



Flares and Relief System Training

9 – 13 November 2026
Barcelona (Spain)



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Introduction:

The Flares and Relief System training course provides an in-depth understanding of critical safety systems used in industrial processes to manage pressure relief and prevent hazardous incidents. This course covers the fundamental principles, components, and operational practices essential for designing, maintaining, and operating flare and relief systems effectively.

Participants will learn about key devices, including pressure relief valves, knockout drums, and flare stacks, along with their practical applications in process safety. This Flares and Relief System program emphasizes safety standards, environmental impacts, and regulatory compliance to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the system.

The Flares and Relief System course examines scenarios that lead to overpressure and the preventive measures to mitigate these risks. With hands-on knowledge about testing, certification, and maintenance, learners will optimize system reliability. It meets industry demands for professionals handling pressure relief and flare systems in oil, gas, petrochemical, and chemical plants.

Targeted Groups:

This Flares and Relief System training targets professionals seeking specialized knowledge and skills:

- Process engineers are responsible for designing safety systems.
- Maintenance supervisors oversee relief equipment.
- Safety officers manage process hazard analysis.
- Instrumentation engineers are involved in selecting valves and sensors.
- Operations managers monitor the performance of the flare system.
- Environmental compliance officers ensure regulatory adherence.
- Quality assurance personnel in the oil and gas industries.
- Technical trainers delivering safety system education.
- Inspectors and auditors are conducting safety reviews.

Course Objectives:

Participants will achieve the following objectives by completing the Flares and Relief System course:

- Understand the purpose and design principles of flare and relief systems.
- Identify the key components and their operational roles in pressure relief systems.
- Analyze overpressure scenarios and safety implications in process vessels.
- Apply regulatory codes and standards to maintenance and testing procedures to ensure compliance.
- Calculate set and relieving pressures based on fluid dynamics and system design.
- Select and size critical relief devices for various industrial applications.
- Develop skills to inspect, certify, and maintain flare systems to ensure safety.
- Evaluate the environmental and radiation considerations that impact flare operations.
- Enhance decision-making for system upgrades and emergency response planning.

Targeted Competencies:

Participants will gain the following competencies during the Flares and Relief System program:

- Ability to design and evaluate relief system layouts using P&ID diagrams.
- Proficiency in selecting and sizing pressure relief valves and rupture discs.
- Competence in interpreting codes and standards for flare system maintenance.
- Skill in identifying causes of overpressure and implementing prevention measures.
- Expertise in managing fluid disposal and purge gas handling safely.
- Knowledge of flare stack ignition systems and environmental compliance.
- Capability to conduct risk-based inspection and performance testing of relief devices.
- Aptitude to troubleshoot common operational issues affecting relief systems.

Course Content:

Unit 1: Typical Flare and Relief System:

- Define the purpose and importance of relief and flare systems in the context of process safety.
- Explain the principles governing process relief devices and their design requirements.
- Overview of typical relief and flare system configurations used in industrial plants.
- Identify key system components: knockout drums, flame arresters, and pressure vacuum relief valves.
- Describe the function and application of pressure relief valves PRV and rupture bursting discs.
- Discuss the role of flare headers and stacks in safely disposing of gases.
- Explain interlocks and their use in flare system safety automation.
- Interpret Process and Instrumentation Diagrams P&ID related to flare and relief systems.
- Highlight industry best practices in flare system design and operation.

Unit 2: Possible Relief Scenarios:

- Explore vessel and tank design considerations affecting relief system requirements.
- Analyze the safety implications of pressure relief system failures.
- Identify common causes of overpressure in process equipment.
- Discuss the philosophy of overpressure protection, including inherent safety design.
- Explain source isolation methods and strategies for placing relief devices.
- Review the flammability characteristics of process fluids and gases.
- Understand explosion risks, including Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosions BLEVE.
- Examine the operational characteristics that influence relief system performance.
- Investigate causes of improper relief device function and corrective measures.

Unit 3: Operational Considerations of Maintenance, Testing, Certification, and Fluid Disposal:

- Review applicable codes, standards, and good engineering practices for relief systems.
- Discuss environmental considerations, including emissions and pollution control.
- Address radiation safety and exposure risks in flare system operation.
- Explain the role and handling of purge gas in flare systems.
- Implement risk-based inspection and testing strategies for relief devices to ensure optimal performance and safety.
- Outline documentation and record-keeping requirements for system maintenance.
- Describe procedures for safe fluid disposal post-relief event.
- Emphasize the importance of certifying and periodically testing relief equipment.

Unit 4: Determining Set / Relieving Pressures to Meet Safety and Code Requirements:

- Understand the principles of pressure and hydraulic relief in liquid systems.
- Analyze fluid flow dynamics, including Reynolds number and pressure drop in pipes.
- Study compressible flow characteristics relevant to gas relief systems.
- Explain choked flow conditions and their impact on relief sizing.
- Explore two-phase and multi-phase flow phenomena in relief system design.
- Consider fluid properties and service conditions when designing valves and selecting materials.
- Determine appropriate header sizing for efficient gas collection and disposal.
- Calculate relief requirements and define accurate set-point pressures.
- Examine blowdown and depressurizing systems for operational safety.

Unit 5: Selection and Sizing of Key Components:

- Identify different types of safety and relief valves and their applications.
- Explain methods for sizing common relief devices based on process conditions.
- Select appropriate knockout drums for liquid-gas separation in relief systems.
- Size and specify seal drums to prevent flare header contamination.
- Design vent and flare stacks to safely discharge gases into the atmosphere.
- Discuss flare ignition systems and their operational reliability.
- Address material selection challenges for components under harsh operating conditions.
- Review maintenance and inspection criteria for key relief system parts.

Final Insights & Key Takeaways:

This Flares and Relief System course empowers professionals to design, operate, and maintain flare and relief systems effectively, ensuring compliance with safety standards and regulations. Understanding fluid dynamics and pressure relief principles is crucial for preventing hazardous overpressure incidents.

Proper component selection and system testing enhance operational reliability and environmental safety. Participants will implement best practices and risk-based strategies that protect personnel, assets, and the environment, ensuring a safer and more sustainable environment.