



U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board



U.S. Chemical Safety Board 1998–2018

20 Years of Driving Chemical Safety Change



**CSB SAFETY SPOTLIGHT:
STATE ADVANCES IN DRIVING
CHEMICAL SAFETY**



U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board

The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) is highlighting the important role of individual state governments in driving critical chemical safety change. A number of state governments have made significant safety improvements following a chemical disaster within their state. They make them to protect their residents and the environment with the common goal of preventing future similar incidents.

The CSB has issued 80 safety recommendations to 22 different state governments stemming from 27 CSB investigations. Currently, only six of these investigations still have open recommendations issued to state governments. These CSB recommendations range from identifying risks and increasing safety inspections to developing and adopting significant, state-level chemical safety legislation. Several states have taken significant steps to implement positive safety changes in light of chemical disasters. The following are a few notable examples:

Following a 2007 propane explosion that occurred at a general store in Ghent, West Virginia, killing four people, the CSB issued a recommendation to the Governor and Legislature of the State of West Virginia aimed at improving propane training requirements for propane technicians. West Virginia approved a bill in 2010 requiring the completion of a nationally recognized propane service training program for "persons who install or maintain liquefied petroleum gas systems." This requirement was also implemented into the West Virginia State Fire Code.

On February 7, 2010, Klean Energy, a natural gas-fueled power plant under construction in Middletown, Connecticut, experienced a catastrophic natural gas explosion that killed



six and injured at least 50 people. The incident occurred while workers were conducting a "gas blow," where natural gas is forced through new piping and released into the atmosphere at a high pressure and volume in order to remove debris. As a part of its investigation, the CSB issued a recommendation to the Governor and Legislature of the State of Connecticut to enact legislation that prohibits gas blows. In September of 2010, the former Governor of Connecticut, M. Jodi Reil,



Safety Spotlight



20 Years of Driving Chemical Safety Change

January

Overview of CSB
20 Years



April

Combustible
Dust Safety

February

Process Safety
Management
Modernization



May

Extreme
Weather

March

Safe Hot Work
Practices



Monitor the Atmosphere

June

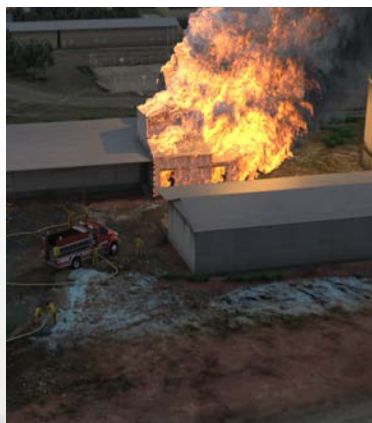
Preventive
Maintenance



20 Years of Driving Chemical Safety Change

July

Contractor
Safety



August

Laboratory
Safety



September

Human
Fatigue



October

Emergency
Planning and
Response

November

Winterization

December

Reactive
Hazards



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