



Learning from Experience

# *Incident reporting and sharing*



**EPSC Conference**

December 2019

Jan Weckx



# Content

- History of Monsanto's PSM Approach
- KPI's and Learning from Experience
- Analysis of Outcomes and Causes
- Review of three incidents and near misses
  - Near miss on underground piping
  - Cleaning conditions causing runaway and vessel explosion
  - Cleaning conditions causing runaway and vessel explosion
- Summary

# A Strong History of Process Safety Management



Monsanto's Montreal, CA, 1966 - Styrene monomer vapors escape through failed sight glass. Explosion kills 11

Monsanto's Texas City, TX, 1977. 500,000 gallon condensate tank failed burning 7 (5 fatally)

Union Carbide's Bhopal, India 1984

Monsanto's Port Plastics, Cincinnati, OH 1988. Operator killed by combustible dust explosion



Monsanto's Texas City, Texas 1997 - An adjacent facility's explosion destroyed our Texas City styrene plant and killed 500+ (145 Monsanto employees, 123 contractors)

Monsanto's Chocolate Bayou 1992 (Runaway Reaction \$150M property loss)

BP Texas City 2005 Refinery explosion

Outdoor Process construction standards

Vessel Inspection Program Developed

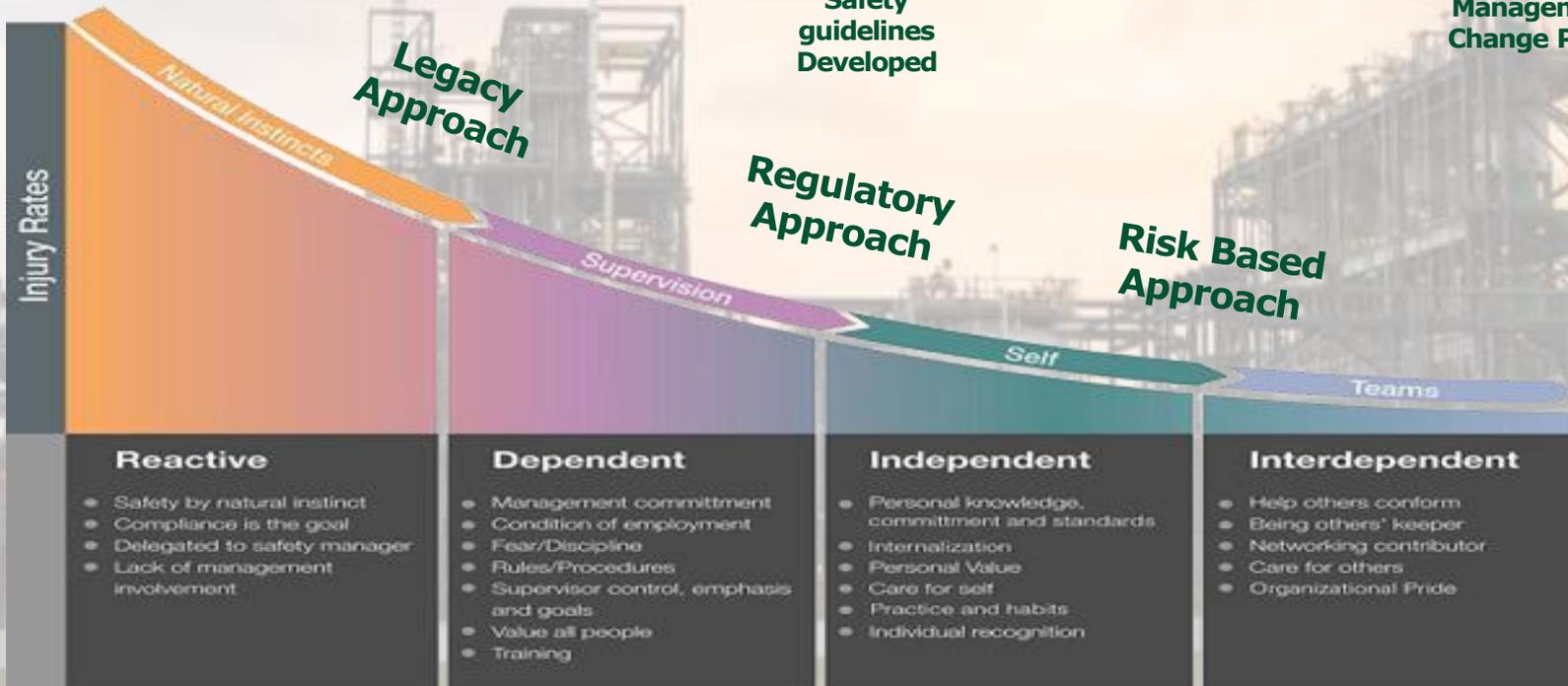
High Hazard Material Guidelines & Functional Safety guidelines Developed

Combustible dust Hazard Assessments

Robust Management of Change Program

Move towards RBPS

Explosion protection Guidelines



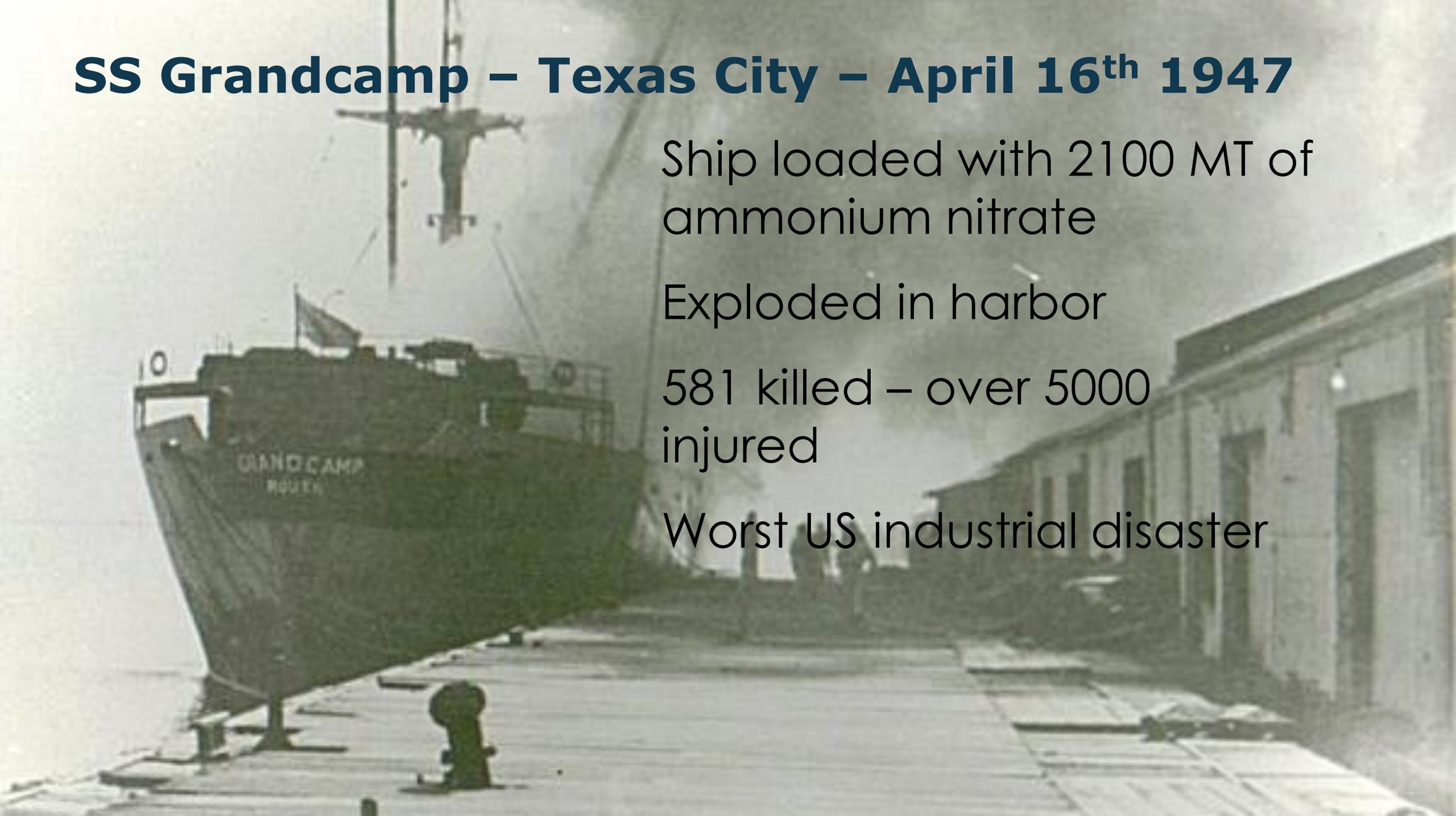
# SS Grandcamp – Texas City – April 16<sup>th</sup> 1947

