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Mbulelo Yokwe

DANGOTE REFINERY - NIGERIA

March 2024 to date: Senior Team Lead

Member of the Dangote refinery as senior team lead for Commissioning, startup and stabilization of the RFCCU.

SAPREF REFINERY – SOUTH AFRICA

Jan 2020 to April 2023: Senior Production Unit manager

Managed Central Zone complex (FCCU/HFA/Platformer/isomerization/hydrotreating/treating units/Gas separation/H2PSA). Spearheaded FCC/HFA units' reliability improvement from >10% to <3% unplanned downtime. Successfully planned and executed the 2021 turnaround.

Single Point Accountability for Production labour relations management.

Successfully planned and executed the 2021 turnaround, within budget and no significant HSE incidents.

Jan 2014 to Dec 2019: HSSE and ER manager

Member of the leadership team. Embedded and sustained Behavioural Based Safety programme site wide. Improved TRCF from >3 to <1 per mln hrs worked.

Jan 2010 to Dec 2013: Business Development manager.

Member of BP Southern Africa team as a business development manager for SAPREF– Improved SAPREF gross refining margin by \$5mln/yr.

Jan 2006 to Dec 2009: Production unit manager.

South Zone complex (CDU/VDU, LTU/KTU, Gas treating units, SRU, Residue processing, Solvents, WWTP).

Increased Visbreaker unit run length from 6 months to 12 months.

Successfully planned and executed the 2009 turnaround, within budget and no significant HSE incident. Improved energy efficiency by 5 EII points.

Single Point Accountability for Production labour relations management.

Jan 2005 – Dec 2005: Start up manager.

Spearheaded the Clean Fuels I project flawless start up – met the scheduled on-spec rundown date of 01/01/2006, within budget and no significant HSE incident.

Jan 2003 – Dec 2004: Senior Process

engineer. Supervised, directed, and monitored the Clean Fuels I Project development and implementation.

Jan 2001- Dec 2002: Production Engineer

Championed process unit's optimization and performance improvement of the Central Zone complex (FCCU, hydro treating, treating, HF Alkylation, Platformer, Isomerization, SGP, H2PSA). Increased Platformer unit run length from 12 months to 24 months.

Nov 1996 – Dec 2000: Technologist

Member of the Shell Global Solutions Light ends business group. Provided technical advice and performance benchmarking of the Shell advised refineries on gasoline manufacturing units (Platformer, isomerization, HF Alkylation).

Jan 1992 – Oct 1996: Process engineer

Provided technical support for the Crude distillation complex (incl. treating units, hydro treating units and Solvents production).

Provided technical support for the site wide central utilities complex.

Successfully completed the scouting study for the CDU energy efficiency improvement project.

Jan 1990 – Dec 1991: Junior Process engineer

Provided technical support to sugar mills and sugar refinery.

ABOUT MYSELF:

Well-rounded chemical engineer with vast experience in the crude oil refining industry and deep experience in Operations leadership, Technical support services management, Capital projects development and HSSE & ER management.

Able to take decisive actions ensuring risk to personnel, assets and environment is minimized.

Strategic thinker, Self-motivated and self-driven. Reliable, hard-working, and trustworthy.

Able to manage stressful situations and resolve complex issues.

Good team player, able to influence and build lasting relationships/partnerships. Promote collaboration.

SKILLS:

Refinery performance improvement against business strategic objectives, budget development and controls, development and implementation of business strategy and plans. Leading and directing multi-disciplined teams to deliver on the short-, medium- and long-term business needs. Team leadership, driving continuous improvement.

Capital projects development and implementation, business development, technology assessment.

Oversight on business risks management and mitigation plans implementation.

KEY COMPETENCIES:

Problem solving of complex issues. Good working knowledge of ISO 9001/14001. Application of the OHS Act with section 16(2) appointment for >15 yrs. Lean six sigma green belt, risk assessment and control. Leadership, teamwork, internal and external stakeholder engagement.

TECHNICAL:

Process design and process unit's optimisation. Plant commissioning and flawless start up, knowledge of key refining process units. Leading and directing scoping and design of complex capital projects (Clean Fuels I and II). Trouble-shooting process issues.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT:

Drove implementation of complex capital projects – as a senior process engineer and start up manager for SAPREF CF1 project (LION). Completed successfully FEED for the SAPREF CF2 project (RHINO).

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT:

Mentored and coached process engineers and subordinates to drive learning and personal growth. Effective in working with people from diverse backgrounds and cultures. Leading cross functional teams and driving collaboration across different departments.

Mbulelo Yokwe

EDUCATION

University of KwaZulu-Natal
(Howard college)

1989

BSc. Chemical Engineering

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 1). Leadership development training
- 2). Safety in design training
- 2). ICS 300 training
- 3). OHS Act training.
- 4). Significant incidents investigation training
- 5). Lean Six Sigma Green Belt certification.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Won the 1984nScience Olympiad High school competition and was rewarded with a trip to London for 2 weeks to attend the international High schools Science symposium.

Top matric student in the former Ciskei homeland in 1984 and was invited by the then Ciskei president for lunch.

Received an award from SAPREF in 2006 for Flawless start-up of the Clean Fuels I Project (LION Project). The project had an excellent Safety record, was completed ahead of schedule and within budget. The government deadline for phase out of leaded petrol was 01/01/2006 and SAPREF was already producing 100% unleaded petrol by end November 2005. I was the lead Process engineer and then Start-up manager.

Received a Safety award from Shell in 2016 for best Personal safety record within Shell refineries. We had reduced our TRCF (total recordable injuries per million hours worked) from 3 to below 0.5. This was under my leadership as HSSE and ER manager.

Implemented the Six Sigma methodology and improved the reliability performance of the FCC and HFA units significantly.

Embedded and sustained a Behavioral Based Safety programme site wide. Improved Safety culture from Performing to High performing.

REFERENCES

Rodney Youldon – SAPREF Managing Director
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Victor Bester – Sasol Senior Vice President: Projects & Engineering and
Group Planning & Optimization
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