

Biography



Johnson B. Awe has been for the past nine years, the Head of Emergency and Business Continuity management at Petroleum Development Oman LLC (PDO), based in Muscat, Oman. Prior to joining PDO, he worked as Corporate HSE Manager in oil and gas Service Company; HSE Manager in a seismic exploration company among many others. In his present role, he is responsible for the overall emergency and business continuity management for PDO.

Johnson is an excellent team player and a self-motivated professional with over 26 years diverse field experience in a multinationals' setting that cuts across HSE, emergency/disaster and business continuity management, IT disaster recovery, fire detection/alarm systems, engineering as well as wider risk management in the oil & gas industry and others. His key achievements included: creating the first business continuity plan for PDO from scratch; continuing the maintenance of the BCMS – BIA/BCP review; conducting over three live full-scale BC/IT DR exercises – to ascertain the effectiveness and robustness of the BCMS; conducting over 20 in-house BC training and awareness sessions for the BC team members; embedding business continuity management into the organisational culture of PDO to increase overall company resilience; identifying, evaluating, selecting and obtaining final approval for a BC fallback site; a member of the project team for the selection, evaluation and building of the first IT disaster recovery offsite mobile modular data centre, the first in Oman; Lead implementer in the first ISO-27001 certification process of the company information security management system. He has received PDO's Chairman Award for Excellence for full implementation of IT-DR Offsite and PDO's Director Award for full implementation of Business Continuity Fallback site and IT-DR Offsite.

He has planned and executed over 30 different types of large-scale emergency exercises; an expert in aviation (airport) certification emergency exercises in compliance with ICAO standards – planned and run over 15, especially for the PDO's three airports PACA/ICAO certifications. Facilitated a multi-agency full-scale emergency exercise and organised post exercises joint debrief. Current Chairman of Mutual Aid Group of five companies operating in an industrial area. He currently maintains over 20 emergency response plans and 10 Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs) in PDO. A trained Incident Command System (ICS) expert.

He was involved in responding to, management of, recovery from and co-coordinating the actions for, major disasters, such as the tropical cyclones “Gonu” and “Phet” of categories 5 & 4 that hit Oman in 2007 and 2010 respectively, the AH1N1 pandemic of 2009 and many operational emergencies.

Johnson has presented papers at local and international professional conferences and seminars and is widely consulted by peers, top management, board of directors and government on safety, emergency, business continuity, risk and general resilience management matters. He supported the Omani government in setting up the national search and rescue team (NSRT). The NSRT was set up to respond to any major disasters in Oman, in the Middle East and international.

Johnson holds a Master's degree in Risk, Crisis and Disaster Management from the University of Leicester, a postgraduate diploma in HSE Management from the University of Lagos, Nigeria, and he is a 1989 graduate of Mechanical Engineering. He holds two certifications in the business continuity profession (CBCI & CCM), and recently as a Chartered Member of ICOR.

Johnson was in USA for HSE training and the train-the-trainer course on over 23 OSHA mandatory HSE courses for oil and gas sector and was also certified to train rigging to API RP 2D 5th Edition; scaffold to TRN 120 – scaffold safety and compliance based OSHA rules and regulations for scaffolds – 29CFR 1926 Subpart “L”.

He is an active professional member of: the Business Continuity Institute (BCI); Association of Contingency Planner(ACP); Institute Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH); Canadian Society of Safety Engineering (CSSE); American Society of Safety Engineering (ASSE); American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME); National Fire Protection Association (NFPA); Emergency Planning Society (EPS); International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM); and the Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM).

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