Ship loaded with 2100 MT of ammonium nitrate

Exploded in harbor

581 killed – over 5000 injured

Worst US industrial disaster



# Consequence

Explosions and fires in all refineries and chemical plants on waterfront

Nearby Monsanto site destroyed

268 victims on site

# Lessons learned

Fire protection

Layout & spacing

Importance of mitigation



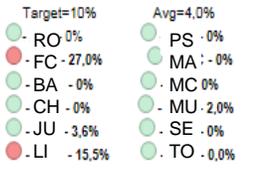


# CROP PROTECTION GLOBAL PSM DASHBOARD

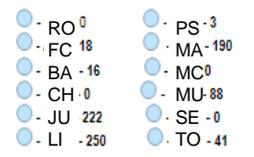


MANAGE RISKS

### Past due safety actions



### Open Safety Actions



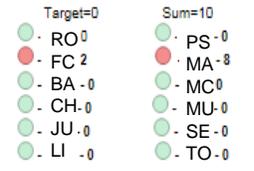
### MOCs not reviewed



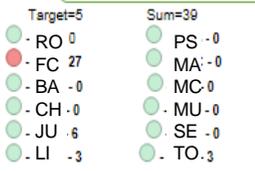
### Tier 1



### Repeat PHA Rec



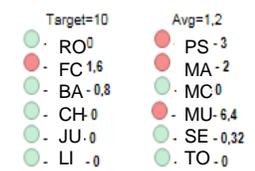
### Past due MI Inspe



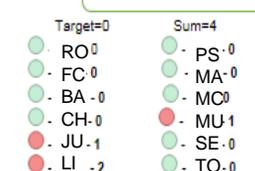
### Overdue MI actions



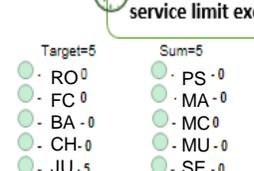
### Average alarm rate



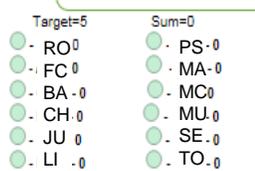
### Tier 2



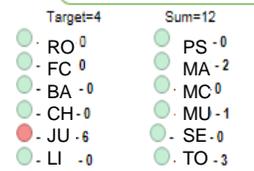
### Number hours of service limit exception



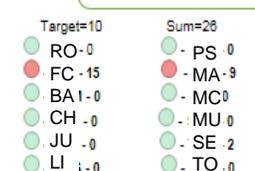
### Op. procedures not up-to-date or recertified



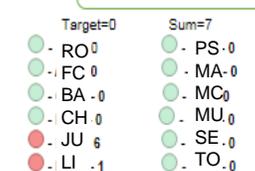
### People overdue in process safety training



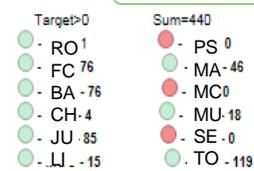
### Safety device impairments



### Reportable releases



### Near Miss



LEARN FROM EXPERIENCE

UNDERSTAND HAZARD & RISKS

COMMIT TO PROCESS SAFETY

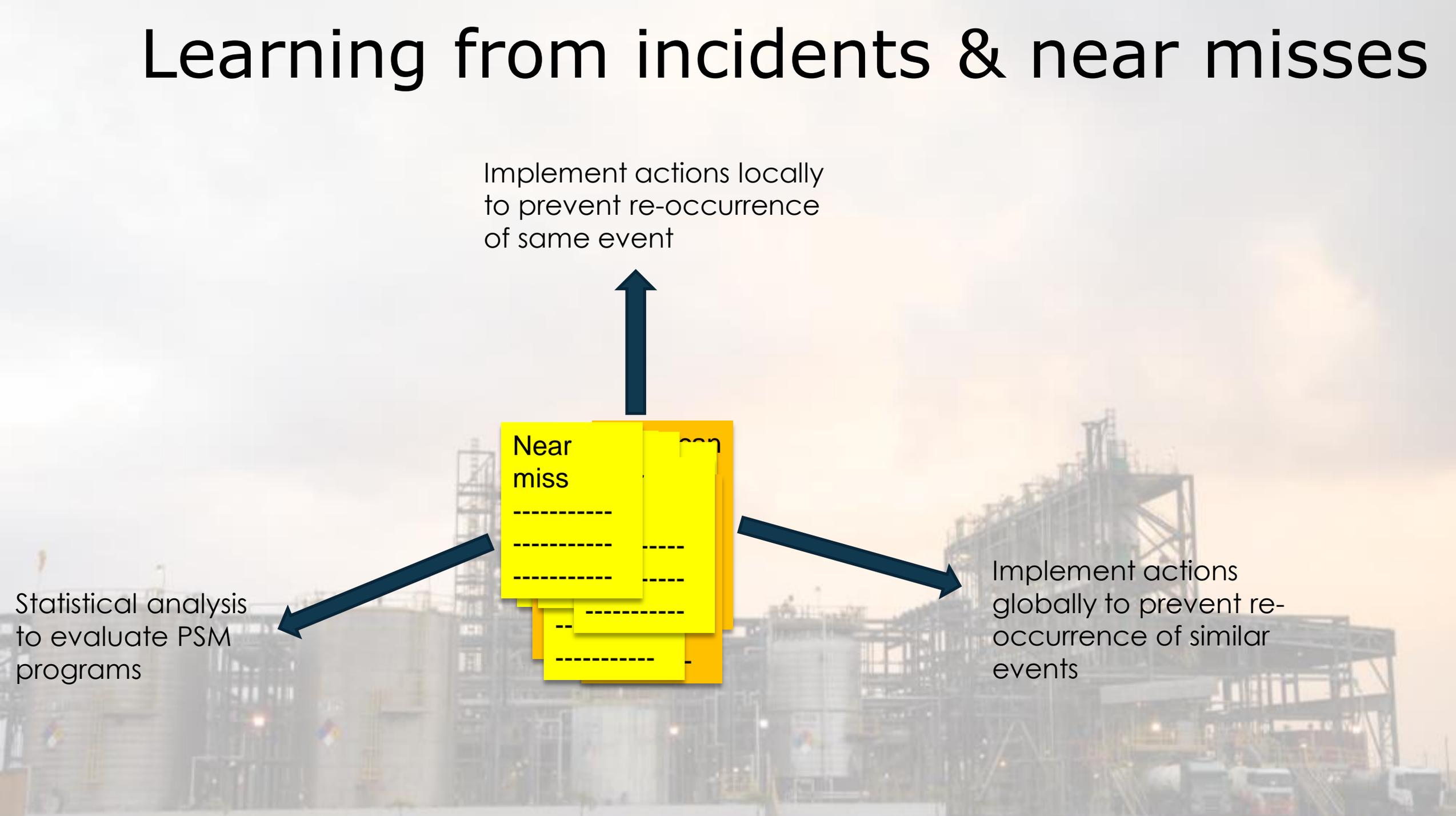
# Learning from incidents & near misses

Implement actions locally  
to prevent re-occurrence  
of same event



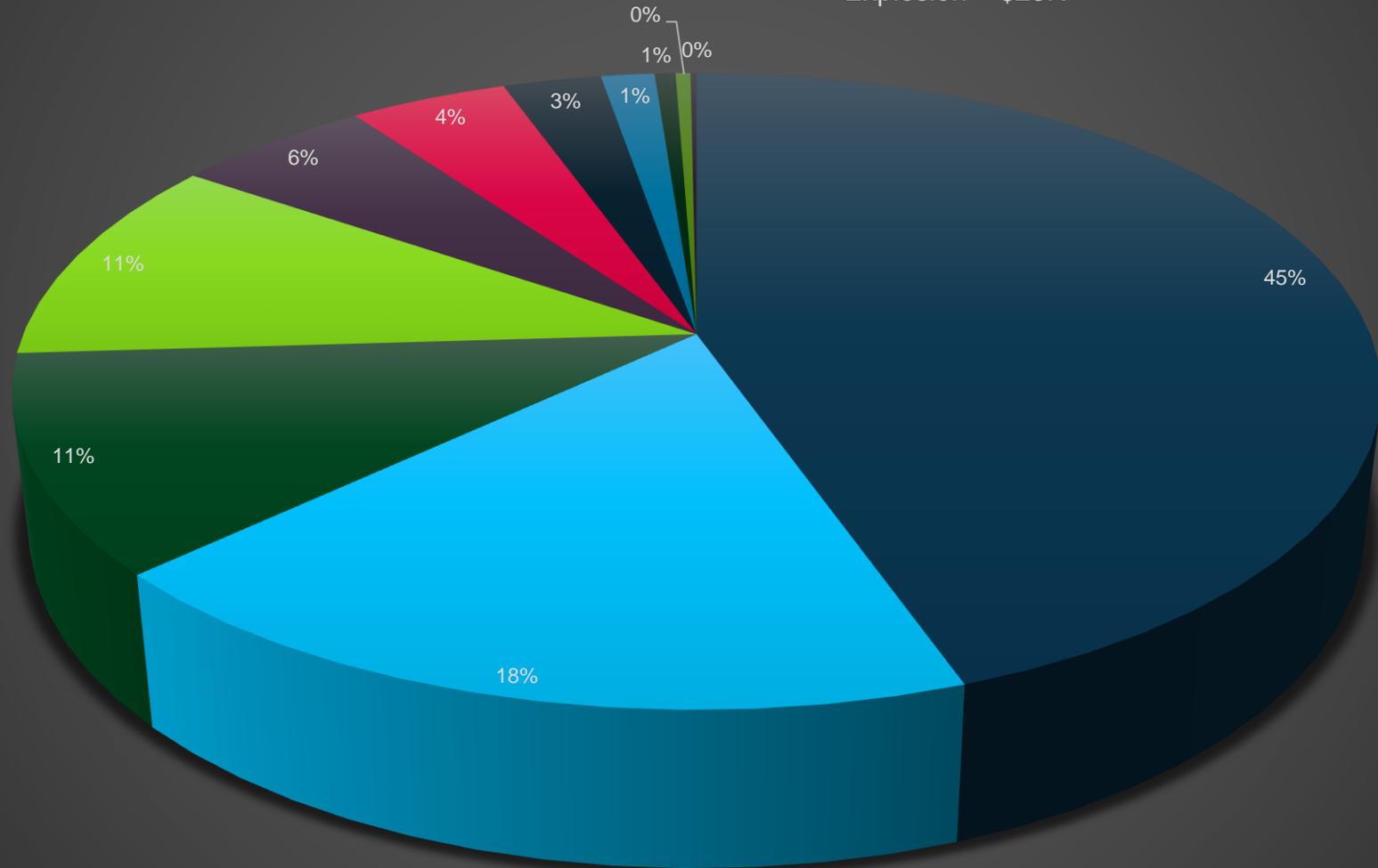
Implement actions  
globally to prevent re-  
occurrence of similar  
events

