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FROM THE CORNER OFFICE

FOREWORD

Folks,
Greetings!

We are already into second half of 2014.

The world market is dull; but still ICO is rising the new heights and adding new feathers in the cap. We are very near to start our operations in 2 more countries and ready to be in more closer association with API.

The rise of ICO, which started from 2009 -10 is largely because of the backbone of knowledge, backed up by sound Quality Management System, which is always in the phase of continual improvement.

While I am writing this Forward for newsletter, API Auditor is trying to catch our blind spots, which make us to hone our system and aims to improve ourselves to be the BEST.

Unfortunately, in many cases, the focus of procedures & processes remain un-understood and we lose sight of the objectives of the procedures.

This in turn led to criticism of quality management as a discipline that makes a burden for the management to follow.

In quality management, fairness and objectivity play an almost equal role with relevance in the determination of the appropriate quality procedures.

A Quality Management System (QMS) is a *performance-reporting system* and is defined as a formal system of accumulating and reporting data useful for the achievement of management's objectives.

And the success of ICO is solely dependent on the achievement of such objectives.

How are we going to achieve these objectives?

Answer is: by following the processes.

And to follow these processes, we need competent personnel and capable equipment/consumables.

And here we are being challenged, we have capable equipment and consumables, but the competent personnel is what we need. There is no field or farm where we can grow these competent personnel. We need pro-active and vibrant training process and equally important is the trainable personnel.

New trends and legislations in Oil & Gas Industries are on its doorsteps, let us prepare... Let us stand up to achieve more... let us team up to be the BEST in world.

I believe this Newsletter will bridge the voice of thoughts of Top Management to all Employees to build ICO up to this new era. Enjoy the reading.

Cheers,
Dr. Santosh Gupte

NEWS FROM THE CORPORATE OFFICE

- Audit by API, as per API Spec Q1 Edition 9 is under progress
- First Bowling Tournament of ICO was successfully launched at Singapore
- Dr. Santosh Gupte has been selected by API for API Q2 & Q1 Trainer's training program to be held at Dubai in October 2014 and January 2015 respectively
- ICO signed the NDA contract with API for API University programs

Optical Emission Spectroscopy

Principles and applications in material testing

- **Amey Saware**

Optical emission spectroscopy (OES) is a technique with which chemical composition of material can be determined from the electromagnetic radiation emitted by it at high temperatures. It has wide applications in astrophysics and metallurgy.

Principle

When material is heated, part of its thermal energy is stored in its electrons. As electrons gain energy, they move to outer orbits of their atoms. Since these orbits are highly unstable and electrons eventually return to their original orbits. The difference between energies is converted to photon and is emitted. This is why metals glow when sufficiently heated.

The photon emitted has a unique frequency because each element has unique energy gaps. Hence these frequencies can be used to identify elements present in unknown material.

