

# WHAT IS A COMBUSTIBLE DUST?

Any combustible material (and some materials normally considered noncombustible) can burn rapidly when in a finely divided form. If such a dust is suspended in air in the right concentration, it can become explosive. The force from such an explosion can cause employee deaths, injuries, and destruction of entire buildings. Such incidents have killed scores of employees and injured hundreds over the past few decades.

## PRODUCTS AND MATERIALS THAT FORM COMBUSTIBLE DUST

### AGRICULTURAL

#### PRODUCTS/DUSTS

- Alfalfa
- Apple
- Beet Root
- Candy
- Carrageen
- Carrot
- Cocoa Bean Dust
- Cocoa Powder
- Coconut Shell Dust
- Corn Meal
- Corn Starch
- Cotton
- Cottonseed
- Egg White
- Garlic Powder
- Gluten
- Grains
- Grass Dust
- Green Coffee
- Hops (malted)
- Lactose
- Lemon Peel Dust
- Linseed
- Livestock Feed
- Locust Bean Gum
- Malt
- Milk, Nonfat, Dry
- Milk, Powdered
- Oat Flour
- Oat Grain Dust
- Olive Pellets
- Onion Powder
- Parsley (dehydrated)
- Peach
- Peanut Meal and Skins
- Peat
- Potato
- Potato Flour
- Potato Starch
- Raw Yucca Seed Dust

- Rice Dust
- Rice Flour
- Rice Starch
- Rye Flour
- Semolina
- Soybean Dust
- Soy Flour
- Spice Dust
- Sugar
- Sugar, Beet
- Sugar, Milk
- Sugar, Powdered
- Sunflower
- Sunflower Seed Dust
- Tapioca
- Tea
- Tobacco Dust
- Tomato
- Walnut Dust
- Wheat Flour
- Wheat Grain Dust
- Wheat Starch
- Whey
- Wood Flour
- Xanthan Gum

#### CARBONACEOUS DUSTS

- Biosolids
- Charcoal, Activated
- Charcoal, Wood
- Coal, Bituminous
- Coke, Petroleum
- Dried Blood
- Lampblack
- Lignite
- Peat, 22% H<sub>2</sub>O
- Soot, Pine
- Cellulose (incl. paper, cardboard)
- Cellulose Pulp
- Cork
- Corn

### CHEMICAL DUSTS

- Adipic Acid
- Anthraquinone
- Ascorbic Acid
- Calcium Acetate
- Calcium Stearate
- Carboxy-methyl Cellulose
- Dextrin
- Dyes
- Explosives
- Fertilizers
- Lead Stearate
- Methyl Cellulose
- Soaps
- Paint
- Paraformaldehyde
- Pesticides
- Propellants
- Sodium Ascorbate
- Sodium Stearate
- Sulphur
- Zinc Stearate

### METAL DUSTS

- Aluminum
- Bronze
- Chromium
- Iron Oxide
- Iron Carbonyl
- Magnesium
- Mixed Metals
- Niobium
- Tantalum
- Titanium
- Zinc
- Zirconium

### MISCELLANEOUS

- Buffing Compound
- Pharmaceuticals
- Textiles

### PLASTIC DUSTS

- Poly Acrylamide
- Poly Acrylonitrile
- Poly Ethylene (low pressure process)
- Epoxy Resin
- Melamine Resin
- Melamine, Molded
- Poly Methyl Acrylate
- Phenolic Resin
- Terpene-phenol Resin
- Urea-formaldehyde/Cellulose
- Poly Vinyl Acetate
- Poly Vinyl Alcohol
- Poly Vinyl Butyral
- Poly Vinyl Chloride

**SOURCES:**  
OSHA  
USCSB  
NC Dept. of Labor