



Crude Oil Quality Association

5705 S. Union Lane,
Littleton, CO, 80127

27 AUG 2018

ATTENTION: All Interested Participants/Members of COQA Activities

The Crude Oil Quality Association (COQA) is preparing to carry out a survey of its membership to gather information on shipping and processing problems associated with additives in crude oil. Many additives are, and have always been used in crude oil. Though most are harmless or present in such low dosages as to not cause problems, some additives used by producers and transporters do have negative impacts at the refinery and they have caused safety and economic problems at several locations.

We are sending this note out to let members know the survey is on its way, and to encourage members to carry out any pre-work that may be needed in your company prior to completing the survey (i.e. permission from management to participate, organizing who will complete the survey for each company or location).

As a reminder, the COQA purpose statement is that we are dedicated to the belief that maintaining the integrity and consistency of the refining characteristics of crude oil streams is of importance to all parties involved in crude oil activity, from production locations to the refinery.

The COQA subcommittee on additives in crude oil was restarted during the February 2018 meeting of the COQA in San Antonio. Several members talked about increasing issues with additives at refineries, and other members from the Upstream, Pipelines, and Service companies agreed to join in a subcommittee on the topic. Our goal is to educate all parts of the industry about negative impacts of additives downstream of their injection point, and to make recommendations and issue best practices for additive use where possible.

Our first step will be to create a list of actual incidents via a survey. The results will be used to inform the industry on the frequency and types of problems seen across the industry and to help the subcommittee prioritize our next activities. The survey responses will be analyzed by the COQA director and secretary and they will generate a report for the subcommittee that will also be posted on the COQA website. COQA members and the public will not see individual responses. Any details deemed inappropriate for public discussion will be purged during the reporting process.

The survey should be issued by the end of August. Here are some details and requests to help you prepare for it:

- only actual incidents should be included, we do not want a list of possible impacts from all of the additives normally used in crude.
- we would like one survey completed per location (i.e. refinery or terminal), or one survey response per company so we do not get multiple reporting of the same incident. Please indicate if your response is for one location or for multiple locations within one company
- the survey will primarily gather information on events such as what unit was affected, what additive type was responsible (not additive producer or product number), frequency and severity of the problem

Further instructions will come out with the survey. But we hope this early notice will give you time to coordinate with other personnel in your company to help provide the COQA with a cohesive response for your company, and to allow time for you to receive management permissions if needed at your company.

Sincerely,

Dennis Sutton
Executive Director, Crude Oil Quality Association