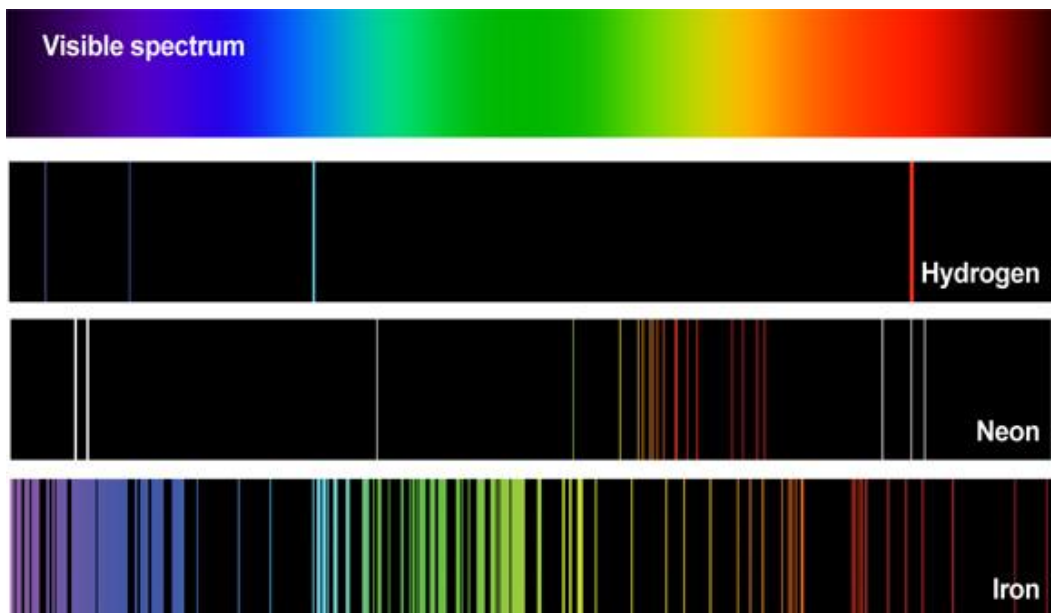
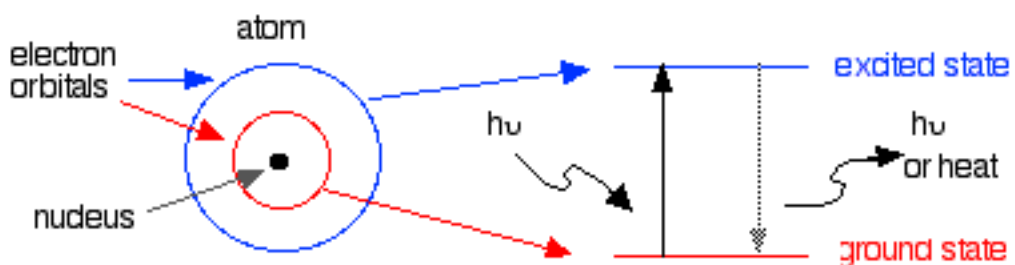
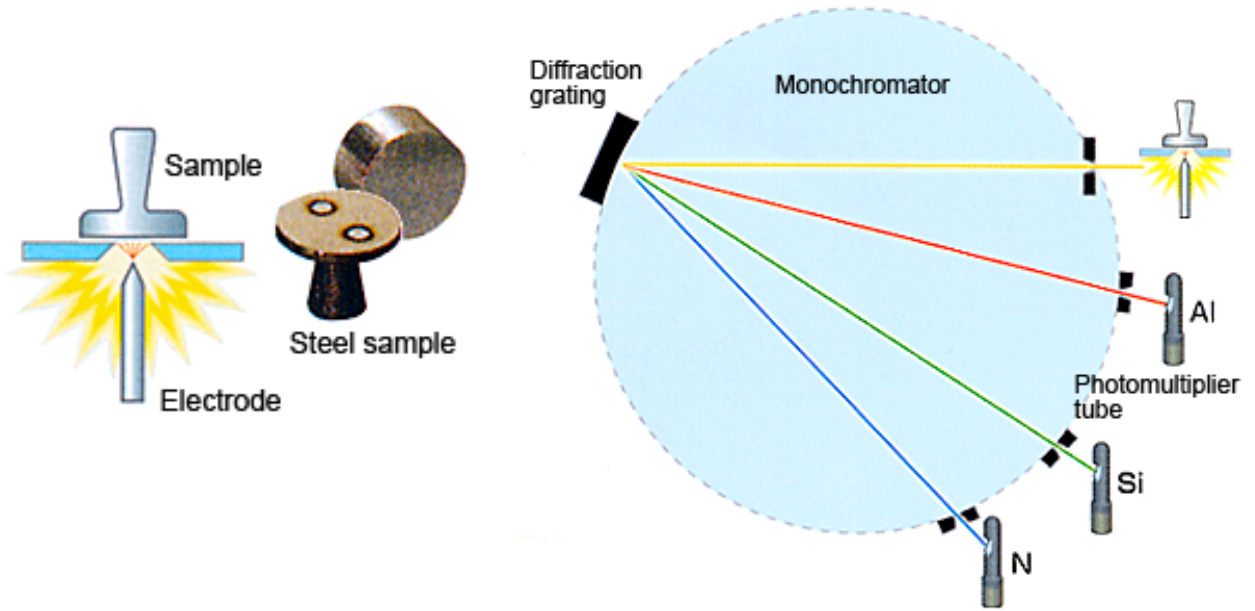


Figure 1. Emission spectra of some elements



Optical Emission Spectroscopy



Positive Material Identification

Positive Material Identification (PMI) is the analysis of a metallic alloy to establish composition by reading the quantities by percentage of its constituent elements. It can be done by OES as well as X-ray fluorescence or wet chemistry.

