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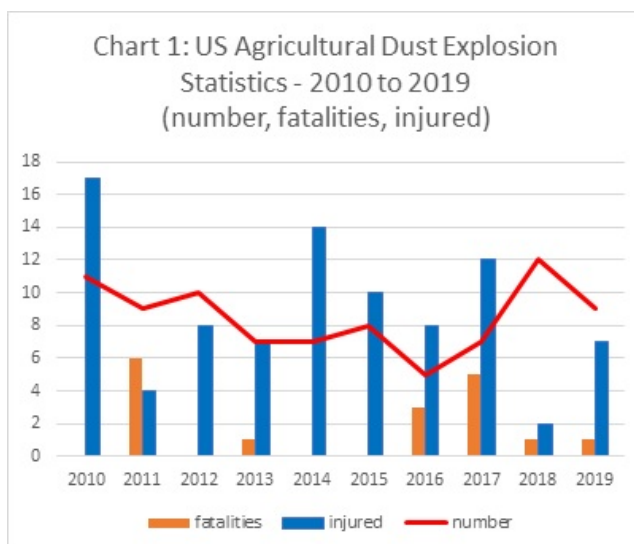
March 2020

## Process Safety Dispatch

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- Safety Feature: Grain and Processing Explosions - Why So Many?
- Safety Feature: Understanding 'Risk' and 'Basis for Safe Operation'
- Free On Demand Webinars

### Grain and Processing Explosions - Why so many?



There are too many combustible dust explosions every year in the US; these result in over 30 injuries or fatalities and millions of dollars of loss (ref. 1). There are 2 industrial sectors that stand out as suffering the most explosions – also with accompanying injury, fatalities and damage to plant and equipment. These 2 sectors are Grain/Food processing and Wood Products. These sectors account for **over 40%** of reported combustible dust explosions in the US each year.

In this issue of Process Safety Dispatch, we focus on the Grain and processing industries, and look inside the industry

statistics to try to discover what is going on in this hugely important sector of the US economy. If you are interested in wood dust explosions and fires, you may like to read our web article (ref. 2). [Read More...](#)



### Expert Consulting

- Dust Explosion Prevention & Mitigation
- Control of Static Electricity
- Hazardous (Electrical) Area Classification
- Process Hazard Analysis
- Process Safety Management
- Fire and Explosion Hazard Assessment
- Incident Investigation
- Organizational Process Safety Competency Assessment



### Specialist Laboratory Testing

- Combustible Dust Testing
- Electrostatic Testing
- Self-Heating / Thermal Instability Testing
- Flammability Testing of Gases & Vapors

## Understanding 'Risk' and 'Basis for Safe Operation'

### **Workers' representative to manager:**

"You need to install grounding and bonding to every pipe section of this (all-steel) process plant. Static electricity is dangerous. There will be an explosion".

**Manager to workers' representative:** "I'll look into it".

What does the manager do next? [to be continued....]



As process safety consultants, understanding risk and establishing why an industrial process can be considered safe (or unsafe!) to operate is at the heart of pretty much everything we do. In this article, we look at **risk** and **basis of safe operation** of process plant. The thoughts and ideas here are geared towards preventing explosion, fire and toxic release but the concepts have wide reaching use with everything from vehicle speed limits to chemical plant location, from aircraft design to protection against Coronavirus. The decision makers should always be considering risk, acceptable risk, and mitigation measures that bring the risk level to tolerable, where needed. It is through this

understanding that precious resources can be spent wisely and cost effectively. [Read more...](#)

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If you would like a quote for any of our testing and/or consulting services, please click on the button below. We will get back to you promptly with your proposal.

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## Free On Demand Webinars

[Combustible Dust Hazards: Assessment, Prevention and Protection Including the Requirements of NFPA 652 \[watch\]](#)

[Electrostatic Hazards in Processing Industry: The Nature of the Problem and Practical Measures for its Control \[watch\]](#)

[Fire and Explosion Hazards: How to Identify and Control Them in Your Process \[watch\]](#)

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