Statistical analysis  
to evaluate PSM  
programs



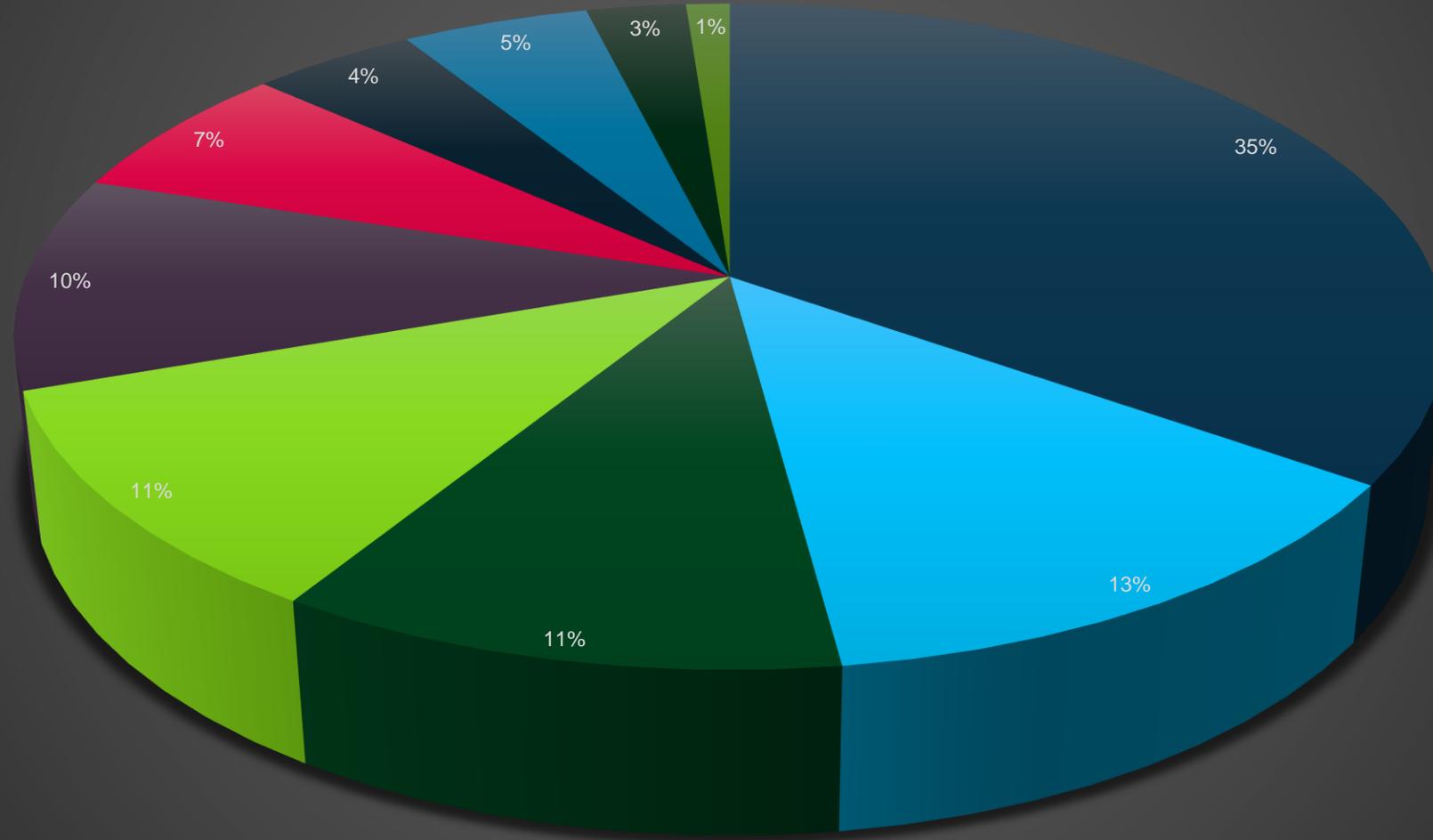
# PSM Near Miss per Outcome

- Release < Threshold Quantity
- Safety Device Impaired
- Other/None
- Process Limit Exceeded
- Fire < \$25K
- Explosion < \$25K
- Operational Problem
- Safety Device Activated
- Mechanical damage
- Missed Test/Inspection
- Documentation Error



# PSM NM by Causal Factor

- Operation error
- Design error
- Installation error
- Instrument failure
- Undetermined
- Mtce procedure error
- Corrosion
- Supplier error
- Mech fatigue or stress
- Power failure



# Human Reliability Programs



Control Room Layout



Alarm Management

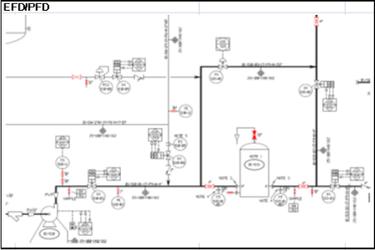
Click to add header

**Reiniging en vervangen filterkaarsen filter filtratie tank 1** Datum: \_\_\_\_\_

Operator: \_\_\_\_\_

Voor de geschikte PEM's wordt verwezen naar de PEM matrix.

**EFDP/PEF**



**Instructie** | **Extra informatie** | **Chk**

1 Stop de circulatie pomp 1-510 (druk in field noodstop in).		<input type="checkbox"/>
2 Zet de lucht af van 1xV 510.03 (inlaat valve filter dicht).	Air failure close valve. Zo wordt er richting de filter gespoeld en niet richting de tank.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 Indien filter voorwaarts stond: zet selectie op circulatie.	Omwillen van leegblazen en spoelen richting filtratie tank en niet voorwaarts.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 Blaas filter leeg met lucht via 1xV510.09 gedurende 2 min. Zet 1FV515.01 manueel volledig open gedurende 15 sec en zet deze dan terug in automatisch op 3 bar	Zoveel mogelijk MGN0139 uit filter krijgen. Zo wordt ook de bypass lijn leeggeblazen.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5 Stel water meter 1FQ510.04 in op 300 l en start meter.	Resten MGN0139 wegspoelen.	<input type="checkbox"/>

GOEDGEKEURD DOOR: F. DE PRINS  
AG.QL.0.2.12 REC.02  
DATUM: 19/03/2014  
K:KOLPRODUCHECKLISTS/SELANCO/AGGL020-02.as (b4)  
REVISE: 3  
1 of 3

