# Explosion i ett aluminiumgjuteri i metallindustri

Olyckan fanns med i våras men 860324 MARS 1800\_246 med annat - felaktigt -datum (860326; MARS 1800\_020). Korrekt datum är 860324 Sammanfattning Inblandade ämnen och mängder CAS Nr. Mängd ämne Skador: Människor: Materiella: Miljö/ekologi: Inga effekter rapporterade. Infrastruktur: Erfarenheter redovisade (Ja/Nej): Kortfattat anges förebyggande åtgärder. **Report Profile Identification of Report:** country: FA ident key: 1800\_246\_01 reported under Seveso I directive as major accident reports: SHORT+FULL Date of Major Occurrence: Time of Major Occurrence start: 24/03/1986 start: 17:50:00 finish: 24/03/1986 finish: **Establishment:** name: address: industry: 2011 metal refining and processing (includes foundries, electrochemical refining, plating, etc.) Metal (Aluminium Production) Seveso II status: not applicable: Yes art. 6 (notification): No art. 7 (MAPP): No art. 9 (safety report): No **Date of Report:** short: full: **Authority Reporting:** name:

rep\_cont\_name:

**Authority Contact:** 

address:

rep_cont_phone:
rep_cont_fax:
Additional Comments:
a) - not applicable -
b) - not applicable -
c) - not applicable -
d) - not applicable -
e) - not applicable -
Short Report
<b>country:</b> FA <b>ident key:</b> 1800_246_01
Accident Types:
release: No explosion: Yes
water contamination: No other: No
fire: No
description:
ACCIDENT CASE HISTORY DESCRIPTION: see Appendix Short Report / description of accident types
Substance(s) Directly Involved:
toxic: No explosive: Yes
ecotoxic: No other: No
flammable: No
description:
- Aluminium Alloy: amount involved = $1,200 \text{ Kg}$ ( $150^{\circ}300 \text{ Kg}$ were involved in the first explosion).
Immediate Sources of Accident:
storage: No transfer: No
process: Yes other: No
description:
The accident occurred during the shut-down of an aluminium alloy foundry in a metal industry for the aluminium
production. The factory, located in the centre of France, in Issoire, employed 1,500 people and in 1986
produced 100,000 tonnes/y see Appendix Short Report / description of immediate sources
Suspected Causes:
plant or equipment: No environmental: Yes
human: No other: No
description:
CAUSES: see Appendix Short Report / description of suspected causes
Immediate Effects:
material loss: Yes
human deaths: Yes

human injuries: Yes community disruption: No

other: No

ecological harm: No

national heritage loss: No

description:

EFFECTS ON PEOPLE:... see Appendix Short Report / description of immediate effects

**Emergency Measures taken:** 

on-site systems: Yes decontamination: No

external services: No restoration: No

sheltering: No other: No

evacuation: No

description:

INTERNAL TO THE ESTABLISHMENT:

After the accident, the gas feeding and the electricity were cut-off.

**Immediate Lessons Learned:** 

prevention: No other: Yes

mitigation: No

description:

The mechanism of the accident could be established by comparing reports, clues furnished by the materials and by work of technical experts. An inquiry commission was rapidly formed after the accident and worked in close contact with and und... see Appendix Short Report / description of immediate lessons learned

# **A Occurrence Full Report**

country: FA ident key: 1800\_246\_01

1 Type of Accident

remarks: During a storm at the end of the working period (most employees had already

left the plant), two very powerful, successive explosions occurred (code

1303) in less than 5 seconds in the fusion cavity of the furnace, causing

extensive damages... see Appendix Full Report A / type of accident

2 Dangerous Substances

remarks: The total establishment and the potential directly involved inventories of

molten aluminium alloy refer to the amount involved in the accident, that is

the quantity (150^300 Kg) dispersed in the air by the action of the shock

wave produced ... see Appendix Full Report A / dangerous substances

3 Source of Accident

illustration: - not applicable -

remarks: The accident occurred during the shut-down of an aluminium alloy foundry

