



U. S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board RECOMMENDATIONS STATUS CHANGE SUMMARY

Report:	Hayes Lemmerz Dust Explosions and Fire
Recommendation Number:	2004-1-I-IN-R13
Date Issued:	September 27, 2005
Recipient:	The Aluminum Association, Inc.
New Status:	R13: Closed – Acceptable Action
Date of Status Change:	June 17, 2013

Recommendation Text:

Communicate the findings and recommendations of this report to your members

Board Status Change Decision:

A. Rationale for Recommendation

On the evening of October 29, 2003, a series of explosions severely burned two workers, injured a third, and caused property damage to the Hayes Lemmerz manufacturing plant in Huntington, Indiana. One of the severely burned men subsequently died. The Hayes Lemmerz plant manufactures cast aluminum automotive wheels, and the explosions were fueled by accumulated aluminum dust, a flammable byproduct of the wheel production process.

Although Hayes Lemmerz was not a member, the Aluminum Association, Inc. publishes guidelines on safe handling of aluminum scrap and dusts. The CSB issued a recommendation to this association to communicate the findings and recommendations of the CSB report to its members.

B. Response to the Recommendation

The Aluminum Association created and incorporated combustible dust training into its existing Casthouse Safety Workshop which is given on a bi-annual basis. A review of the latest program revealed that it contained a discussion of the findings and recommendations contained in the CSB Hayes Lemmerz report along with other topics pertaining to combustible dust, such as the OSHA *Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Combustible Dust* and OSHA's Combustible Dust National Emphasis Program; the dust explosion pentagram; and various prevention methods, including effective housekeeping practices and applicable NFPA standards

C. Board Analysis and Decision

As the actions taken by the Aluminum Association appear to meet the intent of the CSB recommendation, the status of 2004-1-I-IN-R13 was changed to: "Closed – Acceptable Action."