# Explosion och storbrand på en oljedepå.

940804 MARS 1994\_18

oklar

Omständigheterna kring olyckan är oklart återgivna i rapporten. Ett utsläpp av flyktiga kolväten, huvudsakligen lättbensin, uppstod vid bruk av olämpligt utformade ventiler. Huvudventilen till en tank med 100 ton var stängd. Då en annan (olämpligt utformad) ventil öppnades släpptes ett stort gasmoln ut. Detta fattade eld och exploderade. branden hotade två tankar på sammanlagt 4000 ton. Branden släcktes efter 18 timmar av räddningstjänsten i samarbete med ett flertal brandkårer. I släckningsarbetet användes 40 000 ton vatten tillsammans med skum.

# Inblandade ämnen och mängder

CAS Nr. Mängd

flyktiga kolväten, bl.a. kloroform

Skador:

Människor: En anställd omkom i explosionen. 7 brandmän behandlade för

kemiska brännskador de fått efter kontakt med kontaminerat

släckningsvatten.

Materiella: Omfattande skador på depån.

Miljö/ekologi: Inga effekter rapporterade.

Infrastruktur: Inga effekter rapporterade.

# Erfarenheter redovisade (Ja/Nej): Ja

Mycket kortfattat anges förebyggande åtgärder.

Referenser ges: (1) Loss Prevention in the Process Industries FP Lees 1989: (2) Oil Industry Advisory Committee "Guidance on permits to work"; (3) Institute of Petroleum model codes of practice Nos 2 and 19; ((4) Fire precautions at Petroleum Refineries and Bulk Storage Installations and Marketing safety code)).

# **Report Profile**

# **Identification of Report:**

country: FA ident key: 1994 018 01

reported under Seveso I directive as major accident reports: SHORT+FULL

Date of Major Occurrence: Time of Major Occurrence

start: 1994-08-04 start: 06:55:00

finish: 1994-08-05 finish: 00:55:00

## **Establishment:**

name:

address:

industry: 2008 wholesale and retail storage and distribution (incl. LPG bottling & bulk

distrib., more: F1!)

Chemicals (oil terminal)

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:
address:
Authority Contact:
rep_cont_name:
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
country: FA ident key: 1994_018_01
Accident Types:
release: Yes explosion: Yes
water contamination: No other: No
fire: Yes
description:
Major incident - Senior operations controller killed during fire and explosion involving 1000 tonne storage
vessel containing petroleum spirit. Resulting fire burned for 18 hours before being extinguished.
Substance(s) Directly Involved:
toxic: No explosive: No
ecotoxic: No other: No
flammable: Yes
description:
1) Petroleum spirit
2) Karosene
3) Chloroform
Immediate Sources of Accident:
storage: Yes transfer: Yes
process: No other: No
description:
Petroleum spirit escaped during operation of hamer blind in pump room causing vapour cloud. Ignited by source
of ignition (possibly vehicle) nearby.

**Suspected Causes:** 

plant or equipment: Yes environmental: No

human: Yes other: No

description:

Main valve from the storage tank was closed but low point valves left open so when operator attempted to close

hamer blind (spade valve) high pressure escape of petroleum spirit produced large vapour cloud.

**Immediate Effects:** 

material loss: Yes

human deaths: Yes

human injuries: No community disruption: Yes

other: No

ecological harm: No

national heritage loss: No

description:

Operator killed followed by mayor fire brought under control by fire brigade only to increase intensity

subsequently.

**Emergency Measures taken:** 

on-site systems: Yes decontamination: No

external services: Yes restoration: No

sheltering: No other: No

evacuation: Yes description:

10 fire appliances using pumps and foam equipment from Avon fire brigade along with British Aerospace foam

generating vehicle (used for aircraft fires). Emergency on-site system for both GATX and the adjacent LPG

plant belonging to BP insti... see Appendix Short Report / description of emergency measures taken

**Immediate Lessons Learned:** 

prevention: Yes other: No

mitigation: No

description:

Immediate prohibition notice on use of hamer valve unless there is means for detecting pressure and safely

directing material into closed containers. There are issues here relating to other petroleum terminals

elsewhere in the country who u... see Appendix Short Report / description of immediate lessons learned

**A Occurrence Full Report** 

country: FA ident key: 1994\_018\_01

1 Type of Accident

remarks: Fire involving release of petroleum spirit caused further damage to pipe

seals and valve packing leading to further source of fuel.

2 Dangerous Substances

remarks: 100 tonne storage tanks connected to common lines by means of "Hamer" line

blinds. Headof liquid above blinds of 7 metres. Had valves not been found and closed during fire major loss of containment would have followed with possible major es... see Appendix Full Report A / dangerous substances

#### 3 Source of Accident

illustration: - not applicable -

remarks: Hamer blind (spade valve) which requires flanges to be parted (system

opened) was in use as process control (not for maintenance operations)

unsafe system of work allowed blind to be opearted without adequate line

isolation.