(codes 3104 and 4007) in a metal industry for the aluminium production (code

2001). The factory, located in the centre of France, in Issoire, employed

1,500 people and... see Appendix Full Report A  $\slash$  source of accident -

remarks

# **4 Meteorological Conditions**

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precipitation none: fog: rain: hail: snow:
No No No No No
wind speed (m/s):
direction (from):
stability (Pasquill):
ambient temperature (\inftyC):
remarks: The accident occurred during a storm.
5 Causes of Major Occurrence
main causes
technical / physical 5107 operation: unexpected reaction/phase-transition
5201 environment: natural event (weather, temperature, earthquake, etc.)
- not applicable -
- not applicable -
- not applicable -
human / organizational 5501 other: not identified
- not applicable -
- not applicable -
- not applicable -
- not applicable -
remarks: The first explosion was caused by molten aluminium alloy droplets dispersed in air by the
action of the shock wave produced by a lightning (code 5201). This fog then exploded (as a
detonation equivalent to 200 Kg of TNT) as a result of the ... see Appendix Full Report A
/ causes of major occurrence
6 Discussion about the Occurrence
- not applicable -
Type of Accident country: FA ident key: 1800_246_01
event:
major occurrence 1303 explosion: rapid phase-transition explosion (rapid change of state)
initiating event 1303 explosion: rapid phase-transition explosion (rapid change of state)
associated event - not applicable -
Dangerous substances
country: FA ident key: 1800_246_01
a) total establishment inventory
CAS number: identity: Molten Aluminium Alloy
name from Seveso I Directive: - not applicable -
name from Seveso II Directive: - not applicable -
category from Seveso II: - not applicable -
other hazards (1): - not applicable -
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other hazards (2): - not applicable -
maximum quantity (tonnes): 12
use of substance as: NORMAL FINISHED PRODUCT
b) substance belongs to relevant inventory directly involved: Yes
actual quantity: 12 potential quantity: 12
c) substance belongs to relevant inventory indirectly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 indir_pot_quant: -1
Source of Accident - Situation country: FA ident key: 1800_246_01
situation
industry
inititating event 2011 metal refining and processing (includes foundries, electrochemical refining,
plating, etc.)
associated event - not applicable -
activity/unit
major occurrence 3104 process: physical operations (mixing, melting crystallizing, etc.)
inititating event 3104 process: physical operations (mixing, melting crystallizing, etc.)
associated event - not applicable -
component
major occurrence 4007 machinery/equipment (pump, filter, column seperator, mixer, etc.)
inititating event 4007 machinery/equipment (pump, filter, column seperator, mixer, etc.)
associated event - not applicable -
B Consequences Full Report
country: FA ident key: 1800_246_01
1 Area concerned
affected
extent of effects installation: Yes
establishment: Yes
off-site; local: Yes
off-site; regional: No
off-site; transboundary: No
illustration of effects - not applicable -
remarks The seismic wave generated by the first explosion was recorded by several seismo... see Appendix
Full Report B / area concerned - remarks
2 People
establishment popul. emergency personnel off-site population
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total at risk -1 0 0

immediate fatalities 4 0 0

subsequent fatalities 0 0 0 0
hospitalizing injuries 25 0 0
other serious injuries 0 0 0
health monitoring 0 0 0
remarks 4 people (three in the immediate proximity to the casting area and one 35 metres... see Appendix Full Report B / people

3 Ecological Harm
pollution/contamination/damage of:
- residential area (covered by toxic cloud) Suspected
- common wild flora/fauna (death or elimination) Suspected

- rare or protected flora/fauna (death or elimination) Suspected
- water catchment areas and supplies for consumption or recreation Suspected
- land (with known potential for long term ecological harm or Suspected

preventing human access or activities)

- marine or fresh water habitat Suspected
- areas of high conservation value or given special protection Suspected

remarks In the Original Report there is no evidence of significant ecological harms.... see Appendix

Full Report B / ecological harm

#### **4 National Heritage Loss**

effects on:

- historical sites not applicable historic monuments not applicable
- historic buildings not applicable art treasures not applicable

remarks No data available.

#### **5 Material Loss**

establishment losses off site losses

costs (direct costs to operator) (social costs)

in ECU FF ECU FF

material losses 3.3E+08 2.2E+09 -1 -1

response, clean up, restoration -1 -1 0 0

remarks The north side of the foundry was considerably damaged, as well as other buildin... see Appendix