Operation Instructions

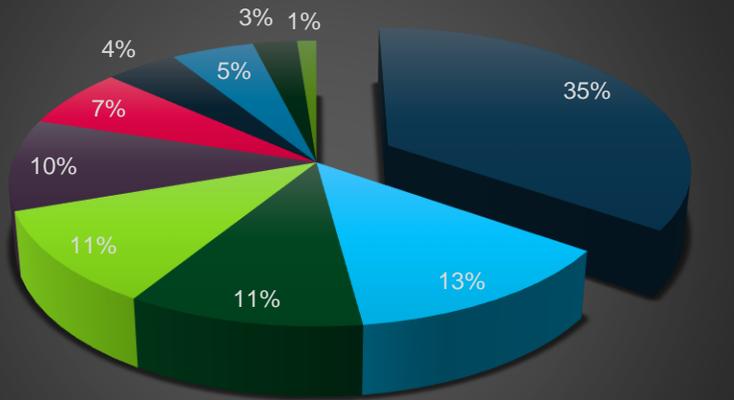


Operator Training Stations

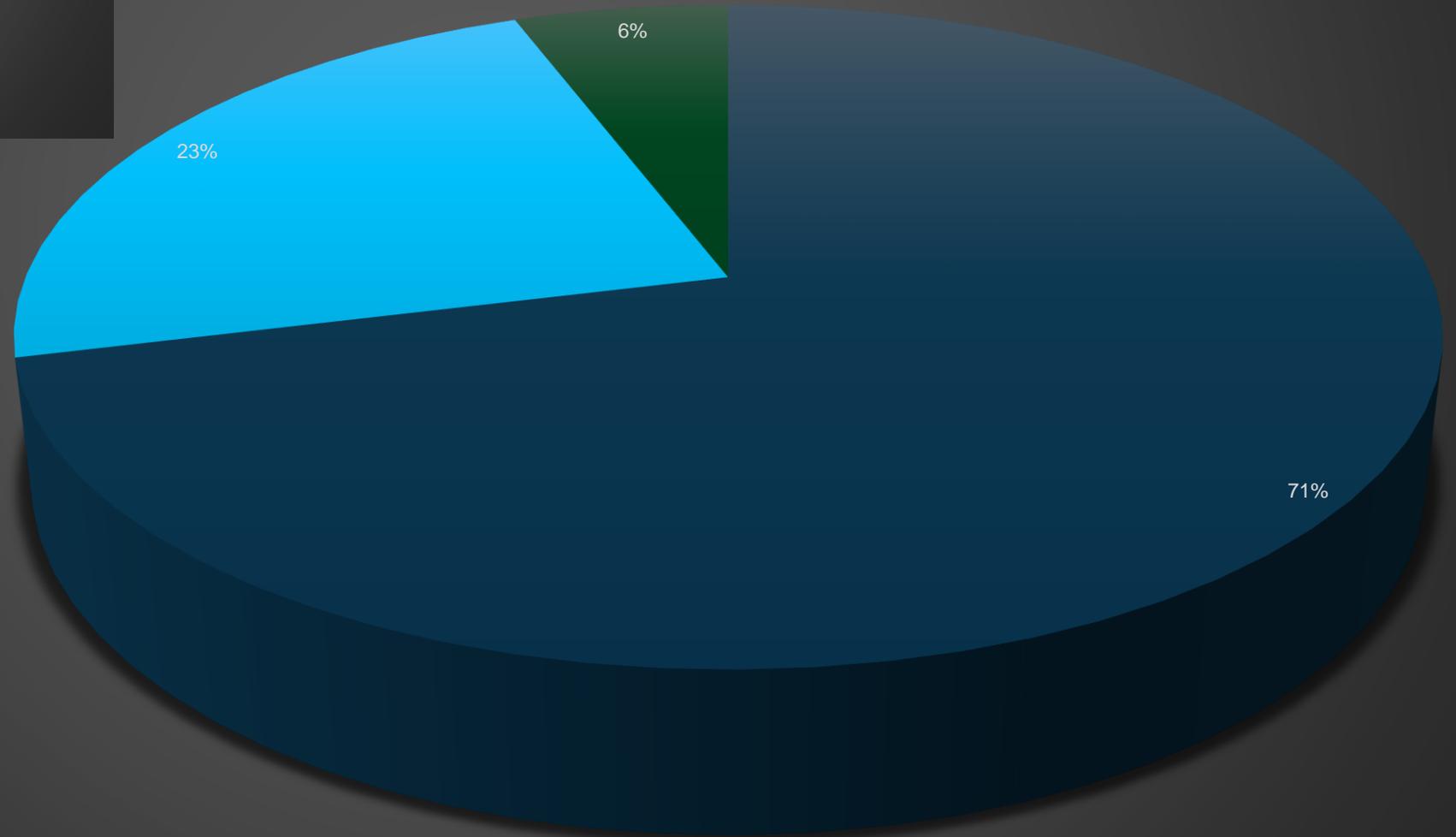


Fatigue management

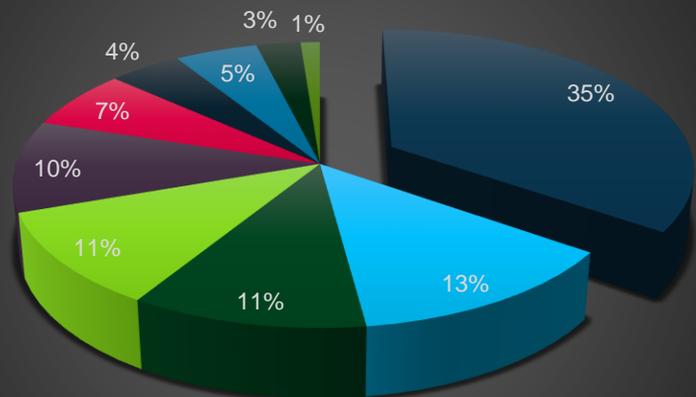
# Operational Error - Where?



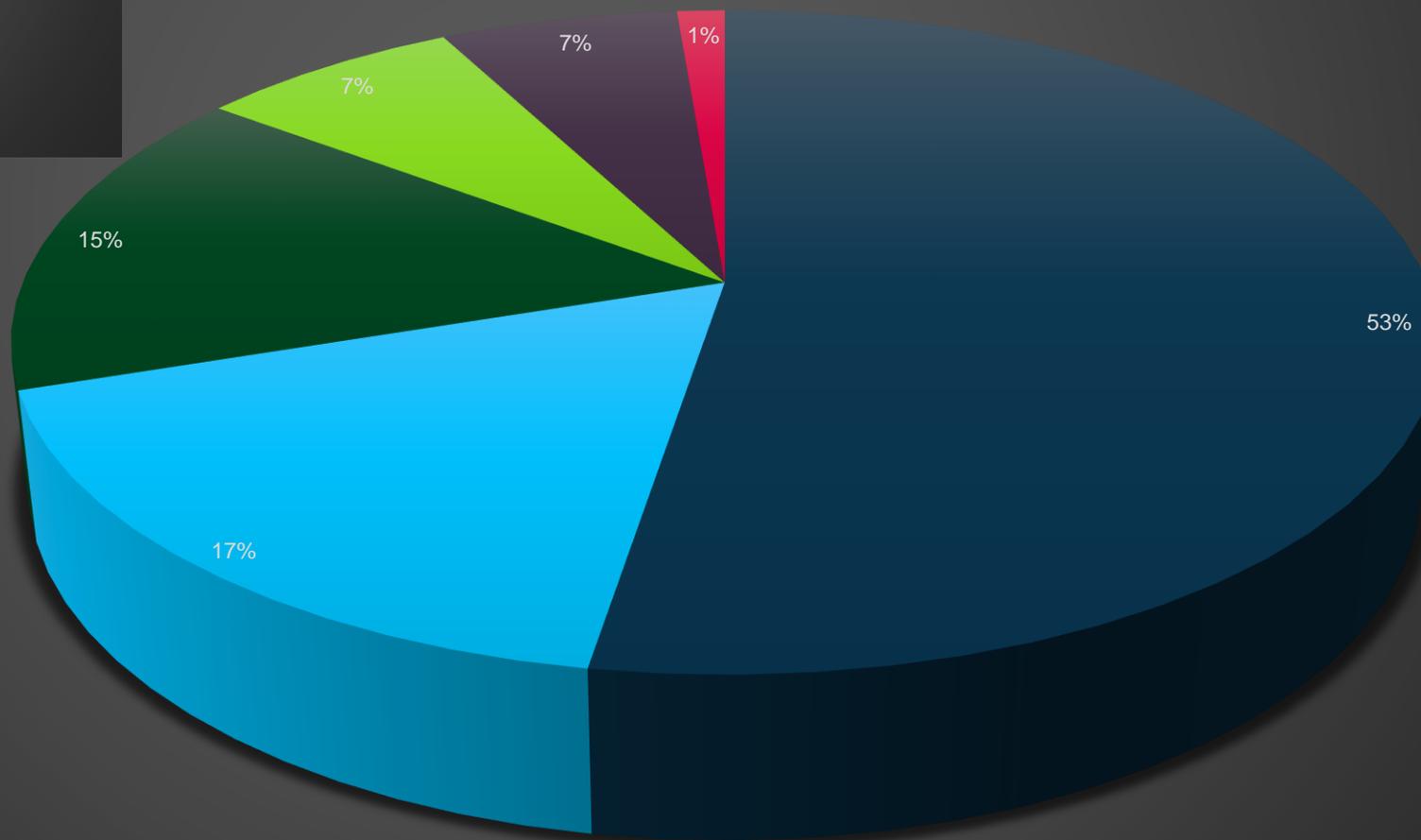
Field Panel Other



# PSNM Operational Error - Causes



- Apply Proc /Instruct
- Permit
- Proc/Instruct NOK
- Other
- Alarm handling
- Communication



# Learning From Experience – examples

Near miss underground piping (2016)

Runaway due to cleaning conditions – vessel rupture (1992)

Runaway due to startup difficulties – vessel rupture (2008)



# Ghislenghien 2004



24 dead  
132 injured  
Underground gaspipe damaged during excavation works  
Leak ignited during repair



# Other gas pipeline incidents



# Excavation permit

**GRAAFVERGUNNING (VGM01)** Nr. ....

**GRAAFVERGUNNING (VGM01)**

ADRES VAN DE VERGUNNING:

Naam: ..... Type graafwerk:  machinaal  handmatig  Zuggraaf  Verreeds diepte: .....

Naam aanvrager: ..... Tel. nr.: .....

