



U. S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board

RECOMMENDATION STATUS CHANGE

SUMMARY

Report:	Givaudan Sense Colour Explosion
Recommendation Number:	2024-06-I-KY-R1
Date Issued:	May 27, 2026
Recipient:	Givaudan Facilities that Manufacture Caramel Coloring Products
New Status:	Open – Awaiting Response or Evaluation/Approval of Response
Date of Status Change:	Not Applicable – Initial Status

Recommendation Text:

Contract a third party to analyze the reactivity of the sugar ingredients in the caramel coloring product manufacturing process by, at a minimum:

- a. Conducting calorimetry testing on at least one representative recipe for all caramel coloring product types to determine their temperature and pressure behavior upon heating.*
- b. Testing the composition of any produced non-condensable gases.*

Maintain this information for use during future equipment design efforts and hazard analyses.

Board Status Change Decision:

A. Rationale for Recommendation

On November 12, 2024, a pressure vessel exploded at the Givaudan caramel coloring manufacturing facility in Louisville, KY. The explosion fatally injured two workers, seriously injured three others, and scattered debris offsite. The facility has ceased operations.

The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) investigated the incident and found several safety issues including deficiencies in managing reactive hazards, sizing pressure relief systems, and others indicative of a faulty safety management system.

As a result of these findings, the CSB issued seven recommendations to Givaudan Facilities that Manufacture Caramel Coloring Products. This status change summary addresses CSB Recommendation No. 2024-06-I-KY-R1.