

SAFEX 5

INTERNATIONAL

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INCIDENT NOTICE

(Kindly direct all correspondence to the Secretary General)

INCIDENT TITLE: Chemical Reaction in Emulsion waste bin

DATE POSTED 7 April	REFERENCE IN 21-12	SOURCE Anonymous
INCIDENT OUTLINE		
When did it happen?	24 th September 2020	
Who experienced it?	Mining Services Operation – South America	
Where did it happen?	Maraba, Brazil	
What material was involved?	Bulk Emulsion, Sodium Nitrite	
What happened?	An operator noticed smoke/fumes coming from a waste drum at the emulsion pumping area. The operator applied water, and separated the materials in the bin.	
Why did it happen – theory?	A sodium nitrite spill from a maintenance area had been cleaned up and the residues deposited into the emulsion/nitrate waste bin. The maintenance person was unaware of the incompatibility of the waste.	
What was the impact?	The contaminated material was disposed of.	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Enclosure	No
Subsequent report	No

COMMENT

Value of incident Highlights the potential for contamination, and the need for training in incompatibility. Emergency procedures need to be clear.

Comment

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