In 2013, the process safety system market in China grew faster than the domestic DCS market and ARC expects this trend to continue during the forecast period. A major factor driving the domestic safety systems market is the increasing concern for compliance with new regulations that mandate improved safety across multiple industrial sectors.

Unlike in the global market, the main automation contractor (MAC) business model has not gained significant traction in China. This creates opportunities for independent domestic safety system suppliers that often promote the perceived safety benefits of disparate process control and safety system technologies. On the other hand, while there is an increasing awareness of the need to improve safety, many owner-operators are looking for an integrated architecture of process safety and process control in their plants to take advantage of the many benefits in operations, engineering, and lifecycle costs.

Among domestic suppliers, China Techenergy earned the SIL 3 certificate in 2013 from TÜV SÜD after HollySys gained SIL 3 certificate for HiaGuard SIS from TÜV Rheinland in 2012. ARC research indicates that other domestic suppliers are also working to earn functional safety certification from TÜV or other certification bodies and should complete this certification soon. As a result, looking ahead, domestic suppliers will play a key role in the process safety market in China and elsewhere.

Oil & gas, chemicals, and refining are the key segments for process safety systems in China. The technology has not yet made significant inroads into the country’s pulp & paper, metals, and fossil power generation industries. As a result they should represent future growth areas for process safety systems.

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In order for suppliers to take advantage of the many opportunities that lie ahead in this growing market, it is critical to first create an appropriate strategic business plan. The strategies highlighted in ARC’s Process Safety Systems for China Research Study will help suppliers wishing to increase their business in China answer key questions such as:

• What will drive the market in the next five years?
• What are the key buy factors from the end users?
• What is the key trend of architecture for process safety systems?
• How to see the emerging domestic suppliers from China?
• How can suppliers leverage their safety solutions in new industries and applications?
• What is the key strategy for providing process safety technology to owner-operators in China?