Full Report B / material loss

# 6 Disruption of Community Life

establishment/plant evacuated disabled/unoccupiable destroyed

- nearby residences/hotels No No No
- nearby factories/offices/small shops No No No
- schools, hospitals, institutions No No No
- other places of public assembly No No No

interruption of utilities etc. no  $\slash\hspace{-0.4em}$  / yes duration

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- gas No
- electricity No
- water No
- sewage treatment works No
- telecommunications No
- main roads No
- railways No
- waterways No
- air transport No
significant public concern none local level national level
- off site populations No Yes No
- media interest No No No
- political interest No No No
remarks The seismic wave generated by the first explosion was recorded by several seismo... see Appendix
7 Discussion of Consequences
C Response Full Report
country: FA ident key: 1800_246_01
1 Emergency Measures
taken - on site - not applicable - - not applicable -
- not applicable - - not applicable -
- not applicable - - not applicable -
- off site - not applicable - - not applicable -
- not applicable - - not applicable -
- not applicable - - not applicable -
still - on site - not applicable - - not applicable -
required
- not applicable - - not applicable -
- not applicable - - not applicable -
- off site - not applicable - - not applicable -
- not applicable - - not applicable -
- not applicable - - not applicable -
continuing contamination or danger
-on site not applicable
-off site not applicable
remarks - not applicable -
2 Seveso II Duties
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pre-accident evaluation

Article item not due yet not done done/submitted evaluated
6 notification No No No No
7 policy (MAPP) No No No No
9 safety report No No No No
9, 10, 11 update No No No No
11 internal plan No No No No
11 external plan No No No No
13 informing public No No No No
9, 12 siting policy No No No No
post-accident evaluation
Seveso II duty was actual were actual compared with actual
contingency consequences consequences, the
addressed? addressed? predicted extent was?
Article item
7 policy (MAPP) not applicable not applicable
9 current safety report not applicable not applicable not applicable
11 internal plan not applicable not applicable
11 external plan not applicable not applicable
13 informing public not applicable not applicable
9, 12 siting policy not applicable not applicable
evaluation of safety organisation
organisational element element existed did element relate to actual circumstances of
yes / no no / partly / yes adequate?
- written policy objectives No
- specified management No
structure
- specified responsibilities No
- specified working procedures No
- specified procedures for No
assessment/auditing of
management system
- specified procedures for No
review and update of
management policy
- specified general training No
procedures - specified emergency No
- specified emergency No training procedures
evaluation of ecological impact control

organisational element element existed did element relate to actual circumstances of
yes / no no / partly / yes adequate?
- ecological status review No
before incident
- potential ecological No
consequences assessment
- ecological impact review No
after incident
- ecological restoration No
procedures
- subsequent review of No
restoration success
remarks - not applicable -
3 Official Action Taken
legal action
- not applicable -
other official action
- not applicable -
4 Lessons Learned
measures to prevent recurrence
not given
measures to mitigate consequences:
not given
useful references:
The mechanism of the accident see Appendix Full Report C / lesson learned - references
5 Discussion about Response

# Appendices for the FA / 1800 246 01 report

# **Appendix Short Report / description of accident types:**

ACCIDENT CASE HISTORY DESCRIPTION:

During a storm at the end of the working period (most employees had already left the plant), two very powerful, successive explosions occurred in less than 5 seconds in the fusion cavity of the furnace, causing extensive damages to the foundations of the furnace. The first explosion, undoubtely in the form of a detonation equivalent to 200 Kg of TNT, fractured material, destroyed the casting frame and caused the essential part of the damages noted. It also caused the break of a cable in an ingot lowering machine and caused plates and aluminium alloy not dispersed by the electric arc to fall into the casting pit. The second explosion was equivalent to 100 Kg of TNT and occurred two second later. The first explosion could have generated a pressure of 10 to 20 bar on the sides of the pit, and the generated seismic wave was recorded by several seismographs in the region and furnished an energy undoubtely at least 1,000 times greater than that of the electric arc produced in the building.

#### **Appendix Short Report / description of immediate sources:**

The accident occurred during the shut-down of an aluminium alloy foundry in a metal industry for the aluminium production. The factory, located in the centre of France, in Issoire, employed 1,500 people and in 1986 produced 100,000 tonnes/year of semi-finished products, including thick plates, thin sheets and aluminium alloy profiles, mainly for the aeronautic, land or water transport markets. 200 people were working in the foundry just before the accident. The six casting furnaces in the foundry building were in normal operation.

## **Appendix Short Report / description of suspected causes:**

CAUSES:

