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INCIDENT NOTICE

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INCIDENT TITLE: Explosion at Austin Malaysia cartridge plant

DATE POSTED	REFERENCE	SOURCE
1 July 2020	IN 20-04	Austin Powder
INCIDENT OUTLINE		
When did it happen?	Wednesday, July 1, 2020 at 1:49 pm	
Who experienced it?	Austin Powder Malaysia (APMY)	
Where did it happen?	Cartridge emulsion plant at Batu Arang	
What material was involved?	Sensitized emulsion for packaged product	
What happened?	During the lunch break an explosion occurred in the cartridging building of the packaged emulsion plant. The plant is a semi batch plant with separation of buildings for emulsion mixing/blending, cartridging, cooling and packaging. Batches of sensitized emulsion in mobile hoppers (trolleys) are sent to the cartridging building for cartridging. The plant was in routine operation (standard commercial product, day shift) at the time of the incident.	
Why did it happen – theory?	The cause of the incident is under investigation.	
What was the impact?	There were no injuries or fatalities. The cartridging house (mounded structure) has been destroyed. There is limited damage to adjacent buildings and structures. No propagation to material in process (e.g. cooling bath) has occurred.	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Enclosure	No
Subsequent report	To follow

COMMENT

Value of incident	Though an incident in emulsion manufacturing with substantial physical damage has occurred, the industry learned concept of mitigating consequences by separation of operations has once again proven its value.
Comment	Specific observations and requests.

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