

We are



Hello,

September 2019

## Process Safety Dispatch

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### Electrical Area Classification or Hazardous Area Classification



Our process safety consultants see many things, good and less good, as they go about their business of making industrial processes safer. One rightly proud client was explaining the details of his Electrical Area Classification work, showing layered drawings for Class I (liquids) and Class II (dusts) with appropriate designation of divisions and assignment of gas and powder groups. In walking through the

facility, though, we observed an operator pouring a fine powder from a plastic-lined fibreboard drum into a vessel containing toluene; a Class I div 1 surrounded by a class 1 div 2 AND a Class II div 1 overlaid area. [Anyone spot the issue here?](#)

[Risk of electrostatic discharges from the plastic liner, drum, and operator in presence of a hybrid flammable vapor/ dust atmosphere]

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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

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## Cases in the News: Explosion in Particle Board Production; Friction/Impact 'Sparks'

Three weeks ago, at 7am on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, the life of a 38-year-old woman in Lower Saxony, Germany, was about to take an unpredictable turn for the worse (ref. 1&2). Within the hour, she found herself being rushed to hospital in Braunschweig by helicopter, having been caught as a bystander in a significant dust explosion. She was seriously injured while on shift as a worker at a particle board manufacturing plant; she was outside a dry cutting area building at the time of the blast. Unfortunately, she was in the wrong place at the wrong time and was caught in the path of a roller-door that had become airborne and detached from the building by the explosion forces. The ignition source was reported to be a 'spark' from a mill in the dry cutting area.



To learn more about this explosion and about **friction and impact sparks as ignition sources**, [to continue reading, navigate to case "Explosion in Particle..."](#)

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If you would like a quote for any of our testing and/or consulting services, you can do so by clicking the button below, completing the form and submitting. We will get back to you shortly with your proposal.

[REQUEST A QUOTE](#)

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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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