A typical OES instrument will use high voltage electrode to produce an arc near the surface of the material to be tested. This will cause the metal near the surface to melt. The light emitted by hot metal pool is detected by an array of optical sensors in the form of charge coupled devices (CCDs) or CMOS. The measured intensity of the certain frequencies is calibrated in terms of concentrations of elements present in the material.

Advantages

- Fast
- Portable
- Works on various surface orientations
- Automatic process requires low operator skill

Disadvantages

- Highly sensitive to surface preparation
- Requires high maintenance
- Requires inert atmosphere
- Less accurate than laboratory methods

Let's agree to disagree

- *Girish Khare*

The title of this article sounds conflicting, isn't it?

Well, it is not.

It's human to seek agreement on expressed thoughts or statements. Disagreement or difference of opinion often results in unpleasant consequences. Discussions turn in to heated arguments and 'who is right' takes over 'what is right'.

This situation doesn't necessarily apply only to serious matters but also on petty issues like "look I told you that the fish is cheaper at this outlet".

But we at ICO are in a serious business of inspection and certification. Our decisions make or mar the fate of a Drill string or an offshore unit lifted in open seas.

Reaching these decisions, however, often involves more than the Inspector himself ('Himself' is used only for linguistic convenience. Other gender may please take no offense). These decisions are often a blend of Specs / Standards, Operational urgencies, opinion of TPI, etc.

The environment we work in is quite interesting. An inspection ordered today is expected to be done yesterday. And it doesn't stop here. Inspection is expected to be done by the best hand, at most economical rates and with a favorable outcome.

Managing this is as easy as balancing on a rope stretched across Grand Canyon.

Agreement and disagreement are ought to be there. The key is to handle, nay, **accept** disagreement and difference of opinion. And **accept** we must, with grace.

Standards, specifications and codes, which are developed by techies but appear to be written by lawyers, provide plenty of room for disagreement. Diverse experience, educational background and linguistic proficiency (or lack of it, if I may dare to say so) is some of the common denominators for disagreement. These may lead to different interpretation of a given situation or a piece of text from a Specification.

Such situations may lead nowhere if the attempt is to prove who is right rather than what is right.

The **person** tends to overpower the **purpose**. An amicable solution can often be reached by considering the larger picture rather than struggling with finer nuances of the text.

Such situation demands sketching out a probable solution which is technically sound, safe and viable to implement. An effort then should be made to achieve this while carefully considering all options. Here, 'Listening' is the key word. Time honored phrase "achieving a win-win situation" still holds true.

Unusual, as my thoughts often are; I'm open to accept disagreement.

LESSON TO BE LEARNT

- *Pradab Jino*

I, Mr. Wattanakorn Damklay with Employee ID No. 667471, currently holding a position as a company driver of ICO Thailand. This is my report for a vehicular accident that occurred on Jan 27, 2014 at around 09:00 AM when I was driving from Songkhla Office to Hat Yai. There was another car running in an opposite direction that suddenly spin in front of me resulting a serious damaged of the company car I was driving with Plate Number 373, 3.0 Izusu Engine AT 4 door. Due to flow of traffic in Thailand there was also another car following my direction and at the same time hit the rear part of the company car resulting front and rear badly damaged. The 3rd car involved was also badly damaged.

Fortunately, none of us (3 drivers) injured but the company car I was driving is severely damaged. I immediately call Mr. Romy and the Police to report regarding the accident. After police investigation and also the statement of the witnesses at the scene of the accident, Police concluded that the Lady Driver was wrong.

The 3 crashed cars then towed to Police Station for further investigation and already released for repair by the help of our insurance people. All expenses of the repair will be covered by our 1st class insurance scheme.

Lesson: Be Cautious while Driving

Car 1



Car 2



Car 3

ICO Asiapacific Australia Pty Ltd New Location!

- Jackie James Underwood



Comfortable, entertaining, and safe!

The staff house plays an essential role for staffs working abroad. It acts to provide staffs with a space to socialize, relax, and collaborate with fellow staff in a diverse society. The staff house has recently moved to a new location in Murdoch, Western Australia. Murdoch is a very strategic location. Easy access to and from client's location, groceries stores, police station, hospital, public transport, and shopping centers are all available in this suburb as well.