- not applicable -

The mechanism of the accident could be established by comparing reports, clues furnished by the materials and by work of technical experts. An inquiry commission was rapidly formed after the accident and worked in close contact with and under the supervision of administrative and judicial authorities. The analysis of statements and interviews indicated that a luminous phenomenon in the foundry followed, almost immediately, by the first explosion and 2 seconds later by a second explosion. The

examination of material in the foundry shop near the presumed starting point of the explosion showed that the motor of a mobile hoist located 15 metres from the supposed point of explosion presented indisputable traces of the passage of lightning-related current. In addition, it was possible to determine numerous possibilities for the routing of the current leading to the starting point of the explosion. In particular, the casting pit itself, where the explosion started, was the best grounding point in proximity to the motor. It was supposed that the molten aluminium alloy could have led to: either an explosion of aluminium alloy droplets dispersed in air (which involves a suspension process) or a reaction of molten aluminium with water. The first was opted for. The molten aluminium was suspended in air by the action of the shock wave produced by the electric arc. The shock wave dispersed 150°300 Kg (of a total of 1,200 Kg) of molten aluminium alloy around the casting frame in the form of a fog of fine droplets. Only a part of the energy of the shock wave was used in this dispersion process. The fog then exploded (as a detonation equivalent to 200 Kg of TNT) as it formed as a result of the droplets/air reaction. The second explosion was equivalent to 100 Kg of TNT and occurred two seconds later, as a result of the rapid vaporization of cooling water in contact with the molten metal, which fell from the upper part of the casting pit.

#### Appendix Short Report / description of immediate effects:

#### EFFECTS ON PEOPLE:

4 people (three in the immediate proximity to the casting area and one 35 metres away) were killed and 25 others were injured (and hospitalized) by the explosion.

#### MATERIAL LOSS:

The north side of the foundry was considerably damaged, as well as other buildings and equipments farther away, especially because of the projection of missiles from the casting frame (up to 700 metres). The cost of the accident has been estimated in about 220 millions of French Francs, including 115 millions for the buildings and equipment and 105 millions for lost production.

#### **Appendix Short Report / description of immediate lessons learned:**

The mechanism of the accident could be established by comparing reports, clues furnished by the materials and by work of technical experts. An inquiry commission was rapidly formed after the accident and worked in close contact with and under the supervision of administrative and judicial authorities. It made use of the services of experts in the following fields: explosions, use of natural gas, prevention, meteorology and storms, metallurgy, civil, mechanical and electrical engineering, combustible dust

# Appendix Full Report A / type of accident:

During a storm at the end of the working period (most employees had already left the plant), two very powerful, successive explosions occurred (code 1303) in less than 5 seconds in the fusion cavity of the furnace, causing extensive damages to the foundations of the furnace.

#### Appendix Full Report A / dangerous substances:

The total establishment and the potential directly involved inventories of molten aluminium alloy refer to the amount involved in the accident, that is the quantity (150^300 Kg) dispersed in the air by the action of the shock wave produced by the lightning that caused the first explosion plus the quantity which fell from the upper part of the casting it and, reacting with cooling water, caused the second explosion.

#### Appendix Full Report A / source of accident - remarks:

The accident occurred during the shut-down of an aluminium alloy foundry (codes 3104 and 4007) in a metal industry for the aluminium production (code 2001). The factory, located in the centre of France, in Issoire, employed 1,500 people and in 1986 produced 100,000 tonnes/year of semi-finished products, including thick plates, thin sheets and aluminium alloy profiles, mainly for the aeronautic, land or water transport markets.

# Appendix Full Report A / causes of major occurrence:

The first explosion was caused by molten aluminium alloy droplets dispersed in air by the action of the shock wave produced by a lightning (code 5201). This fog then exploded (as a detonation equivalent to 200 Kg of TNT) as a result of the droplets/air reaction (code 5107). The second explosion occurred two seconds later, as a result of the rapid vaporization of cooling water in contact with the molten metal (code 5107), which fell from the upper part of the casting pit.

#### Appendix Full Report B / area concerned - remarks:

The seismic wave generated by the first explosion was recorded by several seismographs in the region.

#### Appendix Full Report B / people:

4 people (three in the immediate proximity to the casting area and one 35 metres away) were killed and 25 others were injured (and hospitalized) by the explosion.

#### Appendix Full Report B / ecological harm:

In the Original Report there is no evidence of significant ecological harms.

#### Appendix Full Report B / material loss:

The north side of the foundry was considerably damaged, as well as other buildings and equipments farther away, especially because of the projection of missiles from the casting frame (up to 700 metres). The cost of the accident has been estimated in about 220 millions of French Francs, including 115 millions for the buildings and equipment and 105 millions for lost production.

# Appendix Full Report B / disruption of community life:

The seismic wave generated by the first explosion was recorded by several seismographs in the region.

#### **Appendix Full Report C / lesson learned - references:**

The mechanism of the accident could be established by comparing reports, clues furnished by the materials and by work of technical experts (as shown in "EXPERIENCE FEEDBACK FROM AN UNCOMMON LIGHTNING ACCIDENT" of J.P. Pineau and J. Chaineaux).