**GRAAFWERKEN MOETEN SLECHTS UITGEVOERD WORDEN NA ADVIES VAN DESIGN OFFICE**

1. Advies Design office: Ondergrondse leidingen/kabels of andere op de plaats van de graafwerken: <input type="radio"/> J <input type="radio"/> N	2. Toegestane werkmethode: Mechanisch uitgraven: diepte ..... cm Manueel uitgraven: diepte ..... cm Zuggraafmachine: diepte ..... cm	3. Graafwerkplaats aangeleid (plotje aangeticht): <input type="radio"/> Hoe? .....	4. Voorzorgsmaatregelen bij uitvoering: 1. Gebiedsbekening (dag-nacht) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> 2. Evacuatie personen? <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> 3. Schragen (indien diepte > 2m) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> 4. Ladders (indien ..... ) voorzien in de uitgraving? (verplicht indien 1,5m diepte) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> 5. Bijzondere vergunning nodig? <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> 6. Waarsch (rood VGM002) <input type="radio"/> Toegang tot werken (geel VGM002) <input type="radio"/> 7. Andere werkvergunning (grijs VGM002) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> 8. Beschermingskleed (tijdens graafwerkzaamheden) (noodzakelijke PBM's aanstippen) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> 9. Rubberen laarzen <input type="radio"/> Handschoenen <input type="radio"/> Beschermingsbril <input type="radio"/> Slofoversal <input type="radio"/> Chemischlangek <input type="radio"/> Ademhalingsbescherming <input type="radio"/> Slofmasker <input type="radio"/> Gasmasker (patroon ABE/C2) <input type="radio"/> Autonome Ademlucht <input type="radio"/> Andere PBM: .....
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Voorbereiding werkwerkplaats en omgeving:  J  N  OK

1. Lokalisatie van de ondergrondse leidingen, kabels of andere met handgereedschap of hulpmiddelen? <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	2. Alle graafwerken boven de leiding of kabel uitvoeren met handgereedschap? <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	3. Mechanisch uitgraven boven de leiding, kabel of andere stoppen +/- 40 cm boven de leiding, kabel of andere, en resterende laag (indien nodig) met handgereedschap uitgraven? <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	4. Sluiten/verpendelen/labelen van afsluiters: Manueel: ..... Automatische: .....	5. Vergoedelen andere energiebronnen? (molens, RA bronnen, tracting, ..... ) Welke? .....	6. Coördinator TMS aangesteld (verplicht voor uitgravingen > 1,2m) Naam: ..... Datum: .....	7. Kabelleidingbeheerders gecontacteerd (KURKOM) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	8. Start Werk Beschrijving noodzakelijk? <input type="radio"/> J <input type="radio"/> N <input type="radio"/> OK
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KUP ref. nummer: .....

**VERGUNNING GELDIG VAN Datum..... uur ..... Tot Datum..... uur..... (Maximum voor 7 dagen)**

<b>Goedkeuring van de voorzorgsmaatregelen</b> Na uitvoering van de vermelde voorzorgsmaatregelen kan het werk in veilige omstandigheden uitgevoerd worden. Naam: ..... Handtekening: .....	<b>Toelating om het werk te starten</b> Alle voorzorgsmaatregelen werden uitgevoerd. De werkzaamheden mogen starten. Naam: ..... Handtekening: .....
<b>Aanvaarding van het werk</b> Ik begrijp het werk en zal de veiligheidsvoorschriften respecteren. Ik heb ter plaatse nagekeken of ik het werk veilig kan uitvoeren en heb de vergunning besproken met de uitvoerders. Mijn (eventuele) opmerkingen werden besproken met de opdrachtgever. CONTRACTIEVERANTWOORDELIJKE: Naam: ..... Handtekening: ..... Tel. nr.: ..... Naam uitvoerders: ..... Handtekening: .....	<b>Beëindiging van het werk</b> Design Office verantwoordelijke: ..... Het werk is volledig beëindigd. Ik heb de plaats van het werk proper en in veilige omstandigheden achtergelaten. Naam: ..... Handtekening: ..... Opmerkingen: ..... Ik ben akkoord met de toestand waarin het werk achtergelaten is. Naam: ..... Handtekening: .....

SAP #10104140 **SCHRIJF DUIDELIJK, BESCHERM UW WERKMAKKER** Rev. 3 2015

- Advice of design office
- Recommended excavation method
- Communication design office / contractor responsible

# Suction dredger or soil vacuum truck



- When piping or cables can be present
- Much higher capacity than manual excavation
- Works for
  - Mud
  - Sand
  - Clay
  - Gravel
  - Stones up to 250 mm
  - ...

# Fire hydrant relocation

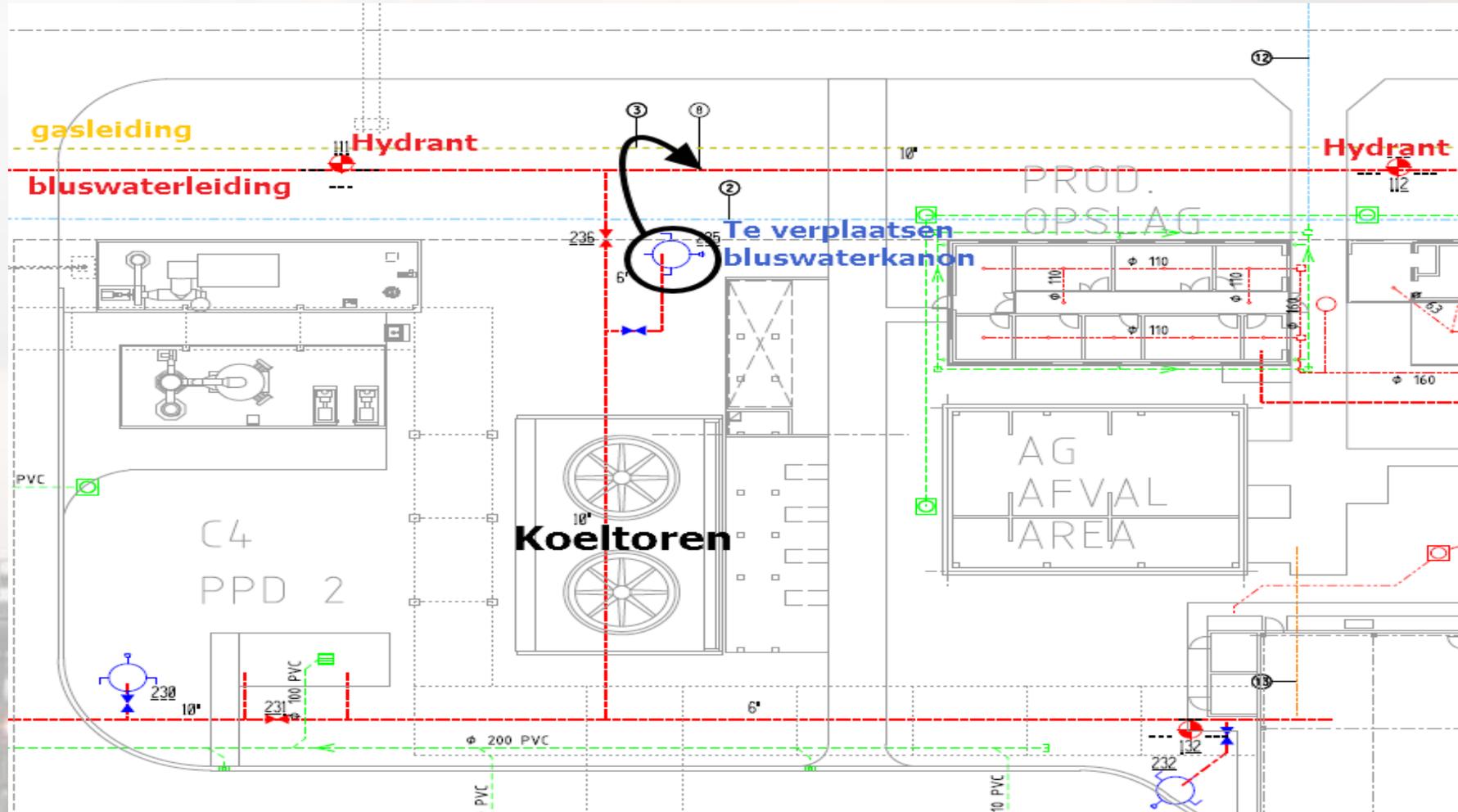
## Plan

- A new tie-in was planned on the underground fire water header
- Drawing office prepared an excavation permit with plot-plans
- Excavation works planned with soil vacuum truck because of presence of underground piping

## What happened ?

- A trench was excavated to expose the line
- Preparations started for the tie-in on the line (removal of corrosion protection, cleanup ..)
- Monsanto shift supervisor and piping contractor responsible noticed this was not the right line:
  - Different type of corrosion protection
  - Pipe size did not match with prepared tie-in piece (8" instead of 10")
  - Pipe did not line up with visible fire hydrants

# Plot plan



# Situation



Natural gas header

Limit of original excavation

Fire Water header

# Causes

Excavation contractor not aware of gas header nearby

- // No face to face discussion between contractor and the job owner on drawing office advice
- // Natural gas line poorly visible on copy of print-out plan (yellow color)
- // During Last Minute Risk Analysis with contractor the unit responsible used the fire water plot plan – this showed location of fire water line but not the gas line and was not 100% as built

Root cause : communication deficiencies

# Recommendations

Improve visibility of gas lines on plot plans (color)

Improve ESH procedure 011 (excavations)

