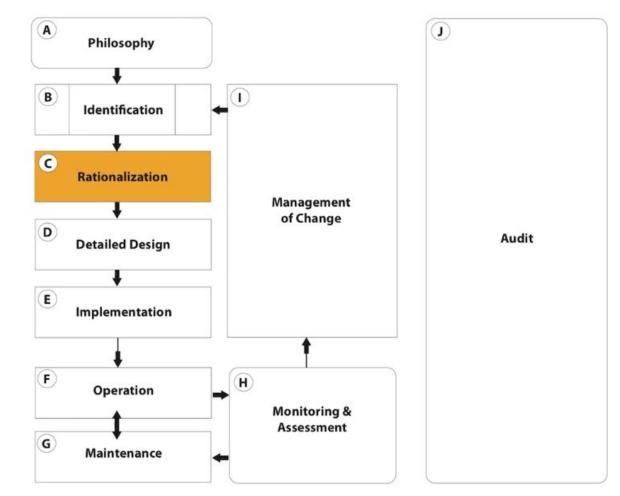




## Example: Alarm Management Lifecycle

- An effective alarm management program would include an alarm philosophy that includes:
  - Criteria for an alarm
  - Alarm prioritization
  - Alarm dead band and on/off delay
  - Likely causes
  - Consequences of inaction
  - Corrective actions
  - Time to respond

All information stored in a master alarm database accessible by the HMI

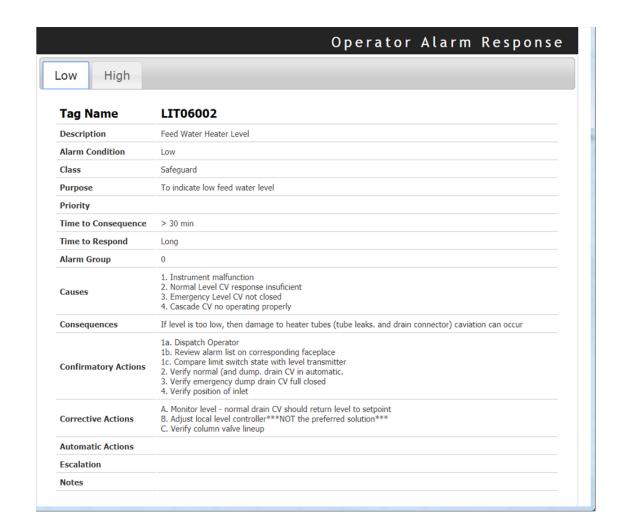






### Example: Alarm Response Form

- Alarm Response Forms accessible from Alarm List or Faceplate
- Data is stored in a master alarm database which can be accessed by the HMI





### Strategy #4: Process Simulator for Training

- Utilize a simulator to implement a training program that matches your procedures
- Simulator utilizes the same HMI and a simulated process model for HMI feedback
- How to get started:
  - Assign a simulator champion to develop and procure simulator
  - Define a training curriculum
    - Use your updated procedures (reviewed by experienced operators) as the foundation for training scenarios
    - Add in malfunctions based on feedback from experienced operator
  - Determine initial scope of training but expect to increase overtime



### Strategy #4: Simulator Payback and Benefits

- You now have the ultimate training environment
- The Simulator solution can also provide a platform for Continuous Improvement Programs
  - Support OPEX programs (e.g., alarm mgmt., high performance HMI, plant optimization)
  - Pre-validate engineering/equipment updates
  - Support security related activities (patch testing)



## Strategy #4: Understanding Simulation Solutions

#### Things to **NOT** compromise on

- Virtual Controls: faithful representation of process
- Same HMI as production system
- Good instructor station
  - Ensure repeatability of the training scenarios (predefined with consistent interjection of malfunctions)
  - Make it easy for instructors to measure and track performance
- Ability to expand the simulation solution over time
  - Extend/Improve the modeling
  - Add in additional malfunctions
  - Extend the training scenarios

#### Things to compromise on (& then potentially expand later)

- Which Models are used & where (fidelity and scope):
  - High Fidelity models, Functional models, or Mix
  - Where are the boundary conditions
- Scope of the training scenarios
  - Basic operations, corner cases, extreme plant operating conditions
  - Turbine controls/HMI (simplified, virtual)
- Scope and complexity of malfunctions
  - Device level failures
  - Complex interactions between plant systems
- Simulation Solution Hardware
  - Physical: Exact match vs reduced set of machines
  - Cloud solution's can help reduce cost



# Thank you

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