



Imagine you receive the following memorandum

From the Plant Safety Manager:.....

'Following the recent serious accident at Misfortune Pit, the Works Director has instructed me to ensure that similar plant in our facility are safe.

I propose we do this by conducting a HAZOP study.

You have been selected to lead the team.

Please make the necessary arrangements to start on Monday of next week with a view to reporting to management at the latest by the end of the week.

The plant is currently preparing for annual turnaround so it is important that undue demands are not made on operations during this busy time. Technical Department has also expressed concerns about the condition of the P&IDs but I am confident that by liaising with them you will be able to make progress with this urgent request.

It is imperative that the Director is able to provide the necessary assurances at the Main Board meeting scheduled in three weeks time.'



Please describe the actions you would take on receipt of the memorandum

- What are the main difficulties?
 - Our plant is not exactly the same as the one at Misfortune Pit.
 - HAZOP is the wrong technique for their needs.
 - I booked leave that day... I can't do it.

- Which parts of preparation for a HAZOP are unlikely to be followed:
 - Issuing the meeting notes
 - Preparing the nodes
 - Getting the P&IDs ready for HAZOP

- If a “ what if “ study based on a brainstorm workshop were proposed

- what would be your main concern?
 - Missing some sources of risk
 - Method has no formally recognised status
 - Not part of an overall approach to Risk Management