// Improved communication drawing office advice to job owner / job executor

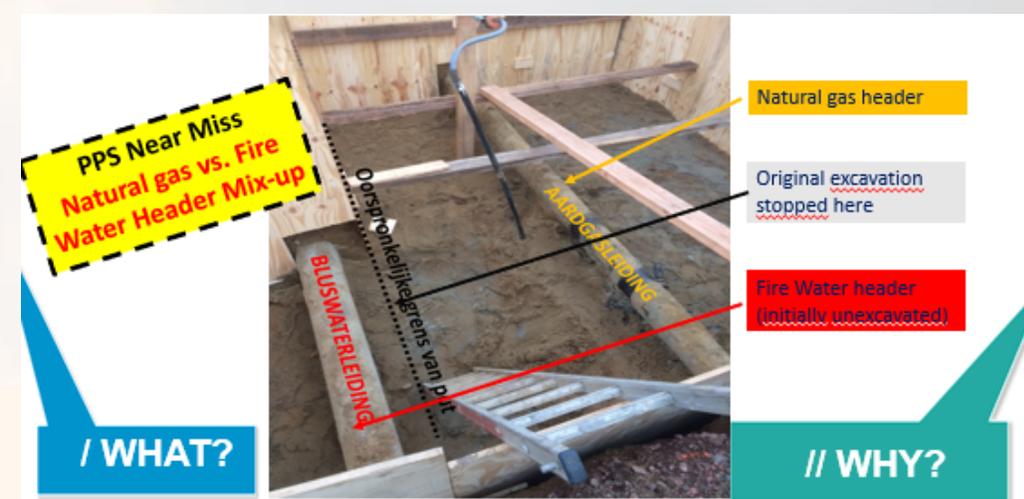
// Include method for line identification after excavation

// Make sure up to date master plot plan is present at the excavation works



# Communication

- // Communicated globally within Monsanto in 'Learning from experience' team
- // Developed into a 'PPS lessons learned' after integration in Bayer



- / As part of an expansion project, a **fire water monitor needed to be relocated** thus a new tie-in was planned on the underground fire water header
- / **Drawing office prepared** an excavation permit with plot-plans
- / Excavation work planned with **soil vacuum truck** because of presence of underground piping
- / A trench was excavated to expose the line
- / **Preparations started for the tie-in** on the line (removal of corrosion protection, cleanup, etc.)
- / The shift supervisor and piping contractor responsible **noticed this was not the right line** because:
  - / Different type of corrosion protection present
  - / Pipe size did not match with prepared tie-in piece (8" instead of 10")
  - / Pipe did not line up with visible fire hydrants

- / Excavation **contractor unaware of nearby gas header** thus the first pipe encountered was assumed to be the fire water pipe
- / **No face to face discussion** between contractor and the 'job owner' on advice from drawing office
- / **Natural gas line poorly visible** on copy of print-out (yellow color) from drawing office
- / During Last Minute Risk Analysis with contractor the unit responsible used the fire water plot plan – **this showed location of fire water line but not the gas line** and was not 100% as built
- / A process to **formally identify the line** before start of the work did not exist



## /// LESSON LEARNED

- / Do you have the **right people executing excavation permits** at your site?
  - / If the **'job owner' is not present** during execution, responsibilities for LMRA (Last Minute Risk Assessment) and job follow up must be delegated
- / Are your **site plot plans up to date** / as built? Do the **plans easily distinguish materials** (gas vs. water vs. other chemicals)? Are the plot plans required to be present at the excavation job site?
- / How **effective** is the **communication** between the drawing office advisor to job owner / job executor
- / What methods are used for **positive line identification** after excavation?
- / Do you require a **line breaking permit** for underground fire water headers, or are they exempt?

Runaway reaction by cleaning operation

Chocalate Bayou - Texas

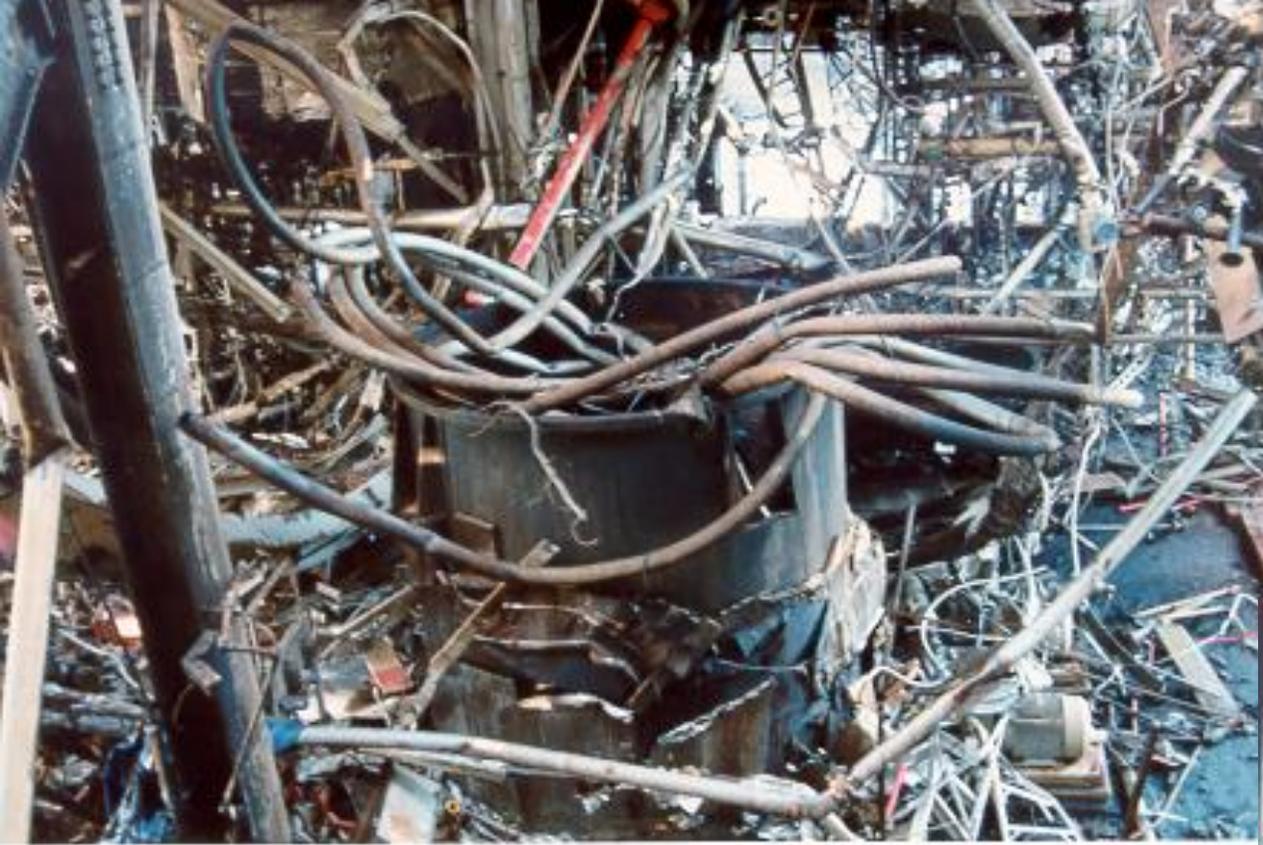
Organic intermediate formed as a slurry

Slurry fed to centrifuge for separation

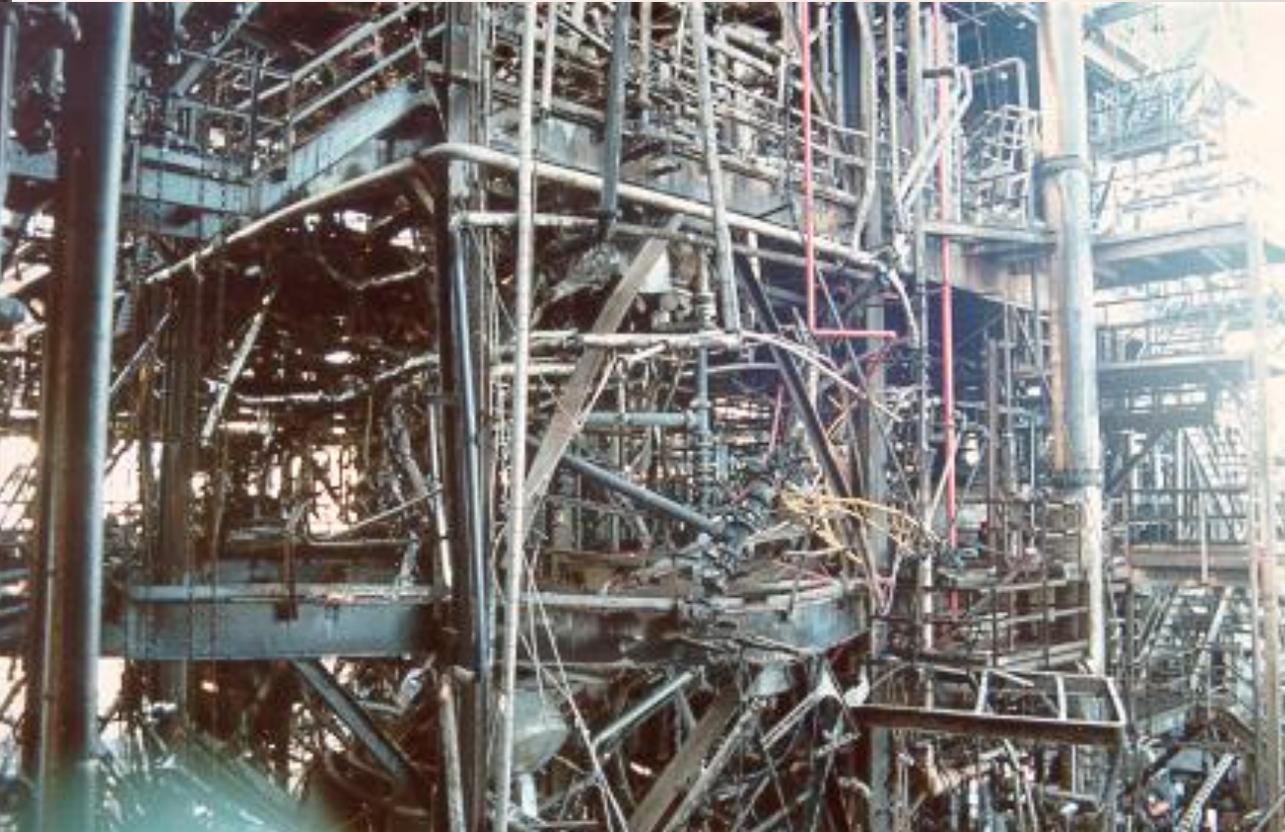
Solid deposits in centrifuge and feed tank