The house now is bigger and better! There are a total of 7 rooms, 2 lounge areas, 2 bathrooms, 2 storage rooms, a kitchen and dining area, a laundry area, a porch, and a whole big space of lawn area for exercise and BBQ during the weekends. The entering lounge area was made into an office area, and the other one was made into an entertaining area where a pool table was just installed for the staffs to relax and socialize.



Pool table provided for staff for their downtime.

The staffs all have their own bedroom, thus living in this staff house, they have their own privacy to retreat when they are tired and to relax and recharge after a long day of work. The staff house also acts as a meeting point where everyone in ICO Asiapacific Perth meets for discussion and conference.

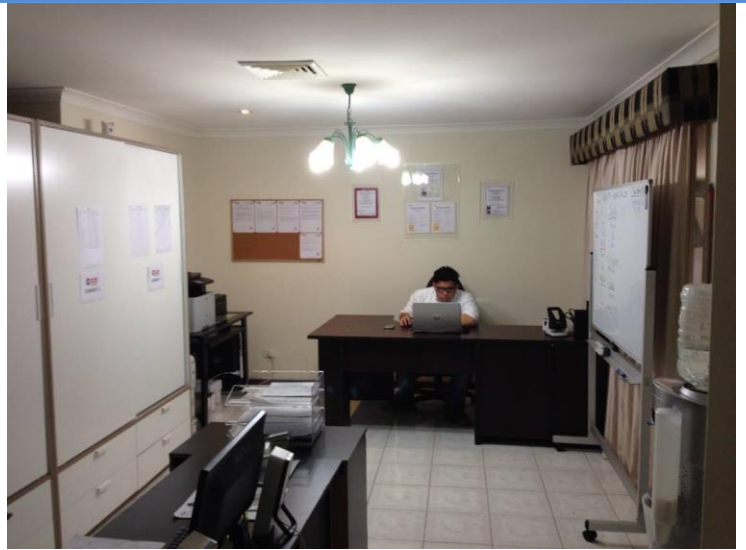
This house is provided to ensure the staff's well-being and contentment is taken care of while working abroad. The concept in this house encompasses acceptance and respect where we are all not the same but we are similar in what we do for the company.



With the new office, we are able to present the company in a professional manner and able to accommodate any visitors when needed. We have also improve efficiency by implementing multiple different method to ensure all documents are stored correctly and able to locate easily.



Colour Coded Documentation



The new Office



ICO Asiapacific Australia Pty Ltd has nowhere to go but forward at this point, focusing on expanding all over the Australasia region to provide the top quality NDT services to all who requires it

Employee Page



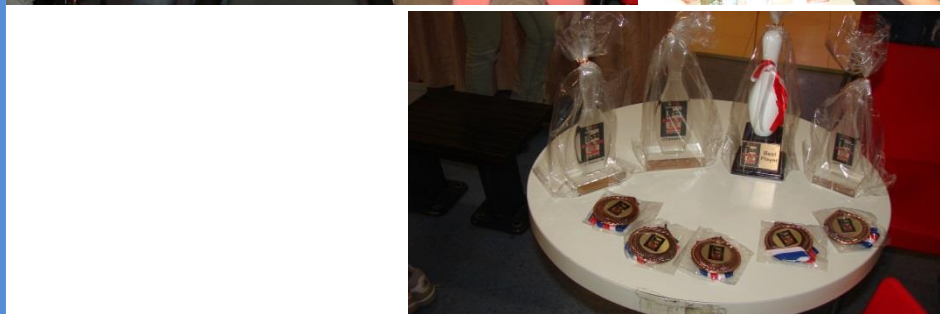
Three days DS1 training program for Stabil Drilling Company of Brasil at Macae



Five days BHI T2 training program for Baker Hughes, Labuan (Malaysia)

ICO's 1st Bowling Tournament

Clicked By – Mr. Mathew



ICO's 1st Bowling Tournament



ICO Thailand



Tool box Talk



Messages & Slogans



DON'T DRINK YOURSELF FAT.

Cut back on soda and other sugary beverages.
Go with water, seltzer or low-fat milk instead.