

SAFEX
INTERNATIONAL
(Since 1954)
INCIDENT NOTICE

(Kindly direct all correspondence to the Secretary General)

INCIDENT TITLE: **Chemical Reaction in Ammonium Nitrate waste bin**

DATE POSTED 7 April 2012	REFERENCE IN 21-10	SOURCE Anonymous
INCIDENT OUTLINE		
When did it happen?	26 th November 2020	
Who experienced it?	Mining Services Operation - Africa	
Where did it happen?	Moatize, Mozambique	
What material was involved?	Ammonium Nitrate prill	
What happened?	While conducting housekeeping duties, an operator noticed white fumes issuing from a waste bin used for ammonium nitrate prill spills. Site staff did not evacuate, but approached the bin, and emptied it onto the ground, and the reaction ceased.	
Why did it happen – theory?	The bin contents were contaminated with carbonaceous materials from the mine. The mine rock has also been shown to be reactive in some cases.	
What was the impact?	The contaminated material was disposed of on-bench.	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Enclosure No
Subsequent report No

COMMENT

Value of incident Highlights the potential for contamination, and the need for training and rehearsal of emergency procedures.

Comment

DISTRIBUTED BY: Piet Halliday
Secretary General, SAFEX International
(www.safex-international.org)
Tel: +27 82 5565351; **Tel / Fax:** +27 11 7041743
e-mail: secretariat@safex-international.org