Instruction for periodic cleaning with water

In 1992 – explosion of feed tank



Significant property loss  
No injuries



# Causes

Organic material thermally unstable

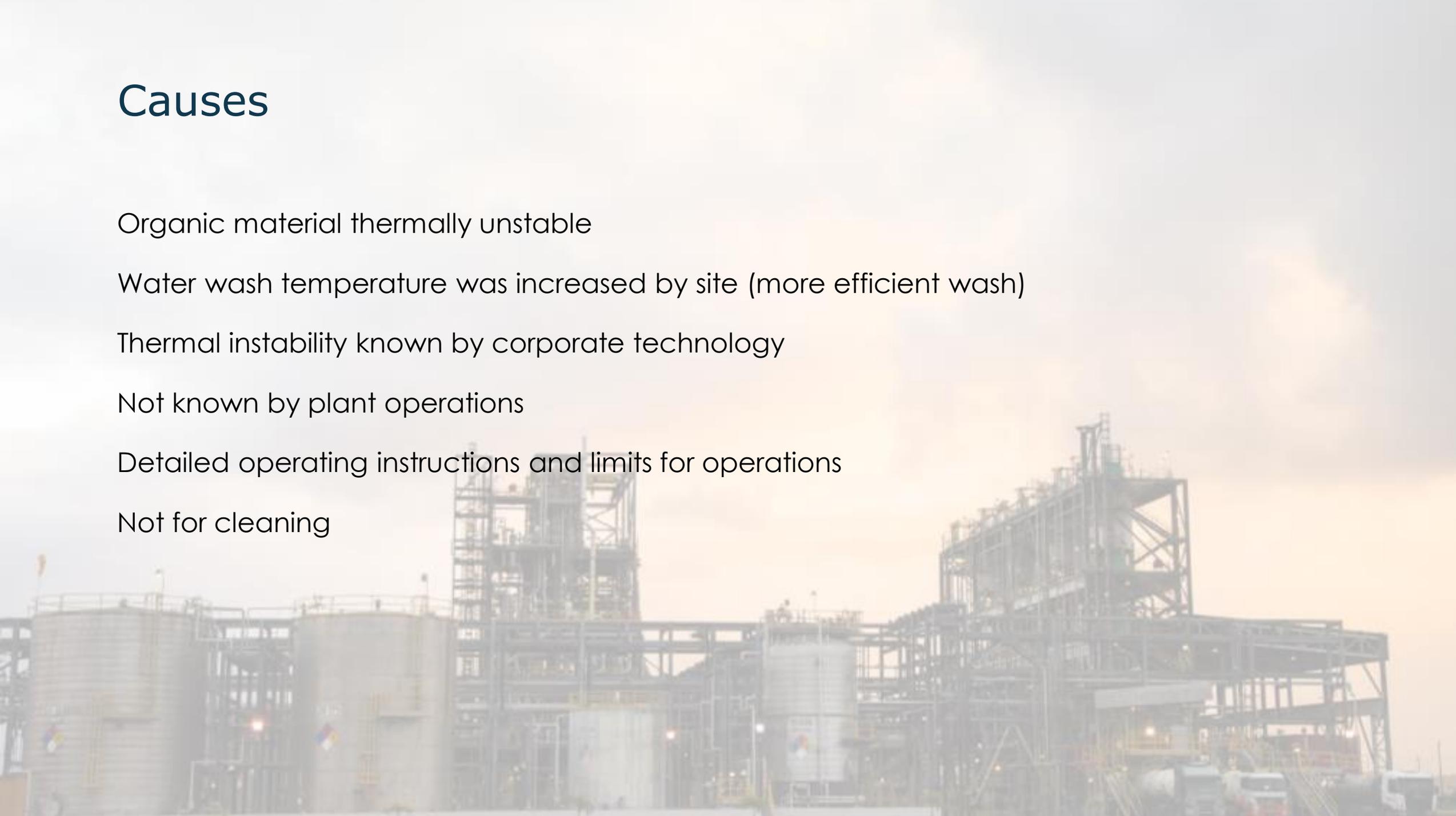
Water wash temperature was increased by site (more efficient wash)

Thermal instability known by corporate technology

Not known by plant operations

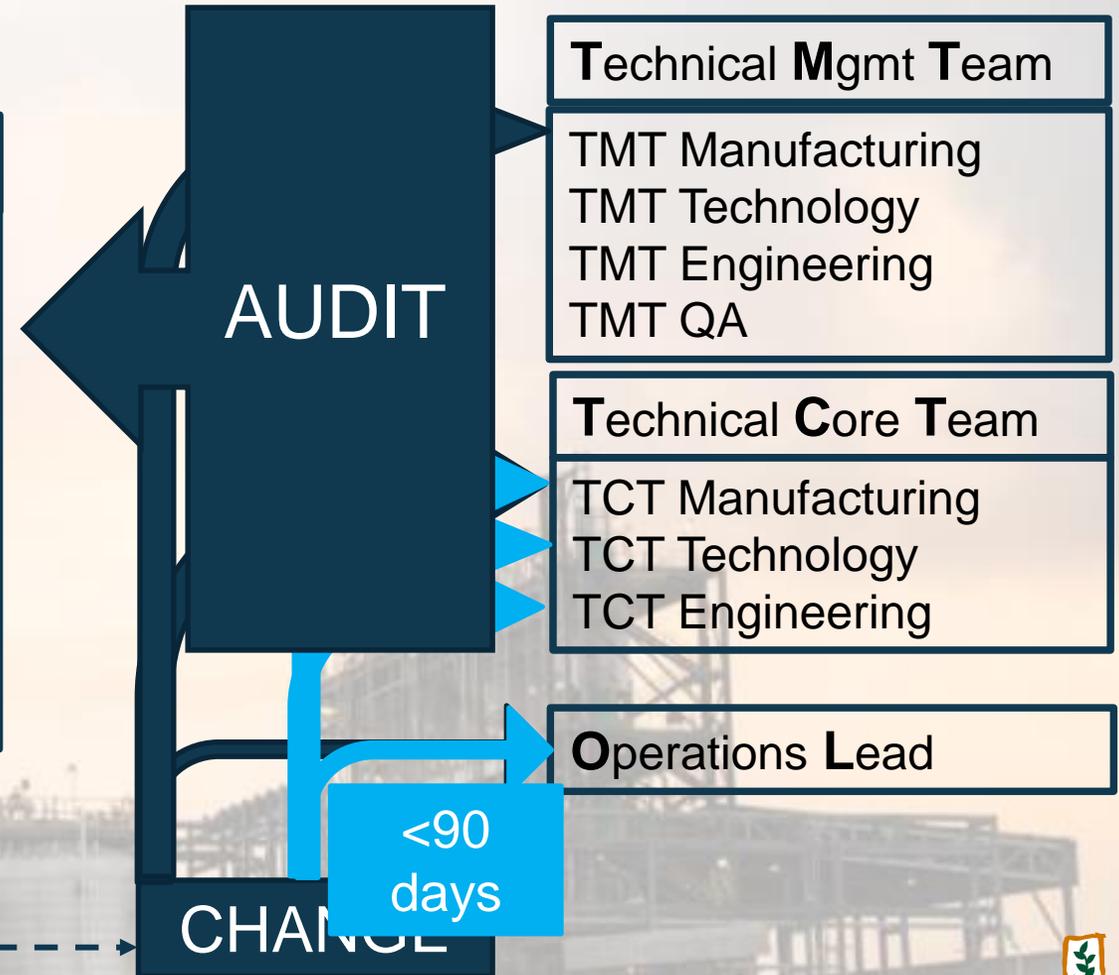
Detailed operating instructions and limits for operations

Not for cleaning



# PSI & MOC

PROCESS MANAGEMENT FILE	
1. Process Information	8. Audits & Incident analysis
2. Safety data	9. MOC filing
3. Equipment Information	10. Technical Reports
4. Operating Procedures	11. Quality Information
5. Training	12. Contractor Information
6. Contractor Information	13. Organizational Info
7. Mechanical Integrity	14. Environmental & Permits



