



Why AcuTech?

- Industry experts in Process Safety and Risk Management programs
- Conducted hundreds of audits, gap analyses, and other evaluations of process safety programs
- In-depth understanding of regulators expectations
- PSM Expert for post incident audits at BP Texas City
- Experienced developing and reviewing audit protocols
- Lead authors of CCPS *Guidelines for Auditing Process Safety Management Systems, 2 Ed.*

AcuTech Consulting Group is internationally recognized for our expertise in Process Safety and Risk Management, with specialization in the chemical, petrochemical, refining, pharmaceutical, food processing, water and water treatment industries. Our process safety management (PSM) auditing work is based on our long history of consulting and training in PSM in the chemical/processing sector worldwide, and the hundreds of PSM audits performed by our experienced staff members. We have also extended this capability to occupational safety auditing as well as the audits that are necessary to become part of OSHA's Voluntary protection program (VPP).

AcuTech has long-term in-depth knowledge of the chemical, petrochemical, and refining industry and works closely with private industry, trade organizations and government agencies involved with process safety management. We have taught numerous classes on PSM auditing, both on behalf of individual companies and the AcuTech Training Institute. We have also delivered training seminars on PSM to OSHA compliance officers at the OSHA Training Institute.

AcuTech was the contractor selected to write the revision of the Center for Chemical Process Safety's *Guidelines for Auditing Process Safety Management Systems, 2nd Ed.* which was recently published. The new Auditing Guidelines book, which is a significant revision of the 1993 first edition, follows the CCPS Guidelines for Risk Based Process Safety list of PSM program elements. It also contains guidance for auditing voluntary consensus programs in process safety, such as Safety and Environmental Management Programs (SEMP), ACC's RCMS program, RC-14001, and others.

We were nominated by BP and approved by OSHA to serve as the "PSM Expert" to carry out a comprehensive PSM audit at the Texas City Refinery and perform various other activities aimed at reviewing and evaluating the robustness of PSM and related programs and management systems at the Texas City refinery in accordance with the Settlement Agreement between OSHA and BP for the Texas City incident.

AcuTech offers strong project management skills and a personalized, responsive style of working closely with our clients. We emphasize on-time, cost effective performance, and our personnel are experienced in achieving this goal.

Auditing Services

AcuTech offers complete PSM and RMP audit strategies, services, and assistance including:

- **Development of PSM audit protocols.** AcuTech uses PSM compliance audit protocols published by OSHA and EPA for the PSM Standard and RMP Rule, as well as the protocols for those states with PSM regulations, such as California (CalARP and CalOSHA PSM), New Jersey (TCPA), Delaware (DE EHS). However, we have added significant guidance to these protocols that allow our auditors to interpret the general, performance based requirements of the regulations and successfully audit them. We also have developed and maintain a broader list of PSM audit criteria that can be used if a client desires to evaluate a PSM program on a deeper basis, i.e., beyond the basic compliance requirements. We call these “Continuous System Improvement” (CSI) criteria. AcuTech also has a version of the protocol published in the new CCPS PSM auditing book.

We have also successfully completed several projects where we developed audit protocols for a specific use such as evaluating safety culture as well as projects to review site and corporate audit policies, procedures and protocols to establish corporate audit benchmarks.

- **Leading PSM audits of facilities.** AcuTech’s staff has collectively performed hundreds of PSM audits, and we can fully staff PSM audits for our clients and provide the necessary planning, onsite, and report services needed for a complete audit.
- **Leading and participating in PSM audits as part of teams consisting of our client’s personnel.** On a number of occasions AcuTech’s staff has served as leaders of audit teams of our client’s personnel or as members of audit teams led by others. The services have ranged from performing the audit or certain elements of the audit and submitting our results, to performing the audit and then compiling the results of the multi-company team into a coherent report. On these types of assignments, we have used our own audit protocols, the protocols of the client company for whom we are performing the services, or a combination of both.
- **Performing gap analyses or other evaluations of PSM programs.** Occasionally, a client will desire that a PSM program be evaluated, but without the formality of an audit, which sometimes has a strict and legal definition within their company, and requires the use of certain protocols and personnel. These PSM gap analyses or other evaluations are approached in a similar manner to an audit but the selection of audit criteria to be used and the reporting requirements are often more flexible.
- **Performing occupational safety program audits.** Our staff also has the capability to perform audits of general/occupational safety and health programs and have protocols available to do this work. We can also perform the audits that are necessary to achieve Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) certification and have personnel who have served as Special Government Employees during VPP inspections.
- **Training.** AcuTech provides training to personnel in the planning, execution, and reporting of PSM audits. This training is part of the full suite of PSM related training that AcuTech offers, including Best Practices in PSM, Process Hazard Analysis for Team Leaders, Mechanical Integrity, Risk Management Program and more. This training is given for an individual company or site, and also on an open enrollment basis as part of the AcuTech Training Institute (ATI).

About AcuTech

The AcuTech Consulting Group is a global consulting company offering a full range of management and technical consulting, training services, and software products to assist companies with Process Safety, Risk Management, and Process Security, and Emergency Management. AcuTech offers a unique background in process safety and security, design, operations, inherent safety, fire protection, and security that provide our clients with practical, cost-effective solutions for the new challenges of safety and security management. AcuTech has an in depth knowledge of the process industries and works closely with industry, trade organizations, and government agencies involved with chemical regulations. Contact us today at **703-245-3015** or help@acutech-consulting.com.