Wilhelmina Achterberg

Process Engineer

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SUMMARY

Process engineer with 7 years in specialty chemical batch and continuous production, Six Sigma Green Belt. Owns two reactor trains producing 40 million lb a year of coating resins. Raised first-pass yield from 91% to 96% through a designed experiment on cook temperature and catalyst feed, and leads HAZOP and management-of-change reviews for her units.

EXPERIENCE

Process Engineer II — Galveston Bay Resins

Pasadena, TX · Apr 2021 – Present

- Own 2 batch reactor trains producing 40 million lb a year of acrylic coating resins, covering daily troubleshooting, recipe changes and capital requests.
- Ran a 16-run designed experiment on cook temperature and catalyst feed rate that raised first-pass yield from 91% to 96%, saving about $1.1M a year in rework.
- Cut average batch cycle time from 14.5 to 12 hours by resequencing charge steps and adding a jacket preheat, freeing capacity for 60 extra batches a year.
- Led 9 management-of-change reviews and 2 HAZOP revalidations, closing 31 action items with zero process safety incidents on my units.

Process Engineer — Lone Star Polymer Additives

La Porte, TX · Jun 2018 – Mar 2021

- Supported a continuous extrusion line running 3 shifts, using SPC charts on melt temperature and screw torque to cut off-spec pellets by 40%.
- Built an Aspen Plus model of the solvent recovery column that identified a reflux setting saving 900 MWh of steam a year.
- Wrote 22 standard operating procedures and trained 18 operators on startup, shutdown and upset response.

SKILLS

Process improvement: Design of experiments, SPC, root cause analysis, Six Sigma DMAIC, OEE tracking

Process safety: HAZOP, management of change, PSM, LOPA, P&ID review

Modeling and data: Aspen Plus, Minitab, JMP, OSIsoft PI, Excel VBA

Operations: Batch and continuous processing, scale-up, SOP writing, operator training

CERTIFICATIONS

Six Sigma Green Belt, 2020

EIT (Engineer in Training), 2018

EDUCATION

B.S. Chemical Engineering, Texas A&M University, 2018

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