# Runaway reaction in startup conditions

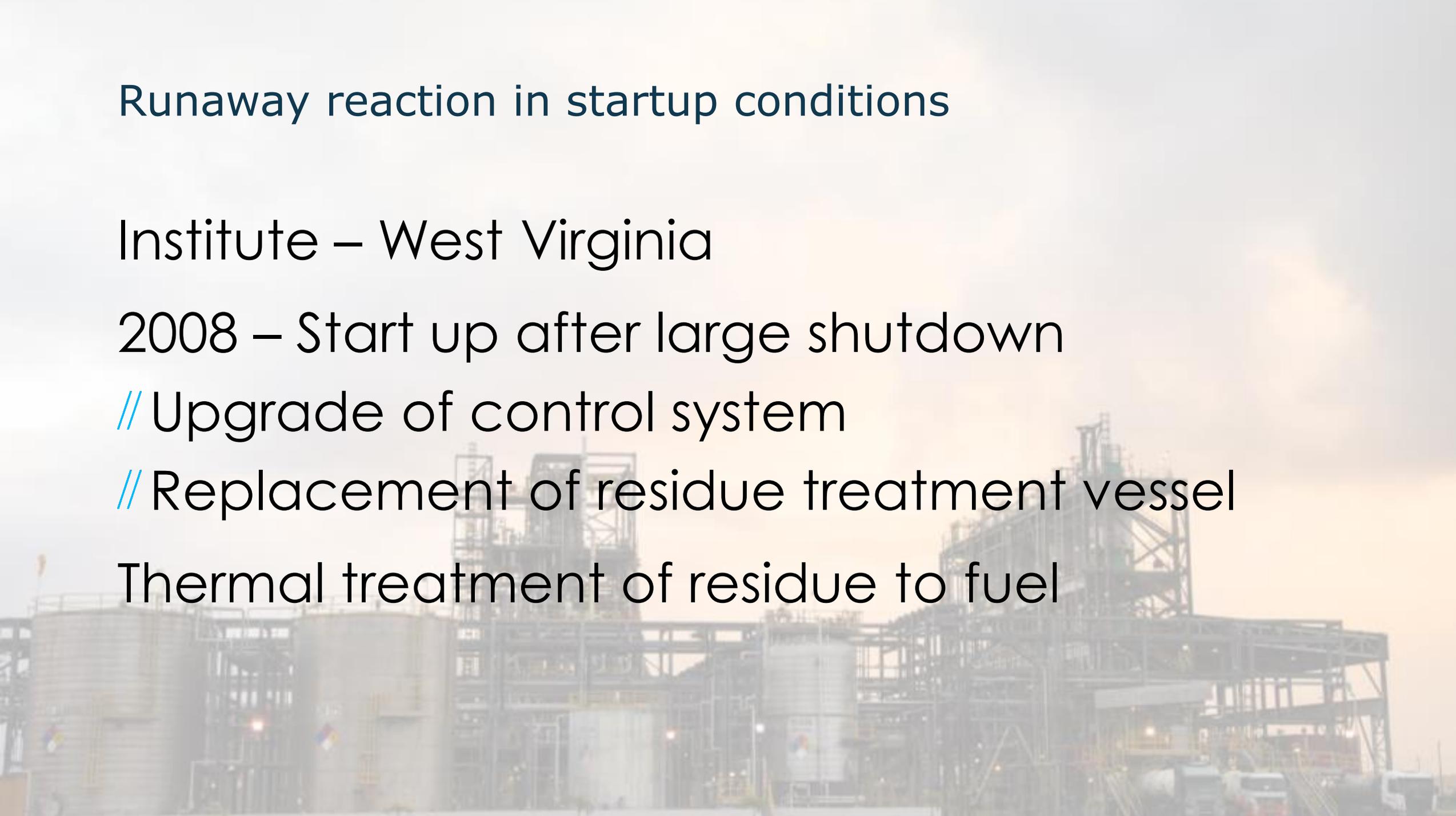
Institute – West Virginia

2008 – Start up after large shutdown

// Upgrade of control system

// Replacement of residue treatment vessel

Thermal treatment of residue to fuel



# Runaway reaction in startup conditions

What went wrong?

- // No solvent 'heel' charged to treatment vessel
- // Temperature interlock on feed valve bypassed
- // Higher concentrations in feed due to process upsets upstream
  
- // Runaway decomposition
- // Vessel rupture
- // Two fatalities



# Belford Roxo – 2007 Tankfarm explosion due to runaway reaction



# Lessons learned

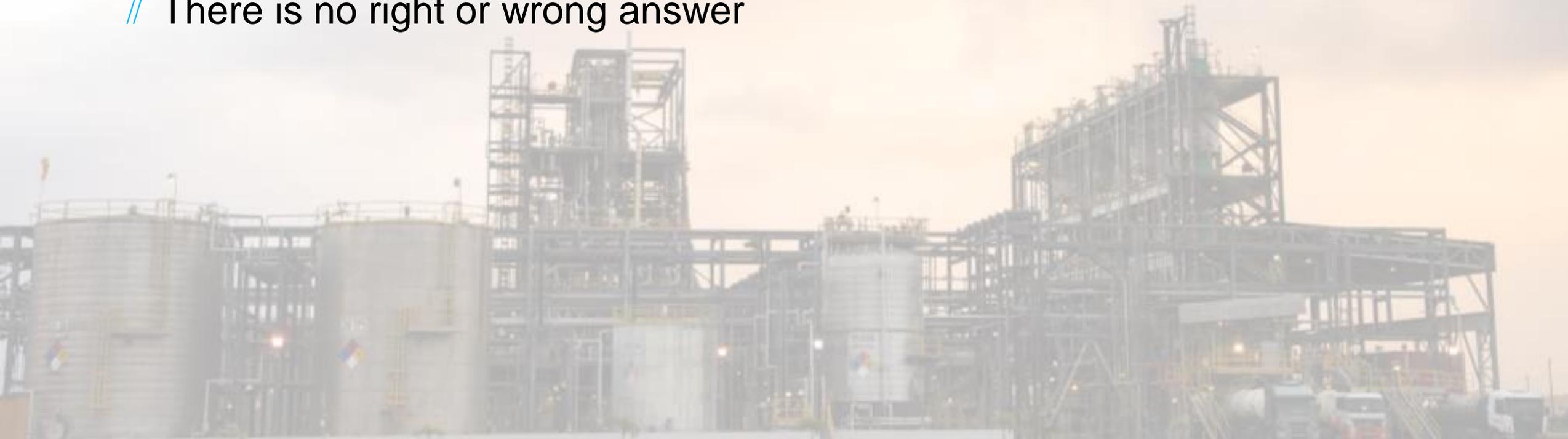
Many improvements to PPS management systems

Main focus on

- // Upgrade of PHA program
- // Training and qualification of PHA practitioners
- // General PPS training (TOPPS) for all employees involved in chemical processes
- // Very strong focus on thermal hazard data and explosion prevention

# Conclusion

- // Large incidents with many similarities
- // Significant changes to management systems that change the company 'DNA'
- // But changes in different 'pillars' of the management system
- // There is no right or wrong answer



## Key take-aways

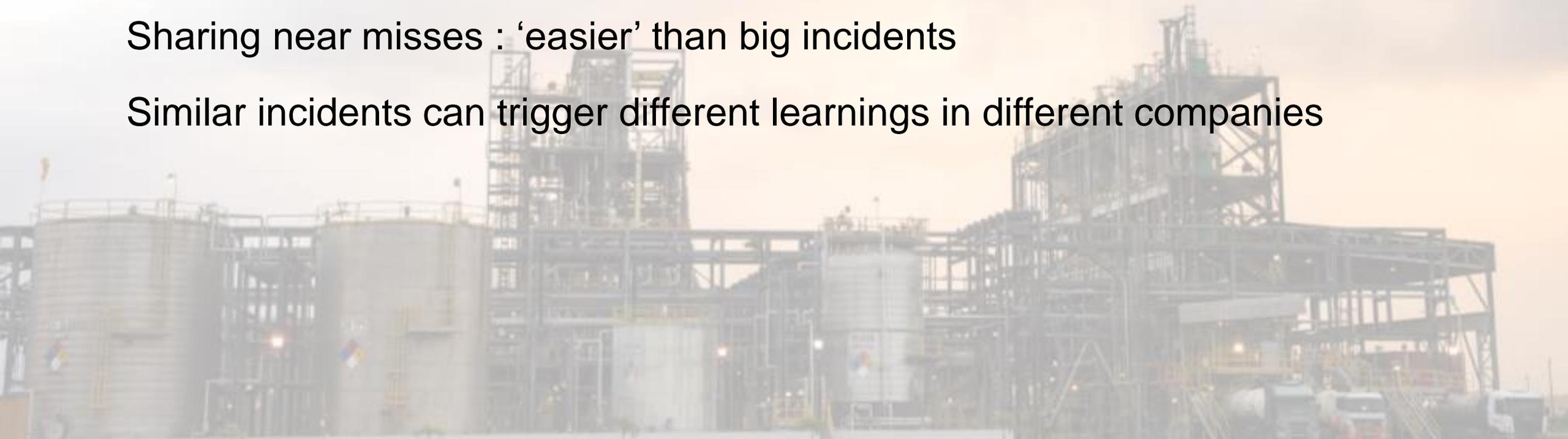
Value of mitigation – you can't prevent everything

Value of a strong near miss reporting culture

Communication during line breaking (incl. underground piping)

Sharing near misses : 'easier' than big incidents

Similar incidents can trigger different learnings in different companies





*Thank you!*



**Bye-Bye**