# **4 Meteorological Conditions**

precipitation none: fog: rain: hail: snow:

Yes No No No No

wind speed (m/s): 2

direction (from): East

stability (Pasquill):

ambient temperature ( $\infty$ C): 12

 $\textbf{remarks:} \ \ \text{Very still conditions allowed large vapour cloud to be generated when blind was opened}$ 

with pressure on from 1000 tonne tank petrol. Cloud was at least 100m long.

# **5 Causes of Major Occurrence**

main causes

technical / physical 5101 operation: vessel/container/containment-equipment failure

5310 organization: manufacture/construction (inadequate, inappropriate)

5311 organization: installation (inadequate, inappropriate)

- not applicable -

- not applicable -

human / organizational 5303 organization: organized procedures (none, inadequate, inappropriate,

unclear)

5304 organization: training/instruction (none, inadequate, inappropriate)

5308 organization: design of plant/equipment/system (inadequate,

inappropriate)

5310 organization: manufacture/construction (inadequate, inappropriate)

5312 organization: isolation of equipment/system (none, inadequate,

inappropriate)

remarks: Grossly inadequate systems of work for opening lines in order to insert spades - no permit required. Hamer blinds not suitable for this application unless as part of a system to

ensure isolation.

# 6 Discussion about the Occurrence

- not applicable -

Type of Accident country: FA ident key: 1994\_018\_01

event:

```
major occurrence - not applicable -
initiating event - not applicable -
associated event - not applicable -
Dangerous substances
country: FA ident key: 1994_018_01
a) total establishment inventory
CAS number: identity: Sulphur Trioxide
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 -
other hazards (2): - not applicable -
maximum quantity (tonnes): 2000
use of substance as:
b) substance belongs to relevant inventory directly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 potential quantity: -1
c) substance belongs to relevant inventory indirectly involved: \ensuremath{\mathrm{No}}
actual quantity: -1 indir_pot_quant: -1
a) total establishment inventory
CAS number: identity: Sulphur Dioxide
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 -
other hazards (2): - not applicable -
maximum quantity (tonnes): 800
use of substance as:
b) substance belongs to relevant inventory directly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 potential quantity: -1
c) substance belongs to relevant inventory indirectly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 indir_pot_quant: -1
a) total establishment inventory
CAS number: identity: Propylene
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): 165
use of substance as:
b) substance belongs to relevant inventory directly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 potential quantity: -1
c) substance belongs to relevant inventory indirectly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 indir_pot_quant: -1
a) total establishment inventory
CAS number: identity: Hydrogen Fluoride
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 -
other hazards (2): - not applicable -
maximum quantity (tonnes): 1400
use of substance as:
b) substance belongs to relevant inventory directly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 potential quantity: -1
c) substance belongs to relevant inventory indirectly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 indir_pot_quant: -1
a) total establishment inventory
CAS number: identity: Hydrogen
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 -
other hazards (2): - not applicable -
maximum quantity (tonnes): 2
use of substance as:
b) substance belongs to relevant inventory directly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 potential quantity: -1
c) substance belongs to relevant inventory indirectly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 indir_pot_quant: -1
a) total establishment inventory
CAS number: ABOVE BOILING identity: Flammable Substances
name from Seveso I Directive: - not applicable -
name from Seveso II Directive: - not applicable -
category from Seveso II: - not applicable -
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```
other hazards (1): - not applicable -
other hazards (2): - not applicable -
maximum quantity (tonnes): 6005
use of substance as:
b) substance belongs to relevant inventory directly involved: Yes
actual quantity: 5 potential quantity: 20
c) substance belongs to relevant inventory indirectly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 indir_pot_quant: -1
a) total establishment inventory
CAS number: POINT < 21OC identity: Flammable Liquids With Flash
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 -
other hazards (2): - not applicable -
maximum quantity (tonnes): 14800
use of substance as:
b) substance belongs to relevant inventory directly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 potential quantity: -1
c) substance belongs to relevant inventory indirectly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 indir_pot_quant: -1
a) total establishment inventory
CAS number: identity: Chlorine
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 -
other hazards (2): - not applicable -
maximum quantity (tonnes): 4300
use of substance as:
b) substance belongs to relevant inventory directly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 potential quantity: -1
c) substance belongs to relevant inventory indirectly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 indir_pot_quant: -1
a) total establishment inventory
CAS number: identity: Bromine
name from Seveso I Directive: - not applicable -
name from Seveso II Directive: - not applicable -
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```
category from Seveso II: - not applicable -
other hazards (1): - not applicable -
other hazards (2): - not applicable -
maximum quantity (tonnes): 75
use of substance as:
b) substance belongs to relevant inventory directly involved: No
actual quantity: -1 potential quantity: -1
c) substance belongs to relevant inventory indirectly involved: No
{\bf actual\ quantity:\ -1\ indir\_pot\_quant:\ -1}
Source of Accident - Situation country: FA ident key: 1994\_018\_01
situation
industry
inititating event - not applicable -
associated event - not applicable -
activity/unit
major occurrence 3301 transfer: pipeline/pipework transfer
inititating event 3301 transfer: pipeline/pipework transfer
associated event - not applicable -
component
major occurrence 4011 general pipework/flanges
inititating event 4011 general pipework/flanges
associated event - not applicable -
situation
inititating event 2008 wholesale and retail storage and distribution (incl. LPG bottling & bulk
distrib., more: F1!)
associated event 2008 wholesale and retail storage and distribution (incl. LPG bottling & bulk
distrib., more: F1!)
activity/unit
major occurrence 3202 storage: distribution-associated (not on-site of manufacture)
inititating event 3202 storage: distribution-associated (not on-site of manufacture)
associated event - not applicable -
major occurrence 4010 valves/controls/monitoring devices/drain cocks
inititating event 4010 valves/controls/monitoring devices/drain cocks
associated event - not applicable -
```

# **B** Consequences Full Report

country: FA ident key: 1994\_018\_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 major fire centred around the Hamer blind. Seals and gaskets were damaged in... see Appendix

Full Report B / area concerned - remarks

# 2 People

establishment popul. emergency personnel off-site population

total at risk 22 50 30

immediate fatalities 1 0 0

subsequent fatalities 0 0 0

hospitalizing injuries 0 7 0

other serious injuries 0 0 0

 $\textbf{health monitoring} \ 0 \ 0 \\$ 

remarks 7 firemen treated for skin burns from contact with run-off water contaminated wi... 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 Yes
- land (with known potential for long term ecological harm or Suspected

preventing human access or activities)

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

 $\textbf{remarks} \ \text{Large quantities of protein foam and 40000 tonnes of water used in fighting fire...} \ \text{see Appendix}$ 

Full Report B / ecological harm

# 4 National Heritage Loss

effects on:

- historical sites Suspected historic monuments Suspected
- historic buildings Suspected art treasures Suspected

remarks Industrial site.

## **5 Material Loss**

establishment losses off site losses

costs (direct costs to operator) (social costs)

in ECU ECU

material losses

response, clean up, restoration

remarks These costs are not available.

# 6 Disruption of Community Life

establishment/plant evacuated disabled/unoccupiable destroyed

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

interruption of utilities etc. no / yes duration

- 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  $\ensuremath{\mathrm{No}}$  Yes  $\ensuremath{\mathrm{No}}$
- media interest No No Yes
- political interest No No Yes

# 7 Discussion of Consequences

# **Ecological Components involved**

country: FA ident key: 1994\_018\_01

type: 6402 offshore: estuary

threatened: Yes affected: Yes

type: 6204 freshwater: river

threatened: Yes affected: Yes

# **C** Response Full Report

**country:** FA **ident key:** 1994\_018\_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
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 not applicable
9 current safety report not applicable not applicable not applicable
11 internal plan not applicable not applicable not applicable
11 external plan not applicable not applicable not applicable
13 informing public not applicable 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
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 -
- not applicable -

measures to prevent recurrence

Routine opening of closed cont... see Appendix Full Report C  $\!\!/$  lesson learned - prevent

#### measures to mitigate consequences:

The use of SPADE valves for th... see Appendix Full Report C / lesson learned - mitigate

#### useful references:

(1) Loss Prevention in the Pr... see Appendix Full Report C / lesson learned - references

#### 5 Discussion about Response

- not applicable -

# Appendices for the FA / 1994\_018\_01 report

# Appendix Short Report / description of emergency measures taken:

10 fire appliances using pumps and foam equipment from Avon fire brigade along with British Aerospace foam generating vehicle (used for aircraft fires). Emergency on-site system for both GATX and the adjacent LPG plant belonging to BP instituted.

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

Immediate prohibition notice on use of hamer valve unless there is means for detecting pressure and safely directing material into closed containers. There are issues here relating to other petroleum terminals elsewhere in the country who use this type of valve to close off lines.

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

100 tonne storage tanks connected to common lines by means of "Hamer" line blinds. Headof liquid above blinds of 7 metres. Had valves not been found and closed during fire major loss of containment would have followed with possible major escalation of fire.

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

The major fire centred around the Hamer blind. Seals and gaskets were damaged in the initial fire causing further leaks. Overhead pipework sagged in heat but was not reached.

#### **Appendix Full Report B / people:**

7 firemen treated for skin burns from contact with run-off water contaminated with petrol/chemicals in bund.

# Appendix Full Report B / ecological harm:

Large quantities of protein foam and 40000 tonnes of water used in fighting fire. NRA permission obtained to allow contaminated run-off into river and sea.

#### Appendix Full Report B / disruption of community life:

Adjacent LPG installation 4000 tonnes was put at risk from fire.

# Appendix Full Report C / lesson learned - prevent:

Routine opening of closed containment is unacceptable unless a strict operational procedure (written) is used. A much better system is the one now adopted (double block and bleed valves).

# Appendix Full Report C / lesson learned - mitigate:

The use of SPADE valves for these types of operation should be discouraged.

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

(1) Loss Prevention in the Process Industries FP Lees 1989: (2) Oil Industry Advisory Committee "Guidance on permits to work"; (3) Institute of Petroleum model codes of practice Nos 2 and 19; ((4) Fire precautions at Petroleum Refineries and Bulk Storage Installations and Marketing safety code)).