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Hello,

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Process Safety Dispatch

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Hazardous static sparks from people

A woman walks up to the door of her favorite store, intending to look for a gift for a friend. Instead, she exclaims "ouch" and recoils.

You've guessed it. In this issue of Process Safety Dispatch, we are going to look at electrostatic sparks from people and the danger they can pose in the workplace. Even better, we got our process safety lab scientists to prepare a **SHORT VIDEO** to show you exactly what these static sparks can do in the vicinity of a flammable atmosphere. They enjoyed it – and so will you. It's worth a watch!

For more information about the dangers of static electricity on people you can watch our video **HERE** or you can jump straight to our article on this topic on our web site by clicking on the Read More button below.

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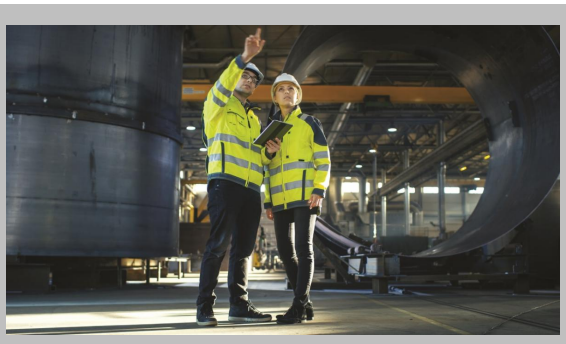


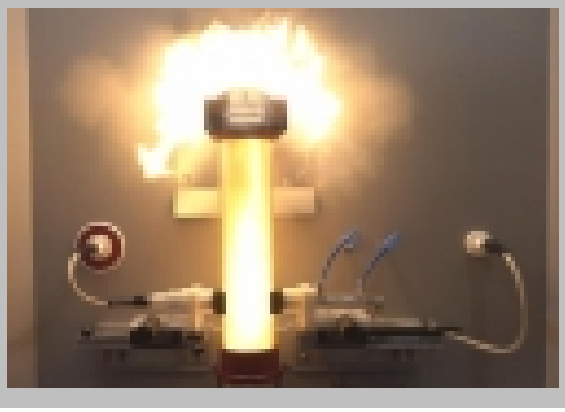
Expert Consulting

- 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



EXPLAINERS: DHA (Dust Hazards Analysis), Where do I start? Do I need to perform a DHA?... and more...

In this edition of Process Safety Dispatch, back by popular demand, we address some of the real basics of process safety associated with NFPA 652 and Dust Hazards Analysis and lead you to informative articles that provide you with more detailed information and sources of advice.

Do I need to perform a Dust Hazard Analysis?

NFPA 652 applies to all facilities and operations that manufacture, process, blend, convey, repackage, generate, or handle combustible dusts or combustible particulate solids. If you are handling or processing a combustible powder(s) it is very likely that NFPA 652 is applicable and that a DHA is required. There are a few exceptions to this – for example storage or use of 'consumer quantities' of materials, some materials stored in farm

buildings, small quantities of materials intended for household use..... and more.

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Who is responsible for determining whether a material is explosible?

NFPA 652 is quite clear on this point. It is the owner/operator of a facility with potentially combustible dusts that is responsible for determining whether their materials are combustible or explosible. If the materials turn out to be combustible or explosible, then the owner/ operator is also responsible for characterizing their '*ignition sensitivity*', '*explosion severity*', and perhaps '*electrostatic*' properties as required to support the DHA.

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Where do I start with a Dust Hazard Analysis (DHA)? How do I perform a DHA?

Starting a DHA for your facility is a challenging task for anyone, especially in a company where internal expertise on dust explosion prevention and protection is limited. NFPA 652 requires that any DHA is performed or led by a qualified person. There is a process followed by most safety professionals that will involve identification and evaluation of fire, flash fire and explosion hazards on plant. This is then followed by identification of safe operating ranges, identification of the safeguards that are in place to manage the identified risks, and then recommendation of additional safeguards where warranted, including a plan for implementation.

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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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