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Hello, April 2020

## Stonehouse Process Safety is OPEN - Business Continues

We continue to provide near-normal levels of Process Safety services during the pandemic. Our workforce is classified as 'Essential/Critical' by CISA\*, providing important support for safe manufacturing during these unprecedented times.

# **Process Safety Dispatch**

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# Performing Dust Hazard Analysis (DHA) During the Coronavirus Pandemic Lockdown

- NFPA 652 requires a Dust Hazard Analysis (DHA) completed and implemented by September 2020
- Your operations are disrupted by the Coronavirus pandemic

 You want to get on with your Dust Hazard Analysis before business recovery begins and time is precious...

Here's how to stay ahead of the game: In this piece, we explain how a remote Dust Hazards Analysis (DHA) - using a remote specialist assessor - can help you prepare your company for the return to normality.



At Stonehouse, we have occasionally needed to conduct remote Process Safety Hazard Assessments. This has always been a last resort. There is nothing to replace a visit to site, detailed inspections and face-to-face discussions with knowledgeable staff. However, the current restriction on travel and requirements for social distancing have caused us to draw on our experience of remote PHA work and develop and formalize our approach to conducting preliminary Dust Hazards Analyses (DHA's) REMOTELYOne of our senior Process Safety Consultants, Dr. Emmanuel Addai, was tasked with documenting this option for the current Pandemic lockdown and he has produced a paper together with a checklist for facilitating this approach. These documents are available free-of-charge to all our contacts and clients. To receive your copies, please contact us by completing the form in the link and insert "Remote DHA" in the message area and submit.

In this short piece, we draw out some of the features of the paper and outline our approach to **Remote Dust Hazard Analysis (DHA)**. *Read More...* 

# Tell us how the pandemic restrictions are affecting Process Safety at your facility

With much of industry affected by the restrictions in place to prevent the spread of Covid19, we are becoming concerned about the unintended effects of reduced staffing, forced shutdowns (and start-ups), and social distancing on Process Safety in industry.

We are asking you to please let us know how the disruptions due to Covid19 are affecting Process Safety on your facility and what concerns you have. We would also like to hear about how you are using time that may have unexpectedly become available to benefit process safety at your facility. In the next edition of Process Safety Dispatch, we plan to write a piece that brings together your comments, concerns and opportunities and share the findings with the process safety community. All contributions will be compiled anonymously. Please hit "Reply" to this email and let us know your comments, concerns and opportunities.

Thank you for your help.

# **Dust Combustibility Testing - Now is the time**

If you are fortunate enough to be working, then it's worth considering what you can do to keep all matters process safety moving along. Social distancing will affect some activities but one thing you can consider doing now is checking if you have all the necessary combustibility/explosion data on your powdered materials.

NFPA 652 states "The owner/operator of a facility with potentially combustible dusts shall be responsible for determining whether the materials are combustible or explosible, and, if

so, for characterizing their properties as required to support the Dust Hazard Analysis (DHA)".

As always, our labs are available to test materials for fire, explosion, and thermal instability. We are operating as normal. Our workforce is classified as 'Essential/Critical' by CISA\*, providing important support for safe manufacturing.

We are here to help.



#### **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

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.

# REQUEST A QUOTE

### **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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\*Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency