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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-50556

Date: 8/03/2025

Title: Chronic Unease and Cognitive Processes: Advancing Safety Management in High-Risk Industries Towards Zero Incidents.

Recommendation:

Accept after minor revision.

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity	✓			
Significance		✓		

Reviewer Name: Dr. Bishwajit Rout

Date: 8/03/2025

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

(To be published with the manuscript in the journal)

The reviewer is requested to provide a brief comment (3-4 lines) highlighting the significance, strengths, or key insights of the manuscript. This comment will be Displayed in the journal publication alongside with the reviewers name.

- Significance:** This paper highlights the role of chronic unease in enhancing safety management in high-risk industries like oil and gas. It emphasizes the integration of cognitive processes, decision-making strategies, and advanced technologies to achieve a zero-incident workplace.
- Strength:** The study employs a systematic literature review (2010–2024) across major databases, offering a comprehensive analysis of chronic unease, cognitive biases, and safety training. It provides practical applications, such as slow-thinking strategies and AI-driven safety systems, to enhance risk awareness and decision-making.
- Key Insight:** The research underscores how chronic unease fosters continuous risk awareness, reducing complacency in hazardous environments. It highlights the balance between fast (intuitive) and slow (analytical) thinking, showing how cognitive biases impact safety decisions. Furthermore, the study emphasizes the potential drawbacks of prolonged vigilance, such as stress and fatigue, suggesting future research on optimizing worker well-being while maintaining safety. The findings advocate for holistic safety frameworks, where behavioral science, AI, and risk management strategies converge for sustainable safety improvements.

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Reviewer's Comment / Report

The paper titled “*Chronic Unease and Cognitive Processes: Advancing Safety Management in High-Risk Industries Towards Zero Incidents.*” presents a systematic literature review on the role of chronic unease in safety management within high-risk industries (e.g., oil and gas). The study highlights the interplay between chronic unease, cognitive biases, and decision-making strategies, proposing that a mindset of constant vigilance can enhance safety performance. The paper also discusses fast and slow thinking processes and their role in risk management and safety training programs.

Suggestions for Improvement:

1. The study is purely theoretical and lacks quantitative data or case studies demonstrating the real-world effectiveness of chronic unease. Include industry examples where chronic unease successfully reduced safety incidents. Cite more empirical studies that quantify the effect of chronic unease on safety metrics.
2. While chronic unease promotes safety awareness, sustained vigilance can lead to stress, fatigue, and burnout. Include a discussion on psychological impacts of chronic unease (e.g., decision fatigue, stress-related disorders). Suggest mitigation strategies (e.g., rotational shifts, mindfulness training) to balance vigilance with employee well-being.
3. Expand the role of chronic unease in incident prevention, does it significantly reduce error rates?
4. Explain how safety managers can train employees to manage cognitive biases.
5. Address how future research can explore regional differences and emerging trends.

The paper presents a strong theoretical foundation for applying chronic unease to safety management, but requires minor revisions to improve clarity.

I recommend this paper for publication after minor revision.