



# Combustible Dust: Solutions Delayed

## Presentation with Update and Discussion

REEF Meeting – October 3, 2014

Edmund B. Cordova, CSP

# CSB Video

- Combustible Dust: Solutions Delayed

<http://www.csb.gov/videos/>



# Background and CSB's Actions

- Since 2003
  - 50 total incidents
  - 36 deaths
  - 128 Injuries
  
- Dr. Rafael Moure-Eraso
  - Imperative for OSHA to issue a combustible dust standard
  
- 2006 Combustible Dust Hazard Study by CSB
  - Recommend that OSHA issue a combustible dust standard for general industry
    - Based on NFPA 654 - Standard for the Prevention of Fire and Dust Explosions from the Manufacturing, Processing, and Handling of Combustible Particulate Solids
    - NFPA 484 Standard for Combustible Metals
  
- 2013 CSB Public Meeting
  - CSB Board voted to declare OSHA's response "unacceptable" and the CSB's recommendations to OSHA as "open-unacceptable"
  
  - "The CSB continues to believe that an OSHA general industry standard for combustible dust is needed to prevent future tragedies caused by dust explosions."
  
  - "It should be noted that this will be the first time in the history of the agency that the CSB has reiterated one of its previous safety recommendations."



# Steps OSHA has Taken

- Targeted industries with combustible dust hazards as part of National Emphasis Program (NEP)
  - OSHA Directive CPL 03-00-008
  
- Increased awareness of compliance officers
  
- Provided education to emergency responders
  
- Created a website for combustible dust hazards education and information
  - Highlights precautions for firefighters and steps facilities should take
  
  - “The following Federal OSHA standards are mandatory; they include provisions that address certain aspects of combustible dust hazards. Some are industry-wide and others are industry-specific.”
    - List Walking-working surfaces, exit routes, Ventilation, Fire protection, Materials handling, et. al.
  
  - General Duty Clause with a general statement regarding enforcement

## OSHA's Response

- 2009 OSHA stated it intended to initiate into rule making for a combustible dusts standard
- June 2012 - OSHA states it “cannot commit” to a date for the proposed rule “but it remains a top priority for the agency.”
  - No proposed rule as of yet



# References

- Combustible Dust: Solutions Delayed
  - <http://www.csb.gov/videos/>
- AL Solutions, INC., New Cumberland, WV Metal Dust Explosion and Fire
  - [http://www.csb.gov/assets/1/19/Final\\_Case\\_Study\\_7.161.pdf](http://www.csb.gov/assets/1/19/Final_Case_Study_7.161.pdf)
- CSB Public Meeting – Presentation, 07/16/14
  - [http://www.csb.gov/assets/1/19/Public\\_Presentation\\_07\\_16\\_14\\_revised.pdf](http://www.csb.gov/assets/1/19/Public_Presentation_07_16_14_revised.pdf)
- CSB Public Meeting - Transcript, 07/16/14
  - [http://www.csb.gov/assets/1/19/0717CSB-AL\\_Solutions.pdf](http://www.csb.gov/assets/1/19/0717CSB-AL_Solutions.pdf)
- The Danger of Combustible Dust – a NYT OP-ED Piece
  - <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/08/23/opinion/the-danger-of-combustible-dust.html>
- NFPA 654 and 484
  - <http://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/document-information-pages?mode=code&code=654>
  - <http://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/document-information-pages?mode=code&code=484>
- OSHA's Combustible Dust Website
  - <https://www.osha.gov/dsg/combustibledust/index.html>
- Center for Chemical Process Safety
  - <http://www.aiche.org/ccps/resources/process-safety-beacon/201410/english>



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